

“Blue Devil Bulletin”
Martensdale-St.Marys Community School District
September 2009

From the Desk of Ms. Peterson,
Superintendent

The 2009-2010 school year has begun very smoothly. Both students and teachers are getting back into their routines and everyone is attending to the business of learning! The beginning of the year is always a fun time. Optimism, excitement, and the attitude that “anything is possible” float through the air during this time of year.

Tom Wood, Elementary Principal, Mike Crozier, Secondary Principal and I are all beginning our 3rd year here in the MStM School District. Looking back over the past two years, we have seen many improvements made. Some of these are:

1. A Review and Update of MStM’s Comprehensive School Improvement Plan and Action Plans for each Student Achievement Goal
2. We have updated our Teacher Evaluation Plan to match the State Department of Education’s requirements.
3. We have updated our Gifted/Talented Plan, our At Risk Plan and our Special Education Delivery Services Plan.
4. We have updated our Guidance Curriculum, our Technology Curriculum and our Library Curriculum.
5. The following subject areas also worked this summer to review, update and align our curriculum areas to the Essential Skills and Concepts of the Iowa Core Curriculum: Reading/Language Arts, Science, Math, Secondary Social Studies and Career/Technical.
6. We really did get a great start with our Curriculum Review. Not only did we align our student learning objectives with the Essential Skills and Concepts of the Iowa Core Curriculum, teachers also started to design specific instructional strategies and assessments related to each student objective.
7. Our professional development is alive and well at MStM. Administration and faculty are working together and learning together. Teachers are prepared to try new things, learn from mistakes and celebrate victories because our students are worth it.
8. The Board also approved adding a part time secondary math teacher so we could begin teaching more upper level math classes. Jed Alexander will be

adding both Calculus and Statistics to his teaching schedule starting this school year.

9. Our Quality Support Committee (School Improvement Advisory Committee) met three times during the 08-09 school year. This committee is made up of teachers, administrators and parents. The Quality Support Committee worked together to design a new Vision Statement and a new Mission Statement for our school district. They also created new Belief Statements for our school as well. These Vision, Mission and Belief Statements are included in this newsletter. Teachers also have them posted in their classrooms. This committee was also instrumental in helping us review several plans and curriculum areas such as the Gifted/Talented and At Risk Plans and the Guidance Curriculum. They also helped us determine our student achievement goals for the 09-10 school year.

In regard to our Professional Development for the 09-10 school year, the teachers will be studying the book, The Global Achievement Gap: Why Even Our Best Schools Don’t Teach The New Survival Skills Our Children Need – and What We Can Do About It by Tony Wagner. The seven survival skills Wagner says all students should master are:

1. Critical thinking and problem-solving
2. Collaboration across networks and leading by influence
3. Agility and adaptability
4. Initiative and entrepreneurship
5. Effective oral and written communication
6. Accessing and analyzing information
7. Curiosity and imagination

We are doing the right things here at MStM. We are working to have a solid curriculum. Our teachers are working on creating effective instructional strategies and rigor/relevance of lesson planning. We are also working on creating quality formative and summative assessments and then creating the appropriate interventions for students who are struggling and students who are excelling.

Construction Update:

They have made a lot of progress during the past two weeks with our football/track renovation project. If you have driven by, I am sure you can see how things are coming along on that site.

In the next two weeks, things will really start to come together – if we don’t get much rain! You will see a lot of progress

with the field. The installation of the turf should begin sometime during the week of August 24th. The field goal posts should be installed the week of the 24th as well. There has been a great deal of work done on both the press box and the concession stand/locker rooms. Work is continuing on those areas to get them finished. If the weather stays dry, more work is scheduled to be done to get the parking lot ready as well.

As of this writing, it does not look like the new facility will be ready until our Homecoming Game which is September 25th. Until then, all varsity, junior varsity and junior high football games will be played in St. Marys.

The air conditioning project is completed throughout the building except for the large gym. Work should be done in there by the middle of September. Walking around, it feels very nice and cool throughout the building. This will certainly help our students concentrate well especially during the warm months.

The elementary gym entrance project is finished. The drainage issue has been addressed and we now also have a much better entrance into that gym that is handicap accessible.

I would like to sincerely thank Gayle Young of Young Mechanical and Plumbing for his work with our air conditioning project and John Gehringer of John Gehringer Construction for his work on the elementary entrance. Both gentleman and their workers did a super job for our school district! I would also like to thank Mark Thiessen, our architect from Angelo Architectural Associates, for the work he provided to us and the progress reports he gave to our Board of Education throughout the time of both projects.

H1N1 Flu:

As we head back to school, you have probably heard in the news that there is an expected return of the H1N1 Flu this fall. This novel influenza virus disproportionately affects young people, so it is critical that schools know how to help prevent the flu's spread and be ready to respond to outbreaks. Health and safety should always come first, but if students are dismissed, continued learning is also important.

There are a few things parents can do to help with this situation:

- Teach your children to wash their hands often with soap and water.
- Teach your children not to share personal items like drinks, food or unwashed utensils, and to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues. Covering up their coughs and sneezes using the elbow, arm or sleeve instead of the hand when a tissue is unavailable.
- Know the signs and symptoms of the flu. Symptoms of the flu include fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit, 37.8 degrees Celsius or greater), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headaches, and feeling very tired. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.

- Keep sick children at home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or do not have signs of fever, without using fever-reducing drugs. Keeping children with a fever at home will reduce the number of people who may get infected.
- Do not send children to school if they are sick. Any children who are determined to be sick while at school will be sent home.

We will monitor this situation and will try to stay on top of things. We will be sure to pass on any more information we receive on this topic from the Department of Education and the County Health Department.

MStM Quality Support Committee

Vision Statement:

The Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District will have an uncompromising commitment to providing:

- ✚ resources to build character and citizenship
- ✚ a safe and positive learning environment
- ✚ a quality curriculum which will meet the diverse needs of the 21st century learner
- ✚ lifelong learning opportunities
- ✚ experiences which will enable students to be responsible and accountable academically and socially
- ✚ opportunities for growth and enlightenment through community service and activities

MStM Quality Support Committee

Belief Statements:

We believe.....

- ...that learning is lifelong.*
- ...in high expectations for students and staff as positive role models.*
- ...in a safe and positive environment.*
- ...in quality teaching and programs essential for each student to reach his/her full potential.*
- ...in quality learning experiences for everyone.*

Mission Statement:

Building excellence, service and character one student at a time.

*From the Desk of Mr. Crozier,
High School Principal*

Welcome back to the 2009-2010 school year. It was so good to see and talk to students and parents at the open house. There was a definite excitement in the air. We have many things to be proud of and to look forward to. Our ACT scores for 2008-2009 were up and were higher than the state average in all categories. We made our Adequate Yearly Progress, and implemented two successful programs: At-Risk and Advisor/Advisee. Soon we will be celebrating the opening of our new athletic complex and the school is now air-conditioned. All of these things are due to a great working relationship between the school and community. We should all be proud.

During the summer I attended a drug recognition program at Heartland Area Education Association. This program helps school employees recognize the symptoms of different drugs and the effects they have on people. This was a very informative class. I would like to pass along the warning signs that parents can look for when there is suspicion of drug use. They are listed below. We will continue to work to keep our school drug free and a safe place for all our students.

1. Drop in grades - a slow decline in the past year or a sudden decrease.
2. Obvious Loss of Initiative.
3. Switching Friends - lifelong friends begin to deteriorate, or new, bad friends begin to appear. If their peers use, they may be using.
4. Emotional highs and lows - easily upset. Emotional state changes rapidly. Doesn't seem as happy or outgoing as he/she used to be.
5. Emotional behavioral change - depressive look, euphoric/energy, paranoid, hyper-sensitive, easily agitated, aggressive to violent outbursts, delusional suicidal, hallucinosis, psychotic.
6. Defiance of rules and regulations - pushing limits, failing to do chores, and defiant behavior.
7. Becoming more secretive - failing to disclose any (or very few) personal problems.
8. Withdrawing from family functions - including meals, outings, church and holidays, etc.
9. Change in personal hygiene - becoming sloppy, wearing the same clothes frequently, and failing to bathe daily.
10. Failure to inform parents of school activities - such as open house, times to meet teachers, progress reports, suspensions, and warnings.
11. Makes excuses for staying out late - not coming home on time or not coming home at all.
12. Isolating themselves - spending an unusual amount of time in his/her room alone.
13. Money missing - from parents, brothers, sisters, friends, etc.
14. Alcohol or prescription drugs disappearing.
15. Change in sleep patterns - staying up late at night and sleeping half the day away.
16. Excessive weight loss - in a short period of time.

17. Medical illness - depression, infections, heart attack, brain hemorrhage, death.

Teens on meth can become very goal oriented. In the beginning they appear helpful, very busy, very "mature", friendly, talkative, but then change to the behaviors on the above.

--- Michael Abrams, M.D., Broadlawns Brain Addiction and Behavioral Disorders Unit

We also have three new staff members. Justin Herrick will be teaching Junior High and High School English and coaching Cross Country. Alison Condon will be taking over the Family and Consumer Science responsibilities and coaching the Dance Team. Sam Tunell will be teaching math in the afternoons. Please stop by and meet our new people.

I am looking forward to another great year at Martensdale-St. Marys. Please call me at (641) 764-2486 if you have questions regarding your child's educational experience.

Michael R. Crozier
Secondary Principal

****Wanted****

**Accompanist for High School Chorus
every other day from 1:00-1:45 pm.**

**Contact Susan Gabbert-Clark at
641-764-2486 for more information.**



*From the Desk of Mrs. Davidson,
Art Department*

VISUAL ART DEPARTMENT

The Des Moines Arts Festival, Des Moines Art Center and Hubbell Homes hosted the **Nurturing Student Vision: Celebrating Artists K-12 student art exhibition** (NSV) at the Des Moines Arts Festival in June in downtown Des Moines' Western Gateway Park.

NSV is a program that spotlights the creativity of children in kindergarten through 12th grade attending schools in central Iowa through a special exhibition on-site at the Des Moines Arts Festival and six weeks after at the Downtown Public Library. It recognizes students' artistic achievements at the Visionary Artist Ceremony and NSV Reception, and rewards them with a Certificate of Appreciation along with a Des Moines Art Center Student Membership.

This year's selected students are:

Elementary: **Jennifer Hraha, 5th Grade, Emily Murphy, 6th Grade, Jessica Castro, 6th Grade, Joselyn Miller, 6th Grade**

Jr./Sr. High: **Alex Bohounek, 8th Grade, Erin Deming, 8th Grade, Kate Cook, 9th Grade, Betsy Anderson, 10th Grade**

Congratulations to these students for their outstanding work!

ARTSONIA

Our school is now a member of Artsonia.com (www.artsonia.com), the largest online student art museum. Artsonia showcases artwork from thousands of schools around the world. Artsonia's goals are to develop students' pride and self-esteem, increase their multicultural understanding through art and involve parents and relatives in student education and accomplishments.

In the art room, your students will be creating some beautiful art work that we would like to showcase on Artsonia. This opportunity allows parents and out-of-town relatives to see the work that your student is creating. The program also allows you or family members to purchase merchandise with your child's artwork on it. The proceeds from the program will benefit our art department. A permission slip will be coming home with your student. Please complete the permission slip and return it to school. Please feel free to view Artsonia's website or contact me at if you have any questions.

Art Supply Donation's Needed

I am looking forward to another great year in the art room at MStM. I want to thank everyone who has generously given supplies to the art room. We have put the items to good use.

If you have something that you would like to donate to the art room, please feel free to contact me at angela_davidson@m-smarys.k12.ia.us. Here is my list of things that I would like to collect for art projects this year:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Paper Towel Rolls | Clothes pins |
| Brown Paper Grocery Sacks | Glitter |
| Brown Lunch Sacks | Craft items |
| Styrofoam Egg cartons | Styrofoam plates |
| Beads and buttons | |

Colored wall tile, colored plates or glass for mosaic projects.

*From the Desk of Mr. Ron Peterson,
Athletic Director/Blue Devils*

The Summer Sport Season

The softball and baseball teams had outstanding summers. The softball team placed 3rd in the Class 1A State Softball Championships. The baseball team made the district finals. The junior varsity and junior high teams had outstanding seasons, as well. It was a great summer of softball and baseball at MSTM. The post-season honors are still piling up. I have included some of them, but there are many others.

All-State Team - Softball

1st Team

Sam Norris
Meghan Halverson

2nd Team

Hailey Sweet

All-State Team -Baseball

2nd Team

Dillon Coates

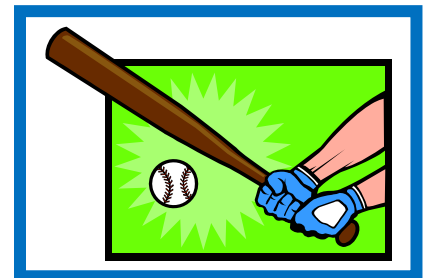
Pride Of Iowa – Softball

1st Team

Sam Norris
Hailey Sweet
Meghan Halverson

2nd Team

Brittney Kubik
Emma Michels
Morgan Halverson
Sarah Bunch
Taylor Johnson
Megan Streyffeler



Pride of Iowa – Baseball

1st Team

Dillon Coates
Robert Walker

2nd Team

Nick Ferin
Jake Defenbaugh
Hayden VanHoose
David Walker

Indianola Record Herald – Softball

1st Team

Sam Norris
Hailey Sweet

2nd Team

Brittney Kubik
Meagan Streiffeler

Honorable Mention

Meghan Halverson

Indianola Record Herald – Baseball

1st Team

Dillon Coates
Jake Defenbaugh

2nd Team

Robert Walker
Hayden VanHoose

Honorable Mention

Nick Ferin
Zeb Noel



The Athletic Booster Club

The athletic booster club at MStM is very active. They provide concessions for all varsity events and many, many junior varsity and junior high events. It is all done by volunteers. It is an unbelievable amount of time and effort put forth for the good of this school district and the athletic department. It is impossible for me to thank the individuals enough who give of their time. I have listed below some of the projects they helped with this past year. It is an incredible list. Again, thanks to everyone your efforts. The next booster club meeting is September 9th. I hope to see you there.

1. Track Lights Wiring
2. Wrestling Practice Mat
3. Wrestling Mat Hoist
4. Installation of Mat Hoist
5. Little Devil Tournament Concessions
6. JV/V Wrestling Singlets
7. Jr. High Baseball Pants
8. Post Prom Donation
9. Football Throwing Machine Cart
10. Softball Batting Cage Net
11. Softball Backstop Pads
12. Softball Visitor Dugout Bench
13. Weight Room Kettleballs, Medicine Balls and Medicine Ball Rack
14. Split cost of New Baseball Dugouts
15. Softball Field Sound System
16. State Tourney Meal Basketball, Softball and Boys and Girls Track
17. Provide beverages and sandwiches to the officials at halftime and after the games

From the Desk of Mr. Wood, Elementary Principal

Putting School Work First

Never before has homework been so controversial. Busy parents and overscheduled children argue that either there is too much homework or that schoolwork should be done in school. Teachers and principals, however, view homework as a way to reinforce classroom lessons or give students needed extra practice. There are a lot of ways that parents, schools, and students, working together, can put homework first while making it seem like less of a burden.

What's the policy?

Ask about the district, school, or teacher's homework policy. Is there a set amount of time your child is expected to spend on homework each night? Ask how often there will be special assignments or long-term home-based projects. Knowing the answers to these questions can help you and your child schedule the necessary time to complete the work.

Watch the time.

Some children work faster than others and some assignments are longer than others. But if your child is spending hours every night on homework, check for:

• *Distractions.*

Is your child studying in a quiet, well-lit place? Don't let television, phone calls, or siblings distract him or her from completing the work.

• *Advice.* Is there someone available to answer quick questions about assignments?

• *Tools.* Does your child have the tools (*i.e.*, paper, pen, calculator, dictionary) needed to complete the assignment?

• *Attitude.* The attitudes of children are often affected by the attitudes of parents and caregivers. Children need to see that you support your child's need to complete both schoolwork and homework.

Share concerns.

An occasional homework overload is not grounds for a heart-to-heart with the teacher. Below are some signs that it's time for a conference or a note.

• *Busy work.* 15-20 multiplication problems or spelling words at a time is fine, but 50 is excessive.

• *Brain busters.* Talk with the teacher if your child consistently doesn't understand his/her assignments.

• *Brainless.* Is everything just too easy? Does your child mock the simplicity of the assignments? Let the teacher know.

• *Unpredictable.* If your child is overwhelmed with homework one day, and has none the next, find out why. Sometimes, kids put off projects until the last minute—which means you need to work with them on organizing their study time. Families should expect a relatively consistent homework load during the week.

Scale back.

If your child's life is so full of after-school and weekend activities that he or she has no time or energy for homework,

perhaps it's time to reevaluate. These activities should never replace school as the primary focus of a child's life.

Stop yourself.

Many parents "help" their children by doing some of their homework. This is never OK. It's far better to send a note to the teacher explaining why your child didn't finish the assignment.

Stay involved.

Show your children that you care about what they're doing in school. Check their assignment books every day to help them keep track of what's due next and what projects are coming up.

Review their homework, even checking in with them while they're working on it. Most importantly, give your child credit. Praise the work they do. Compliment their study habits. Stay on them if they slack off, but give them credit for all they're doing and learning. Nothing could be more important.



SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION
September 8, 2009

MARTENSDALE ST. MARYS SCHOOL
7:00 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

CANDIDATES:

DISTRICT 1 DAVID SHUTT

**DISTRICT 2 JERI JO DUDNEY
 WADE GIBSON**

DISTRICT 4 AMY HARPER

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
July 13, 2009

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in regular session, pursuant to law, on July 13, 2009.

Members Present: A. Velvet VanHoose, President; Scott Anderson, Vice-President; Cathy Seymour, Nicole Bunch,

together with Superintendent, Jean Peterson, and Business Manager, Jill Gavin.

Members Absent: John Della Vedova

I. Welcome

VanHoose called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed all guests.

II. Consent Items

Bunch motioned to approve the consent items seconded by Anderson. Roll call: 4 Ayes.

III. Celebrations

Supt. Peterson announced the following season records for the Softball and Baseball teams and congratulated them and looks forward to the remaining season of the varsity squads in post season play.

Softball

Junior High 29-5

Junior Varsity 22-0 – Undefeated for the past 2 seasons
Varsity 30-7 and ranked 6th

Baseball

Junior High 33-2

Junior Varsity 21-2

Varsity 21-10

Supt. Peterson would like to thank all the teachers for their hard work and time putting together the next year's curriculum.

Supt. Peterson received a thank you note from the Music Booster for the Board's donation to the Betty Anthony Memorial.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

V. Old Business

A. Reports

1) Facilities Report – Supt. Peterson. Supt. Peterson introduced Matt Carlile to provide an update on the track and field project. Waiting for the track to dry up due to all the rain we have received. The press box is going up and the block will arrive to start the concession stand/restroom/locker rooms this week. There has been some drainage issues and will have to do some extra piping for additional drainage. Hope to start the curb around the track this week once it dries up.

Mark Thiessen was introduced to give an update to the Board on the elementary gym entrance. It is going well and will be finished on time. He then proceeded to update the Board on the air conditioning project. Half of the units have arrived and the other half will be arriving this week. The classrooms will be completed before the

start of school. They will work around the volleyball schedule to complete the air conditioning in the High School gym.

Supt. Peterson updated the Board on the land purchase from Lemar Koethe. It is now official and we are just waiting on the abstract. Ron Peterson provided a proposal to the Board for football camp and practice for the fall since the seeding of the practice fields will not happen until August and we need to come up with alternative plans for both practices and camp. This is a temporary situation and everyone is going to need to be flexible in the way the practices are structured and where they are held.

B. Presentations

1) Superintendent's Report – Supt. Peterson. Supt. Peterson reviewed with the Board the summer curriculum work that was done and described how productive the teachers were. She continued to discuss the Iowa Core Curriculum work, the Common Core State Standards Initiatives, the Healthy Kids Act, Adequate Yearly Progress Report and the Regional Chef Team Nutrition Workshop that was attended by Lorretta Bell.

2) Principal's Report –Tom Wood. Tom introduced Don Millage from EdNet to present to the Board the new technology project. The District has not been updated in over 3 years. There are problems with the servers, the email system needs to be replaced, and security needs to be updated. We need to increase work stations, increase our firewall, improve maintenance and increase the protection against viruses. Four desktop units have been updated, JMC has been updated and Microsoft has been updated. Tom and Don provided proposals for laptops and recommended the Lenova ThinkPad. Heartland will be providing training to our teachers. The Board requested policies to be given to the teachers and students. This will be discussed at the August Board Meeting.

VI. New Business

- A. Discuss/Approve Teacher Laptop Purchase
Supt. Peterson
Seymour motioned to approve the purchase of the Lenova ThinkPad with the addition of having appropriate policies and encryption in place for teachers and students seconded by Anderson. RC: 4 ayes.
- B. Presentation/Discussion from Developers Realty Group LLC
Supt. Peterson

Dorrance Brezina of Developers Realty Group requested from the Board to present a proposal on behalf of the Warren County Economical Development. Granite Works of St. Charles desire better visibility as well as location that could serve as a place to grow their business. They are interested in purchasing five acres of the land that the District has just recently purchased, not currently being used by our new project. They could provide 20 new jobs to Martensdale and would help grow the community. The Board thanked Mr. Brezina for the presentation.

- C. Discuss/Approve Lunch Program increase
Supt. Peterson
Supt. Peterson discussed the surplus that we currently have in our Hot Lunch account and how it is necessary to maintain due to possible replacements of big tickets items like the cooler or a disposal that we need to be prepared for. Commodity prices have increased for the 2009-2010 school year. School lunch prices have not increased in over eight years and compared to area districts we are the lowest. Anderson motioned to approve the proposal of increase lunch fees \$0.05 for breakfast, K-6 lunches and 7-12 lunches seconded by Bunch. RC: 4 ayes.
- D. Discuss/Approve Daycare Program increase
Supt. Peterson
Supt. Peterson and Gavin discussed the decrease in the budget for Daycare due to decrease in students attending and increase in fees. Daycare fees have stayed the same for over eight years and compared to area districts and other daycare centers we are considered the lowest. The Board will continue to monitor the daycare program. Bunch motioned to approve the \$5 increase for before and after school daycare seconded by Seymour. RC: 4 ayes.
- E. Discuss/Approve Activities Pass fee
Supt. Peterson
Bunch motioned to keep the activities pass fees the same, seconded by Anderson. RC: 4 ayes.
- F. Approve Hot Lunch and Activity Account Supervision
Supt. Peterson
Bunch moved to appoint Sandra Rudolf as the Determining Official and Jean Peterson as the Hearing Officer for the Hot Lunch program; and Sandra Rudolf, Jean Peterson and Jill Gavin are jointly responsible for the Hot Lunch and Activity accounts, seconded by Seymour. RC: 4 ayes.

- G. Appoint Jill Gavin as Board Secretary /Business Manager Supt. Peterson
Bunch moved to appoint Jill Gavin as the Business Manager/Board Secretary, seconded by Anderson. RC: 4 ayes.
- H. Administer Oath of Office to Jill Gavin Supt. Peterson
President VanHoose administered the oath of office to Jill Gavin
- I. Designate Official Depositories Supt. Peterson
Anderson moved to approve Regions Bank as an official depository for up to \$1,000,000; and City State Bank in Norwalk as an official depository for up to \$1,000,000 seconded by Seymour. RC: 4 ayes.
- J. Discuss/Approve Transfer of LOSST Funds Supt. Peterson
Bunch motioned to approve the original budget for the 2010 school year including \$50,000 transfer from Capital Projects, LOSST, to Debt Service, for the 2004 bond issue seconded by Seymour. RC: 4 ayes.
Anderson motioned to approve in accordance to the 2009 Revenue Bond issue, the bond covenants require monthly transfers to the Debt Sinking fund seconded by Bunch. RC: 4 ayes.
- K. Discuss/Approve Resolution Authorizing Inter Funds Loans Supt. Peterson
Bunch motioned to approve the resolution authorizing and directing the Board Treasurer and Chief Financial Office to process inter fund loans between the General Fund, Activity Fund, Management Fund, PPEL fund, Capital Projects Funds, Nutrition Fund, Trust Fund and/or Agency Fund to not exceed 35 days in duration, with all loans to bear interest at the rate established by Iowa Code section 74A.6(2) per annum, for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 seconded by Seymour. RC: 4 ayes.
- L. Discuss/Approve Preschool Fund Balance Supt. Peterson
Gavin discussed with the Board that the five-year old money that we received from the state went into the General Fund and not the Preschool Fund. There were six five-year-old for the 2008-09 school year. Bunch motioned to approve the transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Preschool Fund to cover the five-year-old expenses seconded by Anderson. RC: 4 ayes.

- M. School Board Election Update Supt. Peterson
Gavin updated the Board on the upcoming School Board Election. Districts 1, 2, and 4 seats will be open for the September election. Two people have picked up packets for District 2 but only one has been filed. No one has requested packets for District 1 and 4.
- N. Discuss/Approve 2009 Legislative Action Priorities and Resolutions Supt. Peterson
The Board reviewed the Iowa Association of School Boards proposed Legislative Action Priorities and Resolutions. The ones earmarked by the IASB as 2009 Priorities went along with what the Board would recommend. VanHoose recommended additional items that Supt. Peterson will add to the list reported to IASB. (Bunch left the meeting at 6:48 p.m.) Anderson motioned to approve items 2, 3, 11, and 13 seconded by Seymour. RC: 3 ayes.
- O. Approve 2009-2010 Application for Cooperative Sharing Agreement Supt. Peterson
Seymour motioned to approve the sharing agreement with Indianola for swimming, diving and soccer seconded by Anderson. RC: 3 ayes.
- P. Approve Special Education Plan Supt. Peterson
Seymour motioned to approve the adoption of the Special Education Plan seconded by Anderson. RC: 3 ayes.
- Q. Approve Title I Parent Involvement Policy 2009-2010 School Year Supt. Peterson
Anderson motioned to approve the Title I Parent Involvement Policy for the 2009-2010 school year seconded by Seymour. RC: 3 ayes.
- R. Approve Personnel Recommendations Supt. Peterson
Supt. Peterson recommended the following 2009-2010 teacher positions:

Samantha Tunell - .5 Secondary Math
Alison Condon – 7-12 Family and Consumer Science Teacher
Alison Condon – Dance Team Sponsor

Seymour motioned to approve the recommendation for Tunell seconded by Anderson. RC: 3 ayes.

Anderson motioned to approve the recommendation for Condon seconded by Seymour. RC: 3 ayes.

The Board requested to set up a Special Board Meeting to approve the recommendation for Bus Driver for the 2009-2010 school year due to not having a quorum. Anderson was not able to vote due to being a candidate for the position; Della Vedova and Bunch were absent.

S. 1st Reading Policy 900 Series
Supt. Peterson
Board reviewed the policies and will discuss at the August Board Meeting.

T. 2nd Reading Policy 800 Series
Supt. Peterson
Anderson motioned to approve the 800 series seconded by Seymour. RC: 3 ayes.

U. 1st Reading Policy – Bus Transportation – Private Contractors Supt. Peterson
Board reviewed the policies and will discuss at the August Board Meeting.

V. Confirm – Next Meeting Dates
8/05/09 – Agenda subcommittee by e-mail
8/06/09 – 5:30 p.m. Agenda Meeting
8/10/09 – 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting

VanHoose discussed with the Board her communication with the District auditors, Nolte, Cornman & Johnson, P.C. and reported her responses to the audit questions and requested to review our audit findings on a quarterly basis.

VII. Adjournment
Anderson motioned to adjourn seconded by Seymour.
RC: 3 ayes. Time 7:02 p.m.

APPROVED


Board President 
Business Manager

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**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**  
**July 16, 2009**

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in special session, pursuant to law, on July 16, 2009.

Members Present: A. Velvet VanHoose, President; Cathy Seymour, Nicole Bunch, together with Business Manager Jill Gavin.

Members Absent: Scott Anderson, Vice-President, John Della Vedova, and Superintendent Jean Peterson

- I. Welcome  
VanHoose called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and welcomed all guests.
- II. Public Comments  
There were no public comments.
- III. New Business
  - A Discuss/Approve New Bus Driver and Salary J Gavin  
Gavin discussed the process that was used to advertise and interview bus candidates for route #3. There were four candidates that went through the interview process. The candidates were asked questions, completed the application, provided driving records, and presented a cost proposal for the route. Gavin presented a summary of the proposals given by the four candidates that included years of experience and cost of their proposals.

Bunch motioned to approve the hiring of the lowest qualified proposal seconded by Seymour. RC: 3 ayes.
- IV. Adjournment  
  
Bunch motioned to adjourn seconded by Seymour.  
RC: 3 ayes. Time 5:13 p.m.

APPROVED

  
Board President   
Business Manager

**Attention: All Newsletter Recipients  
MStM is "Going Green"**

In an effort to save on paper and postage, the MStM Newsletter will be available to read on our website effective July 2009. If you would like to discontinue receiving the newsletter by mail, please email [karen.tomlinson@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us](mailto:karen.tomlinson@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us) or call 641-764-2621.

Our responsibility to the environment is a growing concern for everyone and this effort will help meet the State of Iowa goal of "Going Green."

*The Martensdale-St. Marys District Newsletter is processed by the last Friday of the month.*

*Questions or concerns may be addressed to Mrs. Tomlinson  
641/764-2621 or 641/764-2470.*

*Thank you!*

1985-2009

**Congratulations Sandy Rudolf on your retirement!**

**Come help us celebrate on September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3pm to 6pm in the cafeteria.**



**SANDY RUDOLF**

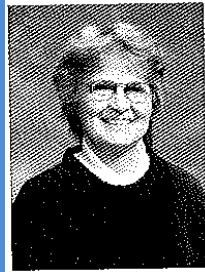
1988



1991



1995



2001



The newest Rudolf addition (Brodey) can't wait to have all of grandma's attention! Well he might have to share with the girls, too!



2003

Thanks for all you have done for the MStM community. We will miss you!

Have fun with the grandbabies and all of the fun adventures your family will have in the future. Keep in touch!