



ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
November 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, November 10, 2014 at the Harrison Room. President Lisa Nowak called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was held in honor of Elisabeth Buchheister, 62, of Oakland Township, who was a volunteer and trustee of the Rochester Hills Public Library. She was killed in a fatal automobile accident on October 25, 2014 on Rochester Rd. Elisabeth volunteered in the district for more than 10 years and was affectionately known at our Elementary Schools as "The Reading Lady".

Roll Call

Members Present: Lisa Nowak, Chuck Coutteau, Michael Zabat, Jane Pierobon, Jennifer Berwick, Pat Piskulich, Beth Talbert

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Robert Shaner, Debi Fragomeni, Dan Romzek, Elizabeth Davis, Carrie Lawler, Michael Behrmann, Anne Evans, Allison Roberts and approximately 60 visitors.

Communications

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

Mr. Zabat shared the following communication received by the Board of Education since the prior meeting: Tracie Hutchinson regarding teacher/student ratio for Rochester Community Schools.

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

C. **Student Representatives to the Board**

Jonathan Gonzanga reported on activities taking place at ACE High School.
Samantha Shepherd reported on activities taking place at Adams High School.
Ariel King reported on activities taking place at Rochester High School.
Megan Vazana reported on activities taking place at Stoney Creek High School.

D. Members of the Board of Education – None

Spotlight on Success

A. Veterans Day Recognition (Informational Item) Ms. Nowak

Hart Middle School Principal Allison Roberts shared a video presentation in honor of Veteran's Day.

Sixteen RCS Veterans were recognized for their service to our country:

1. Serina Barnett, Secretary, Administration Center, US Air Force, E-7, 23 years
2. Herman Thomas, Bell, Day Engineer, Adams High School, US Army E-4 Infantry Division, six (6) years
3. Rockie Brandenburg, District Custodian, US Air Force, E-4, Civil Engineer, seven (7) years.
4. Chuck Coutteau, Board of Education, US Army Colonel, 28 years.
5. Gary Dennis, Facility Manager, Air Force/Air National Guard, E-7 Master Sergeant, 20 years.
6. Calvin Gross, Teacher, Stoney Creek High School, Currently Deployed in Yongsan, Korea, US Army, Lieutenant Colonel, 26 years.
7. Paul David Jakey, Teacher, Van Hoosen Middle School, US Navy, 3rd Class Petty Officer, five (5) years.
8. Marvin Lancaster, Teacher, Reuther Middle School, US Marine Corps, Corporal, four (4) years.
9. Adam Miserlian, Teacher, Brewster Elementary, US Army, Sergeant, four (4) years.
10. Don Morris, Media Specialist, Baldwin Elementary, US Army, Lieutenant, eight (8) years.
11. Jane Pierobon, Board of Education, US Army, Major, 23 years.
12. Peter Sexton, Wings Paraprofessional, Adams High School, US Navy, 3rd Class Petty Officer, six (6) years.
13. Andy Shadeck, Teacher, Meadow Brook Elementary, US Army, Specialist 4, three (3) years.
14. Robert Shaner, Superintendent, US Marine Corps, Captain, four (4) years active, seven (7) years reserve.
15. Jennifer Starking, Teacher, Rochester High School, US Army, E-4/Specialist, three (3) years.
16. Joe Zelmanski, Teacher, Adams High School, US Army Reserve, E-5 Personnel Specialist, six (6) years.

Consent Agenda

- A. Current Bills Payable for October 4, 2014 through October 24, 2014 in the amount of \$5,934,419.98.
- B. Board of Education Work Session Minutes of October 27, 2014.
- C. Human Resource Report

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

Moved by: Mrs. Pierobon

Supported by: Mr. Coutteau

Vote: 7-0

Reports

A. Superintendent's Committee Reports (Informational Item) Dr. Shaner

Dr. Shaner reported on the Superintendent's Business, Operations and Support Committee meeting from October 6, 2014 which included topics of enrollment, the budget and the 2014 audit.

Dr. Shaner also reported on the Superintendent's Steering Committee Meeting which met on October 9, 2014 which included topics of Board of Education goals, the budget, a transition plan for the Board of Education and upcoming labor agreements.

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

Dr. Shaner introduced and welcomed the two new board members elect; Kristin Bull and Sandra Fiaschetti.

Ms. Nowak congratulated Mr. Zabat on his election of a six-year term on the Board of Education.

Dr. Shaner thanked the Rochester Administrators Association and the administrators of the school district for the Veteran's Plaque that was made possible by some very generous donations. The artwork was done at cost by Highest Honor Trophy Shop in Troy, MI.

C. Enrollment Update (Informational Item) Dr. Shaner

Dr. Shaner reported that pupil enrollment has declined since count day.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs Daniel Romzek shared a brief summary on student enrollment as of the October 1, 2014 count day. The enrollment projection was 15,136 students. The actual enrollment as of count day is 14,983 students which is 153 students below the projected amount. The 2014/2015 budget was based on the projected enrollment figure. The actual enrollment will result in reduced state aid revenue of approximately \$1.2 million. As a follow-up to this unexpected decline in enrollment, the district hired this fall Plante Moran CRESA to prepare pupil enrollment projections for the next several years. Plante Moran CRESA is one of seven (7) firms recognized by the Michigan Department of Treasury to conduct pupil enrollment services for school districts. Predictions are done by demographic trends and analysis, census data, historical enrollments for the district, cohort survival data, local birth rates and real estate data. The projections show a decline in enrollment for the next five (5) years in the district.

Board discussion included clarification on the reasoning for the decline in enrollment, the cohort survival method and count day windows and rules for counting students that were absent on count day.

Ms. Nowak shared information on our declining enrollment predictions for the next several years and also suggested that the district be very conservative with the budget.

New Business

A. Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2014 (Action Item) Ms. Nowak

Mr. Coutteau was absent from the October 13, 2014 Regular Board of Education Meeting, with notice.

A motion was made to approve the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2014.

Moved by: Mr. Zabat

Supported by: Mrs. Talbert

Abstentions: Mr. Coutteau

Vote: 6-0-1

B. Approval of Facility & Technology Planning Consultants (Action Item) Mr. Romzek

Mr. Romzek reported that the district is recommending the board hire three firms to assist the district with the Facility and Technology Infrastructure process: Plante Moran CRESA for the facilities assessment and planning; French Associates to assist in estimations for architectural and engineering related items; and, Integrated Design Solutions for the technology planning component.

A motion was made to approve the Facility & Technology Planning Consultants, as presented.

Moved by: Mrs. Berwick

Supported by: Dr. Piskulich

Board discussion included clarification on the difference between the IT assessment that was done by Plante Moran CRESA in the spring of 2014 and the Integrated Design Solutions function of the contract; how the steering committee will play a role in the process; the timeline of the process; and busses being included in infrastructure.

Mr. Romzek reported that the last time this type of process was completed was in 2008.

Board members thanked the committee for pursuing these processes and assured they would support the process.

Vote: 7-0

C. Approval of the Rochester Administrators Association Tentative Agreement (Action Item) Ms. Davis

A motion was made to approve the Rochester Administrators Association Tentative Agreement, as presented.

Chief Human Resource Officer Elizabeth Davis reported that on October 29, 2014 the Rochester Administrators Association and the bargaining team reached a tentative agreement from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. Ms. Davis shared the primary changes to the agreement.

Moved by: Mr. Zabat

Supported by: Dr. Piskulich

Board discussion included clarification regarding the stipend position for summer school principal and if we will be hiring one of our current staff members; the contract does not state that this is a requirement.

Ms. Nowak thanked the bargaining teams for their hard work.

Vote: 7-0

D. Approval of Non-Union Administrator and Executive Assistant Salary and Benefit Recommendations (Action Item) Ms. Davis

Ms. Davis is requesting approval for an allocation of \$55,000 for salary and benefit changes for the 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 contractual years inclusively for non-union administrators and executive assistants.

A motion was made to approve the Non-Union Administrator and Executive Assistant Salary and Benefit Recommendations, as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Coutteau
Supported by: Mrs. Berwick

Board discussion included the Rahmberg Study; requesting an updated document that includes salary schedule, copays, and contract dates; and if the Board would need to be included in any further action regarding the allocation.

Vote: 7-0

E. 2013-2014 District Audit (Action Item) Mr. Romzek

Mr. Romzek introduced Nathan Balderman who is a partner with Rehmann Robson, the district's audit firm.

Mr. Baldermann presented an overview of the 2014 Audit Report.

A motion was made to approve the 2013-2014 District Audit Report, as presented.

Moved by: Mrs. Pierobon
Supported by: Dr. Piskulich

Board members asked for clarification between the following: material and immaterial findings; unmodified and qualified opinions; and, process changes.

Mrs. Talbert stated that this audit report had the most findings and wanted it publicly acknowledged that this is unacceptable and we expect to have an audit with no findings next year.

Jeff Louth, parent, addressed the Board of Education regarding the fund balance and the effect of the declining student enrollment.

Vote: 7-0

Additional Business

A. Citizens Present at the Meeting

Chris Gill, citizen, addressed the Board of Education regarding Summer Music Theatre.

Katie Mason, citizen, addressed the Board of Education regarding Summer Music Theatre.

Robert Roy, citizen, addressed the Board of Education highlighting several Rochester Community Schools students that were involved in the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Civic Family Experience.

B. Members of the Administration

Dr. Shaner assured the parents that their concerns would be heard regarding Summer Music Theatre.

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Debi Fragomeni commended the administrators, teachers, secretaries, and paraprofessionals for the district-wide professional development that took place on November 3 and 4, 2014. Mrs. Fragomeni also informed the Board that the cabinet team will be visiting each building staff meeting to discuss the Strategic Plan.

C. Members of the Board of Education

Mrs. Berwick, Mrs. Talbert and Mr. Zabat attended the MASB and highlighted the session speakers.

Dr. Piskulich shared that he attended the play at ACE High School. November 11, 2014 is celebrity server night at Big Boy from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm to raise funds for ACE.

Mrs. Pierobon attended the Stoney Creek High School's *We are S.C. Fundraiser* and attended Hamlin's PTA meeting. Mrs. Pierobon also attended the Marine dinner with Mr. Coutteau, Dr. Shaner and other members of administration.

Mr. Coutteau visited North Hill fifth grade teachers.

Mrs. Talbert congratulated one of the Hamlin teachers for being Teacher of the Week on a local radio station. Mrs. Talbert would also like tonight's Veteran's presentation shared via social media. Mrs. Talbert challenged the Board of Education vs. Administration to join in the district-wide canned food drive for the holidays.

Announcements

A. Upcoming Events

11/24: Board of Education Work Session, Brooklands Elementary, 7:00 pm

11/26: No school for students K-12 and post high

11/27: Thanksgiving Day, No school for students K-12 and post high

11/28: No school for students K-12 and post high

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Coutteau

Supported by: Mr. Zabat

Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Christina McWilliams
Recording Secretary

Approved by:


Secretary, Board of Education