

**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 Decatur Township School for Excellence Community Room, 5106 S. High School Road, Indianapolis, Indiana on September 10, 2020.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Matthew Prusiecki, Superintendent
Mr. Tony Burchett, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Kirk Farmer, Chief Financial Officer
Mrs. Stephanie Hofer, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Chris Gearlds, Director of Human Resources
Mrs. Susan Strube, Director of Elementary Education
Ms. Lillian Youngblood, Interim Dir. of Special Ed. & ELL
Dr. Chris Duzenbery, Dir. of College and Career Readiness

REGULAR MEETING

1. OPENING ITEMS

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

1.02 Mr. Ray led in the pledge of allegiance.

1.03 There were no patron comments.

2. DECATUR PROUD

2.01 Mrs. Hofer recognized several groups for their contributions to the 2020-21 Backpack/School Supply Drive. The district partnered with the Decatur Township Fire Department to fill 800 backpacks (donated by the Indianapolis Airport Authority) with school supplies. These backpacks were made available to K-12th grade students in our community. She is grateful to the following community partners that helped impact our students and families with their generous monetary or materials/supplies donations:

- Indianapolis Airport Authority – Mr. Bill Stinson
- Decatur Township Fire Department – Ms. Billie Auberry
- Communities in Schools – Ms. Helena Drumm
- Los Patios Mexican Restaurant
- Meijer
- Walmart
- Domino's Pizza

Mrs. Hofer thanked Shannon Preda, Kathy Flores, Bev O'Toole, and Becky Collins for working tirelessly on this project.

3. pH₂ PRESENTATION REGARDING BLUE/GOLD FACILITY

3.01 Mr. Tony Havics with pH₂, LLC began by defining a disease cluster as a greater than expected number occurring within a group of people in a geographic area over a period of time. He interviewed those in the suspected cluster and conducted an online survey to collect additional information, finding four different types of unrelated diseases. He researched the property for illegal dumping and any chemical use within a two-mile radius of the facility, conducted radon testing, and researched how the building was constructed including materials used. He determined there are no cases of cluster and no potential for exposure. He will produce a finalized report once approval is received from the individuals involved.

4. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2021 BUDGET

4.01 Mr. Ray opened the Public Hearing for the 2021 Budget at 7:20 p.m.

4.02 Mr. Farmer outlined the 2021 Budget.

4.03 The public was asked for any feedback and there were no questions or comments.

4.04 Mr. Ray closed the hearing.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.01 Mr. Taylor moved that the minutes for the August 11, 2020 regular meeting and executive session and August 24, 2020 work session be approved. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5.02 Mr. Gearlds 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 3-0-2, with Mr. Taylor and Mr. Ray abstaining.

5.03 Mr. Farmer presented claims in the amount of \$3,521,910.78 and payrolls in the amount of \$3,569,455.76 for approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion that the claims and payrolls be accepted as listed. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5.04 Mr. Farmer recommended approval of the 2021 Bus Replacement Plan. Mr. Henson made a motion to approve the 2021 Bus Replacement Plan as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5.05 Mr. Farmer presented the 2021 Capital Projects Fund Plan for Board consideration. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the 2021 Capital Projects Fund Plan as presented. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5.06 Mrs. Hofer asked approval for disposal of outdated elementary textbooks. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the disposal of elementary textbooks as presented. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5.07 Mrs. Hofer presented the High Ability Handbook for approval. Mrs. Vandeventer made a motion to approve the High Ability Handbook as presented. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. REPORT

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

7. OTHER

7.01 Mr. Ray reminded everyone the next Board meeting will be held on October 6, 2020.

8. CLOSING ITEMS

8.01 Dr. Prusiecki thanked all the organizations for contributing to the backpack give-away. He thanked Kathy Flores, Shannon Preda, Bev O'Toole, Becky Collins, and the Decatur Township Fire Department for their work on this project, which has grown from a small event to one that helped the many families who were ready to start school this year. He thanked pH₂ for their work and for scientifically concluding that the Blue/Gold building is a safe facility. He thanked Mr. Farmer for his Budget presentation. He stated the School Board, our administration, and Trustee Holliday all run this district and thanked them for their work and for attending the meeting. We will continue to provide updates to the community on our COVID-19 data and will share the data from this evening's pH₂ presentation. We will continue to put our students first and foremost through learning, safety, and customer service.

8.02 Mr. Taylor thanked everyone for attending. He thanked Mr. Havics for his presentation, thanked Mr. Farmer for preparing the Budget, and thanked those who supported our backpack give-away. He thanked all the administrators in attendance, as the district does not run without them, and thanked them for being adaptable to change during these challenging times.

Mrs. Collins thanked everyone for attending and for the good work they do.

Mr. Henson thanked everyone for attending and offered kudos to Trustee Holliday and Fire Chief Arnes for attending. He thanked the organizations that supported our backpack give-away and thanked Kathy Flores, Shannon Preda, Bev O'Toole, Billie Auberry, and the firefighters who were a big part of filling the backpacks. He was pleased to hear the report by Mr. Havics which confirmed that our Blue/Gold facility is safe. He thanked Mr. Farmer for preparing the Budget and for providing his monthly report. He thanked Dr. Prusiecki, Mrs. Hofer, Mr. Burchett, the administrators, and support staff for all the work they do.

Mrs. Vandeventer expressed her appreciation to those who coordinated the backpack give-away. She is pleased to see the project has grown to 800 backpacks this year so our students could have what they needed to start school. She thanked Mr. Havics for his work and presentation and thanked Mr. Burchett for arranging the presentation this evening. She thanked everyone for a great school year so far and looks forward to the rest of the year.

Mr. Ray thanked all the individuals involved in the backpack give-away and thanked Mr. Farmer for his Budget presentation. He thanked Mr. Burchett for bringing in Mr. Havics to provide a report on his findings and thanked Dr. Prusiecki, Mrs. Hofer, and Mr. Gearlds for their good work.

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

Mr. Jimmy Ray, President

Mrs. Estella Vandeventer, Vice President

Mr. Dale Henson, Secretary

Mrs. Judith Collins, Member

Mr. Larry Taylor, Member