

August 27, 2008
West Norriton, PA

MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Board President, Joseph Chmielewski, called the meeting to order at 7:51 p.m. on August 27, 2008.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Joseph Chmielewski, President, Upper Dublin	Present
John S. Grispon, Vice-President, Spring-Ford Area	Present
Jeannette Maitin, Secretary, Abington	Absent
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
Diane DiBonaventuro, Lower Merion Area	Present
Malcolm Gran, Springfield Township	Present
Dr. David Hakes, Upper Moreland Township	Present
Robert H. Hartman, Jr., Pottstown	Absent
Yuri Khalif, Lower Moreland Township	Present
Marc Lieberon, Cheltenham	Present
Ted Miller, Jenkintown	Present
Janice Pearce, Norristown Area	Present
Thayer Pendleton, Bryn Athyn	Absent
Burunda Prince-Jones, Wissahickon	Present
Frederick P. Remelius, Pottsgrove	Present
Daniel B. Sattler, Methacton	Present
Vincent Sherpinsky, North Penn	Absent
Mary Young, Upper Perkiomen	Present
Mitch Zimmer, Colonial	Absent

Others

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

Dr. Shiveley introduced the new Director of Legislative Services, Dr. Mary Jane Gales.

President Chmielewski extended thanks to those board members who attended the workshop for aspiring superintendents at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chmielewski reported that this workshop was a great opportunity for school directors to understand and get feedback on what school boards should be looking for in their superintendents. He also thanked Mr. Mal Gran for his assistance with this project.

4. Appoint MCIU Board Member, Dr. Russell Bleiler, Hatboro-Horsham School District

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Gran and seconded by Mr. Bennett that the Intermediate Unit Board appoint Dr. Russell Bleiler to fill the vacant position on the MCIU Board.

Motion passed unanimously

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 Annie Sullivan Award recipient is MCIU Special Education teacher, Sonya Wynne. Dr. Jeanmarie Mason, Director of Special Education and Supervisor, Teresa Johnson spoke about Ms. Wynne's outstanding abilities and dedication to children with special needs both in the classroom and in the community.

6. Approval of Minutes of June 25, 2008

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Grispon and seconded by Mr. Gran that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the minutes of the June 25, 2008 board meeting as corrected. Correction: Jeannette Maitin was elected as Secretary of the Board for 2008-09, not Tracey Cole.

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Mr. Chmielewski 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 2008 and July 2008 Treasurer's Reports to the Board. The cash balance as of June 30, 2008 was \$23,762,614.35

Motion: It was moved by Dr. Baumgartner and seconded by Mr. Miller that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the June Treasurer's Report and the payment of bills.

Motion passed unanimously.

The cash balance as of July 31, 2008 was \$18,152,238.38

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Gran and seconded by Dr. Baumgartner that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the July Treasurer's Report and the payment of bills.

Motion passed unanimously.

9. Personnel Report

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Grispon 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's report reflects on the accomplishments and celebrates the successes of the Special Education staff during the 2007-2008 school year. Dr. Mason also thanked Mr. Chmielewski for his welcoming address to the special education staff at the recently held Summer Academy.

b. Mr. Stan Wisler

Mr. Wisler reported on the following Action Items:

Management Services

1. Recommendation to accept the following bid of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit School Entities Joint Purchasing Board on Heating Oil, Unleaded Gasoline, Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel and Bio-Diesel.

Bid specifications for heating fuel oil, diesel fuel and gasoline were prepared and sent to nine (9) vendors. Four (4) bids were received from vendors and opened at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 1, 2008. The Montgomery County School Entities Joint Purchasing Board met on

Wednesday, July 2, 2008 and is recommending acceptance of the fixed price and variable bids for the 2008-2009 fiscal year as listed on the Management Services Division report.

2. Recommendation to accept the following lease renewal between the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit and Upper Merion School District.

The Administration recommends approval of the following lease agreements from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009:

Belmont School to house PaTTAN	\$252,730.11
Gulph School to house two EI Classrooms	\$ 20,201.44
Belmont School to house two EI Classrooms <i>(classrooms moved from the Gulph School)</i>	\$ 20,201.44

3. Recommendation to Amend the Wording of the 2008-2009 Compensation Plan for the Executive Director

Based on a review of the current compensation plan (2008-2009) by our solicitor and financial advisors, it is recommended that the board approve a resolution that would amend the "Section 457 Plan" provision from an IU contributed 457 plan to an IU contributed 403(b) plan. This recommended change does not impact costs to the MCIU.

PaTTAN

1. Recommendation to accept Grant from PDE with Montgomery County Intermediate Unit/PaTTAN – State Personnel Development Grant

The Administration recommends approval of the continuation of the State Personnel Development Grant from the office of Special Education Programs as the Federal Department of Education in the amount of \$466,078 effective January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. PDE received this grant and will subcontract with PaTTAN/MCIU to perform the work to include developing professional development programs for paraprofessionals; develop a mentoring program for educational interpreters; provide professional development for school psychologists; provide professional development and mentoring for special education leaders. PaTTAN will also contract with Institutions of Higher Education on secondary special education certification programs.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Gran and seconded by Mr. Miller that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the Action Items listed above.

Motion passed unanimously.

c. Dr. Mary Jane Gales

Dr. Gales reported that the State Board of Education changed the PSSA testing dates last week, but due to negative feedback from districts and state school organizations, the new dates will likely be changed back to the original dates for the 2008-09 school year. The dates will be subject to change next year.

Speaking about the General Competency Assessments (GCA's), Dr. Gales reported that the Department of Education requested that all school districts submit their local assessments of graduation competency to PDE for review by September 11, 2008.

d. Mrs. Gail Kennedy

Mrs. Kennedy reported that TIS has produced their first Cost Plan Booklet, listing all core and fee-based services. and has distributed it to the school districts. This resource will assist the districts in their planning and budgeting for technology services.

e. Dr. Peter Grande

Dr. Grande informed the board members that 13 schools in Montgomery County did not make AYP status this year compared to 5 schools last year. The Montgomery County Intermediate Unit will be offering programs to help schools develop their School Improvement Plan. Workshop dates are included in Dr. Grande's written report.

Dr. Grande also brought attention to the Fall Professional Learning Catalog included in the board packets and thanked CIPD Assistant Director, Kendall Glouner, and the PaTTAN staff for their assistance with the production of this catalog.

f. Dr. Ken Voss

Dr. Voss thanked Mr. Chmielewski, Dr. Shiveley, Mr. Wisler and Mrs. Mansuy for addressing the Nonpublic School Services staff at their opening day event for the new school year.

Dr. Voss informed the board that his division will be distributing 30,000 CHIP brochures to the nonpublic schools.

Dr. Voss also congratulated NPSS school counselor, Mr. John McGranahan, on the publication of his children's book, *Saturn for My Birthday*, an interactive science and math storybook for children ages 4 to 8.

g. Dr. Janet Sloand

Dr. Sloand reported that over 250 special education leaders met for the week long 2008 Special Education Leadership Academy this summer and noted that the money contained in the State Personnel Development Grant approved as an Action Item at this evening's board meeting helps to fund the Summer Academy. Much practical and useful information was provided to help improve special education services to students with disabilities.

h. Mrs. Kristen Rawlings

Mrs. Rawlings brought attention to the newly created MCIU Overview included in the board packets. This brochure which includes MCIU division descriptions, services and contact information is being distributed to a number of school districts for inclusion in their induction packets this month.

11. Report of the Solicitor

Mr. Sultanik had no report.

12. Report of the Executive Director

Dr. Shiveley reminded the board members that their June board packet contained reports on both Goal Attainment and Divisional Goals. Dr. Shiveley asked if there were any questions regarding these reports and informed the board members that they are welcome to call him should any questions arise.

Dr. Shiveley reported that the Division Spotlights for the 2008-09 Board meetings have been set as follows:

SEPTEMBER:	CIPD – School Improvement Overview - Dr. Pete Grande
OCTOBER:	Management Services – General Operating Budget & Division Highlight - Mr. Stan Wisler
NOVEMBER:	Special Ed Budget & Division Highlight – Dr. Jean Mason ♦ November meeting to be held at The Anderson School
JANUARY:	Human Resources – Certification Issues – Mrs. Jane Mansuy
FEBRUARY:	TIS – Mrs. Gail Kennedy
MARCH:	Legislative Services – Dr. Mary Jane Gales
APRIL:	NPSS Budget & Summer Camp Update – Dr. Ken Voss
MAY:	Communications Division – Mrs. Kristen Rawlings
JUNE:	PaTTAN Budget & Division Highlight – Dr. Janet Sloand ♦ June meeting to be held at PaTTAN

Ms. Sandy Edling reported that the MCIU Education Foundation will be hosting a Harvest Social and Fundraiser on Thursday, November 13th at the Lower Providence Fire Company Hall. Proceeds benefit the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Education Foundation. All board members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

13. Report of Board Committees

Mr. Chmielewski reported that the Early Bird Negotiation Committee had their first meeting and will continue to meet over the coming months.

The Finance Committee met prior to the MCIU Board meeting tonight.

Mr. Chmielewski asked for volunteers for a new committee that is being formed to study and revise the MCIU Board Policy Manual. Dr. Shiveley informed the group that the IU has contracted with PSBA and has received the first draft of the new manual. The Cabinet will review the draft before sending it to the Policy Review Committee for their review and input. The following board members volunteered to serve on this committee: Mr. Marc Lieberon, Ms. Janice Pearce, and Dr. David Hakes.

14. Old Business

There was no old business.

15. New Business

There was no new business.

16. Additional Public Comments

There were no additional public comments.

17. The date of the next Intermediate Unit Board Meeting will be **September 24, 2008, West Norriton Conference Room at 7:45 p.m.**

18. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mr. Lieberon and seconded by Dr. Baumgartner, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.