



ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION
May 22, 2017

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, May 22, 2017 at Meadow Brook Elementary School. President Sandy Fiaschetti called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: Sandy Fiaschetti, Kristin Bull, Beth Talbert, Pat Piskulich, Michael Zabat, Kevin Beers and Michelle Bueltel

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Robert Shaner, Debi Fragomeni, Dana Taylor, Elizabeth Davis, Michael Behrmann, Carrie Lawler, Anne Evans, Lori Grein, Doug Hill, Seth Berg, Jamie Kendall, Pete Muscio and 7 visitors

Principal Seth Berg welcomed the Board of Education to Meadow Brook and thanked the Board members for their efforts on behalf of the district. Seth shared the Meadow Brook Elementary Principal Leadership and Learning Vision model along with examples of Meadow Brook Mouse Paws videos.

Communications

A. Secretary of the Board of Education

Beth Talbert shared the following communications received by the Board of Education since the prior meeting: Brewster Elementary parents Eric McCutcheon, Monica Oddo and Sukhi Rai expressed concerns about upgrades to the school that are not scheduled to be completed until the 2019-2020 school year. McGregor Elementary teacher, Kendra Seitz, invited Board members to her fourth grade class debate on banning plastic bags. The district received a letter from the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association thanking the school district for hosting a section of the 2017 MSBOA State Solo and Ensemble Festival.

B. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda

Elizabeth Witten, RCS parent and General Motors employee, shared the success of "A World in Motion" program which shares science in the classroom by partnering Society of Automotive Engineers' members with local school districts. Elizabeth shared examples of scientific experiments with straw rockets, paper boats and gravity cruisers that were conducted by third, fourth and fifth grade students at Baldwin, Brewster, Delta Kelly, North Hill and University Hills Elementary Schools.

C. Members of the Board of Education

Mike Zabat and Pat Piskulich spoke with Debbie Jones during Chat with the Board regarding creative parenting strategies for getting children to Rochester and Adams High Schools.

Work Session

A. General Fund Budget Amendment and 2017-2018 Budget Projections

Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs Dana Taylor reviewed the General Fund Budget Amendment III - Preparation and Key Changes to the amendment. The review covered state aid, tax collections, pupil accounting, grants and staffing. Revenues, expenditures and grants were explained and key revenue changes were reviewed reflecting an increase in total revenues of \$710,790, an increase in total expenditures of \$558,960 leaving an end of year fund balance of \$23,669,127. Key changes to the Food Service Fund Budget Amendment I highlighted updated revenue and equipment expenditures.

Dana Taylor presented the 2017-2018 Budget Projections which details budget planning objectives, consensus revenue estimates, revenue assumptions, state aid per student, enrollment and expenditure assumptions. Budget revenue projections of \$170,078,351, expenditures of \$168,626,187 and an estimated ending fund balance of \$25,121,291 or 14.90%. Discussion of factors that will affect the 2017-2018 Budget include budget proposals currently working through the legislative process, proposed MPERS changes, actual student enrollment, staffing levels and outcomes of ongoing operational efficiencies. The district budget must be adopted by June 30, 2017, in accordance with Michigan law.

Board discussion included state revenue projections, movement of money out of the bond and into general funds, Michigan Department of Education approval required for expenditures of food service funds, pension issues, what the district pays for under 280 Technical support, MPERS funding, charter school funding and federal dollars.

Dana Taylor addressed the Board to answer their questions and advised that the budget would be brought to the Board for discussion and adoption at the June 19, 2017 meeting. The budget then will have three amendments presented: Budget Amendment I in November of 2017, Budget Amendment II in March of 2018 and Budget Amendment III in June of 2018. Dr. Shaner stressed the need to budget conservatively when making multi-year projections keeping in mind that the decisions we make today affect the district in the future for example with strategic plan initiatives. Board members thanked Dana for the transparency of her budget report.

B. Bond Project Updates

Director of Capital Projects and Facilities, Pete Muscio, reviewed the Bond Budget Update reviewing Architect, Consulting, Technology, Furniture and Equipment and Construction Budgets. To date, the Board has approved \$38,666,019 for bond projects costs and the district has spent \$21,001,419 of the total \$185,000,000 Bond Budget.

Year one construction projects:

Old Brooklands Building Demolition	Complete
Secured Entrances*	Complete
Stoney Creek & Hart Track	Complete
Hamlin Playground	Complete
Hugger Elementary	On schedule. August 2017 completion date.
Musson Elementary	On schedule. August 2017 completion date.
Rochester High	On schedule. August 2017 completion date.

*Secured entrances are in place for North Hill, Long Meadow, Meadow Brook, and McGregor Elementary Schools, along with Reuther, Hart, and Van Hoosen Middle Schools, and Stoney Creek High School.

Bond program updates were provided for Hugger, Musson and Rochester High Schools projects. Media center furniture selections have been determined and purchase orders for the furniture have been placed. Year two construction projects at West Middle, Baldwin Elementary, Hamlin Elementary, Adams and ACE High Schools were reviewed.

Board discussion included questions on project costs, bond projects at ACE, Adams and Rochester High Schools, if the district is keeping track of what schools would have liked to have as opposed to what was affordable and requested more frequent Bond Project Updates as they vote to approve contracts.

Dr. Shaner, Pete Muscio and Dana Taylor addressed the questions and gave an overview of the operations of the weekly Bond Construction Cabinet meetings where every project is discussed in detail. The Cabinet focuses on what was promised, keeping on time with all projects and staying within the budget along with planning for necessary contingency funds. Dana and Pete will provide future Bond Project Updates on a regular basis at Board meetings.

Lisa Kowalski, Adult Transition Program parent, addressed the Board regarding upcoming projects at RACE and complimented the construction plans that will result in a building with versatile future uses.

C. Stoney Creek High School Cell Tower Proposal

Dana Taylor reviewed a proposal from Verizon for the installation of a stadium light cell tower at Stoney Creek High School. The proposal also includes an addition to a storage building, the installation of a generator inside of the current mechanical equipment area and the installation of utilities. The cell tower would be similar to the cell tower with stadium lights that is currently in place at Adams High School. Safety and economic issues were reviewed. Board members reviewed a confidential document from Collins & Blaha, P. C. on Attorney-Client Privilege. Dana requested that the Board consider the information provided so this issue can be discussed at a future meeting.

Board discussion included location of other area cell towers, concerns regarding cell signal technology, installation timing and a request to communicate with the community as this process moves forward.

Dana addressed the Board to answer their questions and reported that Verizon would like to install the cell tower in 2018.

Additional Business

A. Citizens Present at the Meeting - None

B. Members of the Administration

Dr. Shaner thanked Meadow Brook Principal Seth Berg and Learning Consultant Mandy Lyons for their hospitality.

Debi Fragomeni, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, offered an opportunity to the Board to celebrate the Art and Dance Festival Wednesday, May 24th at 12:30 in the Harrison Room. Cabinet members will be in attendance at all events to help insure the safety and security of all students as we celebrate all of the end of year festivities.

C. Members of the Board of Education

Pat Piskulich reported on the plastic bag debate at McGregor Elementary and the ACE Senior Ceremony.

Sandy Fiaschetti attended the debate at McGregor with Kevin Beers and the ACE Senior Ceremony.

Beth Talbert congratulated Lori Grein and her staff on the success of this year's Hometown Hustle.

Announcements

Upcoming RCS Events:

June 6 - 7:00 P.M., Rochester HS Graduation, Oakland University O'Rena

June 7 - 7:00 P.M., Adams HS Graduation, Oakland University O'Rena

June 8 - 7:00 P.M., Stoney Creek HS Graduation, Oakland University O'Rena

June 12 - 7:00 P.M., Board of Education Regular Mtg., Admin. Ctr.

June 15 - 7:00 P.M., RACE Graduation, RACE Program Building

June 16 - Last Day of School

June 19 - 6:45 P.M., Board of Education Truth in Budgeting Hearing

June 19 - 7:00 P.M., Board of Education Regular/Organizational Mtg.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Moved by: Kristin Bull

Supported by: Kevin Beers

Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

Maureen Nakonek
Recording Secretary


Secretary, Board of Education