

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

November 14, 2011

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE

A regular meeting of the Board of Education for the Rochester Community Schools, Rochester, Michigan was held on Monday, November 14, 2011, in the Rochester Community Schools Administration Center, 501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan. President Barb Cenko called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECORD ROLL

Members Present: Barb Cenko, Jennifer Berwick, Gerald Moore, Beth Talbert, Marty Sibert, Chuck Coutteau

Members Absent: Lisa Nowak with notice

Others Present: Fred Clarke, Geraldine Moore, Beth Davis, Anne Evans, Debbie Hartman, Lori Hartnell, Irene Larson, Jeff Mozdierz, Sandra Srabian, Deb Walter, Sharon Bienkowski, Marsha Shaw and approximately 125 visitors.

Mrs. Cenko welcomed audience members to the meeting and reminded the community of the ways in which they could participate in the meeting and/or contact the Board of Education.

ACADEMIC SPOTLIGHT – Delta Kelly Elementary Outdoor Education/Science Program

Delta Kelly Elementary staff Andrea Blake, Wendy Campbell, Mary Conley-Belote, Michael Gittner, Jeff Gehm, Alexis Schwarz, Carol Wrobbel, principal, Sharon Bienkowski and 5th grade students presented on their positive experiences at Camp Michindoh.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Secretary of the Board of Education

Mr. Moore informed those in attendance that according to Bylaw 0160, when sending letters and/or electronic communications to the Board of Education, the sender's name and address need to be included in order to be referenced at a meeting. Anonymous letters and electronic communications addressed to the Board will not be referenced at meetings. Also, personal or personnel matters will not be referenced or made public in the communications binder in accordance with privacy laws.

Mr. Moore shared the following communications that the Board of Education received since the prior meeting: Amy Rowan Heitman regarding redistricting; Kristen Evans regarding district-wide recycling; Wendy Treichel concerned with overcrowding on district busses; Doug Hill acknowledging American Education Week; Jeannie Morris related to transportation concerns; Juliann DiTommaso, Nicole Ansari and Jacquelynne Alizadeh with concerns regarding reductions to the media specialists' positions; and Barbara Pacella regarding a student petition on the importance of recycling.

B. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda – None

C. Student Representatives to the Board of Education

Theresa Knapp, student representative from Stoney Creek High School, shared information about activities taking place since the previous Board meeting which included: canned food drive the Theatre Department performances of Jekyll and Hyde, and the NHS Children's Book Drive.

Leah Mazzara, student representative from Rochester High School, shared information about activities taking place since the previous Board meeting which included: canned food drive, penny war between the four classes, a bake sale, blood drive, the upcoming performances of Annie Get your Gun, recycling drive to collect computers and electronics; senior t-shirts are on sale, and motivational speaker, Michael Fallon, who spoke to the freshman class.

Dale Merza, student representative from Adams High School, shared information about activities taking place since the previous Board meeting which included: canned food drive, charities week to benefit the Grace Center in Pontiac, Homecoming Dance-Part 2, a blood drive, and the basketball tryouts this week.

D. Members of the Board of Education

Mrs. Cenko received a communication from Georgiana and Tim Antonelli about the 5th grade Camp Michindoh trip at Delta Kelly.

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS – Board of Education Visionary Leadership Award

Mrs. Hartman informed those in attendance that the Rochester Community Schools Board of Education was awarded the "Visionary Leadership Award" from the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) at their conference in October. Mrs. Hartman shared that this award is based on the "Nine building blocks to student achievement".

Mrs. Talbert commented she and Mrs. Berwick received many compliments on winning this award, but stressed that this award is due to the work that our district does. The Board can only provide leadership, but this award represents the work of our district that is done by the teachers, staff and administrators.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the following consent agenda items:

Moved by: Mr. Sibert

Supported by: Mr. Coutteau

- A. Approve the Current Bills payable for October 2011 in the amount of \$2,734,481.79.**
- B. Approve the Board of Education Closed Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2011.**
- C. Approve the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2011.**

Motion carried: 6-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. District Goals and Performance Objectives (Action Item) Mr. Clarke

A motion was made to approve the District Goals and Performance Objectives as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Sibert

Supported by: Mr. Berwick

Mr. Clarke reviewed the Operational Plan of the District and the 6 Goals that were put forward by the Board in collaboration with the Administration, and the objectives that followed each goal.

Brief discussion followed to clarify what will happen next with the strategic planning goals. Mr. Clarke responded that many of those strategic planning goals have been infused into this document, and administration has been working hard to merge these two documents. There will be action plans for nearly every one of the 54 objectives.

Motion carried: 6-0

REPORTS

A. Human Resources Recommendations (Action Item) Ms. Davis

Ms. Davis, Executive Director of Human Resources, presented the following recommendations:

NEW TEACHER HIRES

Joseph Zagula, Art Teacher, Hamlin Elementary

RESIGNATION

William Mull, Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs

A motion was made to approve the Human Resources Recommendations as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Coutteau

Supported by: Mr. Moore

Motion carried: 6/0

B. Advanced Placement Honor Roll (Informational Item) Mr. Clarke

Mr. Clarke shared that a letter was received by the College Board informing the district that Rochester Community Schools is 1 in less than 400 schools that is being placed on the AP Honor Role. This means that we received recognition for increasing access to AP course work while students are maintaining a 3 or higher AP test scores over a three year period, and that the district is experiencing an increase in Black, Hispanic, and American Indian students enrolling in AP classes.

Mrs. Cenko commented that this honor is a testament to our staff and students.

C. Legislative Update (Informational Item) Mr. Clarke / Mrs. Talbert

Mrs. Talbert shared information on: House Bill 4163 is the alternative to the Senate Bullying bill. It is expected to pass without modification in the senate. This leaves the specifics of the policy up to the individual districts.

Senate Bill 637 requires each district to give students the opportunity to cite the Pledge of Allegiance on a daily basis, and requires that a flag be present in every room where students are taught.

Senate Bill 169, known as the Parent Empowerment Package, could allow a child to graduate without ever stepping foot into a school building.

Mr. Clarke shared information on: Senate Bill 618 is the Senate portion of the Parent Empowerment Bills. There aren't enough accountability structures put in place with these laws. This can cause issues with Charter School companies, and has caused issues in other states that have had similar laws in place.

The House Education Committee is now being chaired by Tom McMillan. Because of the changes, they are putting a recess on the House Education Committee to allow more people to testify about the particular issues. There are a lot of changes in Education; things are moving very quickly.

D. Professional Development Update (Informational Item) Mrs. Moore

Mrs. Moore, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, shared information on the types of professional development that recently took place. Elementary schools had building only professional development, middle schools and high schools had district professional development in the morning and at the building in the afternoon.

Mr. Sibert thanked Mrs. Moore for the thorough report, and added that he would like to see the new Board of Education have a Study Session on Professional Development.

Mr. Moore asked if the Board could talk about Professional Development and relate it to the specific Goal or Objective that it is linked to.

Mrs. Cenko asked if we are offering more focused Professional Development for AP Teachers. Mrs. Moore responded that they do get together and discuss AP classes. Training is offered in the summer through the College Board.

Mrs. Cenko also asked if we are still doing co-teaching, which we are. And if staff that teach in different subjects are receiving PD in those areas. Mrs. Moore said they look at what is being discussed during a PD session, and often get together before the school year starts.

Ms. Colleen Winkler, AP Comp and Literature teacher at Adams High School, stated that there is not time during PD for AP teachers to get together. They make time on their own. She would like to see the district set a time aside for the AP teachers to have their own time during Professional Development.

NEW BUSINESS

A. American Education Week Proclamation (Action Item) Mrs. Cenko

A motion was made to approve a proclamation designating November 13-19, 2011 as American Education

Week in the Rochester Community Schools.

Moved by: Mrs. Talbert
Supported by: Mr. Coutteau

Mr. Moore read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing young people with the tools they need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility and equality; and

WHEREAS, by equipping young Americans with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, schools give them hope for, and access to, a productive future; and

WHEREAS, education employees, be they substitute educators, paraeducators, custodians, teachers, bus drivers, media specialists, secretaries or administrators, work tirelessly to serve our children and communities with care and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, schools are community linchpins, bringing together adults and children, educators and volunteers, business leaders, and elected officials in a common enterprise.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Rochester Community Schools Board of Education does hereby proclaim November 13 -19th as the 90th annual observance of American Education Week.

Motion carried: 6-0

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

A. Citizens Present - None

B. Members of the Administration

Ms. Hartnell, Director of Budget and Finance, presented the Student Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Formula Update. Unaudited funding number, which is usually very close, for 2011-12 is 14,991.28, which should give us an increase in revenues.

Mr. Clarke plans to have an orientation for the new Board members within the next month. They will be meeting with several administrators to learn the workings of the district. If the Board approves, Mr. Clarke would like to invite the new Board members to committee meetings and to receive Board correspondence and updates so that they can be acclimated to Board procedures.

At the November 21, 2011 Board meeting, there will be an update on the Strategic Plan Benchmarks for the Instructional Items only. On December 12, 2011, there will be an update on the non-instructional items.

Mr. Clarke also reported on the Superintendent's Coffee that took place last Thursday, November 10. A SchoolMessenger message was sent out to approximately 15,000 people that resulted in about 50 people

attending the coffee at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore. Mr. Clarke collected many thoughts and ideas to share with district administrative staff.

C. Members of the Board of Education

Mrs. Talbert asked if an update on Kindergarten would be given in January. Mrs. Moore stated an update will be presented to the Board on January 19, 2012.

Mrs. Talbert also informed the Board of the MASB Training Days on December 2 and 3, 2011 at Oakland Schools.

During the Chat with the Board, Mrs. Talbert received a blue card from a parent recommending that the district take a look at some of the University library science students for internships in the media centers. Another parent had some concerns about transportation.

Mr. Moore added that Mr. Kent Stiles, a community member, is interested in pulling together more seasoned members of the community to help the district out in terms of classroom activities or any way they can.

Mrs. Berwick asked Board members to look at their calendars for dates for the January Board Retreat.

Mrs. Cenko clarified that the district has not eliminated the Media Specialist positions, and have had no conversations on this item.

Mrs. Cenko also asked for clarification on the Recycling/Waste Hauling Committee's recommendation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming RCS Events

November 15, 2011: Special Board of Education Meeting, Closed Session, 7 p.m.

November 21, 2011: Regular Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m.

November 23-25, 2011: No School / Thanksgiving Recess

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Moved by: Mrs. Berwick
Supported by: Mr. Moore
Motion carried: 6-0

Respectfully submitted:

Marsha Shaw
Recording Secretary

Approved by:


Secretary, Board of Education