



STUDY SESSION, 5:30 PM – Equity Policies

Trustees reviewed and discussed the draft of the *Equity in Achievement and Access* policy which was compiled by Planning and Performance committees.

The Performance Committee will prepare a separate policy to address summer school.

The overall organization of the policy sections will be addressed; want to keep access and achievement items together.

Culturally relevant curriculum and instruction will be further explained in the regulation.

The Board will look at equity issues in all policies.

Adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

7:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Baskett led the pledge.

ROLL CALL

Present – Trustees Baskett, Cross (President), Gates-Bryant, Mexicotte, Nelson (Secretary), Patalan (Vice President)

Absent – Trustee Friedman (Treasurer)

Present from Administration – Allen, Hunter, Trent, Margolis, Osinski (Recorder)

INTRODUCTION OF NON-VOTING MEMBER AT THE TABLE

President Cross introduced Dr. Todd Roberts, Superintendent of Schools.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved by consent.

STUDENT PRESENTATION

Tina Pagnucco and Patricia Wilson Stewart introduced the Haisley Oratorical Club. Students made presentations to the Board: Mallory Hughes-2nd grade, Alexandra Cash-5th, Samantha Torres-5th, Jason Kerst-5th, Sophia Klein-5th

CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

Kelly Kellar – Teacher at Scarlett

Nominated by: Eric & Debbie Harris and Kim Woods, parents

Announced by: Deb Mexicotte

Comments from Eric & Debbie Harris:

“My son is a 7th grade student at Scarlett. In the first month of his 6th grade year I contacted the counselor who put me in touch with Ms. Kellar. Ms. Kellar immediately went through William's previous school records which

included speech services, and scheduled testing and a date for an IEP for my son. She was in contact with me through the entire process and immediately eased my concerns. Her relationships with all her students and parents is passionate and committed. She has contacted me in the evenings to follow up with an issue or to just check in on how William was doing. She maintains regular contact and has always gone above any job expectations. Any concern that comes up, she is on it immediately and I trust her judgment immensely. She has implemented a Friday sheet for her students to keep parents informed of assignments completed or missing and all tests or upcoming assignments. I am always amazed at the individual attention she gives to each student, especially knowing the large number of students she has. Ms Kellar has made herself available many times after school to help with an upcoming assignment or to prepare for a test. She always knows exactly where each student stands with their grades and assignments. She is a tremendous asset to AAPS and I believe strongly she is well deserving of this award. I can honestly say if not for her assistance and attention to my son, I don't know if we would have stayed at Scarlett for his middle school years. She not only takes the time to teach the academic lessons, she teaches valuable life lessons to her students (timelines, responsibility, honesty, and self respect). She is an amazing educator!!”

Comments from Kim Woods:

My son is a 7th grader at Scarlett Middle School. He has had Kelly Kellar as his Teacher Consultant for 2 years. Kelly is a wonderful asset to your team.

When Justin first started at Scarlett, he had quite an adjustment to middle school. At times it wasn't easy. At times it was just down right hard. I was beginning to think maybe Scarlett wasn't the learning place for him. The very first time I met Kelly she told me that if I had any problems with Justin at Scarlett about anything -- his classes, his homework, teachers, anything -- I should talk to her first and she would help me out. So I went and spoke with her about Justin's adjustment to middle school. She agreed that it appeared to be taking a little longer than usual for him to adjust but asked that I give her a little bit more time to work with him. She figured out what made him tick, learned his personality and worked with him. She didn't give up on him at all. She took a young man who hated middle school in September and turned him into someone who couldn't wait to get back to school after a holiday break! She is truly amazing!

When we have nights where homework is not going as I feel it should, I shoot Kelly an e-mail explaining the situation and the steps we've taken at home and she picks up the next morning where I left off the night before. She truly "has my back" so to speak. My perception is that I have always tried to "team" with Justin's teachers and support staff to do what is best for Justin. But I have to say, that I don't think I've ever met anyone who teams with a student and their family better than Kelly Kellar does. She takes it to a whole new level! She's always caring, supportive and positive of Justin no matter what the situation.

One thing that I'm trying to get my children to do is advocate for themselves especially when it comes to their education. At a meeting with Kelly, I saw Justin do that very thing. We were meeting with her regarding class choices. If Justin didn't understand something, he asked her for an explanation, thought about what she said and then gave his thoughts and feelings about the situation. As a parent, it was wonderful to observe this type of discussion between Justin and Kelly. She listens to him and he knows that she'll listen to him. That's huge for a child to feel that they can be open and honest with a person in authority and know that that person is truly hearing what they are saying. He also knows that she is going to be open and honest with him. She calls things like she sees them and he knows that. But it's that honesty that makes Kelly so special. She has the ability to get him to reevaluate his own actions/thoughts/words and then do the right thing.

Justin says “She's a great teacher and helper because she writes assignments and tests on the board to help students out” in being more organized and responsible for their work. “She also takes the time to help a student out if they need help when taking a test.”

Kelly has recently implemented a system to let parents know the weekly status of their children's homework/assignments. She looks at a system, evaluates what's working, what's not and modifies it to benefit

her students and keep their parents up-to-date.

Kelly is always up beat and positive! Her sense of humor, honesty and willingness to tackle any situation (good or bad) is what makes Kelly so special! She is truly an asset to Ann Arbor Public Schools and to the families she serves! She is well deserving of this award!"

Andrew Sargent – Teacher at Allen

Nominated by: Monica Reich, parent

Announced by: Irene Patalan

"My son, Jacob, attended preschool at Allen Elementary and had some fairly significant issues with sensory integration and playing well together with other children. Even though Jacob was supposed to attend Lakewood Elementary, I applied for him to stay at Allen to help his transition into kindergarten. When I learned that Mr. Sargent would be Jacob's kindergarten teacher, I was nervous and somewhat apprehensive about how Jacob would react to having a male, first-year teacher. Mr. Sargent has more than proven my initial apprehensions as irrelevant, and has exceeded expectations I would have had even for a more senior teacher.

Mr. Sargent was originally assigned to teach another grade at a different school and was informed of his new assignment as a kindergarten teacher at Allen only about one week before school started. He quickly adapted and embraced the new challenge. I've had the pleasure of volunteering on Wednesday's in Mr. Sargent's class since October 2008, and I've been amazed at how well he handles the classroom. He has set up wonderful procedures and guidelines that help the students transition easily through their day. Mr. Sargent is consistent and firm but fair, and he is always respectful in his interactions with the students, parents, and other Allen staff. Whenever students say, "I can't," or, "This is too hard," Mr. Sargent always encourages them to work through their challenges and helps them find a way to see that they really can do it.

It is hard to believe that Jacob had so many issues in preschool just one year ago, and I am positive that a significant reason for Jacob's growth and improvement has been the guidance and care that Mr. Sargent shows for his students. Please consider this exceptional teacher as a recipient for a Celebration of Excellence Award."

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None

REPORTS OF ASSOCIATIONS

▪ Youth Senate

Senate's first Town Hall meeting was held 3/24 to gain ideas and feedback from students. Poetry Slam semi-final will be held 3/26 @ 7pm. HBO will be highlighting Ann Arbor in its documentary series "Brave New Voices." The Achievement Solutions Teams are moving forward with agenda items. Youth Senate's Fight Poverty in African Project team heard from Mr. Godwin Okonko on the hardships of children in Africa. The third Advanced Leadership Training session was held today regarding communication skills. Community's Game Club will host a fundraiser this Friday. Cheryl Grace's forum is holding a fundraiser to support the Mlodi Widow's Group.

▪ Ann Arbor Parent Advisory Committee (AAPAC)

Will host a parent workshop "The Dance of Partnership: Why Do My Feet Hurt?" April 22, 7-9 p.m. Next meeting is April 6, 7 p.m. in room B329 at Skyline High School.

▪ Ann Arbor Educators Association (AAEA)

President Linda Carter participated in UM mock interviews. Provided a history of MEA-sponsored scholarships awarded since 1997.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Performance**
 - Met March 2 to work on policy review (1000, 2000 series) and on Equity in Achievement and Access policy. Received a report from Huron Student Council who had done a climate survey.
- **Planning**
 - Next meeting is April 14 at 6:00 p.m..

INFORMATION

Facilities Update

- Mr. Trent presented an update on the **Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP)**. Thirty projects have been completed to date with 10 remaining.
- Mr. Trent reported that **Skyline High School** has received 5 awards since its completion this past fall:
 - LEED Certification – Silver Award
 - Learning By Design Outstanding Project 2009
 - WCA Pyramid Award Club
 - 2008 Michigan Building Award
 - Sierra Club Conservation Accomplishment Award
- The Skyline High School project professional team was introduced and applauded for their expertise and diligence in bringing this project to a successful conclusion.

Read180 Update

- Ms. Hunter and Mr. Hatt presented results from the READ180 and System 44 literacy interventions in Slauson, Scarlett, Clague, Tappan and Forsythe. An average of a years' growth or more in student Lexile scores are being accomplished in one semester as a result of these programs.

Reading Apprenticeship

- A presentation of the Reading Apprenticeship instructional framework has shown marked improvement in student DRP scores, and has positively affected student success across all content areas in which it is taught. This district initiative is recommended for all secondary students to address adolescent literacy.

FIRST BRIEFING

None

SECOND BRIEFING – *scheduled for approval at this meeting*

2nd Quarter Financial Report – no further discussion

B04-218 Bus Purchases – no further discussion

Skyline Easement – no further discussion

Policy Updates – no further discussion:

New Member Orientation (1170), Meeting Type & Notice (1200), Meetings-Agenda (1220), Minutes (1270), Participation at Board Meetings (1300), Budget

ACTION – CONSENT AGENDA – *scheduled for approval at this meeting**2nd Quarter Financial Report*

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Mexicotte, moved to approve the 2nd Quarter Report as presented. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

B04-218 Bus Purchases

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Mexicotte, moved to approve the purchase of 15 buses from Capital City Bus Sales in the amount of \$1,177,875 for the 2009/10 school year. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

Skyline Easement

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Mexicotte, moved to approve the easement to DTE on the Skyline property. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

Policy Updates:

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Mexicotte, moved to approve the revised policies:

- New Member Orientation (1170), Meeting Type & Notice (1200), Meetings-Agenda (1220), Minutes (1270), Participation at Board Meetings (1300), Budget Adherence (3190)

On roll call vote, the motion carried, 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

Approve minutes of the 3/11/09 Regular Meeting

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Mexicotte, moved to approve the minutes of the 3/11/09 Regular Meeting as presented. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

Approve minutes of the 1/7/09 and 2/18/09 Executive Sessions

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Mexicotte, moved to approve the minutes of the 1/7/09 and 2/18/09 Executive Sessions as presented. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

Gift Offers

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Mexicotte, moved to accept the gift offers as presented. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Roberts read his report:

In the Regional Science Olympiad held at Washtenaw Community College:

- Slauson won – 2 - 1st Place Awards
- Huron won 13 - first to fourth place awards and 3rd place overall
Huron senior, Ben Thompson will be making his third trip to the International Science and Engineering Fair. He has won either first or second in the regional fair for the last three years.
- Clague 7th grader Leon Pescador and Slauson 8th grader Gabrielle Zacks, have each qualified for the State Geographic Bee to be held at Western Michigan University.
- Ken Monash's fourth grade students at Dicken Elementary celebrated the culmination of their class poetry study by creating a "poetry café." The students planned the event from invitations to refreshments, and over 94 people attended to hear the authors read their original poems.
- Huron juniors Sasha Derks and Charles Reischl are the recipients of the Breakfast Optimist Club of Ann Arbor's Harold Eastman Outstanding Youth Achievement Award.
- Community High's two Mock Trial teams placed first and fourth out of 41 teams in the Eastern District competition.
 - Huron's Mock Trial team also finished in the top 10
- A record 35 Pioneer and one Forsythe German student won awards in the annual statewide German language competitions at the University of Michigan.
There were: 13 - 1st Place, 14 - 2nd Place and 10 - 3rd place awards.
- The Huron Business Professionals of America Chapter competed in the 37th Annual State Leadership Conference and had 3 First Place and 7 second place wins. Of the 54 students that attended, 28 students won a total of 39 awards with 13 students qualifying for the National Leadership Conference to be held in May in Dallas, Texas.
- 171 members of four Pioneer Choirs, directed by Kenneth Westerman, sang at the Michigan School Vocal Music Association District 12 Choral Festival and all received excellent ratings.
- The Slauson 8th Grade Concert Choir, directed by Cherry Westerman, received a "Superior" rating in the same event
- The Tappan Cadet Choir received an "Excellent" rating and the Concert received a "Superior" Rating. Bonnie Kidd is their vocal music director.
- Bonnie Kidd, as been elected to conduct the SSA Junior High School State Honors Choir.
- Skyline Bands received an overall first division rating at the MSBOA Band and Orchestra festival.
- Three Huron Bands received first division ratings at the same event.
- Pioneer High School's Souflege, one of nine extra curricular ensembles, won the Varsity Vocals Midwest High School A Cappella Competition and will advance to the National Finals at Lincoln Center in New York.

- Community High Jazz band students participated in a workshop with 4-time Grammy Winning Bassist Victor Wooten (Bela Fleck and the Flecktones).
- Community High's Advanced I Jazz Combo won "Best Combo" at Western Michigan University's Invitational Jazz Festival. The adjudicators chose eight groups as outstanding combos and four were from Community.
- Community senior, Eric Tinkerhess, participated in a Master Class workshop with Master Cellist, Yo Yo Ma. Eric and his Trio, Animando, were the only three high school students to participate.
- Celia Chagnovich, fifth grade student in Mrs. Richardson's class at Lawton, entered the Kroger writing contest "I am making History," and won first place and a laptop computer for her poem, "Walking Through Black Ages."
- Three Pioneer HomeBuilding students competed in the SkillsUSA Regional competition and have advanced to the State competition.
- Pioneer's men's swim team won the Division I state championship and Huron came in second.
- Four Haisley second graders were selected to demonstrate their use of technology at the MEA/MACUL Student Technology Showcase held at Cobo Hall in Detroit
- 7 of our visual arts students placed in the Michigan Art Education Association State Competition. Three of the four are Slauson students and Tim Eiseman is their teacher.
- Jim Schulz, Art teacher at Bach and Haisley schools, had two pieces of his clay art work juried into the state wide 45th Annual MEA/MAEA Exhibit.
- March is Youth Art Month.

Thank you to all the art teachers who organized the student artwork on display in downtown businesses. Thanks also to everyone who participated in the "downtown art walk" and reception at Palio's restaurant. The student art will remain on display until the end of the month.

Skyline High School received two awards:

1. LEED SILVER CERTIFICATION

LEED is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings. The 381,000 square foot school was registered with the U.S.G.B.C. in October 2004, and received notification of certification in March 2009. The certification reflects a deep commitment from the district, community and design/construction team to create a building that incorporates the principles of environmentally friendly sustainable design.

Skyline high school was contracted to deliver a LEED Certified building from our project team. The project EXCEEDED the goal and was awarded a LEED SILVER CERTIFICATION.

2. The Washtenaw Contractor's Association (WCA) Pyramid Award

Skyline was awarded the WCA Pyramid Award as the best project TEAM for 2008 projects over \$25,000,000. The award is juried by Architects and Contractors from the Washington D.C. area to eliminate any local bias. The award is given to for the best project team (owner, architect and construction manager) that persevered the most difficult challenges with the best result.

The competition was impressive for the award as the UM Ross School of Business and the Detroit Airport North Terminal were nominated as well.

ITEMS FOR AGENDA PLANNING

ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Vice President Patalan noted that the formal Superintendent Evaluation will be scheduled in May and asked that Trustees send names of community members to be surveyed to her, Karen or Todd.

Trustee Nelson attended Orchestra Night

Vice President Patalan attended MASB Legislative Conference.

Trustee Baskett appreciated the donation 5th grade camp scholarships from Donaldson & Guenther Dentistry

ADJOURNMENT

9:50 p.m.