



**ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**  
October 12, 2015

**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, October 12, 2015 in the Harrison Room. 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, Beth Talbert, Mike Zabat, Pat Piskulich, Sandy Fiaschetti, Kristin Bull and Kevin Beers

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Debi Fragomeni, Dana Taylor, Elizabeth Davis, Carrie Lawler, Michael Behrmann, Anne Evans, Lori Grein, Doug Hill, Cindy Lindner, and approximately 25 visitors.

**Spotlight on Success**

**A. Tenure Teachers**

Chief Human Resource Officer Beth Davis recognized the teachers who received State of Michigan Tenure as of the 2014-2015 school year.

**B. New Teacher Hires for 2015-2016**

Elizabeth Davis recognized the nine new teachers hired for the 2015-2016 school year.

**C. Rochester-Avon Historical Society**

Community Relations Director Lori Grein introduced Brian Dunphy and Carol Tough who presented a book entitled *Hometown Rochester* for every school building in the district, as well as one for each Board of Education member.

**D. MASSW Social Worker of the Year for State of Michigan**

Executive Director of Special Education Anne Evans recognized Jessica Buchheister, Social Worker, as the Michigan Association of School Social Workers (MASSW) School Social Worker of the Year for the State of Michigan.

### **Communications**

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

Mike Zabat shared the following communication received by the Board of Education since the prior meeting: Laura Dinsmoor e-mailed the board regarding the TEDx event at Oakland University on Friday, October 23, 2015.

#### **B. Student Representatives to the Board**

A student representative from ACE shared information about activities that took place in the school since the start of the school year.

#### **C. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda**

Mr. Roy Salisbury, Jr. addressed the Board with the recommendation to teach about diversity and more specifically, race, in the elementary curriculum.

#### **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 September 5, 2015 through September 30, 2015 in the amount of \$6,525,312.16
- B.** Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes, September 14, 2015
- C.** Board of Education Work Session Minutes, September 28, 2015
- D.** Approval of Mike Zabat to attend the MASB Board Member Certification Classes on December 4 and 5, 2015 at Oakland Schools in the amount of \$270.00. Source of Funding: General Fund.
- E.** Approval of Sandy Fiaschetti and Kevin Beers to attend the MASB Annual Leadership Conference in Traverse City, MI, on October 22-25, 2015 in the amount of \$3,500.00. Source of Funding: General Fund.

Moved by: Pat Piskulich  
Supported by: Kristin Bull

Vote: 7-0

### **Reports**

#### **A. Superintendent's Committee Reports (Informational Item) – Debi Fragomeni**

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Debi Fragomeni reported on behalf of Dr. Shaner. The Superintendent Steering Committee Meeting took place on October 7, 2015. Topics of discussion included the enrollment update and bond proposal information update.

**B. Strategic Plan Update (Informational Item) – Michael Behrmann**

Executive Director of Elementary Education Michael Behrmann presented the Board with an update on the Global Awareness Strategic Plan Initiatives.

**New Business**

**A. Human Resources Report (Action Item) - Elizabeth Davis**

Elizabeth Davis presented the following recommendations:

**RESIGNATIONS**

Neal Gazzeny, teacher at ACE, submitted his letter of resignation effective September 23, 2015.

Vlad Lebedintsev, Career and Technical Education Specialist, submitted his letter of resignation effective October 2, 2015.

**NEW HIRES**

Kaitlyn Guthard, Fourth Grade Teacher, University Hills Elementary School

Adelaide Rase, First Grade Teacher, Brewster Elementary School

Adrienne Volk, Social Studies Teacher, West Middle School

Tracy Wisniewski, Social Studies Teacher, Hart Middle School

**APPOINTMENTS**

Karen Gelardi, Director of School Improvement and Supplemental Programs

Donny Milovski, Information Systems Supervisor

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

Moved by: Sandy Fiaschetti

Supported by: Beth Talbert

Vote: 7-0

**B. Board of Education Retreat Meeting Minutes, August 20, 2015**

Mike Zabat and Kevin Beers were absent from the Retreat, and will need to abstain from the vote.

Moved by: Beth Talbert

Supported by: Pat Piskulich

Abstentions: Mike Zabat and Kevin Beers  
Vote: 5-0-2

**C. Board Policy 2000 – Curriculum Series (Action Item, First Reading) – Elizabeth Davis**

Elizabeth Davis presented the revised 2000 Series Curriculum Policies.

A motion was made to approve the first reading of the proposed Board Policy 2000 Curriculum series, as presented.

Moved by: Mike Zabat  
Supported by: Sandy Fiaschetti

The motion was amended to delete the current 2000 series policies and approve the first reading of the proposed Board Policy 2000 Curriculum series and Board Policy 10000 General Policy series, as presented.

Board discussion included an emphasis on the need to organize and streamline policies. Deliberation ensued over a portion of the policy terminology so as to clarify that placement decisions are ultimately the responsibility of the district. The transparency of administrative regulations was discussed, and the Board identified faith in our current administrative team. It was recommended that the procedure for adopting administrative regulations be discussed at a future work session. A process and regulation map will be reviewed at the next Superintendent Policy and Curriculum Committee meeting. Bob Lusk, of Lusk & Albertson, was present to provide input.

Lisa Kowalski, parent, recommended the need to clarify the Parental Involvement Policy (2000.02) to include an intention to work with various parent organizations.

Joshua Raymond, parent, recommended the public have the opportunity to review administrative guidelines and provide input before they are adopted.

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

Moved by: Beth Talbert  
Supported by: Pat Piskulich

Vote: 7-0

**D. Board Policy 6800 – Fund Balance (Action Item, First Reading) – Elizabeth Davis**

Elizabeth Davis presented the Board Policy 6900 – Fund Balance.

Motion to approve the first reading of the proposed Board Policy 6800 – Fund Balance, as presented.

Moved by: Kevin Beers  
Supported by: Sandy Fiaschetti

Board discussion included the clarification that this is Board Policy 6900, not 6800 as stated on the agenda.

The motion was amended to approve the first reading of the proposed Board Policy 6900 – Fund Balance, as presented.

Board discussion included a clarification of the definition of fund balance. There may be a need to revise the policy to be more precise.

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

Moved by: Mike Zabat  
Supported by: Pat Piskulich

Vote: 7-0

### **Additional Business**

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

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

Debi Fragomeni reported that October 12, 2015 was a Professional Development day of learning, collaboration and goal setting to prepare for an exciting school year for our students.

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

Beth Talbert shared the following PTA events, dates and information:

- The next PTA council meeting is Thursday, October 15, 2015.
- PTA Advocacy Day will be in Lansing on Oct. 22, 2015, and all parents are encouraged to participate.
- The Reflections Program theme this year is “Let your imagination fly.”
- The Health and Wellness Committee is scheduled to present a Mindfulness Program to the district.
- The STEAM Fair is on March 5.

Jennifer Berwick announced the following changes to the Board of Education schedule:

- The April 18, 2016 Work Session will be moved to Monday, April 25, 2016 due to the Author in April Banquet.
- The June 6, 2016 Regular Meeting will be moved to Monday, June 13, 2016 due to the Stoney Creek High School graduation.

The meeting schedule will be updated on the district website and on the front door of the Administration Building to reflect these date changes.

### **Announcements**

October 14	Evening Conferences for Grades 6-8
October 15	Evening Conferences for Grades 9-12
October 21	Evening Conferences for Grades 9-12
October 22	Evening Conferences for Grades 6-8
October 26	Board of Education Work Session, University Hills Elementary, 7:00 p.m.
November 3	Election Day – No Students (K-12 and Post High) Professional Development

**Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Moved by: Sandy Fiaschetti


Supported by: Kristin Bull

Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Amy Schuster  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

  
Secretary, Board of Education