

MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD MINUTES

1. Call to Order

President Joseph Chmielewski called the meeting to order at 7:48 p.m. on September 26, 2007.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Joseph Chmielewski, President, Upper Dublin	Present
John S. Grispon, Vice-President, Spring-Ford Area	Absent
Tracy G. Cole, Secretary, Souderton Area	Present
Marie A. Knox, Treasurer, Upper Merion Area	Present
Randy Bennett, Perkiomen Valley	Present
Dr. Russel S. Bleiler, Hatboro-Horsham	Absent
Boo Crofton, Wissahickon	Present
Diane DiBonaventuro, Lower Merion Area	Absent
Malcolm Gran, Springfield Township	Present
David Hakes, Upper Moreland Township	Present
Robert H. Hartman, Jr., Pottstown	Present
Marc Lieberon, Cheltenham	Absent
Vicki J. Lightcap, Upper Perkiomen	Absent
Cedric McKeever, Lower Moreland Township	Present
Jeannette Maitin, Abington	Present
Margaret M. Martinez, Methacton	Absent
Ted Miller, Jenkintown	Absent
Janice Pearce, Norristown Area	Present
Thayer Pendleton, Bryn Athyn	Absent
Vincent Sherpinsky, North Penn	Absent
Gordon Whitlock, Pottsgrove	Present
Mitch Zimmer, Colonial	Present

Others

Dr. Jerry W. Shiveley	Present
Jeffrey Sultanik, Solicitor	Present

Approval of Minutes of August 22, 2007

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Cole and seconded by Mr. Gran that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the minutes of the August 22, 2007 Board meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Mr. Chmielewski asked if there were any public comments regarding agenda items. Board member, Janice Pearce, thanked the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for their notification and remembrance of Mrs. Mary Custer on her passing. Mr. Chmielewski asked the board to observe a moment of silence to honor Mrs. Custer, a past MCIU board member and longtime board member in the Norristown Area School District.

Mr. Chmielewski also reported that he had attended the TOPS (Together Organized for the Public Schools) Leadership Dinner the previous evening and was impressed with the organization and its mission. Mr. Chmielewski mentioned that there is an opening on the TOPS Steering Committee and suggested that an MCIU board member consider participating on this committee.

5. Approval of Bills as Included in the Treasurer's Report

Ms. Knox presented the August Treasurer's Report to the Board. The cash balance as of August 31, 2007, was \$11,292,141.47.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Personnel Report

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

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Reports of Staff:

a. Dr. Jeanmarie Mason

Dr. Mason reported on the anticipation of the opening of The Anderson School at their new location. With the move comes a more detailed program. The current program includes students with disabilities only. The new program would include students who do not have disabilities and who do not have need of IEP's, but require highly structured classroom settings with a structured behavioral component along with a strong academic focus.

Dr. Mason also highlighted the upcoming Monte Carlo Night to be held on October 5th at The Inn at Valley Forge. Proceeds from this event will help special needs children in Montgomery County.

b. Mr. Stan Wisler

Mrs. Jane Mansuy presented the Management Services Action Items in Mr. Wisler's absence.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Maitin and seconded by Mr. Whitlock that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the following Action Items:

1. Nonpublic School Services

Recommendation to approve the Project Continuation to accept the funds for the PA Drug Education and Law Enforcement Grant.

Approval is requested to accept the state funds from the subgrant for the DARE project for the project period of 8/1/2007 through 6/30/2008 in the amount of \$20,028.00. Previous board action was August 23, 2006

2. Special Education Division

Recommendation to accept a subcontract agreement between the Eastern Center for Arts & Technology and IU 23.

Recommendation to accept a subcontract agreement between the Eastern Center for Arts & Technology and IU 23, for Vocational Evaluation Services, under the Carl D. Perkins, Vocational & Technical Education Act of 1998, P.L. 105-332, in the amount of \$65,000 for the period 7/27/2007 to 6/30/2008. Previous board action was 9/27/2006.

Recommendation to accept the project approval of the 2007/2008 IDEA Grant.

Request authorization to submit an addendum to the previous project approval dated 6/30/05 for P.L. 105/17/IDEA-B Regular Project, for the period 7/1/2007 through 6/30/2008 in the amount of \$20,745,932 consistent with the request of the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Authorization is requested to prepare and adopt those IDEA policies, procedures, and guidelines impacted by the changes in the State Education Agency's (SEA) application.

Motion passed unanimously.

c. Dr. Sharon Richardson

Dr. Sharon Richardson was not in attendance. Her board report stands as sent.

d. Mrs. Gail Kennedy

Mrs. Kennedy reported that TIS staff members continued to provide on-site support to Cheltenham School District as part of the PowerSchool Partnership. Mrs. Kennedy also stated that TIS has issued a request for proposals (RFP) for providing district connectivity to the regional county area network as required by the Act 183 e-Fund Grant.

e. Dr. Peter Grande

Dr. Grande's report included information on the E-Strategic Planning Process, noting that the MCIU will be providing training to the sixteen school districts in Phase III of the process.

Dr. Grande also reported that CIPD will be sponsoring three workshops in October with noted author and scheduling expert, Dr. Michael Rettig, Professor Emeritus from James Madison University.

f. Mr. Tom Padden

Mr. Tom Padden was not in attendance. His board report stands as sent.

g. Dr. Janet Sloand

Dr. Sloand reported that PaTTAN has assumed the lead in reestablishing the Bureau of Special Educations' statewide special education leadership initiative. The first major event PaTTAN hosted saw approximately 250 new and veteran leaders attend. The conference theme was, "Achieving Balance: Managing Compliance, Leading Improvement". A mentoring program for special education administrators will be established as part of the leadership initiative.

8. Report of the Solicitor

Mr. Sultanik had no report.

9. Report of the Executive Director

Dr. Shiveley echoed Mr. Chmielewski's sentiments regarding the TOPS organization. The Steering Committee consists of the Executive Directors of the Montgomery, Bucks, Chester and Delaware County intermediate units, as well as superintendent representatives, a board member and a union member. The committee meets bi-monthly at the MCIU, with the meetings starting at 5:00 p.m. A light dinner is provided. An annual dinner with a guest speaker is held each September. There is currently an opening for a union representative and a board representative. Dr. Shiveley asked that a member of the MCIU board consider participating. Mrs. Jeannette Maitin expressed an interest.

Dr. Shiveley reported that a reporter from The Philadelphia Inquirer had contacted him to find out why so many Montgomery County school district superintendents were leaving their jobs. The reporter then asked if she could interview Dr. Shiveley for an article on him. Dr. Shiveley said that he would prefer the article focus on the intermediate unit. An interview was conducted and should appear in The Inquirer Neighbors section within the next few weeks.

10. Report of Board Committees

There were no board committee reports.

11. Old Business

There was no old business.

12. New Business

There was no new business.

13. Additional Public Comments

There were no additional public comments.

16. The date of the next Intermediate Unit Board Meeting will be **Wednesday, October 24, 2007, West Norriton Conference Room B3/B4 at 7:45 p.m.**

17. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mr. Whitlock and seconded by Mr. Zimmer the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.