



**CALL TO ORDER**

7:00 pm

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Trustee Friedman led the pledge.

**ROLL CALL**

Present – Trustees Baskett, Friedman (Treasurer), Hollier (arrived at 7:20 pm), Mexicotte (President), Nelson (Secretary), Patalan (Vice President)

**INTRODUCTION OF NON-VOTING MEMBER AT THE TABLE**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Revised Agenda approved by consent.

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

- Kathy Griswold – Spoke about Coalition for Responsible Schools for all Students. [www.a2crss.org](http://www.a2crss.org)
- Dr. Beverly Geltner – spoke about assisting the school district during these difficult economic times.
- Ted Annis – spoke about assisting the district with budget.
- Trustee Friedman responded to the comments of the previous speakers. He noted that the largest participant financially supporting the opposition to the millage, Albert Berriz, had the most at stake with respect to his property taxes. Mr. Berriz was invited and met with Dr. Roberts for a comprehensive discussion on district finances. He brought no constructive, informed, intelligent observations that would help us. We tried to educate him; he said he was here to help. Needs to tell the community the truth about raising taxes. Expressed concern about inaccurate comments that are being made.

**REPORTS**

**Black Parent Student Support Group** – reported on meeting November 24 to discuss new high school graduation requirements. Esther Caudle, Peter Pasquez and Joyce Hunter presented good information and answered questions. The group was very encouraged by the information and additional support being offered to students. Next meeting is December 15.

**Ann Arbor Parent Advisory Committee** – AAPAC website has been reconstructed. The new address is <http://instruction.aaps.k12.mi.us/aapac/> A free workshop is scheduled for December 3 “Helping your child get along in the world: Strategies for social success” presented by Judy Coucouvanis. All are invited. Next meeting is Dec 7 at 7pm – Syline.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Planning** – Vice President Patalan has been appointed chair of the committee. The committee hasn’t met since last board meeting. December 8 previously scheduled as a committee meeting will be a study session to interview candidates to fill the vacant board seat. The deadline for applying is 4pm on December 3.

**Performance** – Met November 19 to review the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report. The next meeting is December 10 at 6:00 pm.

**FIRST BRIEFING**

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report – Allen, pp. 4-14

Mrs. Hoover and Mr. Allen presented the financial report for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. Trustee Nelson went over in detail how the budget and quarterly reports fit together. President Mexicotte reminded the

community that the district revenues have risen 1% each year, but expenses have risen at a rate of 6% to 7% each year.. We have cut the difference year after year.

Trustee Friedman noted that we need to change how public education is funded. Revenue development needs to be addressed on a larger scale. Suggests a campaign for excellence in the classroom.

There is \$4 million held in fund balance for compensated absences. \$17 million needed for cash flow during which we don't receive funding from the state. So \$21 is what we need to operate. There is very little if any flexible balance left.

The deficit was \$7 million; \$5 million in reduction and \$2 million from fund equity. After budget was set, we learned that we would need to cut \$8.6 million from our budget this year. There are contracts in place and laws about when we can terminate a contract in the middle of the year. Disruption to students would be major. All total we will be looking at a \$15 million cut this year.

An additional \$5 million for next year is a total of 10% from the operating expense, on top of 8% this year.

Believes that the community and alumni should give to support public education.

*School Elections – Roberts*

Dr. Roberts reviewed information about the elections and options for moving from May to November or every-other year May in order to reduce costs.

Will need to have an attorney review options if electing to go from 4 to 6-year terms. Would we have to go out for a vote for this? Will check.

Should be a community decision. Key item is the effect, if any, on the quality of the board. Need to do a better job of educating citizens. What are the true net costs of public education, benefits of education of children, especially educating children in poverty. What is the change in rents. Otherwise, we are at the mercy of the wealthy who have the money to support their goals, not educating children.

4 year or 6 year terms?

Every other year elections.

Board changing in the middle of the school year.

Partisan

Encouraged the community to contact the board with suggestions and comments. Could address the board at public comment at the study session tomorrow night and on 12/8.

The person appointed to fill the vacant seat, could vote themselves into a 2-year term.

What would be the best scenario for the district.

Want to get information on the website as soon as it is available. Trustees need to look at the Powerpoint carefully and ask administration the questions.

Could consider December 9<sup>th</sup> as a public hearing.

**SECOND BRIEFING** – scheduled for approval at this meeting

09-037 Pioneer Renovation for Rec & Ed contract award – no further comment.

2008/09 Annual Financial Report – no further comment

Curriculum Recommendations of the Sexual Health Education Advisory Committee – Trustee Baskett asked that the minor changes be made to the process for selecting curriculum.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – no respondents.**

**ACTION – CONSENT AGENDA** – scheduled for approval at this meeting

*09-037 Pioneer Renovation for Rec & Ed contract award*

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Nelson, moved to approve the purchase of architectural walls and furnishings from Trenday Corporation in the amount of \$92,525.47. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0.

*2008/09 Annual Financial Report*

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Nelson, moved to approve the annual financial audit for the 2008/09 school year as presented. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0.

*Curriculum Recommendations of the Sexual Health Education Advisory Committee*

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Nelson, moved to approve the following recommendations for use in our health education programs: Michigan Model for Health: Healthy and Responsible Relationships (Michigan Department of Education); Saint Joseph Mercy Health Exploration Station; Healthy Relationships and Sexuality and HIV/AIDS (Glencoe). On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0.

*Draft Minutes of the 11/28/09 Regular Meeting*

Vice President Patalan, supported by Trustee Nelson, moved to approve the minutes of the 11/28/09 Regular Meeting. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0.

*Gift Offers*

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

**ACTION – BOARD ITEMS**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Roberts gave his report. He reminded trustees and the community that there will be a study session held 12/3/09 to address the budget.

**ITEMS FOR AGENDA PLANNING**

President Mexicotte suggested a public hearing be held around change in election dates on 12/9, 5:30 pm at Balas. Trustees Baskett and Hollier cannot attend. A quorum is not necessary in a study session. Trustees Nelson, Mexicotte, Patalan & Friedman can attend. Trustee Hollier was asked to check on requirements for a public hearing.

**ITEMS FROM THE BOARD**

Trustee Nelson attended a book club and commented on the cooperative effort that went into this club: UMS, District Library and Laura Roth, Teacher at Tappan, discussed a book that is being used in her class with funding from the Ed Foundation.

Patalan commented how Dr. Roberts and administration will be going out to talk to the community about the budget. She visited Allen School, Lawton & Pattengill, and Community HS, and noted we’re doing a good job.

President Mexicotte noted that the Executive Committee will be putting together the final list of candidate questions. If you have any input, get it to Deb Mexicotte by the end of the day tomorrow.

Reminded again that there is a Study Session tomorrow @ 5:30 regarding budget planning. A Study Session will be posted 12/8, 5:30 at Balas for board candidate interviews.

**ADJOURNMENT**

9:32 pm