

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF DECATUR TOWNSHIP
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA**

The Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township School Board convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Offices of the School Corporation, 5275 Kentucky Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana on November 14, 2023.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Judith Collins
Mr. Larry Taylor
Mrs. Estella Vandeventer
Mr. Dale Henson
Mr. Chase Lyday

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Matthew Prusiecki, Superintendent
Dr. Stephanie Hofer, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Kirk Farmer, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Michael Nehring, Director of Human Resources

REGULAR MEETING

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.01 Mrs. Collins, Board President, called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All five board members were present.

1.02 Mrs. Collins led in the pledge of allegiance.

1.03 Mrs. Tammy Popp, Decatur Township parent, expressed her support for Mr. Phil Shults, Decatur Middle School Principal. She stated that Mr. Shults has gone above and beyond anything she ever expected. She came to tell the Board about the positive things that happen at the school, which included starting a PTO after not having one for some time. Mr. Shults is so positive and is a great asset to the school. He addresses problems and gets back with parents immediately. She is proud to have him as our Decatur Middle School Principal because he is making great changes.

2. ACTION ITEMS

2.01 Mr. Henson moved that the minutes for the October 3, 2023 regular meeting and executive sessions and October 31, 2023 tentative agreement meeting be approved. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2.02 Mr. Nehring presented the staff report for approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the staff report as presented. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2.03 Mr. Farmer presented claims in the amount of \$6,029,565.84 and payrolls in the amount of \$4,059,653.22 for approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion that the claims and payrolls be accepted as listed. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2.04 Mr. Farmer recommended approval of a Resolution Authorizing Permanent Transfer to Rainy Day Fund. Mrs. Vandeventer made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2.05 Dr. Prusiecki asked approval of an overnight trip request by the DCHS Girls Varsity Basketball Team to the Evansville North Girls Basketball Showcase in Evansville, Indiana on December 1-2, 2023. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the trip request as presented. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2.06 Dr. Prusiecki recommend approval of the 2023-24 contracts retroactive to July 1, 2023 for support staff, administrative staff, and teaching staff. Mr. Henson made a motion to approve the 2023-24 contracts as presented. Mr. Lyday seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. REPORT

3.01 Mr. Farmer presented a financial report for the Education Fund, Referendum Fund, Operation Fund, and Rainy Day Fund.

4. OTHER

4.01 Mr. Taylor made a motion to appoint Dr. Stephanie Hofer as Interim Superintendent effective January 1, 2024. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. CLOSING ITEMS

5.01 Dr. Prusiecki thanked Mrs. Popp for her words of support for Mr. Shults and the PTO. He thanked the School Board for approving the contracts for our teachers, classified staff, and administrators. He expressed his appreciation to the Board for appointing Dr. Hofer as Interim Superintendent in order to continue and maintain the leadership that this Township deserves. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting and thanked the Board Members for their support. He thanked the employees and patrons in attendance for their support. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He congratulated and welcomed the following individual approved on tonight's Staff Report:

- Cleo Lyons, Assistant Director of Facilities, stated he is Decatur Proud to be here. He is thankful for the opportunity and looks forward to getting started.

Sergeant Jejuan Westmoreland administered the Oath of Office for School Resource Officer to Jeffery Frencher and Tea'Wanda Wrespress.

Jeffery Frencher, School Resource Officer, stated his passion is working with kids and being a positive influence for them. He thanked the Decatur family for this opportunity.

Tea'Wanda Wrespress, School Resource Officer, stated her drive is to help our kids, as they are our leaders of tomorrow. She chose to work in a school district so she can impact kids everywhere she goes.

5.02 Mr. Lyday thanked Mrs. Popp for her positive comments. He offered congratulations to the Band for another successful season. He looks forward to the Freaky Friday musical this weekend and the Semi-State football game versus Bloomington South on Friday night. He offered congratulations to our teachers and support staff for receiving a raise. The Board is thankful for everyone's work and is pleased to be able to show that appreciation with this monetary blessing, as we value our teachers and support staff. He congratulated Dr. Hofer for being appointed Interim Superintendent and looks forward to her leadership during the

transition. He welcomed and congratulated our new Officers Frencher and Wrespress and is grateful to have them here. He congratulated Mr. Lyons on his new position.

Mr. Henson welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Mrs. Popp for her kind words about Mr. Shults, which were good to hear. He congratulated Dr. Hofer on being appointed Interim Superintendent. He welcomed Officer Frencher, Officer Wrespress, and Mr. Lyons to the District. He wished the football team well as they compete in the Semi-State game on Friday. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and thanked Dr. Prusiecki and his team for their work.

Mrs. Vandeventer thanked Mrs. Popp for sharing her opinions, as we value that feedback. She congratulated and welcomed Officer Frencher and Officer Wrespress and is pleased to have their leadership here. She welcomed Mr. Lyons to the District and offered congratulations to Dr. Hofer on her appointment.

Mr. Taylor thanked everyone for attending. He welcomed Officer Frencher, Officer Wrespress, and all our newly hired staff members. He thanked Mrs. Popp for her comments. He congratulated the football team on their recent successes and wished them well at the Semi-State game. He congratulated Dr. Hofer on her appointment.

Mrs. Collins stated the Decatur Township Scholarship Association will have a “dine to donate” fundraiser at Los Patios on Thursday evening and invited everyone to attend. She stated the Goodwin Center is serving a Thanksgiving lunch on Friday at noon. She encouraged everyone to attend the Freaky Friday performance on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. She thanked everyone for attending and thanked everyone for all they do.

Dr. Hofer thanked Dr. Prusiecki for his leadership and mentoring. She thanked the School Board for appointing her as Interim Superintendent and affording her the opportunity to lead the District during this time of transition. She looks forward to making them very Decatur Proud of her and hopes to serve as the next Superintendent of Decatur Township. She thanked everyone in attendance for their support. She is honored and blessed to have this opportunity to continue the phenomenal work we've already been doing in Decatur Township and looks forward to being a team with everyone on the horseshoe.

- 5.03 Mrs. Vandeventer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Judith Collins, President

Mr. Larry Taylor, Vice President

Mrs. Estella Vandeventer, Secretary

Mr. Dale Henson, Member, Member

Mr. Chase Lyday, Member