

The Board of Education of the School District of Columbia, Boone County, Missouri, met in special session at the Administration Building, 1818 West Worley Street, at the hour of 7:30 a.m., Central Standard Time, Monday, the 24th day of March, 2011. Those in attendance were as follows:

President Jan Mees
Vice President Dr. Tom Rose
Member Christine King
Member Dr. Ines Segert
Member Jonathan Sessions
Superintendent Dr. Chris Belcher
Deputy Superintendent and Secretary Dr. Nick Boren

Absent: Member Michelle Pruitt
Member James Whitt
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer Linda Quinley

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Mees at 7:35 a.m.

Consideration of Agenda

The first matter of business was consideration of approval of the agenda for the March 24, 2011, meeting of the Board of Education. It was moved by Ms. King that the agenda be approved as presented. The second was by Mr. Sessions. The vote was 5 yes-0-no-2-absent.

President Mees announced that Dr. Belcher received the Missouri School Public Relations Association (MoSPRA) administrator of the year award at the recent MoSPRA/MASA (Missouri Association of School Administrators) conference.

(At this point in the meeting, 7:38 a.m., Ms. Pruitt and Mr. Whitt arrived.)

MAC Scholars Conference Update

MAC Scholars students provided an overview of the recent "Failure is Not an Option" student achievement conference, including highlights of the conference, conference feedback, and conference planning for next year.

Town Hall Update

Georgalu Swoboda of Big Brothers Big Sisters presented an update on the recent town hall event, the focus of which was how to deal with juvenile crime and the achievement gap. The event was funded by a public communications grant from the City of Columbia and was planned to coincide with the school district's fall U Matter student conferences on making positive and healthy choices.

Legislative Update

Melissa Randol of the Missouri School Boards Association provided a legislative update. Highlights included:

- ! State funding, which is 12 percent lower this fiscal year than it was a decade ago and not expected to return to 2008 levels until 2016
- ! The \$189 million supplemental bill known as the "jobs bill," which is being debated in the state Senate
- ! Possible additional revenue sources, such as cigarette, alcohol, and Internet taxes
- ! Open enrollmentthe Supreme Court has said a child in an unaccredited district can transfer to an accredited adjoining district, which affects class size concerns and special education services; the unaccredited district must pay tuition and provide transportation
- ! Voucher legislationthis bill is likely to be defeated
- ! Charter school legislationMSBA believes charter schools should only be decided by local communities and a vote
- ! Tenure reform bill (HB628)it appears this bill will be defeated

(At 8:23 a.m., it was necessary for Dr. Segert to leave the meeting.)

Policy Review

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