

MINUTES: Meeting of the Monona Grove Board of Education held Wednesday, January 9, 2008, at Nichols School in the District Office Board Room, Starting at 6:02 P.M.  
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Bultman, Mike DuPlayee, John Kitslaar, Susan Manning, Phil McDade, Peter Sobol, John Weinberger  
ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Gary Schumacher, Mary Ellen Van Valin

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I. Opening of Meeting – John Kitslaar

II. Declaration of Public Notice – acknowledged

III. Public Appearances

Kira Femrite, 4550 American Way, Cottage Grove, spoke in support of the World Language Program proposal.

IV. Report From School Exec Connect Superintendent Search Consultants – Superintendent Profile

School Exec Connect consultants Tom Madden, Bill Hughes and Gerry Freitag presented a detailed report on the “Superintendent Profile” that was developed from their recent communications with constituents, parents, and school staff. The consultants stated they had approximately 228 responses to the survey. After review of the document Board members were to contact John Kitslaar with any changes/corrections. The survey will be posted on the school district website at [www.mononagrove.org](http://www.mononagrove.org).

The consultants expect to have 5-7 candidates selected for the Board to interview the end of February or beginning of March. Once the Board has done interviews with the candidates 2-3 will be invited to interview with staff, parents and the community.

V. Report From Madison Area Technical College (MATC) – Dr. Bettsey L. Barhorst, President & Janice Bultema, Board Chair

Dr. Bettsey Barhorst, President and Janice Bultema, Board Chair, at Madison Area Technical College provided a brief overview of MATC programs and specifically how Monona Grove students have done in these programs and which programs a number of our students are enrolled in.

VI. Featured Program – “Get Out, Get Ahead” (GOGA) – Carol Cain

Carol Cain, English Language Learners (ELL) paraprofessional, and Lionel Norton, parent, gave a report on the newly formed “Get out, Get Ahead” (GOGA) program for the District’s minority students and their parents. Among this group’s goals are to provide students and parents with a forum to discuss issues related to minority student achievement and inclusions in school activities. A variety of activities are planned including trips to Marquette, MATC, and U. W Whitewater.

VII. Announcements - none

VIII. Superintendent’s Report & Updates - none

IX. New Business - none

X. Old Business

A. Discussion and Possible Approval of Implementation of Elementary World Language Program – Bill Breisch, Ann Schroeder

Kathy Bultman reported the Curriculum Committee heard a report from Ann Schroeder, Principal,

Nichols School and Bill Breisch, Director of Curriculum, regarding a proposal for the teaching of a world language (Spanish) at the elementary grades, beginning in kindergarten for the 2008-2009 school year.

Bill Breisch and Ann Schroeder presented their proposal and report from the World Language Study Committee. A video of the Curriculum Committee meeting where the World Language report was given is available through Bill Breisch. They reported this program will begin at kindergarten and be phased in, one grade per year, moving forward. Discussion was held regarding funding for the program. A complete copy of the report can be found on the school district website at [www.mononagrove.org](http://www.mononagrove.org).

Kathy Bultman moved adoption of the proposal for the teaching of a world language (Spanish) at the elementary grades beginning in kindergarten for the 2008-2009 school year. Phil McDade seconded. Discussion was held. Susan Manning asked for a roll call vote. Roll call vote: Sobol – aye; Manning – nay; McDade – aye; Kitslaar – aye; Bultman – aye; DuPlayee – aye; and Weinberger – aye. Motion carried.

B. Monthly Construction Report – Mike Huffman

Mary Ellen Van Valin reported that Mike Huffman was not present but he did state everything is going very smoothly with not much to report this month. If Board members had questions regarding the budget report they were asked to contact Mike Huffman.

C. Discussion and Possible Approval of Implementing Baldrige National Quality Program Framework For Continuous Improvement

John Kitslaar stated the Board of Education has had discussions regarding implementation of the Baldrige National Quality Program framework for continuous improvement but action to formally approve the program was never taken.

Phil McDade moved approval of implementing the Baldrige National Quality Program framework for continuous improvement. Mike DuPlayee seconded and the motion carried.

XI. Committee Reports and Recommendations

Mike DuPlayee moved to take Committee reports out of order – Personnel & Policy first, Business Services second, and Curriculum last. Phil McDade seconded. Motion carried.

Personnel & Policy Committee – Mike DuPlayee

- A. Confirm Next Meeting Date – January 16, 2008, 6:00 P.M., Nichols School, District Office Board Room

Business Services Committee – John Weinberger

- A. Report From the Business Services Committee Meeting of January 2, 2008  
B. Discussion and Possible Approval of Financial Audit 2006-2007

John Weinberger reviewed the audit report prepared by Reilly, Penner & Benton, LLP. Mary Ellen Van Valin will prepare follow-up materials for the Business Services Committee regarding concerns mentioned in the report. A copy of the audit report is on file in the Business Department at the District Office or can be found on the district website at [www.mononagrove.org](http://www.mononagrove.org).

John Weinberger moved approval of the financial audit report for the 2006-2007 fiscal year prepared by Reilly, Penner & Benton, LLP. Peter Sobol seconded. Discussion was held. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

C. Discussion and Possible Approval of 2007-2008 Budget Calendar

John Weinberger moved approval of the 2007-2008 budget calendar as presented by Mary Ellen Van Valin. Peter Sobol seconded. Discussion was held. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

D. Discussion and Possible Approval of Setting the Date, Time, and Place of Budget Hearing/ Annual Meeting for 2008 (Suggested: Monday, October 27, 2008, 7:00 P.M., Monona Grove High School)

John Weinberger moved that the Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing be held on Monday, October 27, 2008, 7:00 P.M. at Monona Grove High School. Mike DuPlayee seconded. Discussion was held. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

E. Discussion and Possible Approval of an Alternate Bid to Provide Telephone Service to Cottage Grove (PRI Circuit) and T1 Circuits for the School District

John Weinberger moved to remove from the contract award made to McLeod Communications (dial tone PRI service to Glacial Drumlin and T1 circuits in Monona and Cottage Grove) by the Monona Grove School Board on December 12, 2007, be withdrawn. Peter Sobol seconded. Discussion was held. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

John Weinberger moved to approve a three-year contract with ATT to provide data connections in Monona at a cost not to exceed \$896.00 per month, with Verizon to provide data connection in Cottage Grove at a cost not to exceed \$820.00 per month, and telephone services at Glacial Drumlin School not to exceed \$767.00 per month. Kathy Bultman seconded. Discussion was held. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

F. Presentation of Monthly Budget Statement

John Weinberger presented the monthly budget statement with no questions or comments from Board members.

G. Confirm Next Meeting Date – January 30, 2008, 5:00 P.M., Nichols School, District Office Board Room

Curriculum Committee – Kathy Bultman

A. Report From the Curriculum Committee Meeting of December 19, 2007

Kathy Bultman stated the Curriculum Committee meeting of December 19, 2007, had one agenda item only and that was to hear a report from the Elementary World Language Committee that was reported on earlier on this agenda.

B. Confirm Next Meeting Date – January 16, 2008, 7:15 P.M., Nichols School, District Office Board Room

XII. Consent Agenda

Mike DuPlayee moved approval of the following consent agenda items:

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Board Meetings
- B. Approval of Hiring of Staff

1. Derek Daggett, Head Boys Baseball Coach, Monona Grove High School, 2008 Spring Season
  2. William Evans, Bus Driver, 2 routes per day, Monona Grove School District, beginning January 9, 2008
  3. Holly Strope, Bus Driver, 2 routes per day, Monona Grove School District, beginning January 2, 2008
- C. Approval of Staff Resignations
1. Dan Butz, Bus Driver, Monona Grove School District, effective December 13, 2007
  2. Mary Butz, Bus Driver, Monona Grove School District, effective December 21, 2007
  3. Van Smith, Custodian, Monona Grove High School, effective January 2, 2008
- D. Approval of Staff Contract Amendments
1. Jill Jensen, add Silver Dimension Director, Monona Grove High School, effective August 24, 2007
  2. Jake Mihm, add Varsity Boys Golf Coach, Monona Grove High School, 2008 Spring Season
  3. Jake Mihm, delete Boys JV Golf Coach, Monona Grove High School, 2008 Spring Season
- E. Approval of Staff Retirement Request
1. Deborah Muskat, Elementary Teacher, Cottage Grove School, effective August 15, 2008
- F. Approval of Gift Donations
1. Cash donation of \$180.00 from Cottage Grove PTO for the Art Program at Taylor Prairie School generated by scrip sales
  2. Cash donation of \$1,347.00 from Cottage Grove PTO for field trip transportation for all students at Taylor Prairie School
  3. Cash donation of \$420.00 from Skala Photography to be used by staff and students at Taylor Prairie School
  4. Cash donation of \$20.64 from Verizon Extra Credit Program to be used towards the Milk Buddy Program at Taylor Prairie School
  5. Cash donation of \$2,000 from Wal-Mart to be used for Spanish books for Maywood School Library
  6. Cash donation of \$2,500 from Wal-Mart to be used for After School Video Club at Maywood School
  7. Cash donation of \$800 from Wal-Mart for breakfast/snacks for summer school students at Maywood School
  8. Equipment donation (36 inch television, 19 inch television, 2 vcr's, 1 five disc dvd player) from Donald Salm for Monona Grove High School Creative Video Club
- G. Approval of Budget Transfers – complete list on file at the District Office with the official minutes of the meeting
- H. Approval of Vouchers Payable
1. Debt Service Fund Vouchers, Wire Transfer, in the amount of \$9,654.95
  2. General Fund Vouchers No. 175962-176376 in the amount of \$1,016,856.37
  3. Building Fund Project Fund Voucher No. 10106-10110 in the amount of \$1,595,896.96

John Weinberger seconded and the motion carried.

XIII. Confirm Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, February 13, 2008, Cottage Grove School LGI

XIV. Adjournment – 9:36 P.M.

John Weinberger moved that the meeting be adjourned. Phil McDade seconded and the motion carried.