



**ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

**BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION**  
March 23, 2015

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

A Work Session, Open to the Public, of the Board of Education for the Rochester Community Schools, Rochester, Michigan was held on Monday, March 23, 2015 at Hugger Elementary School. President Jennifer Berwick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Jennifer Berwick, Jane Pierobon, Pat Piskulich, Mike Zabat, Sandy Fiaschetti, Kristin Bull and Beth Talbert

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Robert Shaner, Debi Fragomeni, Dana Taylor, Elizabeth Davis, Carrie Lawler, Michael Behrmann, Anne Evans, Marnie Barker, Doug Hill and approximately 5 visitors.

**Communications**

**A. Secretary of the Board of Education**

Board Secretary Mike Zabat shared the following communications received by the Board of Education since the prior meeting: Joshua Raymond regarding sixth grade courses, Karen Durham regarding high school Forensics, and Duane McCartney regarding military uniforms.

**B. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda – None**

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

## **Work Session**

### **A. Budget Planning – Dr. Robert Shaner**

Dr. Shaner introduced Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs Dana Taylor who presented the budget projections for the 2015/2016 school year.

Board discussion included questions regarding the estimated increase in medical plan costs, clarification of the Governor's budget process, estimated utility and fuel costs assumption, and Best Practice funds. The Board agreed to allow the budget projections document to be placed on the district website dashboard.

Michelle Bueltel, citizen, addressed the Board regarding the potential budget reductions.

### **B. Technology and Infrastructure 2020 Committee Update – Dr. Robert Shaner**

Dr. Shaner introduced Technology and Infrastructure 2020 Committee Co-Chairs Cindy Lindner and Todd Bidlack.

Cindy Lindner and Todd Bidlack gave an overview of the various activities that led to the development and prioritization of the committee's Themes and Guiding Viewpoints. An explanation of the breakdown and details of the draft Plante Moran Facility Assessment report was given to the Board.

A discussion between Dr. Shaner and the Board followed regarding options available for funding the suggested capital needs improvements. There was extensive discussion between Board members regarding clarification on the use of sinking funds vs. bonds, the difference between qualified vs. non-qualified bonds, and the timing of the funding requests.

## **Additional Business**

### **A. Citizens Present at the Meeting - None**

### **B. Members of the Administration**

Dr. Shaner thanked Hugger Principal Marnie Barker for hosting the Work Session, and Todd Bidlack and Cindy Lindner for presenting the Technology and Infrastructure 2020 Committee Update.

### **C. Members of the Board of Education**

Jane Pierobon represented the Board at the last PTA Council Meeting.

Mike Zabat attended the PTA Meeting at Brooklands Elementary.

Sandy Fiaschetti attended the District Solo & Ensemble Festival at Stoney Creek High School.

Beth Talbert attended the Special Education Appreciation Evening.

Jennifer Berwick has been reaching out to our local legislators. Board members, please let Jennifer know if you are interested in attending these quarterly meetings. Jennifer attended the PTA Reflections ceremony, the RHS Friend of the Falcons Gala, the State of the City with Bryan Barnett, and PTA Council Founders Day.

**Announcements**

**Upcoming RCS Events:**

April 2           End of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period  
April 3-12       Spring Break  
April 13         Board of Education, Regular Meeting, Administration Center, 7:00 p.m.  
April 15         Evening Conferences (K-5)  
April 20         Board of Education Work Session, North Hill Elementary, 7:00 p.m.  
April 23         Evening Conferences (K-5)

**Adjournment**

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

Moved by: Mike Zabat

Supported by: Jane Pierobon

Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Amy Schuster  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

  
Secretary, Board of Education