

September 17, 2014
West Norriton, PA

MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT BOARD MINUTES

1. Call to Order

President Louis Polaneczky called the meeting to order at 7:28 p.m. on September 17, 2014.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Louis A. Polaneczky, President, Hatboro-Horsham	Present
Thomas J. DiBello, Vice President, Spring-Ford Area	Present
Maura Buri, Secretary, Upper Merion Area	Present
Dr. David Hakes, Treasurer, Upper Moreland	Absent
Burunda Prince-Jones, Past President, Wissahickon	Present
Lynn K. Bigelow, Perkiomen Valley	Present
Stephen Bochniak, Bryn Athyn	Absent
Joseph Chmielewski, Upper Dublin	Present
Marcus A. Delgado, Cheltenham Township	Absent
Leslie Finegold, Colonial	Present
Yuri Khalif, Lower Moreland Township	Present (by phone)
Holly Kisailus, Springfield Township	Present (by phone)
Kenneth L. Mullen, Jenkintown	Present
Carolyn Murphy, North Penn	Present
Janice Pearce, Norristown Area	Present
James W. Phillips, Methacton	Present
Virginia O. Pollard, Lower Merion	Present
Rick Rabinowitz, Pottsgrove	Present
Donna M. Scheuren, Souderton Area	Present
William Scott, Upper Perkiomen	Present
Michele R. Tinsman, Abington	Absent
W. Ronald Williams, Pottstown	Present

Others

Dr. Bradley C. Landis, Acting Executive Director	Present
Mark Fitzgerald, Solicitor	Present

4. Presentation of the Annie Sullivan Award

The MCIU Public Relations Consortium and the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units jointly sponsor the Annie Sullivan Award. This award recognizes an individual in education who exemplifies caring involvement with disabled students and who has helped others in the community understand and accept students with disabilities.

MCIU staff member Marghee Lutz is the recipient of the 2013-2014 Annie Sullivan Award. Ms. Lutz has worked for the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for 28½ years. She has been a teacher of our most medically, physically and intellectually challenged students. Ms. Lutz started working for the IU in a center-based program then moved out into a school district building with an IU class. She has been working in her Springfield High School classroom for the past 20 years.

Mrs. Lutz thanked the MCIU Board and Dr. Robinson for the honor of receiving this award and extended her gratitude to the Special Education staff with whom she works.

5. Approval of Minutes of August 27, 2014

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Pollard and seconded by Mr. Rabinowitz that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the minutes of the August 27, 2014 meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Public Comments on Agenda Items

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

7. Motion to Appoint Executive Director

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Prince-Jones and seconded by Mr. Scott that the Intermediate Unit Board appoint Dr. John J. George as Executive Director of Montgomery County Intermediate Unit No. 23 effective October 20, 2014, for a four year term ending October 19, 2018. Dr. John J. George's Employment Agreement is also hereby approved.

Motion passed unanimously.

8. Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) 2015 Vote for Election of Officers and At-Large Representative

Ms. Maura Buri, MCIU Board Secretary, announced the slate of candidates for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association 2015 Officers and At-Large

Representatives. The Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors recommends, by a majority vote, the election of the candidates from PSBA for the office of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and At-Large Representative:

- A. President-elect: Kathy K. Swope, Lewisburg Area SD (Union Co.)
- B. Vice President: Mark B. Miller, Centennial SD (Bucks Co.)
- C. Treasurer: Otto W. Voit III, Muhlenberg SD (Berks Co.)
- D. At Large Representative (East): Robert M. Schwartz, Wallenpaupack Area SD (Pike Co.)

9. Approval of Bills as Included in the Treasurer's Report (August)

Mr. DiBello presented the August 2014 Treasurer's Report to the Board. The cash balance as of August 31, 2014 was \$34,216,575.27.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Williams that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the August Treasurer's Report.

Motion passed unanimously.

10. Human Resources Report

Motion: It was moved by Mr. DiBello and seconded by Mr. Chmielewski that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the personnel recommendations as listed for September 2014.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Scheuren stated that it would be helpful in the future for board members to see background information and qualifications for new hires. Mr. Hurd indicated that he will provide the resume for the new PaTTAN Director to board members.

Mr. Hurd directed attention to the Addendum to the Human Resources Report for September 2014.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Pollard and seconded by Mr. Chmielewski that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the addendum to the Human Resources Report for September 2014 as presented.

Motion passed 17 ayes; 1 nay [Polaneczky].

11. Management Services Report

Mr. Stan Wisler requested approval of the following September 2014 Action Items:

A. NONPUBLIC SCHOOL SERVICES DIVISION

(1) Title I District Contracts

B. SPECIAL EDUCATION DIVISION

(1) Recommendation for Approval of Application for Early Intervention Funds

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Scott that the Intermediate Unit Board approve the requested Action Items.

Motion passed unanimously.

12. Questions on Division Directors' Reports

There were no questions on the Division Directors' Reports.

13. Legislative Update – Tina Viletto, Esq.

Ms. Viletto encouraged board members, school administrators and business managers to register for the statewide virtual kick-off event for the Campaign for Fair Education Funding on Tuesday, September 30th at 7:00 p.m. at the MCIU. Dr. Landis added that the videoconference will be recorded, and the MCIU has been chosen as one of four report-out sites across the state.

Ms. Viletto highlighted the following legislative issues:

- Property Tax Independence Act: There was great discussion in the House and Senate regarding Senate Bill 76. On Tuesday, SB 76, which would eliminate school property taxes, advanced from the Pennsylvania Senate Finance Committee by a narrow bipartisan vote.
- Act 1 Index: The Act 1 Index for 2015-16 has been changed to 1.9%.
- Sunshine Act Reform: House Bill 2408 has been introduced to change the requirements for open meetings.
- PA Core Standards/Common Core: Governor Corbett wants a full review of this issue and hearings are scheduled next week and again on October 14, 2014.

14. Report of the Solicitor

Mr. Fitzgerald had no report.

15. Report of the Acting Executive Director

A. Overview of ESD112 Strategic Branding and Communications Audit

Dr. Landis provided an overview of the ESD112 Strategic Branding and Communications Audit. Recommendations from the audit are being reviewed and incorporated in the agency and divisional goals with a focus on enhancements in five areas: leadership, culture, services, communications and reputation. The MCIU is continuing work on the development and launch of a new branding campaign.

16. Report of Board Committees

A. Facilities Committee – Mr. Chmielewski reported that work on the new building project is going well and that the project is scheduled to be completed on time and within budget.

17. Old Business

Mr. Polaneczky presented a plaque to Burunda Prince-Jones and thanked her for her two years of service as President of the MCIU Board of Directors.

Mr. Scott thanked Dr. Landis for his guidance and leadership during this transitional time in leadership at the MCIU.

Mr. Polaneczky thanked Ms. Monica Maiese for her leadership during the interim phase and change in leadership at PaTTAN.

Dr. Landis asked board members to complete a brief survey to indicate their preference with regard to receiving paper copies of board packets or utilizing the MCIU Board SharePoint site for electronic access to board documents.

Dr. Landis announced that the annual AESA Conference will be held from December 3-7, 2014 in San Diego, California. There are three openings, and any board members interested in attending the conference should contact Mr. Polaneczky.

18. New Business

Mrs. Scheuren shared that Souderton School District has been awarded the Governor's Expanding Excellence Grant.

Mr. Polaneczky shared that Hatboro-Horsham High School has been ranked in the top 500 high schools in *Newsweek's* 2014 "America's Top High Schools" report.

Mr. DiBello conducted an informal poll of board members to ascertain how many school districts have eliminated the per capita tax.

19. Additional Public Comments

There were no additional public comments.

20. The date of the next Intermediate Unit Board Meeting will be **Wednesday, October 15, 2014, at West Norriton Conference Room B3/B4 at 7:00 p.m.**

21. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mr. Chmielewski and seconded by Mrs. Pollard, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.