

Date: October 17, 2011

Kind of Meeting
Regular

Where Held
Board Room

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Leon Steury, President

Greg Newcomer, Vice President

Lee Impton, Secretary

Alvin Hook, Member

Richard Musser, Member

Sherri Strock, Member

Edwin Washler, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Dr. Jeffrey F. Stephens, Superintendent

Kim Clark, Principal

Larry Yoder, Principal

Brennen Kitchen, Principal

Darlene Diehl, Teacher

Dave Kurtz, Press

The Board of School Trustees of the DeKalb County Eastern Community School District met in a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., October 17, 2011.

At 7:00 p.m., School Board President, Leon Steury, called the meeting to order.

Minutes from the September 19, 2011, meeting were signed as presented.

Claims were approved and school board members signed the claim docket authorizing the validation of checks.

Contracts were signed as presented.

Board members signed the list of names attached to the conflict of interest forms for the 2011-12 school year.

Greg Newcomer moved to approve the attached updated policy; GDBD – Flex Leave – Part Time Employees. This motion was properly seconded and the motion carried.

Ed Washler moved to approve the attached updated rental contract and associated charges for The Millie Hansen Auditorium. This motion was properly seconded and the motion carried.

Dr. Stephens reviewed the official ADM count for DeKalb County Eastern Community School District. Officially we have 67 new students for the 2011-12 school year. Butler Elementary enrollment increased 24.5; Riverdale Elementary increased 6.5 and Eastside Jr./Sr. High School enrollment increased 36.

Dr. Stephens also gave an overview of the Next Navigator training hosted by DeKalb County Eastern on October 15, 2011. The program was also attended by teachers from East Noble, Prairie Heights and DeKalb Central for a total of 90 teachers. The program provided current ISTEP test information, examples of what will be required under the new Common Core Standards and training with the Gold Seal Lesson Plans that require students to work with higher level thinking and reasoning skills.

At the September meeting, the Superintendent was asked to look at means of providing transportation for the band equipment to events and competitions. The recommendation

was to move the truck used by the bus mechanic to maintenance and purchase a new (2011) vehicle for bus maintenance. The box truck currently used by maintenance would be used as trade. A 28' covered trailer would be purchased and pulled by the vehicle assigned to maintenance. This approach would benefit maintenance, bus maintenance and the band along with giving the district more hauling and snow removal equipment. Total package cost would be around \$45,000.

After a lengthy discussion, the Board asked the Superintendent to review the recommendation and ensure the equipment would meet the needs of all parties. A final recommendation is to be presented to the Board at the November meeting. It was noted that a delay in approval could result in the elimination of a 2011 model since the year is at an end.

Dr. Stephens introduced Six Sigma as a business management strategy originally developed by Motorola, USA in 1986. Six Sigma seeks to improve the quality of processed outputs by identifying and removing the causes of defects (errors) and minimizing variability in manufacturing and business procedures. It uses a set of quality management methods, including statistical methods, and creates a special infrastructure of people within the organization ("Black Belts", "Green Belts", etc.) who are experts in these methods. Each Six Sigma project carried out within an organization follows a defined sequence of steps and has quantified financial targets (cost reduction and/or profit increase).

Cummins Engines was tasked by the Indiana General Assembly to work with school districts to determine if this process could be used in a school environment. DeKalb County Eastern CSD was chosen as one of the three lead school districts to work with Cummins on this project. The focus is to examine health care costs and try to reduce the overall expense. The project will begin in November and should end by mid-summer.

Having no further business to come before the Board, Lee Impton moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. This motion was properly seconded and the motion carried.

Leon Steury, President

Sherri Strock, Member

Greg Newcomer, Vice-President

Alvin Hook, Member

Lee Impton, Secretary

Richard Musser, Member

Edwin Washler, Member