

**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 7:05 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Offices of the School Corporation, 5275 Kentucky Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana on August 22, 2022.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Dale Henson  
Mrs. Judith Collins  
Mr. Larry Taylor  
Mr. Jimmy Ray  
Mrs. Estella Vandeventer

**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 Mr. Henson, Board President, called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. All five board members were present.

1.02 Mr. Henson led in the pledge of allegiance.

1.03 There were no patron comments.

**2. DECATUR PROUD**

2.01 Dr. Hofer invited Rebecca Bersani, STEAM Lead Teacher, to come up and thanked her for supporting all of our STEAM teachers as we began this program in our District. She then asked the following STEAM teachers in attendance to come forward: Shawn Powers, Helen Harris, Carla Monical, and Ryan Stroud. She was very Decatur Proud to announce that Blue Academy, Gold Academy, Stephen Decatur Elementary, Valley Mills Elementary, and West Newton Elementary were named 2021-22 Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Launch Distinguished Schools and were among 282 PLTW Launch programs across the country to receive recognition. The Distinguished program recognition celebrates schools committed to helping students own their education by increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in PLTW programs. These schools allow their students to unlock their potential by developing the in-demand, real-world knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in life beyond the classroom. She congratulated our schools and thanked these teachers for empowering their students to succeed. She stated our program is top notch and she is Decatur Proud of the exceptional job these teachers do every day, as our students love attending their STEAM classes.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING**

3.01 Mr. Henson opened the Public Hearing for the Capital Projects Fund and Bus Replacement Plan at 7:12 p.m.

3.02 Mr. Farmer discussed the Bus Replacement Plan and Capital Projects Fund.

3.03 The public was asked for any feedback regarding the Plans. There were no questions or comments.

3.04 Mr. Henson closed the hearing.

#### **4. ACTION ITEMS**

4.01 Mrs. Collins moved that the minutes for the July 26, 2022 regular meeting and executive session be approved. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4.02 Mr. Nehring presented the staff report (removing Connor Ray and Dava Taylor to a second report) for approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the staff report (removing Connor Ray and Dava Taylor to a second report) as presented. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ray made a motion to approve Connor Ray as Assistant Football Coach at DCHS and Dava Taylor (increase hours worked as a Bus Driver from 4.5 hours to 6 hours per day) and Head Volleyball Coach at DCHS. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0-2, with Mr. Ray and Mr. Taylor abstaining.

4.03 Mr. Farmer presented claims in the amount of \$6,588,573.79 and payrolls in the amount of \$3,765,807.90 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.

4.04 Dr. Folks asked approval of an out of state trip request by the DCHS Band/Indoor Winds to the Bands of America Marching Band Regional in Louisville, Kentucky on October 1, 2022. Mr. Ray made a motion to approve the trip request as presented. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4.05 Dr. Hofer asked approval of an amendment to the previously approved 2022-23 MSD Decatur Township Athletic Training & Sports Medicine Manual. Mrs. Vandeventer made a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **5. REPORT**

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

#### **6. OTHER**

6.01 Dr. Folks asked approval of an overnight trip request by the DCHS FFA to the Indiana FFA Center in Trafalgar, Indiana on September 9-11, 2022. Mr. Ray made a motion to approve the trip request as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **7. CLOSING ITEMS**

7.01 Dr. Prusiecki thanked the Board Members for their support. He thanked everyone for attending and thanked them for their commitment, dedication, and service to Decatur Township. He welcomed and congratulated the following staff members approved on tonight's Staff Report:

- Mrs. Kelli McGuffey, West Newton Elementary School Assistant Principal, is Decatur Proud and thanked the School Board, Dr. Prusiecki, and Dr. Hofer for this opportunity.
- Mrs. Jessica Carlton, Coordinator of Nursing & Health, has enjoyed working at the Blue Academy and is excited to begin serving our students and families district-wide.

Chief of Police Terance Smith administered the Oath of Office for School Resource Officer to Eric Harris, Jr.

Eric Harris, Jr., School Resource Officer, stated he is Decatur Proud to be a part of the Decatur family and appreciated the opportunity to serve the community.

- 7.02 Mrs. Vandeventer congratulated and welcomed our new team members and those promoted to new positions. She thanked Dr. Prusiecki and his team for successfully starting another school year and is excited about everything the district is doing this year.

Mr. Ray was pleased to congratulate Officer Jejuan Westmoreland for being named School Resource Officer of the Year for Region 7. He congratulated our newly hired staff members and wished good luck to our fall athletes. He congratulated the Blue Academy for having a good turnout at the disc golf tournament last weekend.

Mr. Taylor thanked everyone for attending, thanked our STEAM teachers for doing a good job, and thanked all our employees for a great start to the school year. He welcomed our new hires and congratulated those promoted within the district.

Mrs. Collins welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. She stated her granddaughter really enjoys her STEAM class at the Blue Academy and thanked the teachers for doing a great job. She thanked everyone for all they do.

Mr. Henson welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated our new team members. He offered congratulations to our STEAM teachers for receiving Distinguished School designations from PLTW. He thanked Dr. Prusiecki and his team for a great start of school including the transportation of our students.

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

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Mr. Dale Henson, President

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Mrs. Judith Collins, Vice President

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Mr. Larry Taylor, Secretary

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Mr. Jimmy Ray, Member

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Mrs. Estella Vandeventer, Member