

**MECOSTA-OSCEOLA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
15760 190TH AVENUE, BIG RAPIDS, MI 49307**

December 13, 2021

The regular meeting of the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District Board of Education was held on Monday, December 13, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Resource Center of the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District, 15800 190th Avenue, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307.

President Wilkerson officially called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wayne Stickler, Mike Wyman, Larry Sredersas,
Mark Sochocki, Sheri Thompson, Marie Wilkerson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Heidi Speese

Under regular order of business, President Wilkerson asked if there were any "**Additions or Changes to the Agenda.**" There was the addition of two personnel resignations.

- o Kristin Brookhouse, SE School Social Worker
- o Michael Bausano, Behavior Specialist

President Wilkerson then asked if there were any "**Communications.**" There were none.

Consent Agenda Items:

- Minutes from November 8, 2021, Regular Board Meeting
- Minutes from November 8, 2021, Programs/Public Relations Meeting
- Minutes from December 1, 2021, Special Board Meeting
- November 2021 Financial Reports and Bills
- Personnel Resignations & Appointments
 - The Administration recommended the following new hire(s):
 - o Sarah Chapin, Speech-Language Pathologist
 - There were the following resignations:
 - o Kristin Brookhouse, SE School Social Worker
 - o Michael Bausano, Behavior Specialist

Per Board policy, Board member and Superintendent conference requests for overnight travel and reimbursement must be approved by the Board only.

- There were none at this time

Motion by Member Sochocki and supported by Member Stickler to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Under "Superintendent's Report"

Board Showcase:

- Superintendent Locke announced that Special Education had the Board Showcase and introduced Christy Miller, Director of Special Education, and Jaime Knape, Special Education Supervisor. Mrs. Miller indicated they would be presenting on School Psychologist shortages. There are currently 50 open positions across the state of Michigan. Due to this shortage, the ISD has been using Presence Learning to help fill this gap. She reviewed what psychologists we currently employ, discussed their job entails and explained how they work in conjunction with Presence Learning staff. She discussed two pilot programs: Apprenticeship Program and a Grow Your Own program. She discussed what qualifications individuals would need to participate in these programs. Both require a Bachelor's Degree and admission to a School Psychology Master's or Specialist Program. Mrs. Miller discussed the advantage of "Grow Your Own." Mrs. Knape discussed the Graduate program's connections with Grand Valley, Michigan State, and Central Michigan. Grand Valley is excited and willing to partner to create this program. Central Michigan is also excited about this idea. Mrs. Knape explained what the preliminary 3-year model would look like and the requirements for each year. She also explained the difference between a School Psychologist and a Psychologist. These are pilot programs, and all details have not been worked out. There were questions to the presenters and discussion among the Board.
- Superintendent Locke discussed the teacher apprenticeship program. Gretchen Spedowske, CTE Director, has a similar program at Newaygo.

MOISD Departmental Reports:

- Superintendent Locke acknowledged the Department Update report and asked the Board for feedback. The Board commented on sections of the report.

MOISD Departmental Updates/News:

Superintendent Locke discussed the following:

- National spotlight: The Oxford School incident has created a national issue. The last couple of weeks has encompassed adjusting to threats across the country and our MOISD District.
- MOISD and LEA Superintendents are working collaboratively on established protocol and how to respond across the MOISD District. Sheriff Miller and Sheriff Cool from Osceola County will attend the Superintendent meeting this week to contribute on how to respond to and handle student concerns and threats.
- Construction Trades Home: the closing is scheduled for this Friday.

- Mr. Klumpp's retirement and coverage of his position/role. We have had committee input and Board input. We will share the job description with the Board before the position is posted. We are hopeful to post this position in January.

Under Board Business "**Action Items**," the following was discussed:

- **No. 07... Consideration of the Purchase of Culinary Arts Equipment**
A request for proposal was sent out asking for bids for the purchase of two Combi Ovens for CTC Culinary Arts. The Administration recommended the bid from Stafford-Smith be accepted for \$38,541.08.

There was a motion made by Member Sredersas and supported by Member Thompson to approve the purchase of the two Combi Ovens for CTC Culinary Arts from Stafford-Smith, INC. for \$38,541.08.

Motion passed unanimously.

Under **Board Business "Discussion/Informational Items,"** the following was discussed:

Superintendent Locke reported on the following:

Miller Johnson: The Administration contemplated bringing OSHA ETS vaccination tests/mandate to this meeting but will wait until after Christmas break. We will investigate Child Find language more and bring it forward if/when needed.

Legislative Update: tomorrow is the last working day for legislators for the year.

- There was a bill drafted by Representative Brad Paquette that waives the 60 credit requirement for teachers if the district employs the individual. It is likely to come out of the House tomorrow, go to the Senate, then to the Governor. It has a sunset component and would only be good through June.
- The Governor vetoed the school voucher bill. Canvassers are getting signatures. The signature requirement is 8% of people who voted for the Governor. We are interested to see what happens in the next few months.
- Tom McMillen, State Board of Education, recommended not having compulsory education. His stance: if parents choose not to educate their students, that is their right.

Operational Update:

- We will see what is happening when we return from Christmas break. Superintendents want to look at a modification to close contact quarantine protocol.
- COVID positivity rates in Mecosta & Osceola Counties were discussed.
- There has been a recent change in practice with COVID antigen tests. Local districts are now ordering their own.

MASB Conference: Marie reported out. Recommends the class "Ethics in Action" for the ISD to offer here at the ISD to all LEA Board members. There was a discussion on how to make it attractive to local Board members. Member Wyman also reported to the Board on the conference.

Committee Reports:

- The Finance & Facility Committee: Met before the Board meeting today to discuss MOISD transportation facility updates.
- Member Sochocki reported that the Committee discussed adding to the transportation/bus garage. The concern is if we do something, we do it right. Committee thinks the addition needs to be a bit longer and larger. The Committee decided that we need to bid it out and see where bids come in at and see if it makes sense to do it now. Transportation does a great job with what they have. The Committee would like to see bids with wash bay, lift, pit, and wash bay options. Hopefully, we can get it rolling in the Spring.
- Under **Board Business "Future Items,"** the following was discussed:
 - Christmas/Holiday Break: December 24th – December 31th
 - Next Board Meeting: January 10, 2022, at 9 a.m.
 - Budget Revision's – January 10, 2022 Board Meeting
 - MOEC- Ms. Nielsen's classroom will be on Display at Artworks.
 - Schedule of different opportunities for Board members for a.m. meetings. Superintendent Locke or Patience Nemeth will send it out to the Board.

➤ **Public Items** – there were none

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by President Wilkerson at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Wilkerson, President

Mike Wyman, Secretary