



Present: Trustees Baskett, Mexicotte, Nelson (Recorder), Patalan, Stead, Roberts
Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Stead, moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Negotiations. Motion approved unanimously. President Mexicotte recessed the regular meeting at 5:05 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting was resumed at 7:06 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice President Patalan led the pledge.

ROLL CALL

Present – Trustees Baskett, Lightfoot, Mexicotte (President), Nelson (Secretary), Patalan (Vice President), Stead

Absent – Trustee Friedman (Treasurer)

Present from Administration – Allen, Comsa, Simpson, Margolis, Hunter, Dickinson-Kelley, Trent, Osinski (Recorder)

INTRODUCTION OF NON-VOTING MEMBER AT THE TABLE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The revised agenda was approved by consent.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Clague student, Leon Pescador, received the Michigan Council for Social Studies' Middle School Student of the Year award, presented by MEEMIC Insurance.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

- David Coupland and students spoke about Skyline Robotics team and requested donations needed to attend the national championship tournament.
- Jennifer Wolf spoke against privatization
- Humberto Valencia spoke against privatization
- Crystal Barnes spoke against privatization
- Richard Miller spoke against privatization
- DeAngelo Malcolm spoke against privatization
- William Mahew spoke against privatization
- Darrell Wilson spoke against privatization
- Jerry Brooks spoke against privatization
- Chai Montgomery spoke against privatization

REPORTS

AAPAC – Disability Awareness Workshops are being presented in many schools. This is the first year schools are able to use our own kit. The final workshop is at King Elementary, March 26. A free workshop on Assistive Technology will be offered for parents, staff and caregivers, March 31, 7-9 pm at WISD. The next meeting will be April 12, 7pm, room B329 at Skyline.

PTOC - Encouraged parents to become involved in their local PTO and advocate for stable school funding. The PTO Advocacy Committee will voice the concerns of AAPS School Parents on state level school financing issues.

AAAA - Principals are working hard to provide support and ease tensions during the difficult budget reduction process.

AAEA – Called for all citizens to become politically active in Lansing to fight for funding reform.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning – met 3/16 to review policies being briefed tonight, reviewed lease to add cell tower antennas. Began conversation on how to add language to reflect “college and career ready” in terms of student achievement. Next meeting is 4/1 at 6:30 pm – Balas.

Performance – met 3/11 to review the quarterly financial report and expiring policies. Reviewing Policy for enrolling students of non-resident employees with the new school of choice option. Next meeting will be 3/31 at 4pm to discuss policies and board member roles in communications and advocacy, as well as status of Clemente and Stone communications.

INFORMATION

Approved Minutes of the February 3, 2010 Regular Meeting, pp. 2-6

Approved Minutes of the February 17 and March 8, 2010 Study Sessions, pp. 7-8

FIRST BRIEFING

2nd Quarter Financial Report

Mr. Allen and Ms. Hoover reviewed the quarterly report. Trustees discussed with presenters upcoming challenges due to the instability of revenue. The use of fund equity was discussed, noting the importance of maintaining fund equity for cash flow purposes. Should a district be unable to meet payroll, the state considers the district insolvent and will take over with mandatory reduction plans. The proposed Governor’s plan for retirement incentives was discussed.

Policy Updates

The board reviewed the following: 3060-Investments; 3080-Trust & Agency Funds; 3100-Budget Planning Process; 3190 –Budget Adherence and Adjustment; 3200-Capital Needs Fund; 3210-General Fund Balance; 3300-Efficiency Improvement; 3400-Facilities Long-Range Planning; 3700-Risk Management; 3710-Insurance; 3750-Maintenance; 3890-Credit Cards; 5110-Homeless Students; 7800-Parental Involvement; 5400-Safety, Injuries & Emergencies. These will be brought back April 14 for a second briefing and potential action. Vice President Patalan noted that some of the 3000 policies need to be reviewed to make the addition of CFO – Deputy Superintendent.

Draft Budget Plan

Dr. Roberts, Robert Allen, Randy Trent, Lee Ann Dickinson-Kelley and Joyce Hunter presented the recommendations for budget reductions needed to address the \$20 million deficit for 2010-11.

Trustees expressed concern about fees for summer school. It was explained that scholarships (through General Fund dollars) would be provided based on free and reduced lunch schedules. The fees were based on the Rec & Ed structure for camps.

President Mexicotte noted that Music is a curricular subject and should not be lumped into “extra-curricular” activities.

Ms. Dickinson-Kelley explained that the district will continue with music, PE and art , media center and computer lab at elementary level and, in fact, will expand ILT program k-5, aligned with METS, and adding humanities to K-5. Haven't made changes to our special areas in 40 years.

Will know by mid-April if layoffs will occur. The district's staffing process runs through the summer, but contractually, the district must let staff know of potential layoffs by the end of April.

Would like a Q & A on the website around the addition of the Humanities strand.

Trustees discussed the fact that the Media Planning Centers in the middle schools were reviewed 10 years ago and viewed as a "dumping ground" for kids with behavior problems. Part of making the MPC worthwhile was staffing it with certified teachers. The proposal now stands to move back to what was done prior to the recommendation. We have continued to struggle around this particular area. Is it time to re-vision this model rather than move back to the old model that wasn't good? Suggested the possibility of using community assistants as opposed to media planning centers in the middle schools.

Administration is taking a conservative approach with regard to the budget scenarios.

The plan is being presented with the intent of having the board's general consent that this is the direction the district should take in terms of reductions.

SPECIAL BRIEFING

Cell Phone Tower Antenna Lease Additions

Mr. Trent presented the proposal for additional leases to add antennas to existing cell tower sites. Trustee Baskett requested that benchmarking be done to assure we are getting the best contract price for future leases.

SECOND BRIEFING – scheduled for approval at this meeting

Schools of Choice Resolution - No further discussion.

ACTION – CONSENT AGENDA – scheduled for approval at this meeting

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Stead approved the following resolution:

Whereas, the State School Aid Act has enacted a provision allowing local school districts to enroll nonresident students and count them in membership without having to obtain approval from the district of residence, and

Whereas, Section 105 permits local school districts to enroll students who reside in other local school districts within the same intermediate school district, and

Whereas, each school district can decide whether or not to participate in schools of choice, and

Whereas, the Ann Arbor Public Schools wishes to participate in schools of choice on a space-available basis to be determined annually.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ann Arbor Public Schools will allow limited enrollment as presented, as part of the schools of choice provision – Section 105, for WISD residents (Chelsea, Dexter, Lincoln, Manchester, Milan, Saline, Whitmore Lake, Willow Run and Ypsilanti) not living within the Ann Arbor Public School District, for the 2010-2011 school year, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ann Arbor Public Schools will comply with the procedures and timelines described in the legislation.

On roll call vote, the resolution was adopted, 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

Cell Phone Tower Antenna Lease Additions

Trustee Stead, supported by Vice President Patalan, moved to approve the lease agreement with Clearwire, Inc. for additional cell tower antennas as presented. On roll call vote, the motion carried 5-1; Trustee Baskett voting no, Trustee Friedman absent.

Approve Minutes of the March 10, 2010 Regular Meeting

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Stead, moved to approve the minutes of the 3/10/10 Regular Meeting as presented. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

Approve Minutes of the February 17, 2010 Executive Session

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Stead, moved to approve the minutes of the 2/17/10 Executive Session. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

Approved Minutes of the February 24, 1010 Executive Session

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Stead, moved to approve the minutes of the 2/24/10 Executive Session. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent.

Gift Offers

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

ACTION – BOARD ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Forbes Magazine has named Ann Arbor as #1 in its list of the Top 10 College Towns. One of the reasons cited was “a top-notch public school system.”
- Earlier this month, the Southeastern Science Fair was held at Washtenaw Community College.
 - Huron students won six of the top ten awards and 62 out of 89 total awards.
 - Clague students took 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th in experiment and research projects and 2nd, 6th and 7th in Individual Projects.
 - Forsythe students took first to sixth place in the Model/Collection category.
- Community High School's two mock trial teams finished in first and third place, out of 41 teams, at the Regional Tournament and will compete in the state finals.

- The Pioneer Synchronized Swimming team won its second consecutive (17th overall) state championship. Huron came in third.
- Stone High School student Aissa Pool placed first in the Cosmetology program's regional Skills USA competition and will go on to compete at the State level.
- Huron's Business Professionals of America attended the 2010 State Leadership Conference. They won ten state championships and brought home 44 awards--20 of them first place! 24 Huron students qualified for the National Leadership Conference.
- Skyline High School hosted Ann Arbor's FIRST Robotics District Competition on March 13 and several teams from Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti and Chelsea competed.
The team from Huron was named Finalist Number 2 and received the Judges Award
The team from Skyline won the Rookie All Star Award and Highest Rookie Seed Award.
- Community junior, Michelle Grifka, has won the National Spanish Exam Junior Travel Award and will take part in a free summer program in Mexico.
- Pioneer's Symphony and Jazz Bands will perform in China on a tour during spring break.
- The 2010 Ann Arbor Breakfast Optimist Club Outstanding Youth Awards recipients:
from Pioneer are: Megan Schechtman and Justin Sherman.
from Huron are; Samantha Stymiest and Noah Collins.
- Community High School Senior, Sarah Juster, has been honored for her exemplary volunteer service with a State of Michigan Certificate of Excellence from the 2010 Prudential Spirit of Community.
- Pioneer teacher, Tracey VanDusen had two groups of students from her AP Government class win "Honorable Mention" awards in C-SPAN's StudentCam documentary film contest. There were over 1,000 entries from all over the United States and only 75 award winners.
- The following Ann Arbor school buildings have achieved Emerald Green Status by the Michigan Green Schools Association:
Allen, Bryant, King, Lawton, Logan, Mitchell, Pattengill, Thurston, Wines and Slauson.
- Bach Elementary teacher Robin Frisch-Gleason, who spent two months at a research station in Antarctica in 2007, has led a series of professional development workshops for teachers to learn ways to involve K-12 students in climate change science. The culminating event will be a video Climate Change Student Summit, where teachers and students will share their research and learning with similar groups in Chicago and Anchorage.
- Pioneer Athletic Director, Lorin Cartwright, was awarded the Great Lakes Athletic Trainers' Association's Outstanding Educator Award at the Great Lakes Athletic Trainers Association Winter Meeting.

Community Budget Forums:

- Monday, April 12, Pioneer, 6:30, Little Theater
- Tuesday, April 13, Huron, 6:30, Little Theater

ITEMS FOR AGENDA PLANNING

Baskett – noted that the Performance Committee meeting will be moved from 4/1 to 3/31 @ 4pm.

ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Nelson – Attended Bands in Review. Attended Choral Cavalcade @ Skyline last night. Participated in Challenge Day @ Huron – noted that the school and students were an important part of the program.

Baskett – Attended Robotics competition; please support the team. Black Parent Student Support group met this week; Mr. Simpson talked about disproportionality. AAPSEF will launch a great fundraising campaign next week. Community activism; every position running for election should be questioned about what they will do to support funding for education.

Lightfoot - Attended the forum @ Mallets Creek; appreciated that district administrators were present. Encouraged more of that. Board needs to do more to lead the forums, to provide data and information to the community; enlisting support. Need to take the lead on the achievement gap.

ADJOURNMENT

12:23 A.M.