

# ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

## BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

August 13, 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, August 13, 2012, in the Rochester Community Schools Administration Center, 501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan. President Jennifer Berwick called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Jennifer Berwick, Lisa Nowak, Jane Pierobon, Pat Piskulich  
Gerald Moore arrived at 7:12 p.m.

Members Absent: Beth Talbert, Chuck Coutteau with notice

Others Present: Fred Clarke, Geraldine Moore, Dan Romzek, Beth Davis, Debbi Hartman, Debi Fragomeni, Dave Harwell, Jeff Mozdierz, Doug Hill, Christine Keener and approximately 18 visitors.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Secretary of the Board of Education** – Ms. Nowak shared the following communications that the Board of Education received since the prior meeting: Joshua Raymond regarding Focus Schools; Ellen Carlson regarding high school transcripts; Keith Warnick regarding the MASB Board of Directors; and the following 46 people (parents and staff members) communicated with the Board regarding the Hugger Elementary Principal position: Ryan Blackwell, Kristin Truelove, Mellissa Decker, Erin Bates, Susan Schlaf, Sam (Dana) Getsinger, Gail Davidson, Joe Conrad, Karen Darcy Campbell, Christina Schultz, Christa Morrill, Jenna Fischetti, Joy Yokes, Dee Mead, Pam McDonnell, Allison Howard, Tiffany Dupras, Jackie Brandenburg, Linda Morris, Louise McCarty, Julie Mize, Leanne Zanlungo, Amy Baisley, Tom PLOTzke, Lindsey Grupczynski, Shari Vandebussche, Betsy Flemming, Shelby Desjardins, Marnie Adams, Diane Collins, Meghan Timko, Erika Cooke, Sandy Blake, Heather Dzurko, Jennifer Graessle, Julie Parks, Nagham Askar, Beth Woodward, Tiffany Patzer, Shannon Johns, Stacey Wolfe, Holly Swanson, Kim Kusterer, Francesca Finazzo, Sharon Bostwick, and Katie McReynolds.

**B. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda** – Dr. Harwood addressed the Board regarding the superintendent search process.

**C. Members of the Board of Education** – Mr. Piskulich shared that he received a call from Louis Gallien, Dean of Education at Oakland University, regarding the superintendent transition period.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made to approve the following Consent Agenda items as presented.

- A. Approve the Current Bills Payable for July 7, 2012 thru July 27 2012 in the amount of \$5,394,047.09.**
- B. Approve the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of July 16, 2012.**
- C. Approve the Board of Education Closed Meeting Minutes of July 16, 2012.**
- D. Approve the Head Start Director's Report for May, 2012.**

Moved by: Ms. Nowak  
Supported by: Mrs. Pierobon  
Motion carried: 4-0

## **REPORTS**

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

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

#### **NEW TEACHER HIRES**

Todd Calcamuggio, Physical Education teacher, Hugger Elementary  
Whitney Cuson, Psychologist, Reuther Middle  
Joseph Galazka, Math/Computer Science teacher, Adams and Rochester High  
Claudia Gerstenberger, Interventionist, McGregor Elementary  
Caitlin Lubinski, Math teacher, Hart Middle  
Cameron McConnell, English teacher, Van Hoosen Middle  
Allison Parliament, Counselor, Reuther Middle  
Alexandrea Surinck, Band/Computer teacher, Van Hoosen Middle

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

Moved by: Mr. Piskulich  
Supported by: Mrs. Pierobon  
Motion carried: 4-0

Mr. Moore arrived at 7:12 p.m.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of July 30, 2012 (Action Item)**

Mr. Coutteau was absent with notice from the Board of Education Regular Meeting of July 30, 2012.

A motion was made to approve the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of July 30, 2012.

Moved by: Mrs. Pierobon  
Supported by: Mr. Piskulich  
Motion carried: 5-0

**B. Approval of Resolution Accepting 2012 Refunding Bond Pricing** (Action Item) Mr. Romzek

Mr. Romzek introduced the district's bond council members Mike Givler, Financial Advisor from H.J. Umbaugh & Associates, and Beverly Bonning, Attorney from The Thrun Law Firm. Presented was Umbaugh's recommendation for acceptance of the bond pricing, along with an acceptance resolution prepared by Attorney Bonning.

A motion was made to approve the Resolution Accepting 2012 Refunding Bond Pricing as presented.

Moved by: Mrs. Pierobon

Supported by: Ms. Nowak

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

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Motion carried: 5-0

**C. Board Policy 6215 Fiscal Planning – Fund Balance** (Action Item, First Reading) Mr. Romzek

Mr. Romzek presented the proposed new Policy 6215 Fiscal Planning – Fund Balance in order to address the implications of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Number 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Definitions*. This policy is created in consideration of unanticipated events that could adversely affect the financial condition of the district. The district was cited by auditors Doeren Mayhew in their 2011 audit comments and recommendations letter stated "that the School District's Board of Education has not formally expressed its intent to delegate the authority to assign fund balance amounts to be used for specific purpose" and they recommended that the Board approve a policy which delegates that authority. This policy was required to be in place for the 2010/2011 year.

The proposed policy was drafted based on the model sample policy recommended by GASB and reviewed by the district's auditors and legal counsel at Clark Hill. In addition, the proposed policy was reviewed by the district's Administrative Center Team and the Superintendent's Business, Operations and Support Committee. The policy defines the types of governmental funds across the district, and further identifies the categories of fund balance that will be reported in these funds. The policy authorizes the Superintendent or designee to assign fund balance annually for the year-end financial reporting, and provides examples of instances where fund balance would be assigned.

A motion was made to approve the first reading of the Proposed New Board Policy 6215 Fiscal Planning – Fund Balance.

Moved by: Ms. Nowak

Supported by: Mr. Moore

Board members discussion included clarification of assigning fund balance and other policies identifying purchasing thresholds, spending limits and constraints within the budget. Mr. Romzek identified the following five (5) categories of fund balance: Nonspendable Fund Balance, Restricted Fund Balance, Committed Fund Balance, Assigned Fund Balance, and Unassigned Fund Balance.

A motion was made to table the item until the next regular meeting.

Moved by: Mr. Piskulich

Supported by: Mrs. Pierobon

Motion carried: 5-0

**D. Reward and Focus Schools Update (Informational Item) Mr. Clarke**

Mr. Clarke presented information regarding the new designations from the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) related to Top to Bottom ranking and the gap between high and low achievement scores in a particular building.

Board members discussion included safe harbor threshold, funding, transportation, staffing needs, and achievement gaps.

Susan Gerrits, parent, shared concerns regarding focus schools including transportation funding, and the drop out challenge.

**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

**A. Citizens Present at the Meeting**

Gail Davidson, teacher at Hugger Elementary, addressed the Board regarding the Hugger principal placement process.

Mrs. Berwick shared that the Board has heard from some of the Hugger staff members and parents regarding the process for appointing a principal to Hugger Elementary. The Board does appreciate this input, the decision regarding this particular appointment has been made in compliance with Board Policy 3120, which states that an employee may not evaluate or supervise a family member. This policy, which was originally adopted in 1970 and was revised as recently as 2007, represents best practice in both the public and private sector and is in place for the protection of both the employee and the supervisor. The Board appreciates the administration's actions in complying with the policy and does not believe there is sufficient justification for changing it or making an exception.

Superintendent Clarke has informed the Board that the administration is working on a plan to fill the position before the start of the school year and should have more information by the end of the week. Hugger staff and parents will be notified as soon the plans are finalized.

**B. Members of the Administration** – Mrs. Moore shared information about the TEAM Rochester meeting that will take place on Thursday, August 16, 2012, which will include discussion of social justice and the Instructional Team meeting that will take place in the afternoon. Mrs. Moore also shared that she presented at the Michigan Virtual University conference as the key note speaker last Tuesday, August 7, 2012.

**C. Members of the Board of Education** – None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Upcoming RCS Events**

August 27, 2012 Board of Education Regular Meeting / Study Session, Administration Center, 7 p.m.  
September 4, 2012 First Day of School for Students: Half-day K-5 and Full-day 6-12  
September 10, 2012 Board of Education Regular Meeting, Administration Center, 7 p.m.  
September 24, 2012 Board of Education Regular Meeting / Study Session, Administration Center, 7 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

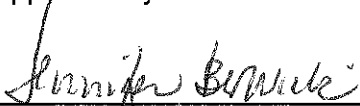
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Piskulich  
Supported by: Mrs. Pierobon  
Motion carried: 5-0

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Keener  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

  
Secretary Board of Education