



## **ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

April 15, 2019 at 7:00 PM ~ Harrison Room

## **MINUTES**

### **Call to Order**

A Regular Meeting, open to the public, of the Board of Education for Rochester Community Schools, Rochester, Michigan was held on Monday, April 15, 2019, in the Harrison Room. President Kristin Bull called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Roll Call**

Members Present: Kristin Bull, Kevin Beers, Barb Anness, Mike Zabat, Sandy Fiaschetti, Michelle Buelteel and Andrea Walker-Leidy

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Dr. Robert Shaner, Debi Fragomeni, Elizabeth Davis, Dana Taylor, Lori Grein, Carrie Lawler, Anne Evans, Cindy Lindner, Sandy Turner, Jessica Thomas, Pete Muscio, Matt McDaniel, Neil DeLuca, Allison Roberts, Don Maskill, Michael Bennion, Jennifer Fickel, Brian Shelson, Doug Hill and approximately 60 visitors

### **Spotlight in Success**

#### **A. State School of Character**

Lori Grein introduced Lori Soifer, from Character.org State School of Character program, who explained what the program involves. Character education is the intentional effort to develop in young people core ethical and performance values that are widely affirmed across all cultures. Lori went on to discuss the 11 principles that define excellence in character education, which are as follows:

1. Core values are defined, implemented and embedded into school culture.
2. The school defines "character" comprehensively to include thinking, feeling and doing.
3. The school uses a comprehensive, intentional and proactive approach to develop character.
4. The school creates a caring community.
5. The school provides students with opportunities for moral action.
6. The school offers a meaningful and challenging academic curriculum that respects all learners, develops their character and helps them succeed.
7. The school fosters students' self-motivation.
8. All staff share the responsibility for developing, implementing and modeling ethical character.
9. The school's character initiative has shared leadership and long-range support for continuous improvement.
10. The school engages families and community as partners in the character initiative.

11. The school assesses its implementation of character education, its culture and climate and the character growth of students on a regular basis.

Lori congratulated Hart Middle School and Allison Roberts, Don Maskill, and Michael Bennion for this esteemed award.

Keep up the great work, Hart!

#### **B. MHSAA State Champions**

Dean Allen, Rochester High School Athletic Director, congratulated Kavan Troy, Rochester High School sophomore, Wrestling State Champion (50-0). Erik Vernon, Varsity Coach, was invited to say a few words.

Brian Shelton, Stoney Creek High School Assistant Principal, introduced Coach Tricia Williams and the Division I Competitive Cheer State Champs. Coach Williams was also recognized for being named the 2019 Division I State Coach of the Year for Competitive Cheer.

Congratulations, everyone!

### **Communications**

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

Barb Anness shared one communication from Kate Turner which was received by the Board of Education since the prior meeting.

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

Student representatives from Adams High School, Rochester High School, and Stoney Creek High School shared information about activities that took place in the school since the last meeting. ACE did not have a student representative in attendance.

#### **C. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda – None**

#### **D. PTA Council Update**

PTA Council Secretary, Ann Najera, updated the Board on recent and upcoming PTA district events.

Some of the events included:

- Health & Wellness Committee Spring Toiletry Drive
- Destination Imagination (Two teams each from West and Long Meadow will be competing at Globals in Kansas City at the end of May!)
- Next PTA Council meeting on April 25th
- Battle of the Books is on April 26
- Authors in April (April 29 – May 3, Banquet on April 29)
- Suicide Prevention presentation “Do It For Daniel” is in the process if being scheduled

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

Barb received a follow-up email from Jeff Fosnaugh from ACE regarding a donation to their library.

### **Consent Agenda**

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

- A. Current Bills Payable for March 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019 in the amount of \$11,160,358.74
- B. Approval for Barbara Anness and Andrea Walker-Leidy to attend Behind the Scenes at the Capitol on April 17, 2019 in the amount of \$210.00. Source of funding: General Fund
- C. Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes, March 11, 2019
- D. Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes, March 25, 2019
- E. Board of Education Work Session Minutes, March 25, 2019

Moved by: Sandy Fiaschetti

Supported by: Mike Zabat

Vote: 7-0

### **Reports**

#### **A. Superintendent's Committee**

Dr. Shaner presented from the February 4, 2019, and March 5, 2019, Superintendent Policy and Curriculum Committee meetings. Items of discussion included: (February 4) International Academy, School Finance Resource Collaborative, Sinking Fund, and Legislative Updates; (March 5) Strategic Planning and Sinking Fund.

Dana Taylor presented from the March 18, 2019, Superintendent Business and Operations Committee. Items of discussion included: Review of January 2019 financial information, transportation items and the upcoming Series II Bond issue.

### **New Business**

#### **A. Human Resources Report**

Chief Human Resources Officer Elizabeth Davis presented the following recommendations:

#### **REA RESIGNATIONS**

Shelley Boadas, 5th grade teacher at Musson Elementary School, submitted her letter of resignation effective April 26, 2019. Ms. Boadas has been with the district since September, 2018.

Miriam Gertner, Special Education teacher at Delta Kelly Elementary School, submitted her letter of resignation effective June 14, 2019. Ms. Gertner has been with the district since August, 2010.

#### **REA RETIREMENTS**

Nancy Halls, 2nd grade teacher at Baldwin Elementary School, submitted her letter of retirement effective at the end of the school year. Ms. Halls has been with the district since August, 1998.

Janet Piechalski, 3rd grade teacher at Meadow Brook Elementary School, submitted her letter of retirement effective at the end of the school year. Ms. Piechalski has been with the district since February, 1990.

Samuel Raffa, school psychologist at West Middle School, submitted his letter of retirement effective at the end of the school year. Dr. Raffa has been with the district since September, 1980.

Lynn Roll, kindergarten teacher at Brooklands Elementary School, submitted her letter of retirement effective at the end of the school year. Ms. Roll has been with the district since August, 2004.

#### ADMINISTRATION RETIREMENTS

Anne Evans, Special Education Executive Director, submitted her letter of retirement effective at the end of the school year. Ms. Evans has been with the district since September, 2007.

Sandra Turner, Special Education Assistant Director, submitted her letter of retirement effective at the end of the school year. Ms. Turner has been with the district since September, 1988.

Eric Williams, Assistant Principal at Reuther Middle School, submitted his letter of retirement effective at the end of the school year. Mr. Williams has been with the district since August, 2008.

Motion to approve the Human Resources Report, as presented.

Moved by: Barb Anness

Supported by: Kevin Beers

Vote: 7-0

#### **C. Construction Project Bid Awards**

##### **Recommendation for Award of Contracts and Approval of Current Project Costs for Brewster Elementary Bid Pack #2 (Asphalt Paving) – REBID**

Dana Taylor presented the Recommendation for Award of Contracts and Approval of Current Project Costs for Brewster Elementary Bid Pack #2 (Asphalt Paving) – REBID. The recommendation was to award the contract in the contract sum of \$230,740, plus \$111,019 for project change orders plus allowances and contract management fees in the amount of \$42,511, for a total of current project costs in the amount of \$8,218,666.

##### **Recommendation for Purchase of 24 Buses through the MSBO 2018-2019 Bus Purchase Program Bid**

Dana Taylor presented the Recommendation for Purchase of 24 Buses through the MSBO 2018-2019 Bus Purchase Program Bid. Currently the District owns and operates a fleet of 124 school buses. It is recommended that the District purchase a total of twenty four (24) school buses as detailed in the attached documents; of which eighteen (18) are General Education 77-Passenger buses, and six (6) are 47-Passenger Special Education buses. The amount for this purchase is \$2,154,222 as per the bid summary, and the cost of the MSBO Cooperative Bus Bid fee is \$1,250. This amount has been included as part of the Capital Projects - Bond 2015 budget.

The recommendation was to purchase twenty four (24) school buses in the not to exceed amount of \$2,154,222, as per the MSBO Bus Purchase Program Bid, plus the MSBO Cooperative bus bid fee of \$1,250 for a total of \$2,155,472.

Dana Taylor addressed the Board to answer their questions.

Motion to approve the Construction Project Bid Awards, as presented.

Moved by: Kevin Beers

Supported by: Michelle Bueltel

Vote: 7-0

### **C. Change Orders**

Dana Taylor presented the Recommendation to Approve Bond Change Orders for Completed Projects and Projects in Progress in the amount of \$63,159. The Projects in Progress are ACE High School, Brooklands Elementary, Brewster Elementary and Athletic Fields.

Mike Gagnon addressed the Board to answer their questions.

Motion to approve the Change Orders, as presented.

Moved by: Sandy Fiaschetti

Supported by: Mike Zabat

Vote: 7-0

### **D. General Fund Bid Awards**

Dana Taylor presented the Recommendation for Approval of Musical Instruments Purchases from the General Fund budget. The recommendation was for contract totals in the amount of \$83,152.84, plus an allowance of \$45,809 for a total project cost not to exceed \$128,961.

Dana Taylor addressed the Board to answer their questions.

Motion to approve the General Fund Bid Awards, as presented.

Moved by: Barb Anness

Supported by: Andrea Walker-Leidy

Vote: 7-0

### **Additional Business**

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

**B. Members of the Administration**

Dr. Shaner thanked everyone at RCS for their hard work and dedication during the past week of testing. Dr. Shaner also informed the Board of his call with Dana Taylor and Standard & Poor's regarding the district's credit rating which has improved from AA- with a positive outlook to AA with a stable outlook. This is outstanding news for RCS and reflects the Board's work and stewardship with the district's budget! It is also an example of a school district that is supported by its community stakeholders and what is right about public education.

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

Andrea Walker-Leidy reminded everyone of the Hometown Hustle on Saturday, May 11. She is very excited about the new kindergarten initiatives regarding diversity and inclusion.

Barb gave an update from the OCSBA Government Affairs Committee in addition to her support of Governor Whitmer's proposed budget.

### **Announcements**

April 19 - No School for Students (K-12 and Post High)

**April 22 - Board of Education Work Session, Brooklands Elementary. 7:00 p.m.**

April 26 - Half-day for Students (K-12 and Post High)

April 29 - Authors in April Benefit, Palazzo Grande, 6:30 p.m.

April 29 - May 3 - Authors in April Week

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Moved by: Michelle Bueltel

Seconded by: Kevin Beers

Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Christina Whitmore  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

  
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Acting Secretary, Board of Education