

**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 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Offices of the School Corporation, 5275 Kentucky Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana on April 9, 2024.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

Dr. Stephanie Hofer, Interim Superintendent  
Mr. Kirk Farmer, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. Michael Nehring, Director of Human Resources  
Mr. Tony Burchett, Interim Assistant Superintendent

**REGULAR MEETING**

**1. OPENING ITEMS**

1.01 Mr. Taylor, Board President, called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. All five board members were present.

1.02 The following students at Valley Mills Elementary: Michael Carlton, Emma Day, Arlo Fish, Raelynn Herrington, Caiden Walker, and Jeremiah Walker led in the pledge of allegiance.

**2. APPOINTMENT**

2.01 Mrs. Vandeventer made a motion to appoint Mr. Scott Collins as the next Superintendent of Schools for the MSD of Decatur Township. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Collins thanked the School Board for their trust in him. He has met a lot of the administration staff and community members, and he and his wife are very excited about becoming a part of the Decatur family. He is so excited about leading this district and continuing the great things that are happening here. He thanked the Board members for their support during the transition.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

3.01 There were no patron comments.

**4. DECATUR PROUD**

4.01 Mr. Burchett welcomed DMS wrestling coaches: Josh Kyner, Mike Vanjelgerhuis, Ty Bailey, and Kyler Perez. He was Decatur Proud to recognize the following DMS 8<sup>th</sup> grade wrestlers:

- Adrian Adjahli – Had a record of 20-5 @ 190 lb. As a first-year wrestler, Adrian followed in his older brother’s footsteps as a Junior Mid-State Conference Champion. He is also a member of our DMS Honor Roll.

- Josh Arnold – Had a record of 24-2 @ 150 lb. As a second-year wrestler, Josh put in a tremendous amount of extra work in the off season to make sure he had a successful year. He is also a Southmont Tournament Champion, Junior Mid-State Conference Champion, Team Captain, and a member of our DMS Honor Roll.
- Wesley Whitlock – Had a record of 25-1 @ 245 lb. As a first-year wrestler, Wesley was a recipient of our AAA Award and is also a member of our DMS Honor Roll.

Mr. Burchett congratulated our wrestlers and their coaches for a very successful season.

Mr. Burchett was Decatur Proud to share that Missy Harvey, DMS Director of Athletics, was named District III Middle School Athletic Administrator of the Year by the Indiana Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. He congratulated Ms. Harvey for receiving this honor and extended his appreciation for her work with our middle school athletics program.

Mr. Burchett was Decatur Proud to recognize Justin Dixson, DCHS Director of Athletics, for being named Indiana Athletic Administrator of the Year by the Indiana Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. He congratulated Mr. Dixson for receiving this outstanding award and expressed his appreciate for his hard work and dedication to our high school athletics program.

4.02 Mr. Nehring stated the Tomorrow Ready Award recognizes staff members (nominated by peers, supervisors, parents, or community members) for going above and beyond to exemplify our beliefs of equity, teamwork, and excellence, to positively impact our schools and students. He was Decatur Proud to recognize two recipients this month:

- Kenneth “Will” Moore, Maintenance Technician in Facilities Department – is an amazing member to have on our team, as he always has a great attitude and a smile that is contagious. He is very trustful, helpful, and outgoing, always offering a helping hand. He is not just the best grounds guy, he is a wonderful person to have in our working environment.
- James Storms, Counselor at Decatur Middle School – is incredibly positive, professional, hardworking, and skilled. He consistently goes above and beyond to support both staff and students. He teaches our students appropriate social skills, including how to build and maintain positive relationships, as well as conflict resolution. His work is invaluable, and we are incredibly blessed to have him as part of the DMS family.

## 5. ACTION ITEMS

- 5.01 Mr. Lyday moved that the minutes for the March 12, 2024 regular meeting and executive session and April 2, 2024 public hearing be approved. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 5.02 Mr. Nehring presented the staff report for approval. Mrs. Vandeventer made a motion to approve the staff report as presented. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- 5.03 Mr. Farmer presented claims in the amount of \$5,415,321.60 and payrolls in the amount of \$4,392,115.11 for approval. Mr. Henson made a motion that the claims and payrolls be accepted as listed. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 5.04 Mr. Farmer presented an agreement with BSN Sports for consideration. Quotes were requested from Adidas Sports with no response and Game One, which provided uniforms only, no hard goods. He stated the school district has utilized BSN Sports to purchase uniforms and sport-related supplies for more than 10 years. The district is pleased with the current services/rebates offered and he recommended renewing the agreement for an additional 4-year term. Mrs. Collins made a motion to approve the agreement with BSN Sports as presented. Mrs. Vandevanter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 5.05 Mr. Farmer presented bids for baseball and softball turf field amenities for consideration. He recommended the Board accept the lowest, most responsive bids for buildings and concrete from PCC LLC (\$1,524,413.00) and R&M Electric (\$172,300.00); for lighting system from Custer Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$943,000.00; for fencing from PCC LLC in the amount of \$280,054.00; and for sound system from R&M Electric in the amount of \$66,000.00. Mr. Lyday made a motion to approve the bids as presented. Mrs. Vandevanter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **6. REPORT**

- 6.01 Mr. Farmer presented a financial report for the Education Fund, Referendum Fund, Operations Fund, and Rainy Day Fund.

## **7. OTHER**

- 7.01 No items.

## **8. CLOSING ITEMS**

- 8.01 Dr. Hofer thanked our leaders, students, and community leaders in attendance. She stated our Valley Mills students brought a lot of energy to the meeting and she thanked them for the very nice cups. She congratulated and welcomed our new superintendent, Mr. Collins. She offered congratulations to our DMS wrestling coaches and 8th grade team and congratulated Ms. Harvey and Mr. Dixson as IIAAA Athletic Administrators of the Year, as these recognitions were well-deserved, as they always go above and beyond. She congratulated Mr. Moore and stated he was willing to lend a hand at any time. She was proud to recognize Mr. Storms for the great things he does at DMS. She welcomed everyone back from spring break and thanked the Board members for their leadership.
- 8.02 Mrs. Collins thanked Mr. Birmingham for bringing his students to lead the pledge. She congratulated Ms. Harvey and Mr. Dixson for their recognitions and stated we already knew they were the best. She congratulated Mr. Moore and Mr. Storms for being selected to receive the *Tomorrow Ready Award*. She thanked everyone for attending.

Mr. Lyday was excited to see our DMS wrestlers experience so much success. He stated Ms. Harvey has been a staple in the district and sets the tone for what it is to be a professional at the middle school. He was so pleased to see her honored in that way, as she is an incredibly hard worker. He was pleased to see Mr. Dixson named Athletic Administrator of the Year for the State of Indiana, as this was such a huge honor. He appreciates our athletic department and how Coach Dixson's leadership is the standard of excellence in everything the

department does. Coach Dixon was recently elected president of the Indiana Football Coaches Association and he's pleased to see him represent Decatur Township at the state level. As Dr. Hofer mentioned, Mr. Moore is incredibly helpful at all times and stated he appreciates Mr. Moore's value to the district. He stated that Mr. Storms had a knack for relating to the students in DMS and it is very valuable to have him on our team. He is grateful to have Scott and Ashley Collins join us as we usher in a new chapter for Decatur Township.

Mr. Henson thanked Mr. Birmingham for bringing his students to the meeting. He offered congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Collins. He congratulated our DMS 8<sup>th</sup> grade wrestlers. He stated Ms. Harvey has done a great job in Decatur Township and thanked Mr. Dixon for his work with our athletics program. He congratulated Mr. Moore and Mr. Storms for their great work and recognitions. He stated DTEF presented \$16,000 in grants to our teachers and he thanked Aundrea Hart for her work. He shared that the DTEF golf outing will be on May 31<sup>st</sup> and there are only three open spots left.

Mrs. Vandeventer offered congratulations to Mr. Dixon and Ms. Harvey for their recognitions and thanked them for doing such a great job. She stated our DMS 8<sup>th</sup> grade wrestlers were amazing and she was proud to congratulate them on their Junior Mid-State Conference Championships. She was very pleased to recognize Mr. Moore and Mr. Storms during the meeting. She is excited to have Mr. Collins on our team and she looks forward to working with him.

Mr. Taylor thanked Mr. and Mrs. Collins for joining our Decatur Proud team., as we are very happy to have them. He thanked the Valley Mills students for leading the pledge and for the great cups. He congratulated Ms. Harvey and Mr. Dixon on their recognitions and thanked Mr. Moore and Mr. Storms for their work.

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

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Mr. Larry Taylor, President

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Mrs. Estella Vandeventer, Vice President

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Mr. Dale Henson, Secretary

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Mr. Chase Lyday, Member

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Mrs. Judith Collins, Member