

September 24, 2008  
West Norriton, PA

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD MINUTES

1. Call to Order

President Joseph Chmielewski called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. on September 24, 2008.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Joseph Chmielewski, President, Upper Dublin	Present
John S. Grispon, Vice-President, Spring-Ford Area	Present
Jeannette Maitin, Secretary, Abington	Present
Marie A. Knox, Treasurer, Upper Merion Area	Present
Dr. R. Paul Baumgartner, Souderton Area	Present
Randy Bennett, Perkiomen Valley	Absent
Dr. Russel S. Bleiler, Hatboro-Horsham	Absent
Diane DiBonaventuro, Lower Merion Area	Present
Malcolm Gran, Springfield Township	Present
Dr. David Hakes, Upper Moreland Township	Present
Robert H. Hartman, Jr., Pottstown	Present
Yuri Khalif, Lower Moreland Township	Absent
Marc Lieberon, Cheltenham	Absent
Ted Miller, Jenkintown	Absent
Janice Pearce, Norristown Area	Present
Thayer Pendleton, Bryn Athyn	Absent
Burunda Prince-Jones, Wissahickon	Absent
Frederick P. Remelius, Pottsgrove	Present
Daniel B. Sattler, Methacton	Present
Vincent Sherpinsky, North Penn	Present
Mary Young, Upper Perkiomen	Present
Mitch Zimmer, Colonial	Absent

Others

Dr. Jerry W. Shiveley	Present
Jeffrey Sultanik, Solicitor	Present

4. Approval of Minutes of August 27, 2008

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Gran and seconded by Dr. Baumgartner that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the minutes of the August 27, 2008 Board meeting.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Mr. Chmielewski asked if there were any public comments regarding agenda items. Since there were none, the board proceeded with the agenda.

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

Ms. Knox presented the August Treasurer's Report to the Board. The cash balance as of August 31, 2008 was \$15,577,148.68.

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

**Motion passed unanimously.**

7. Human Resources Report

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Grispon and seconded by Mr. Sattler that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the personnel recommendations listed as Item 2.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

8. Reports of Staff:

a. Dr. Jeanmarie Mason

Dr. Mason reported that the Special Education Division is preparing for the October review by a team from the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL). OCDEL will be at the IU to conduct a study to verify that our Early Intervention program is meeting all of the appropriate federal and state laws. Dr. Mason also reported on her involvement with the CBS 3 Autism Phone Bank and the importance of the Intermediate Unit's participation in community outreach programs

- b. Mr. Stan Wisler

### **Management Services**

**1. Recommendation to Proceed with the Financing to Purchase The Anderson School Building.**

The approximate amount of the borrowing is 6 million dollars. Our financial advisor, RBC, has solicited RFPs from banks to determine the conditions under which the banks would be willing to loan us the money. We have also undergone a review by Moody's to determine the rating the MCIU would have if we would pursue a bond issue. This rating process will also help with our future borrowing for a different, larger facility for our office and conference center.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Gran and seconded by Mr. Hartman that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the Recommendation to Proceed with the Financing to Purchase The Anderson School Building.

**Motion passed by a vote of 13-1 in favor of the recommendation**

### **Nonpublic School Services**

**1. Recommendation to approve the Project Continuation for the 2008/2009 Homeless Children's Initiative-Region #8 Agreement**

The Administration requests Board approval to continue the agreement with Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 whereby the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit will administer the general operation of Region #8, Homeless Children's Initiative Program as it pertains to Montgomery County, Pennsylvania for the period of October 1, 2008 and ending September 30, 2009 for a sum not to exceed \$54,565.00. Last Board action was October 24, 2007.

**2. Recommendation to approve the Project Continuation to accept the funds for the PA Drug Education and Law Enforcement Grant.**

Approval is requested to accept the state funds from the subgrant for the DARE project for the project period of 8/1/2008 through 6/30/2009 in the amount of \$15,226.00. Previous board action was September 26, 2007

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Sherpinsky and seconded by Ms. Knox that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the above Nonpublic School Services Action Items.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

c. Dr. Mary Jane Gales

Dr. Gales reported that there are only three days left in the current state legislative session. Reporting on HB 1277, Statewide Healthcare Benefits, Dr. Gales noted that the bill has been recommitted to the House, but the Senate does not appear to be interested in passing it. It is unlikely to pass during this session. SB 467, the Sunshine Act, is also unlikely to pass this session. Speaking about her recent visit to Washington, DC for the AESA Legislative Conference, Dr. Gales reported that she and Dr. Shiveley were well received by several state legislators and senior aids. Concerns were expressed about the reauthorization of ESEA and it is anticipated that it will be refocused, reframed and renamed.

d. Mrs. Gail Kennedy

Mrs. Kennedy reported on the two newest services being offered by the TIS Division. VirtualLocker will allow students to access their network resources from home. Files will be stored on the MCIU server, which removes the burden from the school districts. MCIUTube is a video file sharing solution in a safe, secure environment.

e. Dr. Peter Grande

Noting that he would be presenting on the Division of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development later in the evening, Dr. Grande's written report stands as submitted.

f. Dr. Ken Voss

Dr. Voss brought attention to the Safe and Drug Free School meeting that the Nonpublic School Services Division held in September. Dr. Voss thanked the public schools for their participation, and reported that the panel discussion on mental health issues and school violence were thought provoking and well received.

g. Dr. Janet Sloand

Noting that the role of the paraprofessional has changed over the years, Dr. Sloand described the contents of the folder included in the board packet. Information included outlines the new requirements and will help the paraprofessionals meet the state requirements.

h. Mrs. Kristen Rawlings

Mrs. Rawlings informed the Board that the MCIU's 2007 Annual Report received the PSBA Award of Excellence and the new MCIU Website received Honorable Mention.

9. Spotlight on an MCIU Division - Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development

Dr. Peter Grande and Mrs. Kendall Glouner provided an overview of School Improvement, including an overview of the school boards' and IU's involvement in supporting school districts with their school improvement and corrective action plans.

10. Report of the Solicitor

Mr. Sultanik had no report.

11. Report of the Executive Director

Dr. Shiveley brought attention to the letter from the Rotary Club of Edge Hill, PA in the Board packet. Dr. Shiveley noted that he spoke about the role of regional educational service agencies. Dr. Shiveley has been invited to speak at the Glenside Rotary Club in October.

12. Report of Board Committees

President Chmielewski reported that the Executive Committee had met to assist with the formulation of the Executive Director's Goals for 2008-2009. This same topic was discussed in Executive Session prior to this evening's Board meeting and Mr. Chmielewski asked for a motion to approve the goals as reviewed and discussed.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mrs. Maitin and seconded by Ms. Knox that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the Executive Director's Goals for 2008-2009 as reviewed and discussed at the Executive Session.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

13. Old Business

There was no old business.

14. New Business

Dr. Baumgartner reported that he is the Region 11 (Montgomery and Bucks Counties) PSBA Liaison representing the PSBA Board of Directors. In this capacity he is the communications link between the school districts and PSBA. Noting the important role that PSBA played in getting HB 1277 turned around, Dr. Baumgartner requested that the school directors increase their advocacy efforts. To help in this effort, Dr. Baumgartner agreed to send an email to all of the members of the MCIU Board of Directors in which he will ask them to encourage their respective district school directors to appoint a legislative liaison to PSBA.

15. Additional Public Comments

There were no additional public comments.

16. The date of the next Intermediate Unit Board Meeting will be **Wednesday, October 22, 2008, West Norriton Conference Room B3/B4 at 7:45 p.m.**

17. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mrs. Maitin and seconded by Dr. Baumgartner the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.