

August 23, 2006
West Norriton, PA

MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Board President, David A. Hasiuk, called the meeting to order at 7:43 p.m. on August 23, 2006.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

David A. Hasiuk, President, Upper Moreland School District	Present
S. Troy Miller, Vice President, Perkiomen Valley School District	Absent
Cedric McKeever, Secretary, Lower Moreland School District	Present
Marie A. Knox, Treasurer, Upper Merion School District	Present
Russel S. Bleiler, Hatboro-Horsham School District	Absent
Joseph Chmielewski, Upper Dublin School District	Present
Tracy G. Cole, Souderton Area School District	Present
Frances Boo Crofton, Wissahickon School District	Present
Diane DiBonaventuro, Lower Merion School District	Present
Peter A. Dreifus, Abington School District	Present
Malcolm Gran, Springfield Twp. School District	Present
John Grispon, Spring-Ford School District	Present
Robert H. Hartman, Jr., Pottstown School District	Present
Marc Lieberson, Cheltenham School District	Present
Vicki Lightcap, Upper Perkiomen School District	Present
Margaret Martinez, Secretary, Methacton School District	Present
Ted Miller, Jenkintown School District	Present
Janice Pearce, Norristown Area School District	Present
Thayer Pendleton, Bryn Athyn School District	Absent
Vincent Sherpinsky, North Penn School District	Present
Gordon Whitlock, Pottsgrove School District	Present
Mitch Zimmer, Colonial School District	Present

Others

Jerry W. Shiveley, Executive Director	Present
Jeffrey Sultanic, Solicitor	Present

4. Approval of Minutes of July 26, 2006

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Martinez and seconded by Mr. Dreifus that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the minutes of the July 26, 2006 board meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Mr. Hasiuk asked if there were any public comments regarding agenda items. Since there were none, Mr. Hasiuk took this time to introduce and welcome the newest board members, Boo Crofton from Wissahickon and Diane DiBonaventuro from Lower Merion.

Mr. Peter Dreifus announced that he resigned from the Abington School District Board of Directors effective 9/15/06 and would be resigning from the MCIU Board of Directors simultaneously. He told the board that working on the IU Board has been a great experience and that he will miss it. He extended best wishes to the Board.

Mr. Hasiuk passed around the previously approved MCIU Audit Report and asked the board members who had attended and approved the report at the February 2006 meeting to sign the report where indicated as requested by PDE.

6. Approval of Bills as Included in the Treasurer's Report

Ms. Knox presented the Treasurer's Report to the Board. The cash balance as of July 31, 2006 was \$14,314,212.57.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Knox and seconded by Mr. Ted Miller that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the July Treasurer's Report and the payment of bills.

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Personnel Report

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Dreifus and seconded by Mr. Chmielewski that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the personnel recommendations as listed as Item 2 and the additional Employment Agreement as handed out prior to the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

8. Reports of Staff

a. Special Education Report

Dr. Mason reported that the Special Education staff members are currently participating in the Summer Academy – a four day professional development program. Dr. Shiveley and Mr. Hasiuk are scheduled to address the staff at the August 24th session. Dr. Mason also reported that the Early Intervention classes have been successfully moved from the Trappe Building.

b. Mr. Stan Wisler

Mr. Wisler informed the Board that the Finance Committee met this evening prior to the regular Board meeting to review the draft of the new budget timeline. The budget process timeline has been accelerated by two months due to the newly enacted Act 1 of 2006.

Mr. Wisler brought attention to the revised Management Services report that was handed out and noted that it includes two additional items: Approval of Variety Club Lease, and an IMS Project Approval.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Grispon and seconded by Ms. Martinez that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the Action Items, Continuing Projects, and Project Approvals listed below.

Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

1) Acceptance of Bids

Acceptance of Fuel Bids as recommended by the Montgomery County School Entities Joint Purchasing Board for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

2) Contract Approval – Legislative Services

Approval of the contract with Colonial Intermediate Unit #20 in the amount of \$15,000 to provide legislative services for the 2006-2007 school year.

3) Recommendation to Approve Lease Agreement for 2006/2007 with Variety Club

Approval is requested to approve a one-year lease with the Variety Club for use of the Variety Club Camp Facilities in Worcester, subject to agreement on lease language developed and approved by the solicitor's office and the MCIU administrative staff. The camp facilities have been used for at least the past 12

years for the Anderson Alternative School program that is administered by MCIU for the more severe alternative school students from Montgomery County School Districts. Although the base lease payment reflects an increase of 3%, there are additional provisions in the contract for MCIU to financially support the cleaning and maintenance functions required to operate our program. The payment for maintenance support will offset costs for maintenance repair reimbursement that the IU has borne in the past. We were aware that there would be additional financial requirements for the 2006/2007 school year and have been actively searching for alternatives to this site for the program. This anticipated increase was also factored in to the alternative education portion of the special education budget for 2006/2007. The total payments to the Variety Club for 06/07 will be \$220,410 which represents approximately \$13 per square foot. We will continue to look for alternatives to this location for 2007/2008 and beyond.

CONTINUING PROJECTS

Non-Public School Services

Dare Grant

Approval to accept funds in the amount of \$21,055 from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for a grant for the DARE Project from 8/1/06 to 6/30/07. Previous Board action was August 24, 2005.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development

Adult Basic and Literacy Education Application

Approval is requested to accept a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education in the amount of \$72,043 for continuation of the Adult Basic and Literacy Education project. The grant provides for Adult Secondary Education (ASE) and General Education Development (GED) instruction which includes instruction at grade levels nine through twelve point nine and is designed for the adult who is literate and can function in everyday life, but is not proficient in English, or Mathematics; or does not have a certificate of graduation or its equivalent from a school providing secondary education. The grant is for the time period September 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007.

Project Approval – IMS Division

Project Management Grant

Approval to accept funds in the amount of \$213,904.81 from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for providing project management for the “Classrooms For The Future” statewide initiative. This project management grant is for the period 8/21/06 through 6/30/07.

c. Dr. Lorie Stout

Dr. Stout reported that the legislators will be back in session at the end of September. Information meetings have been held during the summer, with the House Education Committee discussing HB 2616, the bill regarding “Charter Cyber Schools” and HB 2679 regarding the allowable walking distance for elementary students. The House Committee on Labor Relations met on HB 2635, a bill which is intended to redefine the collective bargaining process.

d. Ms. Holly Jobe

Ms. Jobe’s report highlighted the K12 MontCo Education Network (MCEN) Consortium, and the implementation of six new entities in the consortium. The number of Montgomery County school districts on the network now totals 15. In addition, Ms. Jobe thanked the Board for their support during her time of personal bereavement and also said that it has been an honor for her to work at the IU for the past 22 years. Making the decision to take the position with PDE was difficult, but she looks forward to serving the school districts in a new capacity.

e. Dr. Robert Shields

Dr. Shields’ report celebrates the announcement of the Science – It’s Elementary Initiative award. Two Montgomery County schools were selected – Gotwals Elementary in the Norristown Area School District and Hereford Elementary School in the Upper Perkiomen School District. Dr. Shields also informed the Board members that the AYP results will be released within the next two weeks, and he assured them that the IU will be focusing on working with the schools on their AYP in the 2006-07 school year.

f. Mrs. Elizabeth Weber

Mrs. Weber brought attention to the division’s Opening In-Service Days scheduled for the week of August 28th. Presenters include both internal staff and outside consultants.

Mrs. Weber also gave a brief history of the DARE Grant that was approved, stating that the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit is the administrator of the grant and the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Department conducts the sessions in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime.

g. Mrs. Kate DiLullo

As indicated in Mrs. DiLullo's report, PaTTAN sponsored a summer institute to help educators understand AYP and focus on improving student achievement. Mrs. DiLullo also informed the Board that PaTTAN will be distributing a 130-page IDEA document to the school districts, which is being developed courtesy of NASD. This will be significantly easier to read than the 1700 page document issued by PDE.

9. Report of the Solicitor

Mr. Sultanik had no report.

10. Report of the Executive Director

Dr. Shiveley congratulated Holly Jobe on her new position with PDE and thanked her for her years of service at the IU. He informed the Board that Mr. Richard Luoma has been secured as the Interim Director of IMS. Mr. Luoma retired as Assistant Superintendent of Hatboro-Horsham and has a strong background in instruction and technology.

Dr. Shiveley has visited 19 of the 21 school district superintendents, and will give a summary of those meetings when he has completed his visits.

Dr. Shiveley asked the Board members if they had any suggestions for topics for the Division Director Spotlights presented at the monthly board meetings. The only suggestion made was for an Act 1 update at a future meeting. Dr. Shiveley informed the group that Dr. Shields will give an update on PDE at the September meeting.

Dr. Shiveley advised the new board members that a New Board Orientation would be scheduled and that RoseAnn Westerfer would contact them to arrange a date that will work for all.

Dr. Shiveley introduced Ms. Sandy Edling who gave a history and brief report on the Montgomery County Special Needs Children's Foundation.

Dr. Shiveley thanked Mrs. Kate DiLullo for the fine work she has done as the Acting Director of PaTTAN, and informed the Board that Dr. Janet Sloand-Armstrong would become the new Director of PaTTAN in September.

Dr. Shiveley announced that he has been appointed by PAIU as the Pennsylvania representative to the AESA Legislative Council.

11. Report of Board Committees

Mr. Hasiuk stated that the Executive Board met on August 21st to discuss personnel issues and an Executive Session was held prior to this evening's Board meeting to discuss personnel issues.

12. Old Business

There was no old business.

13. New Business

Mr. Lierberson announced that Cheltenham Township School District has hired a new Superintendent. Dr. William Kiefer will begin on September 1, 2006. Mr. Lierberson also commended Mr. Joseph Kircher on the fine job he has done as the substitute superintendent.

14. Additional Public Comments

There were no additional public comments.

15. The date of the next Intermediate Unit Board Meeting will be **September 27, 2006, West Norriton Conference Room at 7:45 p.m.**

16. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mr. Ted Miller and seconded by Mr. Dreifus, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.