

**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 August 8, 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  
Dr. Kenneth Folks, Director of Operations  
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. She then asked everyone to join in a moment of silence for Joe Griffith, a public servant who served on several organizations in Decatur Township.
- 1.03 There were no patron comments.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING**

- 2.01 Mrs. Collins opened the Public Hearing for the Capital Projects Fund and Bus Replacement Plan at 7:02 p.m.
- 2.02 Mr. Farmer discussed the Bus Replacement Plan and Capital Projects Fund.
- 2.03 The public was asked for any feedback regarding the Plans. There were no questions or comments.
- 2.04 Mrs. Collins closed the hearing.

**3. ACTION ITEMS**

- 3.01 Mr. Henson moved that the minutes for the July 11, 2023 regular meeting and executive session and the July 13, 2023 work session be approved. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 3.02 Mr. Nehring presented the staff report for approval. Mr. Henson made a motion to approve the staff report as presented. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- 3.03 Mr. Farmer presented claims in the amount of \$6,541,493.91 and payrolls in the amount of \$3,945,043.04 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.
- 3.04 Dr. Folks presented new/revised NEOLA Board Policies for first reading. The Board will be asked for approval at the September meeting.
- 3.05 Dr. Hofer asked approval of an amendment to the previously approved 2023-24 DMS Student Handbook to align the hooded sweatshirt policy with our other schools. Mr. Lyday made a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **4. REPORT**

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

#### **5. OTHER**

- 5.01 Dr. Prusiecki stated that due to scheduling conflicts, next month's Board meeting will be moved to Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. and the Board will hold a work session on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 p.m. to discuss Facilities. In addition, the October Board meeting will be moved to Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. to avoid Fall Break.

#### **6. CLOSING ITEMS**

- 6.01 Dr. Prusiecki thanked the School Board members for their support during our summer work session to address the needs of our building administrators. He thanked everyone for attending and for being a part of the journey. He welcomed and congratulated the following individuals approved on tonight's Staff Report:

- Mrs. Ashley Todd, DMS Director of Global, was thankful for the opportunity and excited to work with the District.
- Mr. John McClure, DMS Director of APEX, was thrilled to bring his expertise and experience to Decatur Township and thankful for the opportunity.
- Mr. Chris Low, Stephen Decatur Elementary School Assistant Principal, was honored to join the Stephen Decatur Eagles and very Decatur Proud and thrilled to be here.
- Mrs. Jennifer Low, DMS ELA Teacher, was happy to bring her experience to Decatur Township.

- 6.02 Mr. Lyday stated it was an exciting, but extremely hectic time of year. He hoped everyone felt supported and knows how much the School Board and administration care about them. We want to invest in our leaders so they can invest in the people who follow them. He recently attended a Child Nutrition event where our students prepared and served an incredible lunch. He was excited to see our teachers at the New Teacher Orientation program and he was pleased to see all the energy at our Back-to-School Lunch. He appreciates all the work that everyone does.

Mr. Henson welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed our new staff members to Decatur Township. He agreed with Mr. Lyday's comments about our recent events. The students provided a very nice lunch for our administrators and School Board during the Child Nutrition event. He was pleased to meet our teachers during our New Teacher Orientation and he stated the Back-to-School Luncheon was always a good event. He thanked Dr.

Prusiecki, Dr. Hofer, and their team for their work getting school started. He offered kudos to our Transportation Department for doing a phenomenal job of getting our students home the first day of school this year.

Mrs. Vandeventer echoed Mr. Lyday's and Mr. Henson's comments about the start of the school year. She was pleased to have a full administrative team and appreciated all the hard work getting the school year started.

Mr. Taylor thanked everyone for attending and welcomed our newly hired staff members.

Mrs. Collins welcomed our new staff members and was Decatur Proud to have them here. She thanked everyone for all they do.

6.03 Mr. Henson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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Mrs. Judith Collins, President

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Mr. Larry Taylor, Vice President

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Mrs. Estella Vandeventer, Secretary

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Mr. Dale Henson, Member

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Mr. Chase Lyday, Member