

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

July 30, 2012

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education for the Rochester Community Schools, Rochester, Michigan was held on Monday, July 30, 2012, in the Rochester Community Schools Administration Center, 501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan. President Jennifer Berwick called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jennifer Berwick, Beth Talbert, Lisa Nowak, Jane Pierobon, Pat Piskulich, Gerald Moore (via teleconference)

Members Absent: Chuck Coutteau with notice

Others Present: Fred Clarke, Beth Davis, John Stoner, Irene Larson, Anne Evans, Amy Grande, David Pontzious, Rachel Guinn, Kevin Cumming, Charles Rowland, Larry Goralski, John Kelley, Amanda McKay, Mike Dillon, Teresa DiMaria, Marsha Shaw and approximately 6 visitors.

Mrs. Berwick 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.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Secretary of the Board of Education

Mrs. Talbert referenced the following communications to the Board: James Donnelly, regarding Mr. Clarke's announcement; Tricia Pfannes, regarding the RCS Calendar for 2012-13.

B. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda - None

C. Members of the Board of Education - None

REPORTS

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

Ms. Davis, Executive Director of Human Resources, explained the screening and hiring process used and presented the following recommendations:

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM – 8TH GRADE THROUGH ADULT EDUCATION

David Harwell

APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPALS

Catherine Kochanski, Principal, Baldwin Elementary

NEW TEACHER HIRES

Nikki Atchoo, Resource Room Teacher, Hart Middle

Stephanie Barnhart, ECSE/ASD Teacher, Baldwin Elementary

Allison Danielson, Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher, Adams High School
Christine Dorn, Kindergarten Teacher, North Hill Elementary
Sarah Guy, 4th Grade Teacher, Hamlin Elementary
Jill Howard, Kindergarten Teacher, Brooklands Elementary
Cindy Livingston, Elementary Media Specialist
Nicholas Merlo, Math Teacher, Rochester High
Meaghan VanMaele, SXI Teacher, Delta Kelly Elementary
Aleah Walivaara, Language Arts Teacher, Van Hoosen Middle School

Ms. Davis stated that Ms. Kelly Dessy was noted on the agenda as the Principal at Hugger Elementary, but there is a familial relationship at Hugger that needs to be resolved, since there is an issue with Board policy. Mr. Davis asked that this recommendation be tabled until the next meeting of the Board.

Mrs. Berwick thanked the negotiation teams for the tentative agreement that allows the calendar to be available to the public.

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

Moved by: Ms. Nowak

Supported by: Mrs. Pierobon

Ayes: Mr. Piskulich, Mrs. Pierobon, Mr. Moore, Ms. Nowak, Mrs. Talbert, Mrs. Berwick

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Motion carried: 6-0

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2012/2013 School Calendar (Action Item) Ms. Davis

Ms. Davis stated that the Board of Education and the Rochester Education Association have been in negotiations and have reached a tentative agreement regarding the school calendar for the 2012-13 school year, with the first day of school as September 4, 2012. There will be 175 secondary school days, 173 elementary school days, and 184 teacher work days. Holidays follow those set forth in our county calendar. Ms. Davis added that the calendar would be available to the public on the District's website on July 31, 2012.

Mrs. Talbert read the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Rochester Community Schools Board of Education and the Rochester Education Association have reached a tentative agreement regarding a school calendar for the 2012-2013 school year, which school calendar includes a first day of student instruction on September 4, 2012;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Rochester Community Schools hereby adopts and implements that tentatively agreed-to school calendar for the 2012-2013 school year. (See Attachment 1 – Calendar).

A motion was made to approve a resolution to establish the 2012/2013 School Calendar as presented.

Moved by: Mrs. Talbert

Supported by: Mr. Piskulich

Ayes: Mr. Piskulich, Mrs. Pierobon, Mr. Moore, Ms. Nowak, Mrs. Talbert, Mrs. Berwick

Nays: None

Abstentions: None
Motion carried: 6-0

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

A. Citizens Present at the Meeting - None

B. Members of the Administration - None

C. Members of the Board of Education – Mrs. Berwick stated that a transition subcommittee committee will be appointed due to the announcement made earlier this week by Mr. Clarke, Superintendent, regarding a new position possibly being offered to him in another district. Mr. Clarke has not resigned, but the Board is working with him during this transition phase. The subcommittee would work with Mr. Clarke and the Administrative Team so that the District can move forward with an interim superintendent.

Mrs. Berwick shared that the Board has been in contact with School Exec Connect, the search firm that was used when Mr. Clarke was hired. In our agreement with School Exec Connect, there was a one year clause that should the hiring of the superintendent not work out, they would help us with another search. Mrs. Berwick read from the contract with School Exec Connect, indicating that there would be no cost to the District for a new search, with the exception of expenses, if the superintendent were to resign within 12 months of commencing duties. School Exec Connect will honor this provision within a reasonable latitude beyond the 12 month deadline. Therefore, the District will be working with School Exec Connect as we move forward in that process. Mrs. Berwick asked for Board members that would be willing to serve on the Transition Committee. The committee will consist of Mrs. Berwick, Mrs. Nowak, and Mrs. Pierobon.

Mrs. Berwick stated that if Mr. Clarke were to be selected to a position in another district, the Board would move quickly to name an interim superintendent, and that the Board has given Mr. Clarke a reasonable amount of time to transition to a new position. Mrs. Berwick added that we have a wonderful staff at Rochester Community Schools to move us forward into the new school year, and that there are many new and exciting things happening in Rochester Community Schools.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming RCS Events

August 13, 2012 Board of Education Regular Meeting, Administration Center, 7 p.m.
August 27, 2012 Board of Education Regular / Study Session Meeting, Administration Center, 7 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT


A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Moved by: Ms. Nowak
Supported by: Mrs. Talbert
Ayes: Mr. Piskulich, Mrs. Pierobon, Mr. Moore, Ms. Nowak, Mrs. Talbert, Mrs. Berwick
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Motion carried: 6-0

Respectfully submitted:

Marsha Shaw
Recording Secretary

Approved by


Secretary, Board of Education