



**ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**  
February 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, February 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, Carrie Lawler, Michael Behrmann, Anne Evans, Lori Hartnell, and approximately 140 visitors.

Dr. Shaner, Superintendent, requested a moment of silence in memory of Mark Lane, teacher at Reuther Middle School, who passed away on January 16, 2014.

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

*The Board and the REA have been negotiating since May 2013. The two parties continue to meet and the negotiations are progressing.*

*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 PA 54, which prohibits the district from paying increases in health care costs and step increases to those REA members who would be eligible.*

*The Board of Education values the dedication and hard work of our teachers. We are confident that both parties are working diligently to come to a mutual labor agreement that aligns expenses with revenues and preserves educational opportunity for all students.*

### **Spotlight on Success**

#### A. Van Hoosen Robotics

Mr. Mooney, Principal, and Mrs. Fosnaugh, Assistant Principal, introduced Paul Jakey, Mentor Coach, and the students from the Van Hoosen Robotics Team. Students shared information about building the robotics, tournaments and awards, and most important about having fun and teamwork.

### **Communications**

#### A. Secretary of the Board of Education

Mr. Zabat shared the following communications received by the Board of Education since the prior meeting: Chris DeVantier regarding negotiations; Michael Spehn with concerns about the impact of snow days on after school athletics; Lorraine McGoldrick regarding team teaching; Renee Saleski inquiring about Board qualifications and legislative issues; and Lisa Kowalski regarding security.

#### B. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda

1. Eric Lohr, teacher, shared his concerns about retaining the talent that the district already has.
2. Mike Jamieson, counselor, shared highlights and the dedication of the Hart Middle School staff.
3. Michelle Ingraham, teacher and parent, shared information regarding the quality instruction at Brooklands Elementary and the professional accomplishments of the staff.
4. Robert Ebbole, teacher, shared the benefits of quality teachers and what could be lost without a fair contract.
5. Katie Cloos teacher, spoke on behalf of the Special Education programs located at the Administration building and the post-high programs in the district.
6. Jen Weller, teacher, shared highlights of the staff at University Hills Elementary and a fair agreement with the REA.
7. Matthew Kerstein, teacher, shared concerns regarding the pay step increases and the low morale among elementary teachers.
8. Kim Filips, teacher, highlighted the awards and recognition of staff at Reuther Middle School and the REA contract.
9. Jill Freels, teacher, shared the diversity at Hampton Elementary and highlighted staff successes.
10. Emily Sommer, teacher and parent, commented on the current environment in the district and the ability to retain and attract excellent teachers.
11. Joy Yokes and Hugger teachers (two) highlighted the accomplishments of the Hugger staff over the years.

12. Lisa Lamb, teacher, shared staff recognition and the team work at Hamlin Elementary.
13. Janice Richey, speech and language pathologist, highlighted some of the accomplishments of the staff at Baldwin Elementary.
14. Kelly Craft, teacher, highlighted the amazing teachers and staff at Long Meadow Elementary.

#### 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. Berwick received communication from Don and Mary Jo Cloutier regarding Top Scholars and the distinction levels.

### **Consent Agenda**

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

- A. Current Bills Payable for December 21, 2013 through January 24, 2014 in the amount of \$9,078,310.81.
- B. Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes, January 13, 2014
- C. Board of Education Retreat Minutes, January 25, 2014
- D. Board of Education Work Session Minutes, January 27, 2014
- E. Human Resources Report

Moved by: Mrs. Talbert

Supported by: Mr. Piskulich

Vote: 7-0

### **Reports**

- A. Superintendent's Committee Reports (Information Item) Mr. Romzek and Ms. Davis

Mr. Romzek shared information from the Superintendent's Business and Operations Committee meeting that took place on February 3, 2014. Discussion included the monthly budget report, the proposed debt retirement fund budget amendment, the 2014 refunding bonds and proposed debt millage rates, enrollment projections, 2014 facility projects, 2015 Hamlin Road construction project, proposed sewer easement at Delta Kelly, and a waste analysis consultant.

Ms. Davis shared information from the Superintendent's Policy and Curriculum Committee meeting that took place on February 4, 2014. Discussion included reviewing the process and revisions to Bylaws.

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

Dr. Shaner gave an overview of the process on how the district calls a snow day. The district is reviewing the possibility of having delayed start times. A delayed start would allow the district to hold school when conditions are initially bad but improve later in the morning. If this becomes a viable option, the district will communicate to parents and staff on how it will be implemented. The district takes instruction very seriously and whenever we can safely hold school we do. Mr. Romzek explained the impact of school cancellations on required instructional hours as stated Section 101 of the School Aid Act.

James Campbell, community member, addressed the Board regarding snow days and notification process.

Dr. Shaner read the following point of celebration from the:

**Office of the Mayor  
Proclamation  
Honoring  
School Board Recognition Month – January 2014**

- Whereas,** the State of Michigan's Constitution states that maintaining and supporting public education for Michigan students is a basic responsibility of state government; and
- Whereas,** Rochester Community Schools does an outstanding job this valuable service to students, parents, and our community, which contributes to the prosperous quality of life in Rochester Hills; and
- Whereas,** Rochester Community Schools School Board members are dedicated public servants who voluntarily contribute their time and effort for the betterment of our community; and
- Whereas,** all seven members have availed themselves of professional development through the Michigan Association of School Boards and have been recognized as an Honor Board; and
- Whereas,** MASB recognizes and celebrates board members with the theme *School Boards Lead Strong*, which exemplifies the vital role the devoted efforts board members play in ensuring that the children of our community are well prepared to compete and succeed on a global scale.

**Therefore, Be It Resolved,** that the Mayor and City of Rochester Hills hereby recognize January 2014 as School Board Recognition Month in the City of Rochester Hills.

**Be It Further Resolved,** that the Mayor and City Council call upon our citizens to recognize and acknowledge the important contribution the Rochester Community Schools Board of Education makes to our community.

### **New Business**

A. Approve Resolution Accepting 2014 Refunding Bond Pricing (Action Item) – Mr. Romzek

A motion was made to approve the Resolution Accepting 2014 Refunding Bond Pricing as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Coutteau  
Supported by: Mr. Zabat

Mr. Romzek introduced the district's bond council Beverly Bonning, Attorney from The Thrun Law Firm. Mrs. Bonning explained the process and purpose for refunding bonds. This is a means of saving tax payer dollars by reducing the interest rates on the bonds through refunding. The refunding doesn't extend the bond term it simply reduces the interest paid on the bonds. Mr. Romzek and Mrs. Bonning answered Board questions and comments.

Vote: 7-0

B. 2013/2014 Debt Retirement Fund Budget Amendment (Action Item) – Mr. Romzek

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

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

C. Superintendent's Performance Goals (Action Item) Dr. Shaner and Ms. Nowak

Dr. Shaner requested that the Board of Education approve the eight (8) Superintendent's student achievement goals as discussed at the October 28, 2013 Board Work Session. It was further requested that the evaluation rubric discussed at the January 27, 2014 Board Work Session also be approved for use with the aforementioned goals. Below are the goals and rubric.

1. By December 2014, 84% of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will be reading at grade level as measured by the Fountas and Pinnell Oral Reading and Comprehension Assessment.
2. By December of 2014, the percent of students qualifying for Advanced Language Arts 6 & Accelerated Math 6 will increase to 24% and 35% respectively as measured by the assessment matrix.
3. By December 2014, the percent of students meeting the College Readiness Standard in mathematics will increase to 75%.
4. By December 2014, the percent of students meeting the College Readiness Standard in science will increase to 48%.
5. By December of 2014, the percent of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students failing Algebra 1 will drop to 6%.
6. By December of 2014, the percent of African American students enrolled in an AP Course will increase to 30%.

7. By December 2014, the percent of RCS Graduates meeting the ACT College Readiness benchmark in Reading will increase to 58%.
8. By December 2014, the percent of RCS Graduates meeting the ACT College Readiness benchmark in Science will increase to 58%.

Ineffective	Minimally Effective	Effective	Highly Effective
No growth shown in any targeted areas.	Positive growth in 1-2 targeted areas.	Positive growth in at least 3 targeted areas.	Positive growth in 4-8 targeted areas.

A motion was made to approve the Superintendent's Performance Goals as presented.

Board discussion and comments included changing the evaluation form.

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

**Additional Business**

A. Citizens Present at the Meeting

Cyndi Peltonen addressed the Board regarding her candidacy for State Senator.

Michelle Buelstel addressed the Board regarding the Superintendent's Goal ratings on the district website.

B. Members of the Administration

Dr. Shaner thanked Mr. Romzek and his staff for their hard work on the Bond Refunding.

Ms. Davis shared that discussions continue with the REA, RSPA and the RPEA to work towards an agreement with all of these groups.

C. Members of the Board of Education – None

**Announcements**

A. Upcoming Events

- Feb. 11 7:00 p.m., Kindergarten Information Night, Stoney Creek HS
- Feb. 13 Full day Gr. K-5/Half Day Gr. 6-12 & Post High/PD in p.m. Gr. 6-12
- Feb. 14 Full day Gr. 6-12 & Post High/Half Day Gr. K-5/PD in p.m. Gr. K-5
- Feb. 17-18 No School K-12 & Post High Mid-Winter Recess
- Feb. 24 7:00 P.M., Board of Education, Work Session, Rochester HS
- March 10 7:00 P.M., Board of Education, Regular Mtg., Admin. Ctr.
- March 24 7:00 P.M., Board of Education Work Session, Stoney Creek HS

**Adjournment**

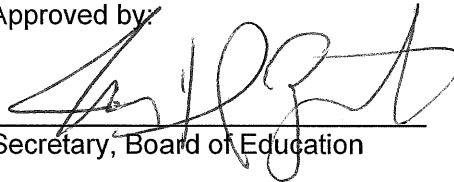
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Keener  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

  
Secretary, Board of Education