



ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
March 10, 2014

MINUTES

Call to Order

A Regular Meeting, Open to the Public, of the Board of Education for the Rochester Community Schools, Rochester, Michigan was held on Monday, March 10, 2014, at RCS Administration Center, 501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan 48307. President Lisa Nowak called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members Present: Lisa Nowak, Chuck Coutteau, Mike Zabat, Jane Pierobon, Jennifer Berwick, Pat Piskulich, Beth Talbert

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Robert Shaner, Debi Fragomeni, Dan Romzek, Beth Davis, Debbi Hartman, Michael Behrmann, Anne Evans, Lori Hartnell, Irene Larson, John Stoner, Jeff Mozdierz and approximately 150 visitors.

Ms. Nowak read the following statement: *The Rochester Community Schools Board of Education continues to receive inquiries and comments regarding the status of negotiations with the Rochester Education Association*

The REA contract expired August 15, 2013. Since that time REA members have been working under all provisions of the expired contract including salary and benefits within the parameters of Public Act 54. Public Act 54 prohibits the district from providing any increases to salary including steps or educational lane changes to those who would be eligible, and any increase in benefit costs once a contract expires.

The Board of Education values the dedication and hard work of our teachers. We understand that the REA has a responsibility to represent the best interests of its members. We also understand that the Board has a responsibility to be good stewards of the district's resources and manage them with a commitment to sustainability. We are confident that both parties are working diligently to come to a mutual labor agreement that honors both parties' responsibilities and preserves educational opportunity for all students.

Spotlight on Success

A. Michigan Schools & Government Credit Union

Tina Aleshker, Branch Manager, and Joshua Bennett, Member Service Representative, for the Troy office of the Michigan Schools & Government Credit Union presented \$750 grants to Elizabeth Newman from Van Hoosen Middle School and Jennifer Meldrum from Brooklands Elementary.

B. Virtual Team Challenge

Virtual Team Challenge is a business simulation that is played over the course of several weeks by high school students throughout North America. As a participant in the Virtual Team Challenge, students face business tasks and challenges that simulate the real-world experiences of professional services employees like the people with careers at Deloitte. At this year's competition, business students from Stoney Creek High School took 1st place and each member, the teacher and the school received \$150.00. In addition a \$500 donation on behalf of the 1st place team was donated to United Way of Detroit. Adams High School placed 3rd and each member, the teacher and the school received \$50 and a donation of \$300 was made on their behalf to United Way of Detroit.

Mr. Lebedintsev, CTE/CFE Supervisor, introduced the winning teams which included: Kathleen Ford, teacher, and Stoney Creek High School students Matthew Zaccagnini, Kyle Butler, Brett Sutherland and Calvin Hart. Tom Mavis, teacher, and Adam High School students Hannah Browe, Sydney Pielak and Elektra Taylor.

Communications

A. Secretary of the Board of Education

Mr. Zabat shared the following communications received by the Board of Education since the prior meeting: Luiza Alaniz regarding the Stoney Creek High School Art program; Eric Lohr regarding the expired teacher's contract; JP Stice regarding the current state of negotiations between the Board of Education and the REA; Dino Karagounis regarding the status of teacher contract negotiations; Erin Holden invited the Board of Education to attend the Rochester Community Schools Annual All-City Band Concert on March 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rochester High School gymnasium; and Debrat Sarkar provided a summary of his comments to the Board of Education and Administration on the subject of 21F.

Ms. Nowak received communication from Barb Anness regarding Common Core, Bobby Maldonado regarding donations to teachers and Ramona Johnson regarding speaking in front of the Board of Education.

B. Student Representatives to the Board

Student Representatives from Adams, Rochester, and Stoney Creek high schools shared information about activities taking place at their schools since the previous Board of Education Regular meeting.

C. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda

1. Julie Wright addressed the Board regarding the status of negotiations.
2. Doug Hill addressed the Board regarding the status of negotiations.

3. Jordan Tasich addressed the Board regarding the status of negotiations.
 4. Mike Allore addressed the Board regarding the status of negotiations.
 5. Julie Pardi addressed the Board regarding the issue of oil leases in Rochester Hills.
 6. Cara Loughheed gave Ramona Johnson her three minutes to address the Board. Ramona Johnson addressed the Board regarding the quality of teachers and the status of negotiations.
 7. Michael Lazzo addressed the Board regarding the status of negotiations.
- D. Members of the Board of Education – None

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Current Bills Payable for January 25, 2014 through February 28, 2014 in the amount of \$10,696,161.68.
- B. Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes, February 10, 2014
- C. Board of Education Closed Meeting Minutes, February 10, 2014
- D. Human Resources Report

Moved by: Mr. Piskulich
Supported by: Mr. Zabat
Vote: 7-0

Reports

- A. Strategic Plan Update (Information Item) Dr. Shaner

Each Strategic Planning Committee member introduced themselves, told what constituency they represented, which committee they worked on and then were recognized by the Board of Education and Administration. Dr. Shaner introduced Kay Cornell, facilitator for the first phase of the strategic planning process, who explained how the committee arrived at their goal statements. Members of the Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Global Awareness and the Infrastructure & Technology implementation teams for the goal areas presented their preliminary findings. Ms. Nowak thanked Kay Cornell for her guidance with the Strategic Plan.

- B. Superintendent's Committee Reports (Information Item) Dr. Shaner, Mr. Romzek, and Ms. Davis

Dr. Shaner shared information from the Superintendent's Steering Committee that took place on February 12, 2014. Discussion included the Superintendent's evaluation and millage renewal.

Mr. Romzek shared information from the Superintendent's Business and Operations Committee meeting that took place on March 3, 2014. Discussion included the monthly budget report, 2014/2015 general fund budget projections, the recommended resolution for best practice, update for a proposed AT&T cell tower lease agreement, reviewed a multi-district operations analysis presented by Mr. Stoner and recent traffic flow issues at Adams High School.

Ms. Davis shared information from the Superintendent's Policy and Curriculum Committee meeting that took place on March 3, 2014. Discussion included reviewing the final draft of the Bylaws with Mr. Robert Lusk, attorney, and developing Bylaw guidelines.

New Business

A. Board of Education Work Session Minutes, February 24, 2014 (Action Item) Ms. Nowak

Ms. Nowak, Mr. Zabat and Mrs. Talbert were absent, with notice, from the Board of Education Work Session on February 24, 2014.

A motion was made to approve the Board of Education Work Session on February 24, 2014.

Moved by: Mrs. Pierobon

Supported by: Mrs. Berwick

Abstentions: Mrs. Talbert, Mr. Zabat and Ms. Nowak

Vote: 4-0-3

B. Best Practice Incentive Board Resolution (Action Item) Mr. Romzek

Mr. Romzek presented the recommendation for adoption of the Best Practice Incentive Board Resolution. Section 22F of the 2013/2014 School Aid Act makes \$52 per student state categorical funding available to districts if they demonstrate that they meet any seven (7) of eight (8) designated best practices. The district meets all best practice areas except for the participation in schools of choice programs.

A motion was made to approve the Best Practice Incentive Board Resolution, as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Coutteau

Supported by: Mrs. Talbert

Vote: 7-0

C. Approval of Option Agreement for Sewer Easement at Delta Kelly Elementary (Action Item) Mr. Romzek

Mr. Romzek shared that the district received a request from The Pulte Land Company (Pulte) to grant them an easement for a sanitary sewer line in order to develop a parcel of land across Adams Road from Delta Kelly Elementary School. Pulte has entered into an agreement to purchase the land to develop and construct a residential subdivision containing sixty (60) single family homes. In order to proceed with the development, Pulte must have access to a sanitary system for connection to the development. The closest sewer system is located behind the Delta Kelly Elementary site. In order for the connection to be made, the school district must grant an easement to Pulte to construct a sewer line in the school property and across Adams Road.

The district legal counsel with Clark Hill has been working with Pulte's legal counsel on drafting an option agreement for a sewer easement. The option agreement authorizes the district to execute a sewer easement to Pulte if they proceed with the land purchase. The agreement requires Pulte to pay Rochester Community Schools a \$2,000 non-refundable deposit for the agreement, and another \$9,000 upon completion of the land purchase and execution of the sewer easement. The recommendation is for the Board of Education to approve the Option Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Easement with Pulte Land Company, and authorize the administration to negotiate and execute the final easement agreement terms and conditions, subject to review of legal counsel.

A motion was made to approve the Option Agreement for Sewer Easement at Delta Kelly Elementary, as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Coutteau

Supported by: Mr. Zabat

Vote: 7-0

D. L.L.I. Kits (Action Item) Mrs. Fragomeni and Mr. Romzek

Mrs. Fragomeni, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, shared that over the past several years, the district's elementary Learning Consultants have been utilizing the Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI) Gold System kits to support literacy intervention programs in each of the district's thirteen (13) elementary schools. In previous years the district has used Section 31a At-Risk grant funds to purchase LLI kits for Kindergarten through Third grade students. The district's Learning Consultants have found these materials to be valuable resources. The administration is recommending the purchase of thirteen (13) sets of LLI kits to be used with Fourth grade students at each elementary school in the amount of \$64,187.00 from Hinemann.

A motion was made to approve the purchase of thirteen (13) Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention Gold System kits in the amount \$64,187.00 from Hinemann, as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Piskulich

Supported by: Mr. Coutteau

Vote: 7-0

Additional Business

A. Citizens Present at the Meeting

Mrs. Bueltel, PTA Council President, asked that the dates for the Reflections Ceremony and the Sparkle Awards be included in the Announcements before the summary is sent out.

B. Members of the Administration

Dr. Shaner thanked all the people who participated in the Shake Up Learning Conference, and Parents of Modern Learners presentation. He also thanked Kay Cornell for her facilitation of the Strategic Planning Process. Mrs. Fragomeni complimented the work of the strategic planning committee. She also noted the amazing art done by our students and teachers during the district art show.

C. Members of the Board of Education

Mrs. Nowak shared her experience at the Shake Up Learning Conference and thanked the administration for facilitating this. Mr. Coutteau also attended the event and enjoyed it immensely. Mr. Zabat shared that he spoke with the following individuals at Chat with the Board this evening regarding contract negotiations: Dirk Mammen, resident; Pat Bleucher, para; and Liz Tigue, teacher. Mrs. Pierobon congratulated the district wrestling teams. She also attended the band festival for Hart Middle School. Mrs. Berwick and Mr. Piskulich attended the PTA Founders Day celebration and were impressed by the quality of the event and our amazing volunteers. Mr. Piskulich has been part of judging the IA forensic contest and is impressed by the skill of the students and hopes RCS can start this program. He also reminded residents of Rochester Hills that they can donate their recycling points to University Hills and Meadow Brook Elementary.

Announcements

Upcoming Events

March 11	Evening Parent Conferences, Gr. 9-12 & Post High
March 13	ACE Conferences
March 19	Sparkle Awards, 7:00 P.M., Stoney Creek HS
March 24	7:00 P.M., Board of Education, Work Session, Stoney Creek HS
March 25	Kindergarten Registration at Elementary Schools 6:30 p.m.
March 26	PTA Reflections Award Ceremony, Gallery Walk starts at 6:30 P.M., Stoney Creek HS
April 4	No School K-12 & Post High, Teacher Records
April 7-11	No School, Spring Recess
April 14	7:00 P.M., Board of Education, Regular Mtg., Admin. Ctr.
April 16	Evening Parent Conferences, Gr. K-5
April 18	No School, Good Friday
April 24	Evening Parent Conferences, Gr. K-5
April 28	Author's In April Week
April 28	7:00 P.M., Board of Education, Work Session, Hamlin Elementary

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Piskulich

Supported by: Mrs. Talbert

Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Keener
Recording Secretary

Approved by:


Secretary, Board of Education