



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**City Council Chambers**

**14400 Dix Toledo, Southgate, MI 48195**

**BOARD OF  
EDUCATION**

PRESIDENT

DR. DARLENE L. POMPONIO

**DATE: May 9, 2017 -7:00 p.m.**

VICE PRESIDENT

JASON CRAIG

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Craig, Estheimer, Green, Pomponio, Reed

**BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Freitas, Kupser

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:** Chretien, McLachlan, Pastor

SECRETARY

ANDREW A. GREEN

**ADMINISTRATION EXCUSED:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Dr. Pomponio read the District Mission and Vision Statements.

TREASURER

JASON R. KUPSER

**REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Mr. Green asked for revisions to the agenda. Ms. Chretien had one correction to Action Item #1-It should read Beacon not Transitions out-of-state field trip.

2016/17-145 A motion was made by Mr. Estheimer supported by Mr. Craig, the board approve the revised agenda.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Pomponio, Reed

NO:

**ADMINISTRATION**

SUPERINTENDENT

LESLIE CHRETIEN

**CITIZENS COMMENTS ON DISCUSSION OR ACTION ITEMS**

Laurie Passalacqua-parent of a Fordline student addressed the board in support of Action Item #5, the purchase of new wood chips for the districts playgrounds. She asked the board to support this, for the safety of the district's students.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

DIRECTOR

THERESA MCLACHLAN, C.P.A.

Andy Schiappacasse-Principal at Fordline, asked the board for their support and approve Action Item #5-replacement of wood chips on the playgrounds for the safety of the students. Often kids cannot utilize the playground equipment at recess, because the current surface is so deteriorated.

CURRICULUM/FEDERAL

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

JILL PASTOR

Ms. Schiappacasse read an email from parent-Liz Claywood, also asking the board to support and approve Action Item #5.

DIRECTOR OF

HUMAN RESOURCES

GERARD L. MORIN

Annie Carter-addressed the board asking for their support as she seeks election to Wayne RESA Board of Education.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Asher School Improvement: Len Samborski-Director, Wendy Grzych-Asher Academic Advisor and School Improvement Committee Chairperson and Dawn Izzi-Asher Academic Advisor and member of the School Improvement Committee, presented the board with Asher's School Improvement Plan report. Goals: to increase growth in Reading and Algebra-measured by pre and post SIP assessments and TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education). Improve student retention-measured by student enrollment counts at the beginning and end of each semester.

Progress toward goals: Teachers, advisors and social workers regularly contact students/parents/guardian regarding absences in an effort to encourage regular attendance and/or offer support to get students to school. Systematic Tier II interventions through Asher Support and Guided Academics are in place. More Selective registration protocol-consider cohort status, past attendance, behavior and academic success are taken into consideration when registering students.

Evidence of progress: Pre and Post testing results in reading and math are showing some growth. Student retention has also increased. The graduation rate last year was not good, this year's graduation rate data will be compared to see if improvement was made.

Asher has been designated a Priority School due to low test scores and low graduation rate. The Transformation Plan includes; implementing strategies to keep students on track toward graduation through career planning and post-secondary opportunities. The 5D+ Evaluation is working to improve instruction and prepare students for standardized testing. Phone calls to students prior to testing to get them to school on that day has been successful. Testing by grade instead of age makes for a much smaller group to capture and manage.

To help achieve goals: Director gives clear staff expectations, implementation of 5D+, inclusion in district wide professional development, increased post-secondary opportunities, increased community partnerships, increase participation in the MME testing and better student retention.

Changes for next year: Schedule changes so classes meet more frequently, the Asher calendar will align with the district calendar for more effective utilization of district resources, offering more classes to build basic skills in order to prepare and support students for the Michigan Merit Curriculum. Provide incentives for retention and completion such as career planning. More focus on the bottom 30%, which are students that score 4<sup>th</sup> grade or lower on math and reading.

Success stories: Ms. Grzych shared the comments from a soon to graduate Asher student that complimented the staff for her positive experience at Asher, she will be the first in her family to graduate with a high school diploma and she thanked Asher faculty and staff for helping her reach that goal.

Mr. Green commented and complimented the staff for their hard work on the School Improvement and restructuring plan that was approved by the State.

Dr. Pomponio asked about the test scores. Ms. Grzych commented there are still students that need to be tested.

Ms. Chretien commented on the growth rate and improvement at Asher and it should be celebrated. Even though Asher may not be where they want to be, she is extremely pleased with their progress.

Beacon School Improvement: Jennifer Hill-Principal and Matthew Lucas-Assistant Principal presented their school improvement plan to the board. Goals: to assist students to be socially and emotionally stable, in order to engage in curriculum on the appropriate grade level. Reading, Math and Writing continue to be the core of their focus.

Test results for grades K-3, 4-5, middle and high school were reviewed showing percentage of increase in achievement. At the high school level there has been a 71% drop in failure rate due to the implementation of MLA and Guided Academics. Through the cooperation with the teachers bargaining unit Beacon was able to do some creative things for the MLA (mandatory lunch assistance). Guided Academics was modeled after a class that Mr. Lucas taught in Oakland County.

Changes for 2017/18: Looking at the implementation for traditional classrooms for student K-3. Combining the Upper and Lower Secondary to make a true high school setting-academically. Implement intensive training for PBIS and Social Learning to become a cohesive school. Continue to celebrate students and staff accomplishments on a larger scale. Improve relationships with Universities to foster possible high caliber candidates for teaching positions. Continue to strengthen relationships with community services for our students and their families (UMS, MRS, Guidance Center, Starfish Counseling etc...).

Achieving goals: Positive partnerships with area organizations-UMS, sending district, Wayne RESA, MRS, PBIS implementation, high achieving teachers who are accelerating at the growth model of 5D+. Externally and internally motivated students that take ownership in their learning. Attentive building and district administrators and school board.

Beacon Points of Pride: Gabrielle Popp and Hayley Cameron were presenters at the National Council for Exceptional Students this past winter in Grand Rapids. They presented the Social Learning Program to other Special Education teachers. Gabrielle Popp was awarded, on April 24, 2017, the Fulbright Distinguished Teacher Award. She will be going next February to New Zealand to participate in an exchange program, she will submerge herself in a self-contained, emotional impaired building to see what they are doing in that country. She is one of 35 U.S. citizens awarded this scholarship this year. She also was awarded a fellowship this summer where she will be studying African American culture and hip hop in Connecticut. Jill Ross was chosen 2017 DTE Teacher of the Year. DTE selects two teachers to receive this award, through UMS.

Social Learning and PBIS: Guides students and staff, common Social Learning and PBIS language throughout the school allows smooth transitions between grade levels and consistency. In order to make the Social Learning and PBIS work, every student earns points they are able to spend in the store, which helps to keep students engaged academically and behaviorally. Mr. Lucas helps keep the store stocked with the help of a small budget as well as asking district staff members for donations.

PBIS committee and conferences ensure we are up to date in our practices. Restorative justice conferences have been attended; includes alternatives to suspension. There is a decrease in fights and suspensions and a significant decrease in suspensions of 10+ days.

Discussion took place about the growth model used at Beacon and the graduation requirements for the 22 districts Beacon serves. These requirements present many challenges.

#### **ATTENTION TO STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

None

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Anti-Bullying-Dr. Pomponio-Met April 25, and discussed the informational meeting that will be held May 30 at DMS, 6:00p.m. Future meetings will be held first Thursday of the month at 4:30p.m. The need for continued awareness in buildings to talk about anti-bullying and no tolerance for bullying. Next meeting will be held May 18 at 4:30 p.m.

Finance-Ms. McLachlan-met April 26. Discussed lease agreement with the Guidance Center, developing a dashboard on the website for how the millage money is spent. New business; developing a plan for a one time stipend for non-represented employees, this will come before the board at the next meeting. Board needs for professional development will be addressed at tonight's work session. Next meeting May 24.

Policy-Dr. Pomponio-Policies were reviewed, there are revisions for action on tonight's agenda. Discussed the annual reporting from departments in the district and the need to update the master calendar. Regular meetings of this committee will take place on the first Thursday of the month at 5:30p.m.

Legislative -Rebecca Reed-reviewed current legislation being introduced regarding Title 2A funds and the potential cuts to that funding. Next Meeting May 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Curriculum-Dr. Pomponio-discussed a curriculum and resource adoption calendar. Many areas need updating. Staff are welcome to attend this committees meetings. May 25 is the next meeting. Ms. Pastor is a standing member.

Personnel-Will meeting May 16 at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Green is the Chairperson.

Grounds & Maintenance-Appointment of committee members will be announced.

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

## DISCUSSION

Finance- Ms. McLachlan attended the annual Michigan School Board Officials meeting in Lansing, she met with vendors and attended seminars that included forecasting models that help with enrollment projections as well as learning about the new sinking fund law. Three other officials attended: Barb Wilson our Accountant completed her Business Office Manager certification. Food Director-Dan Connors, completed the Child Nutrition Certification and Nate Lay-Facilities Manager began his Facilities Director Certification Program.

Curriculum-Ms. Pastor had no report.

Superintendent-Ms. Chretien had no report.

Board President Update-Dr. Pomponio noted the board met earlier and established four board goals which will go to action at the next meeting.

## CITIZENS COMMENTS

Beth Altizer-Parent of Southgate students expressed her appreciation for our staff and how pleased she is with the district's teachers, during this Teacher Appreciation Week.

## CONSENT

2016/17-146 A motion was made by Mr. Green supported by Mr. Craig the board approve consent items L-1, L-2 and L-3.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Pomponio, Reed

NO:

## ACTION

1. Ms. Chretien stated this is a field trip to the Toledo Zoo for the Beacon Program. She supports this trip.

2016/17-147 A motion was made by Mr. Craig supported by Mr. Estheimer, the board approve the May 25, 2017 out-of-state field trip to the Toledo Zoo for the Beacon Program.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Pomponio, Reed

NO:

2. Ms. Chretien stated this field trip is to Imagination Station, the former Co-Sci Center, in Toledo. She highly supports this trip.

2016/17-148 A motion was made by Mr. Estheimer supported by Mr. Green, the board approve the May 17, 2017 out-of-state field trip to the Imagination Station in Toledo Ohio for the Grogan grade 1 classes.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Pomponio, Reed

NO:

3. Board Policy 1210: Dr. Pomponio stated there was a review of this policy and it came to the committees' attention the line that is being requested to be deleted contradicts the main role of the board. The board is the body which originates and directs the policy to the district which includes the superintendent. Therefore the superintendent cannot be the sole individual to state whether a policy is created or updated. The committee is recommending the deletion of the highlighted sentence in Policy 1210.

Ms. Chretien concurred with this recommendation.

2016/17-149 A motion was made by Mr. Green supported by Mr. Craig, the board accept the elimination of the highlighted section of Board Policy 1210.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Pomponio, Reed

NO:

4. Guidance Center Lease: Ms. McLachlan said the current lease with the Guidance Center that currently utilizes 100% of the Northpointe building for their program, expires in June of 2018. There is a provision in section 27 of the lease agreement for an extension of one 5 year period to extend the lease at the tenant's option. The board received a letter of intent the Guidance Center would like to continue leasing the Northpointe building for the next five years. The finance committee has been discussing this topic in their meetings and Ms. McLachlan has done research on leases in the area, but there is nothing really comparable to the size of that building. Our lease is on the low side but since July 1, 2013 the Guidance Center has put in over \$300,000.00 of improvements, when this tenant leaves these stay with the building. They are a very good tenant and pay on time. They are responsible for maintenance and custodial services for the building. It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee the board approve a lease extension for one additional 5 year period. The income this generates goes into our General Fund- of approximately \$170,000.00.

2016/17-150 A motion was made by Mr. Green supported by Mr. Craig, the board renew the lease agreement with the Guidance Center for the Northpointe building for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023 at the same terms and conditions of the current lease.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Pomponio, Reed

NO:

5. Wood Chips: Ms. Chretien introduced Nate Lay to explain the current condition and evaluation of the playgrounds. Bids were requested for this work. Old chips will be removed new weed block will be installed, these chips are manufactured especially for playgrounds. Code requires a certain depth and a certain kind of wood chip on a fall surface, we are not meeting this standard currently. Discussion took place about the life expectancy of the manufactured wood fiber and when the installation will take place.

2016/17-151 A motion was made by Mr. Craig supported by Mr. Estheimer, the board approve the \$45,430.00 purchase of playground safety grade woodchips from Raupp Brothers.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Pomponio, Reed

NO:

6. Board Technology: Dr. Pomponio stated the board has had meetings to discuss the options of getting computers/chrome books or laptops for board members for meetings. Discussion took place as to whether the vote should wait for a full board in attendance. Board members shared their thoughts on where the computers would be stored, the necessity for them and the costs involved.

2016/17-152 A motion was made by Mr. Estheimer supported by Mr. Green the board approve the purchase of board computers.

*Roll call vote was taken:*

YES:

NO: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Pomponio, Reed

*Motion failed.*

7. Board Compensation: Dr. Pomponio stated the policy committee reviewed and established guidelines and additional language with the attendance policy, follow up work was completed in the policy committee as discussed in the board meetings. The final policy committee recommendation is in the current motion. Ms. McLachlan gave the board members financial information that goes with this change.

2016/17-153 A motion was made by Mr. Green supported by Mr. Estheimer, the board amend the board compensation as written to increase the board compensation to \$2850.00 per year for each school board member the language in the current compensation for payroll will eliminate the cap on the 2-meeting minimum for the board president with all current language still in place and valid. *Revised to read a cap of 4 meetings.*

Discussion took place about the additional financial costs. Ms. McLachlan explained the difficulty in budgeting with an unknown number of meetings. The board compensation form was reviewed and when those forms need to be completed and turned in for payroll. Board members inquired about the type and number of meetings they would be compensated for. The figures that came from committee were questioned as well as the possibility of having more meetings that would go over the cap and how this affects the budget. This motion removes the 10% concession that was imposed during the deficit as well as increases the board's compensation and establishes language for a cap on meetings. Lengthy discussion ensued over the cap on the meetings board members attend as well as the setting of policy for the board.

Restated motion: 2016/17-153 The motion was re-stated by Mr. Green:

The board accept the revisions for the board compensation are completed. The board will release the 10% cut they had taken for several years bringing their board compensation backup to \$2,500 per year. The adjustment for changes over the five-year period including reorganization of duties and responsibilities shall bring the current stipend to \$2850 per year for each board member. The language in the compensation for payroll will eliminate the current potential on the 2 meeting minimum for the board president. All current language is still valid.

*Roll call vote was taken:*

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Pomponio, Reed

NO: Green

### **EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES**

None

### **INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Estheimer announced the Color Run at Shelters was a successful event, over 200 runners were involved. This is their number one fundraising event that supports many events, activities and educational support for the students for the entire year. Staff, students and DMS National Junior Honor Society members were thanked for their support. PTO meeting will be held on Thursday, M-Step testing is currently taking place. Fordline 3<sup>rd</sup> grade M-Step today and tomorrow. Chuck E. Cheese Nite is May 11, 2017-3:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. May 17<sup>th</sup> is Art & Writing Night. Fordline Carnival will be held June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. May 22<sup>nd</sup> is Fordline's Spring Concert held at AHS.

Mr. Green commended the Grogan staff, Reading Specialists and Mr. Wolsek on a successful Camp Read-A-Lot. This was phenomenal event which brought in police officers, the PTO and others. A book fair was also held that night. It shows how great our teachers are, we are moving forward in a positive direction.

Ms. Chretien commented on Teacher Appreciation Week and that it is a good time to reflect on a teacher that has made a difference in our lives and to reach out and thank that person.

Dr. Pomponio commented on the recent DMS trip to Washington D.C., the students represented Southgate very well. The teachers were organized and kept the students well behaved. A meeting for the upcoming year for Marching Band Parents will be held May 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. in the DMS Media Center.

### **WORK SESSION**

1. Board Professional Development: Ms. McLachlan gave the board a summary of the board's professional development budget and actual expenditures for the school years 12/13 through 16/17. As she begins to prepare next year's budget she wanted to have discussion with the board as to what their needs would be. Discussion took place about the required classes for board members and the need to have funds budgeted to meet those requirements. Questions were raised regarding the set amount in the budget and the need for board policy to be adopted where the board would vote on any changes to that budget. Discussion took place about the approval of the budget and moving money into the budget as needed for training. Board members discussed the amount of \$7700 they would like in the budget to cover the classes needed. Unspent money does not roll over to the next year, the board would begin a new year with \$7700 in their budget. If the amount was not enough for one year, the budget would be

amended and voted on with the additional amount of money. An annual review of the board professional development budget will take place.

2. 2017 Millage Funds: Ms. Chretien asked if we could postpone this work session item until May 16 when a full board would be present to discuss. All members concurred.

Dr. Pomponio announced the May 31st meeting to discuss the millage money has been cancelled, and that item will be discussed in a work session at the May 16<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

2016/17-154 A motion was made by Mr. Green supported by Mr. Estheimer the board adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Green, Pomponio, Reed

NO:

*Respectfully submitted by: Theresa Grzechowski*

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Andrew A. Green-Secretary  
Board of Education



















