

**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 March 15, 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 7:00 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 was Decatur Proud to recognize Mr. Shawn Allen, parent of Sophia Allen who attends DCHS. Mr. Allen is employed by Louisiana-Pacific Corporation, a manufacturer of engineered wood products. Mr. Allen and his company are passionate about the construction trades and supporting the next generation of students that are both Tomorrow Ready and workforce ready. Mr. Allen and his company donated supplies for two mini barns that are currently under construction in our Construction Trades I class. These barns will be provided to two of our community members. Additionally, Louisiana-Pacific is planning to purchase supplies to be utilized in our new construction space in the future. This year they will donate nearly \$10,000 to our construction program. After construction of the barns, all funding will go back to the construction program.

She expressed her appreciation for our partnership with Mr. Allen and Louisiana-Pacific, as the support of our community members makes a positive impact on our students. She is grateful for how they have assisted our school and construction program.

Dr. Hofer invited the following individuals to come forward: Justin Dixson, DC Athletic Director; Kyle Enright, DC Head Football Coach; and ELITE Academic Support Program members: Bre Fife, Jeana Jefferson, Erica Sanders, Katie Smith, Kelly Tate, and Lauren

Wilbur. She was pleased to celebrate a national academic recognition for our varsity football team and to honor the dedicated ELITE Academic Support Team members.

Dr. Hofer stated our Athletic Department rolled out the ELITE Academic Support Program in the fall of 2020 with the mission to challenge and support student-athletes, encourage intellectual and personal development of student-athletes, and assist with college and career readiness. Since then, these six dedicated team members have helped our 22 athletic programs (grades 7-12) by impacting over 900 student-athletes each year. Their mentorship and social, emotional, and academic support have a positive daily impact on our kids and will influence them well beyond their time in our program.

As a result of having great student-athletes, a terrific football program, and these dedicated mentors; our varsity football team was awarded the National Football Foundation's National High School Academic Excellence Award for the State of Indiana. We are one of only 62 teams in the country to receive this recognition. Criteria for the award included: minimum team GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, superior academic application and performance, and a successful football season. We are Decatur Proud of our Athletic Department, Football Program, and Academic Support Team for achieving this great honor.

### **3. ACTION ITEMS**

3.01 Mr. Taylor moved that the minutes for the February 9, 2022 regular meeting and executive session and March 1, 2022 work session be approved. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3.02 Mr. Nehring presented the staff report (removing Noah Ray to a separate report) and addendum for approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve Noah Ray as a Math Teacher at Decatur Central High School. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0-1, with Mr. Ray abstaining.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the staff report (removing Noah Ray to a separate report) and addendum as presented. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3.03 Mr. Farmer presented claims in the amount of \$4,223,807.45 and payrolls in the amount of \$3,685,798.83 for approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion that the claims and payrolls be accepted as listed. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3.04 Mr. Farmer recommended approval to utilize the design-build process for controls/mechanicals in the Career Pathway Building. Mr. Ray made a motion to approve the design-build process for controls/mechanicals in the Career Pathway Building. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3.05 Mr. Farmer recommended the Board accept the lowest, most responsive bid for casework at Liberty Early Elementary School from P.R. Bean in the amount of \$205,250.00. Mr. Taylor made a motion that the bid for casework at Liberty Early Elementary School be accepted as presented. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- 3.06 Dr. Folks presented new and revised NEOLA Board Policies for first reading. The Board will be asked for approval at the April meeting.
- 3.07 Dr. Folks asked approval of an out-of-state trip request by the DCHS Band/Jazz Ensemble #1/Jazz Ensemble #2 to Music in the Parks at Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio on March 13-14, 2022. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the trip request. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 3.08 Dr. Hofer recommended McGraw Hill for our K-8 math curriculum adoption. Mr. Ray made a motion to approve McGraw Hill for our K-8 math curriculum adoption as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 3.09 Dr. Hofer asked approval to utilize block scheduling for Decatur Central High School. Mr. Ray made a motion to approve block scheduling for Decatur Central High School as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 3.10 Dr. Hofer asked approval of new course offerings for DCHS Computer Science Pathways. Mr. Taylor moved the new course offerings for DCHS Computer Science Pathways be approved as presented. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 3.11 Dr. Prusiecki recommended approval of 2022-23 Elementary School District Boundaries. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the 2022-23 Elementary School District Boundaries as presented. Mrs. Vandeventer seconded the motion. The motion carried, unanimously.
- 3.12 Dr. Prusiecki recommended renaming Liberty Early Elementary School to Lynwood Elementary School with our preschool program retaining the name of Liberty Preschool. Mr. Ray made a motion to rename Liberty Early Elementary School to Lynwood Elementary School and that our preschool program be named Liberty Preschool effective with the 2022-23 school year. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **4. REPORT**

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

#### **5. OTHER**

- 5.01 Dr. Prusiecki stated our next regular Board meeting will be held Tuesday, April 12, 2022, and reminded everyone of the upcoming work session on Wednesday, April 6, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. to discuss facilities.

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

- 6.01 Dr. Prusiecki was pleased to recognize Mr. Shawn Allen for his contribution as a community member and thanked him for his tremendous gift and foresight. He thanked the ELITE Academic Support mentors for their time and focus with our student-athletes and is Decatur Proud to be one of only 62 teams to earn this national award. Elementary redistricting has been a long process, but one that will better serve our community and help

our district be more efficient. He is pleased to see DCHS move to block scheduling to help optimize learning opportunities for our students. He thanked everyone for attending and for their work and dedication to the community. He welcomed and congratulated the following staff members who will begin their new positions with the 2022-23 school year:

- Mr. Jay Lovell, Lynwood Elementary School Principal, thanked the Board and administrations for this and all opportunities he has been afforded in the District. He has been surrounded by tremendous leadership and staff members who have helped him grow. He is so Decatur Proud of our District and the impact it has on the community.
- Mrs. Janica Humphries, Gold Academy Principal, thanked Dr. Prusiecki, Dr. Hofer, the School Board, Mrs. Strube, and Mr. Nehring for providing her this opportunity. She is honored and humbled to begin this position and will strive to ensure that all students have access to high quality instruction. She is Decatur Proud and truly appreciates this opportunity.
- Mrs. Jana Anderson, E3+ Recruitment & Retention Coach
- Jack Birmingham, E3+ Recruitment & Retention Coach

6.02 Mrs. Vandeventer offered congratulations to Mr. Lovell and Mrs. Humphries on their new positions. She thanked Mr. Allen for his contribution to our construction pathways and is pleased to see local businesses get involved with our students during their learning process. She congratulated our football team for earning their national award.

Mr. Ray thanked Mr. Allen for his support of our construction pathways. He congratulated the varsity football team, Justin Dixon, Coach Enright, the ELITE Academic Support mentors for their outstanding accomplishment. He wished good luck to all spring sports teams. He congratulated Mr. Tim Cox for finishing 9<sup>th</sup> out of more than 200 jazz bands and wished them good luck in the upcoming finals. He congratulated Mr. Lovell and Mrs. Humphries on their new positions and wished good luck to our new Recruitment & Retention Coaches. He wished everyone a great spring break.

Mr. Taylor thanked Mr. Allen for all his support with our construction pathways and congratulated Justin Dixon and Coach Enright for receiving the national award. He was honored to be a part of the Lynwood Elementary School renaming.

Mrs. Collins thanked everyone for their donations to the Decatur Township Scholarship Association. Last year DTSA provided 48 scholarships and this year she hopes to award even more. This would not be possible without everyone's support.

Mr. Henson thanked everyone for attending. He congratulated Mr. Lovell and Mrs. Humphries on their new positions as principal and congratulated Mrs. Anderson and Mr. Birmingham for serving as our Recruitment & Retention Coaches. He thanked Dr. Prusiecki and all our administrators for the work they do. We are Decatur Proud of our

football team and the \$10,000 contribution from Mr. Allen to our construction program. He reminded everyone of the DTEF golf outing at Winding River on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. He stated there are 12 openings remaining and encouraged those interested to register. He wished everyone a great spring break.

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

---

Mr. Dale Henson, President

---

Mrs. Judith Collins, Vice President

---

Mr. Larry Taylor, Secretary

---

Mr. Jimmy Ray, Member

---

Mrs. Estella Vandeventer, Member