

**MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY APRIL 24, 2006
7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING**

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Recognition of the Public**
- IV. Adoption of Consent Agenda**
 - A. Approve March 20, 2006 Minutes**
 - B. Approve Payment of Bills**
- V. Reports**
 - A. Farmland Assessment – 2005 and 2006**
- VI. Unfinished Business**
 - A. ISAT/PSAE Testing**
 - B. School Calendar Approval**
- VII. New Business**
 - A. FY 07 Tentative Budget**
 - B. Graduation Dates and Board Member Assignments**
 - C. MPGS/Elkhart Grade School Athletic Co-op Agreements**
 - D. School Nurse Contract Renewal**
- VIII. Executive Session (Employment, Resignation, Retirement, Evaluation, Compensation of Personnel, Bus Transportation Contract)**
- IX. Adjournment**

MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MT. PULASKI UNIT OFFICE
APRIL 24, 2006

President Meister called the meeting to order on April 24, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Unit Office. Roll call was taken. Answering present: Jeff Haley, David Meister, Mike Toohey, Julian Wubben, Laurie Rhodes, and Joe Olson. Superintendent Phil Shelton and Principals Scott Doerr, Russell Galusha, and Gene Newton were also present.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Joe Olson to adopt the Consent Agenda Items A and B:
A: Approve March 20, 2006 Minutes
B: Approve Payment of Bills

Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Superintendent Phil Shelton reported on farmland assessment projections. Earlier Farm Bureau estimates showed an increase in Logan and Macon Counties farmland assessment and a decrease in Dewitt, Sangamon, and Menard Counties. However, a recent Lincoln Courier article reported lower farmland assessments were expected for Logan County. With farmland assessments having decreased 10% for each of the last five years and the unknown factor of future assessments, budget projections will be difficult.

The MPHS addition schedule has been moved back to June 1st for substantial completion.

Grade school Principals Scott Doerr and Gene Newton reported 100% participation with the ISAT testing. High School Principal Russell Galusha reported that PSAE testing will be this week, with the last couple of weeks having been spent on review. He said the importance of this test is stressed to the students.

The tentative 2006-2007 school calendar was presented to the Board last month for their review. Wednesday, January 3, 2007, will be the first day back from the holidays instead of Tuesday, January 2nd, as previously noted.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Mike Toohey to approve the 2006-2007 school calendar as presented. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Superintendent Phil Shelton said the current Education fund budget shows a deficit of \$103,000, with a projected end of the year balance of about \$511,000. Fiscal year 2006-2007 will see a continued decline in tax revenue due to lower farmland assessment. With increased salary expenses due to the majority of salaries being based on the teacher's salary schedule, a 20% reduction will be made on other line item expenses. A projected deficit for 2006-2007 will be about \$200,000.

With revenue going down and expenses going up, the Transportation fund is also feeling the pressure. The cost of diesel fuel for the busses, which the District currently pays, has skyrocketed from \$25,000 a year to \$38,000 last year, and possibly \$45,000 this year. If tax revenue was increasing, it would help; however, that's not the case. Budgeting becomes a game of experience estimating expenses against State funding and tax revenue.

Graduation dates and Board member assignments are as follows:

MPHS	Saturday, May 27 th	David Meister and Jeff Haley
MPGS	Friday, May 26 th	Mike Toohey and Julian Wubben
EGS	Thursday, May 25 th	Laurie Rhodes and Joe Olson

Principal Scott Doerr reported only 12 girls have said they were interested in being on the EGS volleyball team. Taking into consideration grades, possible injuries, and the fact it takes 12 girls to have a team, his recommendation would be to co-op with MPGS for the 2006-2007 school year. EGS girl's basketball and softball are already in a co-op with MPGS, and are not up for renewal. The co-op between MPGS and EGS boy's basketball is up for renewal for 2006-2007, with the baseball co-op not yet up for renewal. Track is a Spring sport, and a decision on a co-op for 2006-2007 will not have to be made until winter or early Spring.

Motion by Jeff Haley, second by Julian Wubben to approve the one year Co-op Agreement renewal for 2006-2007 for boy's basketball between Mt. Pulaski Grade School and Elkhart Grade School. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeff Haley, second by Julian Wubben to approve the one year Co-op Agreement for 2006-2007 for girl's volleyball between Mt. Pulaski Grade School and Elkhart Grade School. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

School nurse services have been contracted with Decatur St. Mary's Hospital for the past two years. The preliminary contract includes a charge for nine additional days. The District might look at adding a day or two to the current contract but not nine. Superintendent Shelton hopes to have a firm proposal to present to the Board at the May Board meeting.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Laurie Rhodes to enter Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. for the purpose of employment, resignation, retirement, evaluation, compensation of personnel, the bus transportation contract, and the Elkhart TIF District Intergovernmental Agreement. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Jeff Haley to exit Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Jeff Haley to accept Jessica Bartlett's resignation as MPHS cheerleading sponsor contingent on finding a replacement. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Julian Wubben, second by Mike Toohey to accept the retirement letter of Phyllis Bailey, MPGS cook, effective the end of this 2005-2006 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Olson, second by Julian Wubben to grant a maternity leave for MPHS Ag teacher Amy Chernowsky effective May 1, 2006. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeff Haley, second by Laurie Rhodes to accept Deb Ewins resignation as MPGS special ed aide effective May 5, 2006. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Laurie Rhodes, second by Joe Olson to approve Executive Session minutes as reviewed tonight in Executive Session. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Julian Wubben, Joe Olson, Laurie Rhodes, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeff Haley, second by Julian Wubben to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Voice vote. All aye. No nay. Motion carried.

Submitted By


Catherine J. Shull
Board Recording Secretary