

## **PRESS RELEASE**

April 6, 2009

Contact: Susan W. Meston, MAISD Superintendent, 231-767-7201

Photos: John Swanson, Donna Fiebelkorn, Dwight Vines

### **Filing deadline for MAISD board candidates is May 4**

MUSKEGON: Those desiring a seat on the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District Board of Education must deliver an affidavit of identity, nominating petition signed by a minimum of 40 electors or a nonrefundable fee of \$100 to the Muskegon County Clerk's office no later than May 4, 2009. On June 1, 2009, the 12 constituent districts will cast their ballots to fill three open seats during the MAISD biennial election. The three seats were formally held by John Swanson, who is not seeking re-election, and current board members Dr. Donna Fiebelkorn and Dwight Vines who are both seeking to continue their time on the board. The terms of the three seats will expire in 2011, 2013, and 2015.

Swanson, who had previous experience on the Ravenna Public Schools Board of Education, has held many leadership positions on the MAISD board during his 15 years of service. Swanson is owner and CEO of the national Swanson brand pickles. According to MAISD Superintendent Dr. Susan Meston, Swanson has played a key role in the organization's success and growth in delivering critical programs and services to local school districts. "Mr. Swanson has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to public education and has been a consistent voice of advocacy for the children who live within the MAISD."

Dr. Donna Fiebelkorn was appointed to the board in February 2007. She moved to Whitehall in 2003 to assume her position as Dean of Education and Human Service at Baker College of Muskegon. Previously she served as the Deputy Director of Peace Corps in Ukraine. Dr. Fiebelkorn has a master's degree in curriculum and instruction and a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Vermont. She has been honored for her work in Ukraine. She has served in a variety of volunteer capacities related to schools.

Mr. Dwight Vines was appointed to the board in April 2008. Previously, he served 20 years on the Muskegon Heights Public Schools Board of Education. Mr. Vines is a Process Control Superintendent at SunChemical Corporation. He holds a bachelor's degree in Medical Technology from Michigan State University and is a master's degree candidate in Public Administration at Western Michigan University.

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