



ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

September 9, 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, September 9, 2019, in the Harrison Room. President Kristin Bull called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members Present: Kristin Bull, Kevin Beers, Barb Anness, Mike Zabat, Michelle Bueltel, Andrea Walker-Leidy and Scott Muska

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Robert Shaner, Debi Fragomeni, Dana Taylor, Elizabeth Davis, Lori Grein, Carrie Lawler, Pete Muscio, Cindy Lindner, Pasquale Cusumano, Todd Calcamuggio, Jessica Thomas, Matt McDaniel, Karen Gelardi, Wendy Beitel, Jennifer Fickel, and approximately 70 visitors.

Dr. Shaner reflected that today marks the 18th anniversary of the terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001. More than 3,000 people tragically lost their lives that day when planes flew into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and a field outside of Pennsylvania. He asked that we honor their memory with a moment of silence.

Spotlight on Success

New Teachers Hired for the 2019-2020 School Year

Mary Beth LaChance, Salaried Personnel Specialist, introduced the new teachers hired for the 2019-2020 school year.

Communications

A. Secretary of the Board of Education

Barb Anness shared that six communications were received since the last regular board meeting.

B. Student Representatives to the Board

Isha Mendoza of SCHS was present and shared some updates from the first week of school.

C. PTA Council Update

PTA President Maria Miceli thanked to Board for their sponsorship of the annual PTA Council Leadership Day. Maria also shared that the PTA Council approved their support of the building and site sinking fund. Each school received a kit with materials, provided by the Citizen's Committee, to take back to their respective building. The PTA Council thanked the Citizen's Committee for the work that they are doing to promote and support the sinking fund.

Maria encouraged the attendance for the upcoming Fleece and Thank You at SCHS on September 21 from 12-4pm. The goal is to make 2,500 blankets and break a world record.

The first PTA Council meeting of the year will be September 26 at 9:30am at Adams High School. Maria encouraged each building's PTA to build a scarecrow through the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm.

The PTA Legislative Committee has already met and has great ideas to encourage the support of voters in the upcoming election.

D. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda

None

E. Members of the Board of Education

Barb Anness received two emails: Howard Baron regarding the IA and second from Carol Finkelstein, OCSBA Government Relations Committee Treasurer, regarding a survey.

Michelle Bueltel met with Steve Broutin during Chat with the Board regarding the IA.

Kevin Beers received an email from Howard Baron regarding the IA.

Kristin Bull received four emails: two from Paul Colon regarding the IA; one from Birgit McQuiston regarding the OCSBA and one from Don Wortuba regarding state budget.

Consent Agenda

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

- A.** Current Bills Payable for August 1, 2019 through August 31, 2019 in the amount of \$9,886,511.40
- B.** Approval for Barb Anness to attend the MASB Behind the Scenes at the Capitol on September 25, 2019. Total estimated cost \$105. Source of funding: General Fund
- C.** Board of Education Closed Meeting Minutes, August 19, 2019
- D.** Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes, August 19, 2019

Moved by: Andrea Walker-Leidy

Supported by: Mike Zabat

Vote: 7-0

Reports

A. Legislative Update

Dr. Shaner reported that while the Board of Education approved a budget for the district on July 1, that assumed a \$50 per pupil increase, which is a very conservative approach, the state budget has still not yet been approved. Just this morning, both sides agree to work on a budget without any revenue for roads. Dr. Shaner had a breakfast with other Oakland County Superintendents where they continued to encourage the local legislators to adopt a budget that includes a weighted funding formula based on the recommendations of the School Finance Research Collaborative. The group continues to ask legislators to consider removing higher education from the School Aid Fund.

B. Global Initiatives

Karen Gelardi provided the Board with an update regarding the District's Global Initiatives.

New Business

A. Human Resource Report

Chief Human Resources Officer Elizabeth Davis presented the following recommendations:

REA RESIGNATIONS

Nina Caruso, Art Teacher at North Hill Elementary School, submitted her letter of resignation effective August 26, 2019. Ms. Caruso has been with the district since August, 2016.

Xhejni Cuni, Spanish Teacher at Stoney Creek High School and West Middle School, submitted his letter of resignation effective August 22, 2019. Mr. Cuni has been with the district since August, 2019.

Lauren Pauwels, 1st Grade Teacher at Musson Elementary School, submitted her letter of resignation effective August 21, 2019. Ms. Pauwels has been with the district since August, 2013.

Kendra Seitz, ESL Teacher at Reuther Middle School, submitted her letter of resignation effective September 18, 2019. Ms. Seitz has been with the district since September, 2012.

Evanthia Vamvakas, 3rd Grade Teacher at North Hill Elementary School, submitted her letter of resignation effective August 21, 2019. Ms. Vamvakas has been with the district since September, 2010.

REA NEW HIRES – 2019 – 2020 SCHOOL YEAR

Kristina Andrzejak, 3rd Grade Teacher, Meadow Brook Elementary
Cassandra Blust, 3rd Grade Teacher, North Hill Elementary
Katherine Clark, 3rd Grade Teacher, Baldwin Elementary
Christine Chorney, 4th Grade Teacher, Long Meadow Elementary
Lori Davis, Kindergarten Teacher, Baldwin Elementary
Megan Everhart, German Teacher, Hart Middle School
Annie Griffin, Music Teacher, Meadow Brook Elementary
Cassidy Haan, Art Teacher, Meadow Brook Elementary
Yiran Liao, Chinese Teacher, McGregor Elementary

Sarah McGowan, Language Arts Teacher, Stoney Creek High School
David Miechiels, Music Teacher, University Hills Elementary
Sara Ross, Kindergarten Teacher, Hampton Elementary
Deana Stevens, Kindergarten Teacher, Hugger Elementary
Sarah Thompson, Kindergarten Teacher, Hamlin Elementary
Danielle Tkac, 3rd Grade Teacher, Hamlin Elementary
Laurie Tomaszewski, 3rd Grade Teacher, Musson Elementary
Kelley Tungate, Kindergarten Teacher, North Hill Elementary
Autumn Trumble, 5th Grade Teacher, Hamlin Elementary
Ziyan Xu, Chinese Teacher, Musson Elementary
Hope Younggren, 1st Grade Teacher, Hampton Elementary

ADMINISTRATIVE RESIGNATIONS

Brandon Bigelow, Technology Coordinator, submitted his letter of resignation effective August 30, 2019. Mr. Bigelow has been with the district since March 26, 2018.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Accountant

We are recommending the appointment of Diana Whetstone to the Accountant position. Diana has been employed with Rochester Community Schools since 2011, as a paraeducator, Guidance Secretary and most recently as the Assistant Principal Secretary at Adams High School. Prior to joining RCS she held accounting roles with USA Administration, CSC Continuum and Crittenton Children's Center. Diana holds a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from Oklahoma State University. Diana will be a great asset to the business office with her knowledge of accounting, district systems and processes as well as our Business Plus software.

Motion to approve the Human Resource Report, as presented.

Moved by: Kevin Beers

Supported by: Barb Anness

Vote: 7-0

Additional Business

A. Citizens Present at the Meeting

Lisa Efros, Bloomfield Hills School Board member and IA task force member spoke about the IA.

Joshua Raymond and his daughter, Leah, both spoke about the IA.

Rajani Arunandhi spoke about the IA.

B. Members of the Administration

Dr. Shaner thanked all of the new teachers and commented on how inspiring it is to see the dedication to our students. Dr. Shaner thoroughly enjoyed the bus tour with this group that occurred the week before school started.

Dr. Shaner also gave a huge thank you to the committee that planned our staff opening day celebration.

Dr. Shaner acknowledged the transportation issues that have occurred since the first day of school and that the district continues to work diligently with Durham Services/National Transit to correct the issues.

Lastly, Dr. Shaner has talked with a number of parents who are concerned about the future of the IA and he reiterated the District's commitment to it.

Debi Fragomeni shared how joyful this first week of school has been. Transitional Kindergarten has had a successful start. Brooklands has a few open spots available and screeners will be set up to place new students. Curriculum Night is coming up and is a great opportunity for our community to come out and meet our teachers and see our facilities.

C. Members of the Board of Education

Barb Anness met with Neil DeLuca, Principal of Rochester High School, as she is the new liaison to RHS this year. She also the liaison to Meadowbrook and Delta Kelly and is looking forward to connecting with Mr. Berg and Dr. McKay in the near future.

Michelle Bueltel met with Matthew Fairchild, new Assistant Principal at Reuther, as well as Wendy Darga. She is looking forward to visiting her other buildings.

Mike Zabat appreciated all of the new teachers that were recognized at tonight's meeting. Mike shared some words of wisdom (confirmed by research at Johns Hopkins University) about how positive relationships in childhood can prevent depression later in life and overall better mental health.

Announcements

September 23 – 7:00 p.m., Board of Education Work Session, Hart Middle School

October 7 – 7:00 p.m., Board of Education Regular Meeting, Administration Building

October 21 – 7:00 p.m., Board of Education Work Session, Hamlin Elementary School

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Moved by: Kevin Beers

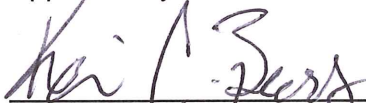
Seconded by: Andrea Walker-Leidy

Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Christina Whitmore
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

 10-7-19
Acting Secretary, Board of Education