



REGULAR BOARD MEETING
City Council Chambers
14400 Dix Toledo, Southgate, MI 48195

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

PRESIDENT
DR. DARLENE L. POMPONIO

DATE: January 17, 2017

VICE PRESIDENT
JASON CRAIG

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Kupser, McDaniel
Pomponio, Reed

SECRETARY
ANDREW A. GREEN

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:

TREASURER
JASON R. KUPSER

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Chretien, McLachlan, Pastor

TRUSTEES
TIMOTHY O. ESTHEIMER
MELISSA L. MCDANIEL
REBECCA REED

ADMINISTRATION EXCUSED:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Dr. Pomponio read the District Mission and Vision Statements.

REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

2016/17-83 It was moved by Mr. Green the board remove Consent Item #2 and
move it to Action Item #2.

It was moved by Mr. Kupser to add Committee Chairs to Consent Item
#4.

ADMINISTRATION

It was moved by Mr. Estheimer, supported by Mr. Green the board
approve the revised January 17, 2017 agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT
LESLIE CHRETIEN

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Kupser, McDaniel, Pomponio, Reed
NO:

BUSINESS AND FINANCE
DIRECTOR
THERESA MCLACHLAN, C.P.A.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS DISCUSSION OR ACTION ITEMS

None

CURRICULUM/FEDERAL
PROGRAMS DIRECTOR
JILL PASTOR

PRESENTATIONS

None

DIRECTOR OF
HUMAN RESOURCES
GERARD L. MORIN

ATTENTION TO STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The retreat was held on January 16, 2017-New members have just been placed on
Committees and will report at the next meeting.

Anti-Bullying-Dr. Pomponio

Finance-Mr. Kupser

Policy-Dr. Pomponio

*All committees hold open meetings at Southgate's board offices. Dates of meetings, committee
members, agendas and minutes are posted on the web page.*

DISCUSSION

Finance- Ms. McLachlan told the board February 6, 2017 is the closing date for the Chormann Property. She reviewed the dashboard that is being used by Plante Moran for our bond construction project. The dashboard's financial information is pulled right from E-Builder. Current Commitments, Actual Paid and Cost to Complete; may not always add up due to change orders. When there is a change order it goes into the cost to complete. She and Rob Kakoczki will give a presentation on E-Builder system to the board on February 7, 2017. There are a lot of controls in this system, she will also provide the board with our internal control procedures for the bond on the 7th.

Curriculum-Ms. Pastor reported Kindergarten registration packets will be ready from February 27, 2017 through March 24, 2017. Kindergarten Orientation will be presented at all elementary buildings on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. The flyer is on the website and in all buildings. She reviewed the School of Choice numbers, we are at 23% district wide.

Superintendent-Ms. Chretien updated the board on the Administrative Regulation. They are now on the same NEOLA website as our board policies.

Dr. Pomponio inquired about the forms. Ms. Chretien stated the forms from NEOLA are different from our district forms, she is reviewing all forms, with administration, for updating and will have them linked once they are complete. This is a time consuming project. Board policy directed the superintendent and administrative team to develop the guidelines, the forms go with the guidelines.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Phil Rauch-City Council Liaison to the Board congratulated the new board members and new board officers. He is looking forward to working with the board. He is a graduate of Southgate Anderson's first graduating class. Working together and having strong schools makes a strong community. He stated that he is also the President of the Southgate Community Players. The player have been using the auditorium at Davidson for 48 years.

CONSENT

2016/17-84 It was moved by Mr. Craig supported by Mr. Green, the board approve the consent agenda; Minutes from January 10, 2017 Regular Board Meeting, the Operation Organization and Committee Member Appointments.

Mr. Kupser asked for the names of the committee's and members:

Anti-Bullying: Dr. Pomponio-Chair, Ms. Reed-Member

Policy: Dr. Pomponio-Chair, Ms. McDaniel-Member, Mr. Green-Member

Finance: Mr. Kupser-Chair, Mr. Craig-Member, Dr. Pomponio-Member

Legislative: Ms. Reed-Chair, Dr. Pomponio-Member, Mr. Green

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Kupser, McDaniel, Pomponio, Reed

NO:

ACTION

Item #1: Ms. Chretien introduced Ms. Priest-Director of Latchkey/Childcare. She brought fellow childcare staff members, Mary Orr and Michelle Bensfield.

Ms. McLachlan described the accounting method used for Childcare and Latchkey. In the past the programs were combined in the General Fund and should not have been; as tuition based programs they should have been in their own revenue fund and be self-sustaining. In the 15/16 budget she split the two programs and set up a revenue fund for the Latchkey Program. The tuition was not enough to sustain the Childcare Program. It took a year to see what the direct costs were. In 15/16 the

Childcare Program expenditures exceeded revenue by \$186,000. Changes to the program are being made in an effort to make it self-sustaining. Tuition rates have not been changed in many years.

If Asher students need childcare services and cannot afford it, Ms. Chretien said every effort is made to help students fill out the appropriate forms if they qualify for childcare tuition assistance. In the past we were over staffed if we did not have enough children attending, that has been corrected. Hours of operation are expanding giving more families the opportunity to utilize the program. Families of preschool children often keep their students in the district; they have a direct link with our school district and place those children in our kindergarten. Opening this program up to service more families, extending hours and advertising should help generate the necessary funds to make it a self-sustaining program.

Ms. Priest placed an ad in the paper and flyers have gone out to our schools, signs have been posted at buildings to make parents aware of this program; she has heard from 28 parents in just one week of advertising. Ms. Priest has been awarded a \$4000 grant from Great Start to Quality which will be put toward the program and promoting it. The News Herald will be running an article about this program.

Discussion took place about tuition, self-sustaining programming and the current student enrollment/student-teacher ratio. Ms. Priest stated in the past if someone was denied DHS assistance, income was looked at to determine tuition costs. In the future, tuition will be flat rate with no sliding scale. The proposed rate increases will be \$4.50/hr for preschool and \$5.00/hr for infant/toddler. This rate is comparable with the other preschools in the area.

2016/17-85 It was moved by Mr. Green supported by Mr. Craig, the board approve the rate increase for Southgate Community Schools Early Childhood Learning Center.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Kupser, McDaniel, Pomponio, Reed
NO:

Item #2: Ms. McLachlan reported the numbers at Asher School have dropped. The fall count showed a reduction in FTE's of 41.13, this impact on our budget is \$325,000 in State Aid. The original budget, passed by the board, was reviewed to see where adjustments could be made. The low fall enrollment lead to immediate class reductions with approximately \$30,000 in savings between salaries and benefits. Some resignations allowed us to shift duties to other staff so that more of their salaries are covered by grants, and we made some grant modifications as well.

Ms. Chretien stated schedules were based on an audit of current students' needs and what they still required to complete their high school diploma for this year. Adult education students' common class needs were audited as well. A master schedule was built from there. Protocols for placing teachers in those classes were followed; the qualifications of staff, highly qualified, certified, years of experience, and according to the new law-seniority when all things are equal-as a tie breaker. She, Mr. Morin and Mr. Samborski worked on the first round, looking at the possible shifts in the 107 Grant and teachers picking up additional classes in Adult Ed. After all of the reductions, re-scheduling, re-assigning they have come before the board with a recommendation for layoffs.

Mr. Morin stated the staffing occurred after the schedule was determined. Guidelines and protocol set forth in section 1248 of the Revised School Code were followed; which states seniority can only be used as a tie breaker when all other things are considered. Staffing was only done in the alternative program until the 107 budget was set, so Mr. Samborski delivered letters to staff prior to Christmas to make them aware of the potential reductions. After the 107 budget was set the Adult Ed schedule was staffed, bringing some teachers back to a full schedule or at least not as reduced a schedule.

Discussion took place about Asher being named a Priority School. A reform plan needs to be submitted. Asher does not have a good completion rate or graduation rate. The reform process will require us to look at the way we schedule and deliver the high school completion program to the youth in this area.

Staffing will always be driven by the number of students that enroll. Laid off teachers from Asher will be provided information to become a preferred sub in the district. Mr. Morin explained that UTS will send out the names of the teachers so that they can be placed on the preferred sub lists of our districts teachers.

Discussion took place about the FTE's and how they are calculated at Asher.

2016/17-86 It was moved by Mr. Green supported by Mr. Craig the board approve the HR Update as presented.

Mr. Green commented this is not an easy decision. He wanted the community to know he had conversations with Mr. Samborski and Ms. Chretien to gather information about what happened. This action is not about closing the school down, but being fiscally and economically responsible and follow the state guidelines. The intent is not to shut the program down but restructure it.

Ms. McDaniel stated she feels Asher has been poorly marketed and has been a failure to the staff and the community. It is a needed program downriver.

Ms. Chretien added these are essential programs that make a difference to the community.

Ms. Reed commented that adult education is very important to her. She will look to the treasurer and finance department regarding the loss of 40 FTE's and understanding the budgeting better. She would like to add that to more discussion in the future.

Ms. McLachlan said the FTE count is a blended count and the number reflects FTE's not students.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Kupser, McDaniel, Reed
NO:

EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES

None

INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Estheimer announced a PTO sponsored fundraiser for Shelters custodian "Frank" that will be held at the Grecian Center Feb 2 from 4:30 - 8:00 p.m. A Hungry Howies-Southgate pizza night will take place this evening. Mentioning your students' class at Shelters, they could win a pizza party and a portion of the sales goes to the school.

Dr. Pomponio stated that Mr. Frank is a very special person to everyone at Shelters.

Mr. Green announced Grogan will be having a Little Caesar's pizza kit fundraiser. Grogan's principal, Mr. Wolsek wanted all elementary parents to know their students are invited to Grogan's Movie Night this Friday.

WORK SESSION

Ms. McLachlan gave the board members the professional development form. She explained the procedure for retrieving the form from the website, how to fill it out and who to submit it to.

Dr. Pomponio reminded members there is a New School Board Member Institute on Feb 10 and 11th at the Somerset Inn in Troy. Per policy the 100 series for board members is required in their first year. WCASB is holding a New Board Member Orientation on Feb 9 at RESA in room 250.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Theresa Grzechowski

Andrew A. Green-Secretary
Board of Education

