



Rick Fernández, Head of School

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**Meridian School
Board Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2012**

Attendance:

Board Members Present: Karalei Nunn, Juanita Stephens, Renee Walker ; Fenoris Pearson joined the meeting at 6:12

Board Members Absent: None

Head of School: Rick Fernandez

Others in Attendance: Eileen Kuhn, Business Manager; Kelly McBride, Primary Principal

Board was called to order with a quorum at 6:05 p.m. by Board President, Karalei Nunn

1. Public Comment:

- a. Robert Fite addressed the board regarding the secondary uniform policy and locker purchase.
- b. Alisha Austin addressed the board regarding the secondary uniform policy.
- c. Sarah McNutt addressed the board regarding the food policy.

2. Acknowledgement and Disposition of Communication Addressed to the Board

3. **Closed Session** – The board entered closed session at 6:27 and addressed items related to personnel matters and confidential student information.

Meeting was called back to order at 6:51.

Actions taken from Closed Session:

- a. Motion made by F. Pearson to approve the personnel contract extension to June 30 for Head of School , bringing it into alignment with other annual contracts, J. Stephens seconded; Vote: 4-0 in favor.
- b. Motion made by J. Stephens to accept Joseph Burke as the fifth board member to fill vacancy of member at large, R. Walker seconded; Vote: 4-0 in favor.
- c. Motion made by J. Stephens to approve expulsion of student, F. Pearson seconded; Vote: 4-0 in favor.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

4. **Review of Previous Minutes** - Minutes from the January 19 board meeting were reviewed with no corrections. J. Stephens made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by F. Pearson; Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Board took a break at 6:55 to take picture of Founders; Reconvened at 7:02.

5. Food Policy Review and Possible Approval

- a. Lori Kuhlman reviewed the history of the creation of the Food Policy. ViP has worked to revise it and has been getting feedback from school life committee. L. Kuhlman discussed the differences between the original plan and the proposal and discussed the allergy situation
- b. Kelly McBride discussed some of the issues that have developed and asked that the policy both address the dangers of the allergies and the concerns for balance of the other parents

- c. K. Nunn discussed information from the state task force she attended the first week of February and the proposed information coming in the near future. Suggested that the allergy component (three sections) be separated from the Food Policy as allergy safety issues will require a separate policy.
 - d. The board asked that the policy be revised to address this and took no action on the policy at this time.
- 6. Development Policies, Review and Possible Approval**
- a. Alexia Thex presented the Development Policy, Gift Acceptance Policy, and Gift-in-Kind Form.
 - b. Board discussed possible limitations on values and compatibilities
 - c. A. Thex suggested having forms ready for new enrollment packets and described a “menu of giving” from which a donor can choose that is driven by the goals of the school.
 - d. Motion made by F. Pearson to accept the Development Policy with the proposed changes, J. Stephens seconded; Vote: 4-0 in favor.
- 7. Uniform Policy for Secondary, Review and Possible Approval**
- a. R. Fernandez reviewed the process leading up to the policy, which involved working with students through the Student Council.
 - b. Concerns were addressed related to cost, comfort, color, and reasonability
 - c. Option B was reviewed which involved allowing jeans to be worn within parameters.
 - d. Board asked R. Fernandez to take ideas back to the students for input and more study over the next month. Board members Stephens and Walker requested that khakis, tennis shoes, shorts, and a polo -type shirt be considered for additions to the uniform.
 - e. No action was taken.
- 8. Medication Distribution Policy Revision**
- a. K. Nunn discussed the legal issues regarding distribution of medications within the school.
 - b. K. Nunn proposed the addition of Student Health Assistant and LVN to the list of those approved to distribute
 - c. E. Kuhn suggested the terminology “registered or licensed vocational nurse.”
 - d. Motion made by J. Stephens to adopt the Medication Distribution Policy with the proposed changes, F. Pearson seconded; Vote: 4-0 in favor.
- 9. Financial Report – Eileen Kuhn**
- a. Status of Auditors was discussed – several firms recommended and all have been contacted and have received specifics. Expect proposals from the firms within the next week.
 - b. Have asked permission to talk with school directors and managers for references. K. Nunn asked that these be in writing rather than report of a conversation. Will be difficult to get 990 tax return done by April 15 and suggested an extension to July 15.
 - c. No quotes at this time for the Directors and Officers Insurance. We did receive the renewal policy and has gone up. Board discussed specifics of insurer. No action taken
 - d. Playscape has arrived and will be installed in March.
 - e. Basketball goals should be installed on February 11.
 - f. Lockers have been ordered – hall lockers should arrive the following week; gym lockers should arrive around spring break.
 - g. Budget meetings have begun in preparation for the preliminary budget. K. Nunn asked that at the March meeting we be ready for a preliminary budget workshop. Although approval will not be done until August, a working budget is required to move forward with personnel, material requests, etc. Will need to have the fundraising goal for next year turned in to the Development Committee.
 - h. A visit from the Child Nutrition Dept. of Region XIII was held to prepare for the March 20 audit by the Department of Agriculture. Several areas of need were identified and they will return in two weeks to do a trial audit.
- 10. Status of VISTA Grant Application**
- a. J. Stephens described a new process for the grants which will be through UT. She will be meeting with them next week to find out more information about the new process and will send an email to the board updating the information

11. Possible Charter School Intervention in the Current School Finance Litigation

- a.** K. Nunn discussed the proposed charter school intervention in the current school finance litigation. Several districts have come together and the Charter School Association is looking at charters joining together as well. The board will Give this further study and be prepared to vote in March.

12. New Business – None

Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Next meeting Thursday, March 22nd.