

**MERIDIAN CUSD 101
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Meridian CUSD #101 Board of Education was called to order at 6 p.m. by President, Mike Hileman.

ROLL CALL

Members present included Mike Hileman – President, Justin Crain – Vice President, Warren Jackson – Secretary, Charlotte Woods, Rebecca Word, and Jamie Nichols. Melody Spaulding arrived at 6:02 p.m. Jamie Nichols left at 7:25 p.m. Also present: Spencer Byrd (Superintendent), Tony Rinella (7th-12th Principal), Scott Bunting (K-6th Behavior Intervention Specialist), Lawanda Green (HS teacher), Victor Baker (Teacher Aide), Kim Tucker (Pre-K Parent Liaison), Michelle Wiseman & Janice Couch (Pre-K Teachers), Gary Gischer (Athletic Director), Barbara McElmurry (Teacher Aide/773 Meridian President), and Judy Simpson (Local 773 Rep).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Jamie Nichols and seconded by Charlotte Woods to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

Member Vote: AYES: 6 – Jamie Nichols, Charlotte Woods, Mike Hileman, Justin Crain, Rebecca Word, & Warren Jackson; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1 –Melody Spaulding

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judy Simpson informed the board the Teacher Aide contract has been finalized with minimal changes. The only thing left is for the District Bookkeeper to go over the figures to make sure everything is correct.

Kim Tucker (with Michelle Wiseman and Janice Couch) made a presentation to the board about new building concerns for Pre-K. The Pre-K grant has certain stipulations about the parent liaison office, the gross motor room, and the playground.

Gary Gischer gave a brief update on Athletics. There will be an update for the coaching handbooks. Basketball season is underway.

Victor Baker requested to meet in closed session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:17 P.M.

A motion was made by Rebecca Word and seconded by Justin Crain to convene in Executive Session for the discussion of:

- 1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. (5 ILCS 120(2)(c)(1);

- 2) Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees (5 ILCS 120(2)(c)(2);
- 3) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes.
(5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(3)
- 4) Discussion of student disciplinary cases. (5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9)

Member Vote: AYES: 7 – Rebecca Word, Justin Crain, Jamie Nichols, Charlotte Woods, Mike Hileman, Warren Jackson & Melody Spaulding; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 0
MOTION CARRIED

OPEN SESSION 7:25 P.M.

A motion was made by Charlotte Woods and seconded by Warren Jackson to reconvene in open session.

Member Vote: AYES: 6 – Charlotte Woods, Warren Jackson, Rebecca Word, Mike Hileman, Justin Crain, & Melody Spaulding; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1 – Jamie Nichols
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Charlotte Woods and seconded by Justin Crain to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Member Vote: AYES: 6 –Charlotte Woods, Justin Crain, Rebecca Word, Melody Spaulding, Mike Hileman, & Warren Jackson; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1 – Jamie Nichols
MOTION CARRIED

ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL ORAL REPORT

Mrs. Harris was not present.

HIGH SCHOOL ORAL REPORT

Mr. Rinella gave a brief report for High School.

DISCIPLINE REPORTS

Mr. Bunting gave a brief report on K-6th Discipline.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ORAL REPORT

Mrs. Dare was not present.

21ST CENTURY REPORT

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd elaborated on the items being discussed by administration. Also, there needs to be a special meeting next week to approve the first review of the tax levy (a must to stay in compliance with the state).

MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Gardner was not present.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

No committee reports.

There was a consensus of the board to schedule a Special Board Meeting on November 21st at 4 p.m.

APPROVING THE 2015-16 AUDIT

It was the consensus of the board to table the approval of the audit due to the fact that the district has not received the final audit. They should be here for December's board meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE 2016-17 EMERGENCY CRISIS PLAN

A motion was made by Warren Jackson and seconded by Charlotte Woods to approve the 2016-17 Emergency Crisis Plan as presented.

Member Vote: AYES: 6 –Warren Jackson, Charlotte Woods, Rebecca Word, Justin Crain, Mike Hileman, & Melody Spaulding; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1 – Jamie Nichols
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF FMLA on an employee

A motion was made by Warren Jackson and seconded by Justin Crain to approve the FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act) request for Laura Meier. Ms. Meier took leave on November 4th, 2016. With this, Ms. Meier can use up to 12 weeks of Leave.

Member Vote: AYES: 6 –Warren Jackson, Justin Crain, Rebecca Word, Charlotte Woods, Melody Spaulding, & Mike Hileman; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1 – Jamie Nichols
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF TERMINATION

A motion was made by Charlotte Woods and seconded by Justin Crain to approve in lieu of termination, Victor Baker (Teacher Aide/Paraprofessional) will be suspended from work for 2 weeks without pay effective November 11th through November 30th. In addition to that, Mr. Baker will be required to successfully complete counseling services to address sexual harassment in the workplace.

Member Vote: AYES: 6 –Charlotte Woods, Justin Crain, Rebecca Word, Warren Jackson, Melody Spaulding, & Mike Hileman; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1 – Jamie Nichols
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF NEW HIRE

A motion was made by Charlotte Woods and seconded by Mike Hileman to approve the recommendation submitted by Novella Harris to hire Catherine Strunk as a classroom paraprofessional for the 6th grade for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year.

Member Vote: AYES: 6 –Charlotte Woods, Mike Hileman, Warren Jackson, Justin Crain, Rebecca Word, & Melody Spaulding; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1 – Jamie Nichols
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2016 SUSPENSION REPORT

A motion was made by Charlotte Woods and seconded by Justin Crain to approve the October 2016 Suspension Report.

Member Vote: AYES: 6 –Charlotte Woods, Justin Crain, Mike Hileman, Warren Jackson, Melody Spaulding, & Rebecca Word; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1 – Jamie Nichols
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL TO RE-DO THE BAN HEARING

A motion was made by Warren Jackson and seconded by Justin Crain to approve setting a date to Re-Do the Ban Hearing for Deon Cherry. The date will be December 13, 2016 at the regularly scheduled Board meeting. There was an oversight; Mr. Cherry never received his letter to notify him of the meeting.

**Member Vote: AYES: 6 –Warren Jackson, Justin Crain, Charlotte Woods, Melody Spaulding, Rebecca Word, & Mike Hileman; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1 – Jamie Nichols
MOTION CARRIED**

ADJOURNMENT 7:52 P.M.

A motion was made by Charlotte Woods and seconded by Justin Crain to adjourn this meeting.

**Member Vote: AYES: 6 –Charlotte Woods, Justin Crain, Rebecca Word, Melody Spaulding, Warren Jackson, & Mike Hileman; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 1 – Jamie Nichols
MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL: _____

President – Mike Hileman

Secretary—Warren Jackson