

September 23 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 7:45 p.m. on September 23, 2009.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Roll Call

John S. Grispon, President, Spring-Ford Area	Present
Marc Lieberson, Vice-President, Cheltenham	Absent
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
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	Absent
Yuri Khalif, Lower Moreland Township	Present
Ted Miller, Jenkintown	Present
Janice Pearce, Norristown Area	Present
Thayer Pendleton, Bryn Athyn	Absent
Burunda Prince-Jones, Wissahickon	Absent
Frederick P. Remelius, Pottsgrove (arrived 7:55 p.m.)	Present
Daniel B. Sattler, Methacton	Present
Vincent Sherpinsky, North Penn	Absent
Mary Young, Upper Perkiomen	Present
Mitch Zimmer, Colonial	Absent

### Others

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

4. Approval of Minutes of August 26, 2009

**Motion:** It was moved by Dr. Baumgartner and seconded by Mr. Miller that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the minutes of the August 26, 2009 board meeting.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

5. 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.

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

Ms. Knox presented the August 2009 Treasurer's Reports to the Board. The cash balance as of August 31, 2009 was \$9,135,702.76.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Knox and seconded by Mr. Chmielewski that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the August Treasurer's Report and the payment of bills.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

7. Human Resources Report

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Chmielewski that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the personnel recommendations listed as Item 2.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

8. Reports of Staff

a. Dr. Jeanmarie Mason

Dr. Mason brought attention to the theme of her report - that the Special Education Department is a conduit of information to a variety of clients and organizations served by MCIU. Information and resources are shared through the District Special Education Administrators meetings, the Right to Education Local Task Force, the Special Education Directors meetings and the Equitable Participation/Consultation meetings with nonpublic school principals.

b. Mr. Stan Wisler

There were no Action Items on Mr. Wisler's report.

Mr. Wisler's report included information on the impact of the State budget impasse, noting that the Governor's "stop gap" measure released funds for Federal Stimulus, IDEA, Early Intervention funds and funds for PaTTAN. The MCIU's reserves will keep operations stable through the end of November. After that, it is possible that the MCIU will have to consider loan options.

Reports on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) are due by October 2, 2009. MCIU will assist the districts with their reports as appropriate.

c. Dr. Mary Jane Gales

Dr. Gales reported that a tentative state budget was agreed upon but no details of the latest plan have been released. Obstacles on the revenue side still exist which will necessitate a change in the tax code. Dr. Gales anticipates that it may take several more weeks before state funds are released.

d. Mrs. Gail Kennedy

Mrs. Kennedy noted that the Technology and Information Services division would be spotlighted at tonight's meeting and that her written report stands as submitted.

e. Ms. Kendall Glouner

Ms. Glouner reported that MCIU is providing Professional Development opportunities for teachers, supervisors and administrators to learn about the revised Chapter 16 regulations (Special Education for Gifted Students). Consultants will be working with teachers who write gifted student IEP's.

f. Dr. Ken Voss

Dr. Voss informed the Board that the Nonpublic School crisis team is working with a member school that experienced a student's parent's murder/suicide. Dr. Voss also reported that the extra book bags and supplies leftover from the Homeless Children's Initiative are being offered to any district that has a need for them.

g. Dr. Janet Sloand

Dr. Sloand elaborated on the information in her report, noting that to achieve “qualified” status as required by Chapter 14, paraprofessionals must be able to demonstrate competencies in 10 standards. To aid in this process, PaTTAN, in conjunction with the PA Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education has developed a Credential of Competency. PaTTAN offers online training sessions to paraeducators to gain the knowledge and skills aligned to the Credential of Competency checklist.

h. Ms. Kristen Rawlings

Ms. Rawlings reported that MCIU has contracted with Pottsgrove High School to write and design four parent newsletters. The MCIU Communications Division is also working with Wissahickon School District to create their 2008-2009 Annual Report.

9. Spotlight on MCIU Division – Technology & Information Services

Mrs. Kennedy gave a PowerPoint presentation which highlighted both the existing TIS services and the new services which are being introduced, including but not limited to a Virtual Helpdesk and an after-school video camp for high school students.

10. Report of the Solicitor

Mr. Sultanik had no report.

11. Report of the Executive Director

(1) AESA Video – “*A Proud History of Service – The Story of AESA*”

Dr. Shiveley showed an informational video from AESA which presented the history and impact of educational service agencies across the nation.

(2) Report from Attendance at the AESA We Care Legislative Conference

Dr. Shiveley reported that he and Dr. Gales met with a number of legislators and staffers, including Representative Thompson, a member of the Education Committee, on their recent visit to Washington, DC to attend the AESA We Care Legislative Conference.

Dr. Shiveley informed the Board members that Senator Tom Harken has replaced Senator Edward Kennedy on the Senate Education Committee.

Dr. Shiveley reported that at the request of the superintendents, the MCIU has organized a workshop on budget issues and bargaining strategies to be held on October 19th. Superintendents, Business Managers and Human Resource Directors will be invited to participate in this workshop.

12. Report of Board Committees

Policy Committee

Dr. Hakes reported that because sections of the Policy 100's were missing at the August meeting, they were being reintroduced for first reading at tonight's meeting as follows:

- 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

Facilities Committee

Mr. Chmielewski reported that the Facilities Committee met to discuss the status of the purchase of a new facility. The committee has asked that a list of buildings viewed be created. Of all the buildings viewed, only one meets the criteria set, however the cost is too high. The committee has asked that the IU put together a proposal and make an offer on this property. The committee also asked Mr. Wisler to do a study of the mileage on all potential properties to determine that the location of the new facility is centrally located within the county.

13. Old Business

There was no old business.

14. New Business

Ms. Pearce reported that long time Norristown School Board member, Mr. Edward Ward, passed away. She noted that Mr. Ward was everything that a good school Board member should be.

15. Additional Public Comments

There were no additional public comments.

16. The date of the next Intermediate Unit Board Meeting will be **October 28, 2009, West Norriton Conference Room at 7:45 p.m.**

17. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mr. Chmielewski and seconded by Dr. Baumgartner, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.