



REGULAR BOARD MEETING

City Council Chambers

14400 Dix Toledo, Southgate, MI 48195

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

PRESIDENT

REBECCA REED-HALL

VICE PRESIDENT

PAUL C. KNOTT

SECRETARY

DR. DARLENE L. POMPONIO

TREASURER

W. KIRK HAYHURST

TRUSTEES

JASON CRAIG
MARK KREMER
PATRICK OWEN

DATE: January 6, 2015

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Kremer, Owen, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Hainrihar, Pastor, McLachlan

ADMINISTRATION EXCUSED:

The pledge of allegiance was recited.
President Knott read the District Mission and Vision Statement.

OATH OF OFFICE: Jason Craig, Kirk Hayhurst, Mark Kremer, Darlene Pomponio
Rebecca Reed-Hall were administered the Oath of Office
by City Clerk, Jan Ferencz.

ADMINISTRATION

SUPERINTENDENT

LESLIE HAINRIHAR

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

DIRECTOR

THERESA McLACHLAN, C.P.A.

CURRICULUM/FEDERAL

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

JILL PASTOR

HUMAN RESOURCES

DIRECTOR

MARY HILDEBRANDT

REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2014/15-316 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall
that the board approve the January 6, 2015 Regular Board
Meeting Agenda.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Kremer, Owen, Pomponio,
Reed-Hall.

NO:

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD FOR 2015

Mr. Knott read the results of the election: President: Rebecca Reed-Hall
received 4 votes and Paul Knott received 3 votes; Vice President: Paul Knott
received 4 votes and Rebecca Reed-Hall received 3 votes; Secretary: Dr. Pomponio
received 7 votes; Treasurer: Kirk Hayhurst received 7 votes.

Secretary Dr. Pomponio announced the appointments for the year-Parks and
Recreation liaison-Darlene Pomponio; City Council liaison-Rebecca Reed-Hall; MASB
Liaison-Mark Kremer; Wayne County Association of School Boards-Darlene Pomponio;
Legislative affairs-Rebecca Reed-Hall and Darlene Pomponio.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON DISCUSSION OR ACTION ITEMS

None

ATTENTION TO STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

Anderson High School Student Rep Ms. Frank announced that Titan Time is available to help prepare students for next week's exams. Jan. 14th 15th and 16th are half days. Link Crew will have a Coca and Cram session on Jan. 12th and 13th to help prepare Freshmen for finals. Semester 2 starts January 20th.

Anderson High School Rep Mr. Swinehart updated the board on the athletic schedule for the next few weeks. He also congratulated the newly elected board members and new officers for 2015.

Asher Adult Education Rep Mr. Issue wished the board a very Happy New Year on behalf of the students and staff of Asher. He commented on how proud Asher is to have Mark Kremer on the board. Registration for current students is taking place for the winter semester. January graduates are preparing to take their final exams. All January and June graduates will participate in an assembly on April 2, 2015. Staff is preparing for their Professional Development day on Jan 19th; student retention, policy changes and engagement techniques will be a part of the day's activities.

Asher's fall semester will end on January 22nd. Open registration begins Monday January 26th and will continue through Friday January 30th between the hours of 12 and 8 p.m. He wished everyone a good evening.

PRESENTATIONS

Nate Lay, Facilities and Maintenance Director, gave the board an update on the flood that occurred last September. All the work has been completed. The electric in the district that was not covered by our lighting bond is being looked at. Boiler and roof top maintenance is ongoing. He is working with Automated Industries to get technology updates completed so that he can remotely access our buildings instead of paying AI an hourly or weekend fee. Interviews for an assistant will take place at the end of the week.

He found and repaired a snake so we can do that work ourselves instead of incurring that cost from an outside source.

Dr. Pomponio asked about lighting that was on in the buildings over break. Mr. Lay stated that GCA did have employees working during that time. He added that our lights are on motion sensors, but if there are items hanging from the ceiling that move when the heat comes on, that will activate lights.

She also asked about the relocation of GCA workers. Mr. Lay said he is working with GCA to properly staff buildings and align employees to find the right fit for each building. Dr. Pomponio complimented the work of the custodians at Shelters and Grogan.

Mr. Owen asked about the staffing and if we were increasing custodial staff, Mr. Lay stated they are not increasing the numbers just moving staff around to get the most coverage to keep up with the cleanliness and maintenance of our buildings so that the district's and his standards are met.

Mr. Owen asked how close Mr. Lay was on completing the remote technology; he replied approximately 60% there. He will always have access to Automated Industries should he need them. On a recent weekend an issue came up and he was able to make the corrections remotely, eliminating the need to pay someone travel costs and an hourly rate to do the same thing he did via the computer. The days of a boiler man sitting in a building to monitor the system are long gone.

Dr. Pomponio asked about the process of monitoring GCA employees for the purpose of contract renewal with the company. Mr. Lay says he does building inspections in the evening; he reviews the administrator report cards that are submitted to GCA. He and the accounts manager will sit down and discuss the issues. The company and the districts goals are to move forward to achieve better looking buildings. The report cards are at a C+ right now they were at a C- to a D so we are moving in the right direction.

She asked if there was a high turnover rate within GCA. Mr. Lay said there was in the beginning but they are seeing more stability in the employees that are being hired by GCA.

Mr. Hayhurst asked about the flood we experienced and have we found out what we can do to prevent it in the future. Mr. Lay stated we do have issues with expansion joints. Even though we have regular roof maintenance there is no predicting when they will not hold up. Older doors are also an issue and updating these areas will help prevent future problems.

Ms. Reed-Hall asked about the grading scale for GCA. Mr. Lay said the administrators came up with the scale; cleanliness of the building, restrooms and staff feedback go into the overall grade given in a specific building. There is a book in the offices that he looks through for staff comments.

Jill Pastor-Curriculum Director -Gave the board an update on the Allen School Focus Group Quarterly Report. The October Data Dialogue from staff determined areas of need and how best to close the achievement gaps. The following are some of the refined observations made by staff: Demographics-Our free and reduced student population has decreased from 2010 to 2014. The year we became a focus school was the largest increase in free and reduced lunch. Total enrollment has increased over the past several years. In 2014 6% of Allen students missed more than 10 days. Comparative Analysis Data-3rd 4th and 5th grade Reading and Math trends were reviewed. Additional Data-Gender and Economically Disadvantaged-3rd 4th and 5th grade ELA; 4th Writing and 5th Grade Science trends were also reviewed. Possible Solutions-Staff generated were; K-5 adoption of making meaning. Adopt district wide curriculum and include training with adoption. Purchase of hands-on materials to help students meet the new standards. We need a consistent science program and materials.

Other requirements besides looking at the data; Allen has to participate in the Superintendent's Drop-out Challenge. Each building is asked to identify 12 students. Allen identified 14 students for this challenge. 4 are doing a daily check in and check out procedure with a teacher other than their own teacher. 2 students are following the check in, check out procedure but also have a behavior plan in place. 8 students are just on a behavior plan. Other good things happening to decrease the gap; Allen has intensified their multi-tiered system of support known as the RTI Program. There are three interventionists assigned to the building; 1 is assigned to K-1, another to the 2nd -3rd graders and the third one to the 4th and 5th graders.

There are two more required quarterly reports. Continued diagnostic data dialogues; what is learned and what changes will be made as a result. On January 19th the Allen staff will look at the data walks to see if student engagement and higher order thinking are being addressed. Allen also has to continue to update strategies and interventions that are happening during each quarter, and the impact they are having on classroom, building and student achievement. They have to continue to update those students on the drop-out challenge and what was learned, or what practices have changed during this implementation.

Mr. Kremer asked what the desired impact is for the check-in and check-out with a teacher that is not theirs. Ms. Pastor explained the research shows that when there is a significant person in a student's life that shows an interest, students will rise to the occasion and have better success in the classroom.

Usually those students are having challenges at home. Mr. Kremer inquired about the behavior plan. Ms. Pastor said that a student may be having a challenge sitting in a class; so a strategy for that student may be to send them with a "note" to the office just to help them get the "wiggles" out. Other strategies may be more progressive, including sending a student home.

Dr. Pomponio asked about the K-5 resources, if our text books are current and if the request is for new text books or online printable material, such as Brain Pop. Ms. Pastor said our technology department has maintained our license for Brain Pop. Our textbooks are in challenging shape and no new curriculum material has been purchased since she took over in the curriculum department 4 years ago. We have not purchased any materials that are designed for the Common Core, but Ms. Pastor said teachers are using a tremendous amount of free resources from the internet.

Dr. Pomponio asked if there were any licenses for e-text books. Ms. Pastor said we do not have any funds or grant funds that can support that resource. Dr. Pomponio asked if anyone has researched the cost of a license for e-books with more current information. Ms. Pastor said that when we do a textbook adoption, a committee will study the resources and which best fits our standards; that has not been done due to financial issues.

Mr. Hayhurst asked about the achievement gap at the focus school. Ms. Pastor said the focus is to get the bottom 30% to achieve more and close that gap. They have been working on instruction as well as student performance. Ms. Hainrihar said the oddity of the status of a Focus School is that it can be one of the highest performing schools, but the gap will cause it to be a focus school. She added that the reporting and work at Allen is also helping us district wide with achievement. We are replicating the work across the district not just at Allen.

Dr. Pomponio commended Allen teacher, Mr. Piestrak and the 5th grade team for increasing parent involvement through Shutterfly, a resource that posts homework. Ms. Hainrihar stated that other teams at Allen are looking to implement that as well, and district wide the hope is to get those teachers in front of others to share this information.

Ms. Reed-Hall said that her family utilizes online resources teachers make available and it's very helpful for students and parents to stay informed.

DISCUSSION

Finance Report-Ms. McLachlan informed the board the refunding bond is still on schedule. By weeks end the final agreement should be complete and the board will be voting on the resolution at the next meeting prior to the closing on February 5th. She gave the board information from the Michigan Department of Education's quarterly report. The focus was 2013/14 financial data from deficit districts at the end of last school year. There were 57 districts and public school academy's that ended the fiscal year 2014 in a deficit position. This compares to 52 the previous year. Of the 57; 12 districts successfully eliminated their deficit by June 30, 2014. Of those 12, 3 were in Wayne County. 22 reduced their deficit during the year, 8 of those were in Wayne County. Southgate was one of them with the second highest percentage in the decrease in our deficit at 9.32%. 10 districts increased their deficit during the year and 21 began with a positive fund balance but ended their year with a deficit. The MDE report also includes verifying with the state they are meeting all their requirements as far as what they have to do with the districts, with an emphasis on the fact it is the districts responsibility to make the decision on how they are going to eliminate their deficit.

Superintendent's Report- Ms. Hainrihar welcomed and congratulated the new board. She said she has worked with most of them, her transition period is officially over-it is a new year and she is excited to get started on it.

CONSENT

2014/15-317 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott the board approve the December 16, 2014 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Owen, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

NO:

ABSTAIN: Kremer

2014/15-318 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott the board Approve the December 2014 Disbursements

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Owen, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

NO:

ABSTAIN: Kremer

ACTION

2014/15-319 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Mr. Knott the board approve the addition of the Women's History course to the Social Studies curriculum at Anderson High School.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Owen, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

NO:

ABSTAIN: Kremer

2014/15-320 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Mr. Knott the board approve the out of state trips for Winter Guard Competition.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Kremer, Owen, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

NO:

ABSTAIN:

EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES

None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mr. Daniel Mitchell 15646 Poplar, a 1986 graduate from Southgate Anderson, addressed the board with his concerns regarding policy at AHS. His hope is that we focus on encouraging kids to succeed.

Ms. Karen George 12265 Manor Drive, Southgate City Councilwoman, congratulated the board and Mr. Kremer our newest and youngest board member and thanked them for their service.

INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Kremer thanked his family and friends and his fellow board members for their support.

Mr. Hayhurst reminded everyone about the article in the Free Press regarding the Charter Schools in Michigan and the bad report card they received. The Michigan State School Board was charged with establishing some controls and guidelines and as of yet that has not happened. The for profit charter schools have the biggest problems. He asks everyone to continue pressure on Lansing to apply the restrictions and controls on the charter schools that use the state money just as the restrictions and controls fall upon us.

Dr. Pomponio thanked the voters who supported her as well as the parents and leaders for their continued support.

Ms. Reed-Hall welcomed everyone back, and reminded parents to dress their children for the weather and for high school students to take it slow in the snowy weather.

WORK SESSION

Ms. Reed-Hall informed the viewing audience the board would be moving into a work session at 8:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

2014/15-321 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott the board adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Kremer, Owen, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

NO:

Dr. Darlene Pomponio-Secretary
Board of Education

