



ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
January 13, 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, January 13, 2014, at RCS Administration Center, 501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan 48307. President Beth Talbert called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Robert Shaner, Debi Fragomeni, Dan Romzek, Beth Davis, Debbi Hartman, Carrie Lawler, Michael Behrmann, Anne Evans, Lori Hartnell, Vlad Lebedintsev, and approximately 60 visitors.

Election of Officers

A. Election of President of Board of Education

Moved by Mr. Piskulich that Ms. Nowak be elected as President of the Board of Education.

Moved by Mrs. Berwick and supported by Mr. Coutteau to close nominations for President.

Ayes: Mr. Zabat, Mrs. Pierobon, Mr. Coutteau, Mrs. Berwick, Mr. Piskulich, Ms. Nowak, Mrs. Talbert
Nays: None

Motion carried: 7-0

Ms. Nowak became President of the Board of Education.

B. Election of Vice President of Board of Education

Moved by Mrs. Berwick that Mr. Coutteau be elected as Vice President of the Board of Education.

Moved by Mr. Zabat and supported by Mr. Piskulich to close nominations for Vice President.

Ayes: Mr. Zabat, Mrs. Pierobon, Mr. Coutteau, Mrs. Berwick, Mr. Piskulich, Mrs. Talbert, Ms. Nowak
Nays: None

Motion carried: 7-0

Mr. Coutteau became Vice President of the Board of Education.

C. Election of Secretary of Board of Education

Moved by Mr. Coutteau that Mr. Zabat be elected as Secretary of the Board of Education.

Moved by Mrs. Talbert and supported by Mrs. Pierobon to close nominations for Secretary.

Ayes: Mr. Zabat, Mrs. Pierobon, Mr. Coutteau, Mrs. Berwick, Mr. Piskulich, Mrs. Talbert, Ms. Nowak
Nays: None

Motion carried: 7-0

Mr. Zabat became Secretary of the Board of Education.

D. Election of Treasurer of Board of Education

Moved by Mrs. Talbert that Mrs. Pierobon be elected as Treasurer of the Board of Education.

Moved by Mr. Piskulich and supported by Mr. Zabat to close nominations for Treasurer.

Ayes: Mr. Zabat, Mrs. Pierobon, Mr. Coutteau, Mrs. Berwick, Mr. Piskulich, Mrs. Talbert, Ms. Nowak
Nays: None

Motion carried: 7-0

Mrs. Pierobon became Treasurer of the Board of Education.

Code of Cooperation

A. Code of Cooperation for Conduct among Board Members and Code of Cooperation for Board Conduct with Administrators (Action Item)

Mr. Zabat read the Code of Cooperation for Conduct among Board Members and Code of Cooperation for Board Conduct with Administrators. Each Board member signed the Codes.

Communications

A. Secretary of the Board of Education

Mr. Piskulich shared that the Board of Education received communications regarding the teacher contract from the following individuals: Melissa Reed, Lily Emerton, Kristen Ksoll, Masood Mohammad, Sabrina Thompson, Ellen Lencioni, Susan Badalamenti, Jacquelyn Rank, Craig Rizzi, Jordan Byrne, Gail Hammill, Brenda Vaitkevicius, Luciana Sandschafer Galesi, Rachelle Stephens, Paul Lee, Lorna Adams, Karen and Nick Pfeffer, Mike Reno, Kristen Phillips, Cheryl Jackson, Casey Case, Bailey Compton, Chris DeVantier, Theresa S. Cabalum, Victoria Wolcott, Dino Karagounis, and Dr. Daniel Lawson.

Additional communications that the Board of Education received since the prior Board meeting included: Stephen Iaquaniello regarding the teacher's contract and administrators' compensation; Renee Saleski regarding the Executive Directors compensation information; Lorraine McGoldrick regarding various concerns with the district; Jack Barrow and Shashank Rao regarding the selection of soft drinks in the vending machines at the high schools; Loraine Mazur regarding Stoney Creek High Schools art program; Natalie West regarding grades being updated on my RCS; Cynthia Monaghan regarding the reproductive health materials being recommended for adoption; Vern Ritchie shared concerns regarding equipment maintenance; and Michael Nowland regarding the reproductive health materials being recommended for adoption.

B. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda

Aaron Griffin, student, addressed the Board regarding negotiations with the REA.

C. Student Representatives to the Board

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

D. Members of the Board of Education

Mrs. Pierobon shared that she and Mr. Piskulich spoke with the following individuals at Chat with the Board this evening: Carol Nowland regarding the Health Advisory information; and nine students from Reuther Middle School regarding how much they enjoy their teachers and looking for support for the contract.

Mr. Coutteau shared that he received correspondence from Mr. George Lilley regarding Common Core.

Mrs. Talbert shared that she received correspondence from Carol Nowland regarding the reproductive health curriculum.

Spotlight on Success

1. School Board Recognition Month - January

Mrs. Jolene Plotzke led the Rochester High School Chamber Choir Ladies combined classes in singing four numbers for the Board of Education that they will also be singing at a competition on Saturday, January 18, 2014.

2. 2012 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

The Board of Education recognized Brian Peterson from Musson Elementary.

3. Stoney Creek High School Engineering Students

Mr. Lebedintsev, CTE/CFE Supervisor, introduced Lois Davis, teacher at Stoney Creek High School and students who participated in the U of D Mercy Tech Day Competition.

Consent Agenda

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

A. Current Bills Payable for November 23, 2013 through December 20, 2013 in the amount of \$9,253,498.44.

B. Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes, December 9, 2013.

Moved by: Mrs. Berwick
Supported by: Mr. Zabat
Vote: 7-0

Reports

A. Superintendent's Committee Reports (Information Item) Mr. Romzek

Mr. Romzek shared information from the Superintendent's Business and Operations Committee meeting that took place on January 7, 2014. Discussion included the monthly budget report and the 2013/2014 budget amendment.

B. Superintendent's Report (Informational Item) Dr. Shaner

Dr. Shaner reported on the MLK event on January 12, 2014 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. He also gave an overview of how the district calls a snow day. The district takes instruction very seriously and whenever we can safely hold school we do.

New Business

A. Health Advisory Committee Recommendation (Action Item) Mrs. Fragomeni

Mrs. Fragomeni outlined the process by which the recommendation is made and reviewed the recommendation of the Health Advisory Committee.

Board discussion and questions included clarification on opt in and opt out options, a parent tool kit, sexting, additional resource material, and communication.

Carol Nowland, parent, addressed the Board regarding the adoption of the "Are You Ready?" video.

Suzette Costew, parent, addressed the Board regarding the Health Advisory Committee video adoptions.

Cynthia Monaghan, parent, addressed the Board regarding the Health Advisory Committee video recommendation.

A motion was made to approve the Health Advisory Committee Recommendation as presented at the December 9, 2013 Board of Education Regular Meeting.

Moved by: Mrs. Pierobon
Supported by: Mrs. Berwick
Vote: 7-0

B. 2013/2014 Budget Amendment (Action Item) Mr. Romzek

Mr. Romzek presented details of the 2013-14 Budget Amendment and answered Board questions. The amendment increases the deficit in the adopted budget by approximately \$600,000 due to a combination of revenue and expenditure variances from the adopted budget. This in turn reduces the projected fund balance from 10.5% to 10.1% of expenditures.

Board discussion and questions included fund balance, spending restrictions, capital improvement list, Best Practices funds, budget variance, increasing revenue, financial reporting system, student reporting software, school funding, donor district, and prioritize instruction.

Doug Hill, President of REA, addressed the Board regarding the school budget and finances.

Sarah Macbeth, teacher, addressed the Board regarding the school budget and finances.

A motion was made to approve the 2013/2014 Budget Amendment as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Coutteau
Supported by: Mrs. Berwick
Vote: 7-0

Additional Business

A. Citizens Present at the Meeting - None

B. Members of the Administration

Ms. Davis thanked the Board for their service and provided an update on the progress of negotiations. The Board and REA teams have met three times and have two meetings scheduled.

Mr. Romzek shared his appreciation towards the members of the Board of Education.

C. Members of the Board of Education

Mr. Zabat reported that five Board members attended the School Law & Finance seminar on Saturday January 11, 2014. Mrs. Pierobon reported that all three high school wrestlers placed in competition. Mrs. Berwick asked for an update on the new concussion legislation requirements and training which

was discussed at the seminar. Mrs. Fragomeni explained how RCS has complied. Mr. Coutteau requested the attached School Law & Finance seminar PowerPoint presentation, 'Attachment A,' be included in the minutes. Mrs. Talbert thanked the administration for the gift bag and cookies, and also complimented the MLK event. Mrs. Berwick acknowledged Mrs. Talbert for her leadership and guidance as the Board president.

Announcements

Upcoming Events

January 20	No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 22	Half Day, Gr. 6-12 & Post High - A.M. Exams
January 23	Half Day, Gr. 6-12 & Post High - A.M. Exams
January 24	Half Day, Gr. 6-12 & Post High - A.M. Exams
January 24	No School, Gr. K-5
January 25	8:00 A.M., Board of Education Retreat, Admin. Ctr.
January 27	7:00 P.M., Board of Education, Work Session, Van Hoosen MS

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Piskulich

Supported by: Mr. Zabat

Vote: 7-0

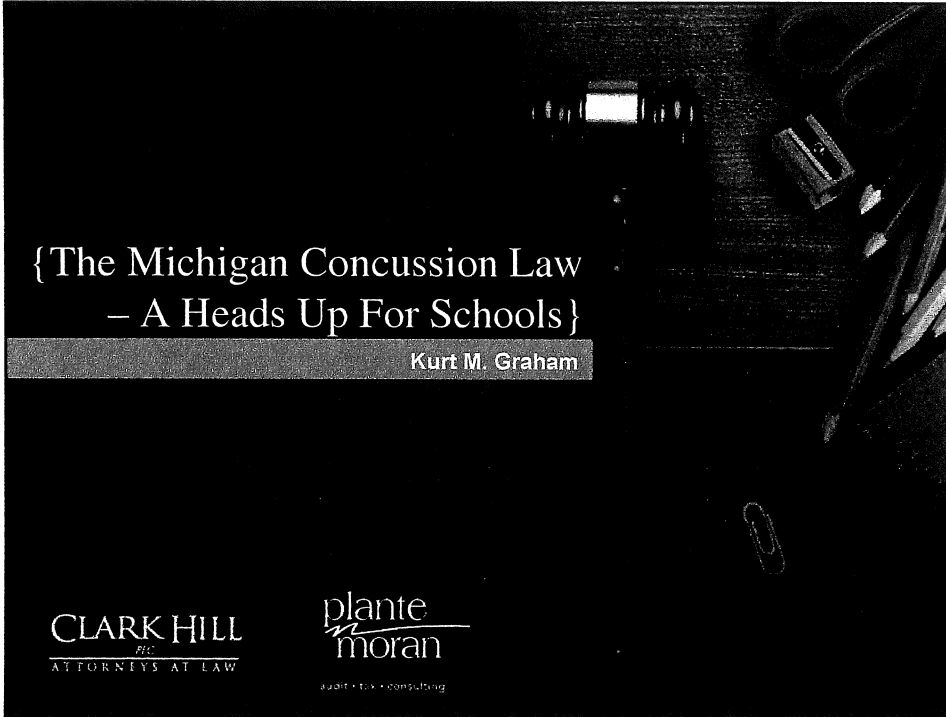
Respectfully submitted:

Christine Keener
Recording Secretary

Approved by:


Secretary, Board of Education

1/7/2014



{The Michigan Concussion Law
– A Heads Up For Schools}

Kurt M. Graham

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A Little About The Law

- In October 2012, Michigan became the 39th state to enact a law that protects young athletes from the consequences of sports concussions
 - Actually, two laws – Public Acts 342 and 343 of 2012
- The law went into effect June 30, 2013
 - Your District should already be complying with it!
- Goals
 - Promote greater awareness of concussions and their consequences
 - Create concussion awareness training program for coaches, adult employees, and volunteers of athletic activities
 - Protections for athletes showing signs of a concussion

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Why Are We Talking About This Law?

- A non-public school, public school, or public school academy are considered an organized entity subject to the law's requirements

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More About The Law

- Defines a concussion as "a type of traumatic brain injury as recognized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A concussion may cause a change in a persons mental status at the time of the injury, including, but not limited to, feeling dazed, disoriented or confused, and may or may not involve a loss of consciousness."
- A concussion may be caused by any type of accident or injury including, but not limited to:
 - A fall
 - A blow, bump, or jolt to the head or body
 - The shaking or spinning of the head or body
 - The acceleration or deceleration of the head

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To What Activities Does The Law Apply?

- Any “athletic activity”
 - “a program or event, including practice or competition, during which youth athletes participate or practice in an organized athletic game or competition against another team, club, entity, or individual. Athletic activity includes participation in physical education classes that are part of a school curriculum.”
 - Field Days
 - Practices
 - Out-of-season camps/clinics

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How Does The Law Work?

- All coaches, employees, volunteers, and other adults involved with an athletic activity must complete a concussion awareness online training program
- A district must provide educational materials on the signs/symptoms and consequences of concussions to each youth athlete and their parents/guardians
 - A district must obtain a signed statement acknowledging receipt of the information by the parent/guardian and athlete
 - A district must retain the athletic statement for the duration of the youth athlete’s participation in the athletic activity or until he/she is 18 years of age

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How Does The Law Work? (cont)

- The law requires immediate removal of an athlete from physical participation in an athletic activity who is suspected of sustaining a concussion
- A youth athlete cannot return to physical activity until an evaluation has been conducted by an “appropriate health professional” who provides written clearance authorizing the youth’s return to physical participation in the athletic activity
 - “A health professional who is licensed or otherwise to engage in a health professional and whose scope of practice includes the recognition, treatment or management of concussions”

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Compliance Resources For School Districts

- The Michigan Department of Community Health has created a webpage with educational materials and information about how to comply with the law
- www.michigan.gov/sportsconcussion
 - Links to the law
 - Sports concussion awareness training
 - Information for coaches
 - Information for parents and students
 - Acknowledgment form and signature sheet
 - Medical clearance form
 - Compliance checklist

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Common Questions

- How often does acknowledgment form need to be completed?
 - Annually? One time sufficient?
- Age limit?
- Are we exempt because the concussion law contains an exemption for MHSAA-sponsored activities?
 - Is the MHSAA concussion protocol “substantially similar or more stringent” than the concussion law?
- What is our potential liability if we violate the concussion law?