

August 26, 2009
West Norriton, PA

MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Board President, John S. Grispon, called the meeting to order at 7:52 p.m. on August 26, 2009.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

John S. Grispon, President, Spring-Ford Area	Present
Marc Lieberson, Vice-President, Cheltenham	Present
Jeannette Maitin, Secretary, Abington	Present
Marie A. Knox, Treasurer, Upper Merion Area	Present
Dr. R. Paul Baumgartner, Souderton Area	Present
Randy Bennett, Perkiomen Valley	Present
Dr. Russel S. Bleiler, Hatboro-Horsham	Absent
Joseph Chmielewski, Upper Dublin	Present
Malcolm Gran, Springfield Township	Present
Dr. Susan Guthrie, Lower Merion Area	Present
Dr. David Hakes, Upper Moreland Township	Present
Robert H. Hartman, Jr., Pottstown	Present
Yuri Khalif, Lower Moreland Township	Present
Ted Miller, Jenkintown	Absent
Janice Pearce, Norristown Area	Present
Thayer Pendleton, Bryn Athyn	Absent
Burunda Prince-Jones, Wissahickon	Present
Frederick P. Remelius, Pottsgrove	Absent
Daniel B. Sattler, Methacton	Present
Vincent Sherpinsky, North Penn	Present
Mary Young, Upper Perkiomen	Absent
Mitch Zimmer, Colonial	Absent

Others

Jerry W. Shiveley, Executive Director	Present
Jeffrey Sultanic, Solicitor	Present

4. Welcome New MCIU Board Member

Mr. Grispon introduced the new board member from Lower Merion, Dr. Susan Guthrie.

5. Presentation of Annie Sullivan Award

The IU Public Relations Consortium and the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units jointly sponsor the Annie Sullivan Awards. This award recognizes an individual in education who exemplifies caring involvement with disabled students, and who has helped others in the community to understand and accept students with disabilities.

The 2008-2009 Annie Sullivan Award recipient is MCIU Special Education teacher, Tammy Bertel. Dr. Jeanmarie Mason, Director of Special Education and Supervisor, Dr. Joan Evans spoke about Ms. Bertel's outstanding abilities and dedication to children with special needs both in the classroom and in the community, and in particular, the volunteer work she does with adults with disabilities at Harmony Theater on the campus of Gwynedd Mercy College.

6. Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2009

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Maitin and seconded by Mr. Sherpinsky that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the minutes of the June 24, 2009 board meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Mr. Grispon asked if there were any public comments regarding agenda items. Since there were none, the board proceeded with the agenda.

8. Approval of Bills as Included in the Treasurer's Reports

Ms. Knox presented the June 2009 and July 2009 Treasurer's Reports to the Board. The cash balance as of June 30, 2009 was \$22,996,702.63 and the cash balance as of July 31, 2009 was \$18,454,295.39.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Knox and seconded by Mrs. Maitin that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the June and July Treasurer's Reports and the payment of bills.

Motion passed unanimously.

9. Personnel Report

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Maitin and seconded by Mr. Lieberman that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the July and August personnel recommendations listed as Item 2.

Motion passed unanimously.

10. Reports of Staff

a. Dr. Jeanmarie Mason

Dr. Mason thanked the school districts that provided classrooms for the summer Extended School Year program which served 59 students this summer. Dr. Mason also thanked the Board Vice President, Mr. Lieberman, for his remarks to the school age teachers who attended the opening day of the Summer Academy this week. Three days of professional development were provided to 185 professional staff and paraeducators in the school age programs.

b. Mr. Stan Wisler

Mr. Wisler reported on the following Action Items:

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Project Revision - Recommendation to approve the Project Revision for Rider PP Grant Application for Title III: Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students

The administration recommends approval of the Rider Grant PP application for Title III: Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students funded under project #RA 010-09-0623 for the 2008-2009 school year in the amount of \$219,632.00

2. Project Continuation - Adult Basic and Literacy Education Application

The administration recommends acceptance of the grant award from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Adult Basic and Literacy Education, Rider K Project #RA-041-10 in the amount of \$49,989.00 for continuation of the Adult Basic and Literacy Education project. The grant is for the time period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 and is provided under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES

1. Recommendation to Approve Lease Agreement

The administration recommends approval of a lease agreement with the Freedom Valley YMCA. The space, 933 square feet, is used for the MCIU's early intervention hearing impaired classroom program. The lease is for a one year period expiring June 30, 2010 at a cost of \$1,560 per month.

2. Recommendation to Acknowledge Receipt of State Audit Report

The administration recommends that the board acknowledge the receipt of the written report from the state audit fieldwork that was conducted for the school years 2005-2006 and 2006-2007.

Motion: It was moved by Dr. Baumgartner and seconded by Mrs. Maitin that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the Action Items listed above.

Motion passed unanimously.

Information Item

Regarding the State Audit Report, Mr. Wisler reported that the report enclosed within the Board packet reflects that there were no findings or observations.

c. Dr. Mary Jane Gales

Dr. Gales reported that the State of Pennsylvania has gone 57 days without a budget. The Montgomery County Intermediate Unit is actively contacting local legislators and those who sit on the Education Committees to advocate for a swift passage of the budget. Dr. Gales also reported that HB 1881, the statewide health plan bill, has been reintroduced. Dr. Gales also reported that the Keystone Exams regulations were approved by the State Board of Education. The Senate and House Education Committees and the Independent Regulatory Review Commission will now consider the proposal.

d. Mrs. Gail Kennedy

Ms. Kennedy reported that as part of a 3 year e-Grant program, Lower Moreland School District is now connected to the Regional Wide Area Network (RWAN). The Technology & Information Services division is applying for another e-Grant that will expand distance learning capacity.

e. Ms. Kendall Glouner

Ms. Glouner brought attention to the Administrators' Leadership Academy that is being hosted by MCIU, noting that it is an opportunity for administrators to earn the Act 45 credits needed to maintain certification. Ms. Glouner also reported that PDE has delayed the timelines for submission of AYP data until December. School improvement training sessions will be conducted by the Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development division in September and October to assist the schools with the AYP process.

f. Dr. Ken Voss

Dr. Voss informed the Board that the Nonpublic School Services opening days are scheduled for September 1-3, 2009. Dr. Ellen Wedemeyer, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education with the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will be one of the featured speakers. Dr. Voss also reported that a new nonpublic school is opening in the county. Services for the Friendship House in Hatfield will be provided starting in the 2010-2011 school year.

g. Dr. Janet Sloand

Dr. Sloand reported that nine conferences and specialized training sessions were held this summer in conjunction with the Bureau of Special Education. Over 5,000 educators, parents and educational leaders participated.

h. Ms. Kristen Rawlings

Ms. Rawlings reported that registration for the first annual Montgomery County Schools Fitness Challenge has begun. Ms. Rawlings brought attention to the information flyer in the Board packet and noted that all school districts and three Vo-Tech schools will be participating.

11. Report of the Solicitor

Mr. Sultanik had no report.

12. Report of the Executive Director

Dr. Shiveley reported that the Executive Directors from the four local intermediate units, including Montgomery County, Bucks County, Delaware County and Chester County met to determine how to collaborate on services and share revenue between the four agencies. Primary areas of collaboration will be within the Technology and Curriculum divisions and the directors from these divisions within the four agencies will be meeting to discuss the development of joint services.

Dr. Shiveley informed the Board that a meeting with the Montgomery County Health Department and the district superintendents is scheduled for September 9th at the Intermediate Unit to discuss the H1N1 Swine Flu. MCIU will be the central point of contact for distribution of information to the districts based on the information that will be synthesized by the Department of Health.

Dr. Shiveley reported that a consultant has been retained to study the intermediate unit's fiscal division systems. A report will be given to the Board on the effectiveness of the current internal structures and staffing.

Dr. Shiveley reported that if the state budget impasse continues into October the Nonpublic School Services division may be seriously impacted. Dr. Shiveley noted that it is fortunate that the IDEA funds for PaTTAN and the Early Intervention programs have been released by the state. Mr. Wisler will report on the financial status of the MCIU at the September board meeting based on the status of the budget impasse.

13. Report of Board Committees

Mr. Lieberson reported that the Executive Committee met to discuss the Executive Director's 2009-2010 goals. Based on the discussions held, the Executive Director will revise his goals and resubmit them to the Board.

Dr. Hakes reported that the Policy Committee met in July and the following policies have been submitted to the Board for first reading at the August 26, 2009 Board meeting:

- 101. Mission Statement
- 103. Nondiscrimination in Educational Programs/Services
- 104. Nondiscrimination in Employment and Contract Practices
- 105.1 Curriculum Review by Parents/Guardians and Students
- 105.2 Exemption From Instruction
- 110. Instructional Supplies
- 113.2 Behavior Support
- 115. Vocational Technical Education
- 125. Adult Education
- 143. Standards for Persistently Dangerous Schools
- 144. Standards for Victims of Violent Crimes

14. Old Business

President Grispon reminded the Board members that three members of the Board are invited to attend the AESA Annual Conference which is taking place December 2-5, 2009 in Austin, Texas. Dr. Baumgartner and Mrs. Maitin expressed their interest. It was noted that Mr. Zimmer had expressed an interest

at the last Board meeting. Ms. Westerfer will contact Mr. Zimmer to see if he would like to attend the conference.

15. New Business

President Grispon brought attention to the memo placed at the Board members' seats from PSBA regarding the selection of voting delegates for the PSBA Legislative Policy Council meeting on October 15, 2009. Mr. Grispon asked for a volunteer to be appointed, noting that the delegate must attend the meeting. No one in attendance volunteered. Mr. Grispon asked Ms. Westerfer to send an email to the Board members who were not in attendance, asking if anyone would like to be appointed as the delegate for Montgomery County Intermediate Unit.

16. Additional Public Comments

There were no additional public comments.

17. The date of the next Intermediate Unit Board Meeting will be **September 23, 2009, West Norriton Conference Room at 7:45 p.m.**

18. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mr. Lieberman and seconded by Mrs. Maitin, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.