

## News Release

### **Mulberry Grove Community Unit School District #1**

Special Meeting to Seat Newly Elected BOE Members & the Regular April Board of Education Meeting— April 22, 2009 @ 6:30 & 7:00 p.m. respectively

The Mulberry Grove Community Unit School District #1 Board of Education met on April 22, 2009 @ 6:30 & 7:00 p.m., respectively. A special meeting was held to seat newly elected Mulberry Grove Board of Education members/Election of Board Officers. Newly elected Mulberry Grove CUSD #1 Board members are: Mark Blankenship, Bob Ketchem, Tonya Jett, and Jim Quick. Mulberry Grove Board of Education Officers are President, Mark Blankenship; Vice President, Bill Johnson; Secretary, Teresa Tompkins. The Regular April Board of Education meeting followed the Special meeting. Present were members Mark Blankenship, Bill Johnson, Teresa Tompkins, Keith Steiner, Bob Ketchem, Tonya Jett & Jim Quick. Also present were Superintendent, Greg Irwin; Principal/Dean: Jim Rice & Ryan Bauer; Teachers: Annette Hartleib, Katrina Eirhart & Candy Kirsch; Guests: Tom Dooly, WGEN Greenville, Darrell Fesser, Director-Okaw Vocational Center, Vandalia, and Michael Gauch. All votes 7-0.

In Regular business the Board approved the Treasurer's report and Board bills as presented. During the visitor and staff communication portion of the meeting: Guests were announced and general correspondence reviewed. Mr. Darrell Fesser presented an overview of the programs and history of the Okaw Vocational Center to the Board.

Principal Rice and Dean Bauer updated the Board regarding activities in each school building which included highlights of teachers' Inservice activities and student events for the month of April. Superintendent Irwin presented the Board with updates on the OBM & Life Safety, reviewed general timelines and expectations for the new Board members. Mr. Irwin thanked the Board for the opportunity to provide a District Recognition Dinner for faculty and staff. Retiring from the District this year are MGES Title I Reading Teacher Gay Rench (30 yrs), MGES Building Secretary Maria Johnson (24yrs), and MGES Building Principal Jimmie Rice (30yrs). Retiring Board members included Mike Kendall (12), Sara Johnson (3) and Kevin Lewis (12). Others recognized for years of service included: (5 yrs.) – Karen Neathery & Julie Elam, (10 yrs.) – Gary Seibert & Ruth Stone, (15 yrs.) – Dale Deverick & Randy Dugan, (20 yrs.) – Virginia Schoene, and (25 yrs.) – Mary Adams & Vicki Koertge. Additionally the Board approved renewal of memberships with both the IESA & IHSA for the 2009-'10 SY and renewal of the student insurance program.

The Board went to closed session @ 8:12 p.m. to discuss personnel, finance & negotiations, and possible litigation and returned to open session @ 9:28 p.m. Board action included the following:

1. The Board approved the resignation of MGJH Cheerleading sponsor Rhonda Elam effective at the close of the 2008-'09 season.
2. The Board approved renewals for both the IESA & IHSA for 2009-'10 SY.
3. The Board approved renewal of student accident coverage with Zevitz-Redfield & Assoc., Inc, Chicago as presented.
4. The Board approved an amended motion concerning field trips requiring a minimum notice for approval of 30 days – also requires information regarding trip itinerary, associated costs, and applicable supervision.
5. The Board approved to reinstate teacher Virginia Schoene to full time status, effective the beginning of the 2009-'10 SY, assignment to be determined pending certification.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 P.M.

Next meeting: The Mulberry Grove Board of Education will meet on Monday, May18, 2009 for the Regular May monthly Board of Education meeting @ 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the MG CUSD #1 District Media Center.