

Synopsis of the December 4, 2007, Regular Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. Six board members were present, and a quorum was established. Ms. Camilla Riley, Chief of Guidance and Assessment, delivered the invocation, and Mr. Reinaldo Diaz, BIS Multicultural Coordinator, led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Branscum said it was a pleasure to have Mr. Diaz to lead the Pledge of Allegiance this evening and then congratulated Mr. Diaz on becoming a naturalized citizen. Mr. Diaz introduced his wife, Rosa, and said that their three sons were at home doing their homework.

Dr. Branscum wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy and safe new year and said he looks forward to seeing everyone in the new year. Dr. Branscum noted that the filing period is open for board seats 3 and 4.

Dr. Branscum said that Mrs. Ruth Giddens and her husband, Leroy, are in Hawaii and planned to be there for the memorial of the anniversary of Pearl Harbor and, especially, the Battleship Oklahoma. However, after their arrival in Hawaii, Mrs. Giddens was notified that her sister passed away in Arkansas. They will return on Friday of this week and will miss the memorial because Mrs. Giddens' sister's funeral will be held this weekend.

Dr. Branscum said the BCC roof repair project began earlier in the day. The vendor will be setting up stations around the BCC so that they can remove the old roof. Dr. Branscum reminded everyone that there may be some inconveniences during this renovation and asked for everyone's patience. Dr. Branscum said they also hope to begin renovation at the ACE Campus soon. He said that information has been shared during Board committee meetings about the possible renovation and moving Construction Trades to SBC. Additionally, several purchasing items are presented for the ACC and are a result of the legislature's \$1.2 million appropriation for the ACC.

MetroQuest Update - Dr. Vincent said that they attended the National Communities in Schools conference and also took a group of teachers/staff to the national quality education conference. Their activities are focusing on dropout and credit recovery at the ACE Campus and will probably spill over to other campuses. They are reviewing NovaNet, a complete high school curriculum. This software allows students to recover high school credits. A student who has failed a class can come to a lab or take a course through a computer in their home or a library.

Dr. Vincent said that she and Dr. Branscum are trying to spend more time with MTC's stakeholders. They recently met with the Northeast Ministerial Alliance. One of the individuals who attended that meeting has started a learning lab in his church. They have also met with two legislators and Oklahoma City Police Department's Sergeant Cubit, who works with gang intervention and tries to get children engaged back into school before they fall into clutches of gangs. They are also working with a health center to get new health facility at the ACE Campus. Dr. Branscum said they have met frequently with Alan Ingram and OCPS Superintendent Porter on this initiative.

Dr. Vincent complimented staff for the wonderful work they do. She said that Pam Ashley coordinated the first meeting of the Biomedical Sciences Academy advisory committee last Friday. Dr. Elaine Stith continues to work with staff. Melanie Stinnett is working continuously with Bob Parrish, faculty and outside people on the roof projects. The BIS staff have been active with city of Oklahoma City. This morning they were able to see Juan Enriquez from Harvard. Dr. Vincent said that she and Dr. Branscum have worked for two days on outlining initiatives, including an application for the Baldrige award.

Dr. Branscum said that he has served on the State Superintendent's task force about increasing the length of the school term. The task force divided into three areas: quality, quantity, and cost. He said he volunteered for quality and believes the emphasis should shift to where learning is the constant and time is the variable. He believes the quantity committee made the most impact by suggesting the addition of 15-17 additional days over the next three years. Dr. Branscum said that even by adding the additional days, if you continue to do the same thing, you'll continue to have the same results. Each additional day costs several million dollars. Dr. Branscum said he does appreciate the work of the task force for trying to tackle a 250-year old problem. Dr. Stith said that quality should be the emphasis. Without quality, you are wasting time. Dr. Branscum said he emphasized to the task force that they need to look for root cause. Without this, improvement cannot really occur.

Dr. Thomas asked when the Baldrige application was due. Dr. Branscum said it would be around May 15. They will first submit a notification of the intent to apply, either in February or March. Currently they are reviewing the application from two years ago because there have been some significant changes in the criteria. When staff returns in January, they will meet and then the application will be updated.

Site Director and Staff Announcements - Jeanne Webb announced that three SBC teachers are now nationally board certified teachers: Susan Arn, Bonnie Logan, and BeeDee Stevens. This is Ms. Arn's 9th year, Mrs. Stevens received her certification last year, and Mrs. Logan received notice about two weeks ago.

Pete Lee congratulated the teachers. He then said that in about six hours, someone will celebrate a birthday: Dr. Branscum. Dr. Branscum showed the first card he had received, hand drawn by his granddaughter.

Mr. Lee said that on Thursday they will host the National Executive Director for PAMA. They will share information about the internship program. The senior vice president from Snap-On will be meeting with them also.

Mr. Lee said they have been awarded an FAA contract to train international students and expect to begin the program in March, with approximately one dozen students. They should train another dozen some time in summer 2008. Mr. Wright asked if they were still having space issues, and Mr. Lee said they were. This program will be located in the former Electronics classroom space.

Dr. Branscum said that the ACC recently hosted a cadre of legislators and aviation officials. College representatives also toured last month. He said he continues to receive follow-up questions about these visits. There is a lot of legislative and statewide interest in the ACC. Dr. Branscum informed everyone that Altheda Anderson, a strong supporter of the internship program, passed away unexpectedly about a week ago. She was an efficient, knowledgeable lady and will be hard to replace.

Sherri Smith-Gray introduced her husband, Tom Gray.

Pam Ashley said that Dr. Vincent mentioned the Biomedical Sciences advisory committee meeting, held last Friday. Representatives from higher education, industry, and career tech worked together to discuss the overview of the academy. Former MTC employee Linda Lindsey is the administrator of the Francis Tuttle program. This program is primarily geared to students seeking higher education health careers.

Steve Stockwell said many exciting things are occurring. They have just signed an MOA with OG&E. Sharron Jackson is working with Camilla Riley on assessing OG&E's employees so they will know where to begin. During discussions with OG&E, they discovered other opportunities and are pursuing those. There is also a new manufacturer coming into our area, with the addition of 175 manufacturing jobs. We will be involved in a significant amount of training for them. Fernanda Carment will be assisting this company.

Camilla Riley said that she believes the board is aware that MTC is involved in a massive records maintenance project. They are converting student records to an electronic format. She said that Linda Ford gets calls almost every day for copies of old records. She recently had to find a record from 1968. This project will put those records at fingertip accessibility. Dr. Branscum said they are doing a wonderful job.

Items approved:

- Minutes of the November 6, 2007, Regular Board Meeting

- Transfer of funds from the school activity accounts to the general fund

- 2008 Calendar of Regular Board Meetings

- Revisions to BP-10005, Criteria for Adult Admission in Full-Time Programs

- Appoint Marva Danna as the Financial Services Petty Cash Custodian for FY 2008.

- Change the title Recruiter to Career Advisor

- Authority up to contract a debt service agreement for the renovation and construction at the ACE Campus

- Personnel Items

- FY 2008 encumbrances # 802337 - # 802660

- Encumbrance for monthly emergency and exit light inspections at all buildings on all campuses

- Encumbrance for architectural design and consulting services related to the ACE Campus renovation and construction project

- Purchase of various equipment to be used in the Aviation Maintenance Technology program

The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.