



CALL TO ORDER

7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice President Patalan

ROLL CALL

Present: Trustees Baskett, Friedman (Treasurer), Hollier, Mexicotte (President), Nelson, Patalan (Vice President)

Present from Administration: Margolis, Allen, Osinski (Recorder)

INTRODUCTION OF NON-VOTING MEMBER AT THE TABLE

President Mexicotte introduced Dr. Todd Roberts, Superintendent of Schools

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Revised agenda approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

- Kathy Griswold – Spoke about Coalition for Responsible Schools for all Students. www.a2crss.org. Suggested the Board contact Robert Bob (Detroit Public Schools' CFO) for ideas.
- Dr. Beverly Geltner – spoke on behalf of Ted Annis who has requested employee and financial information.

BOARD CANDIDATE PRESENTATIONS

Noted the amazing slate of candidates. Encouraged those who are not selected to consider running for the open board seats.

Each of the 7 candidates made 5 minute presentations in the following order:

1. Simone Lightfoot
2. Jack Panitch
3. Kim Callahan Lijana
4. Christine Stead
5. Elizabeth Nelson
6. Margy Long
7. Andy Thomas

BRIEF RECESS

President Mexicotte recess the meeting at 7:57 pm and resumed at 8:17 pm.

BOARD CANDIDATE SELECTION

President Mexicotte explained the voting procedures, and opened nominations.

Trustee Hollier nominated Simone Lightfoot; Vice President Patalan nominated Margy Long; Trustee Friedman nominated Christine Stead; President Mexicotte nominated Andy Thomas.

Trustees reflected positively on all candidates and noted their difficulty in choosing among them.

By paper ballot, trustees cast votes as follows:

Simone Lightfoot: Trustees Baskett, Patalan, Nelson, Hollier

Christine Stead: Trustee Friedman

Margy Long: President Mexicotte

By majority vote, Simone Lightfoot was appointed Trustee to the Board for the term expiring December 31, 2010.

REPORTS

Youth Senate – Forwarded a written report to the Board: school club attendance as been low. Senate is interested in increasing school participation among historically uninvolved groups and if participation is merely to complete for college admission. Lunchtime Action Meetings will continue biweekly to address such concerns as Counselor Accessibility, Recycling and Green Efforts, open dialogue forums with administration.

Ann Arbor Parent Advisory Committee – expressed their appreciation for the efforts and sacrifices of the Superintendent and Cabinet, and commit their support to assist AAPS with innovative ideas to address the financial difficulties. Next meeting is Jan. 4, 7pm at Skyline.

Ann Arbor Parent Teacher Council – will assist to generate parent involvement in the upcoming budget presentations. PTOC will send 3 parents to the School Funding Summit in Lansing. Offered congratulations to Trustee Lightfoot.

Board Committee Reports...

Planning – Trustee Lightfoot was appointed to serve on this committee. Next meeting is Jan. 12, 5pm at Skyline.

Performance – Next meeting is Jan. 28, 6:00 pm at Balas

INFORMATION

Approved Minutes of the 11/18/09 Regular Meeting

Addressing 2009-10 State Funding Reduction – Roberts

- Dr. Roberts presented initial plans to address the **state funding reductions** for 2009/10 that are in the process of being presented to district staff. Community forums are scheduled January 7, 12, 14 and 19.
- *Memorandum of Understanding regarding state “Race to the Top” application* Dr. Roberts Dr. Roberts discussed the Memorandum of Understanding to apply for **Michigan Race to the Top** grant funds. Much is still uncertain about the program criteria. Dr. Roberts is waiting until the details have been finalized from the state before recommending participation. Recommends bringing this item back to the Board January 6.

SPECIAL BRIEFING

Resolution to Change Election Date

Trustee Mexicotte explained the proposed resolution to change the regular election date from annually in May to annually in November in order to save approximately \$90,000 in election costs.

PUBLIC HEARING ON CHANGING THE REGULAR ELECTION DATE – no public commentary was received.

Trustee Hollier, supported by Vice President Patalan, moved the following resolution:

Whereas, the Board of Education of the Ann Arbor Public Schools desires to change its regular election date for the office of school board member from an annual May election date to an annual November election date.

Whereas, the Board of Education of the Ann Arbor Public Schools has held at least one public hearing, with proper legal notice, on the proposed resolution to reestablish its regular election date.

Whereas, the Board of Education of the Ann Arbor Public Schools has closed its public hearing prior to adopting this resolution.

Whereas, the Board of Education of the Ann Arbor Public Schools is authorized by MCL 168.642 to adopt this resolution.

Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows:

1. The Board of Education of the Ann Arbor Public Schools desires to reestablish its regular election for the office of school board member on the November annual election date.
2. The Board of Education of the Ann Arbor Public Schools authorizes and directs its secretary to file this resolution with the office of the Michigan Secretary of State.
3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are hereby rescinded.

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

SECOND BRIEFING – scheduled for approval at this meeting

- *1st Quarter Financial Report – no comment.*

ACTION – CONSENT AGENDA – scheduled for approval at this meeting

Approve 1st Quarter Financial Report

Trustee Nelson, supported by Vice President Patalan, moved to approved the Amendment to the General Appropriations Act – General Fund and the First Quarter Disbursements. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent for vote.

Memorandum of Understanding regarding state “Race to the Top” application. Removed until more information is available.

Approve minutes of the 12/2/09, 12/3/09 and 12/9/09 meetings..

Trustee Nelson, supported by Vice President Patalan, moved to approve the minutes of the 2/2/09 Regular Meeting, the 12/3/09 and 12/9/09 Study Sessions. On roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0, Trustee Friedman absent for vote.

Gift Offers

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

ACTION – BOARD ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Fine and Performing Arts Coordinator Robin Bailey submitted a very large nomination packet to Artserve of Michigan, nominating the Ann Arbor Public Schools' Board of Education for the Kennedy Center Award for School Boards that demonstrate outstanding support of the arts in education. Each state can only nominate one school board to the Kennedy Center and the Ann Arbor Board of Education was chosen to represent Michigan. The winning district receives a plaque and a cash award of \$10,000 to use for their arts education programs.

 - A team of 35 Forsythe students, coached by Mr. Daniel Ezekiel, placed second out of ten teams in Michigan in the Knowledge Master Open. On the national level, Forsythe ranked 28th out of 577 middle school teams in the U.S.

 - The Bryant/Pattengill community held their annual Math Night and 109 students attended along with their parents & siblings. Each student received a Math Game kit to take home. 31 Pioneer High School students from Mr. Klemmer's class volunteered to staff the game booths and to help students with their math mastery.

 - Pioneer senior Elizabeth Bush was selected for the SATB State Honors Choir that will perform as part of the Michigan Music Educator's Conference in Grand Rapids on Saturday, January 23.

 - A choir of students from Carpenter Elementary School sang WE ARE THE WORLD under the direction of Laura Machida, at the 13th Annual Sacred Song Concert which raised almost \$3,000 for Washtenaw Interfaith Council for Immigrant Rights. Pioneer senior Sam Deschamps was the accompanist.

 - A number of our schools collected food and money for Food Gathers of Ann Arbor:
 - Haisley 5th grade students collected 841 pounds of food.
 - Community High students raised \$4,257 in a two-week cash drive.
 - Dicken Student Council collected 747 pounds of food.

 - Dicken's Service Squad under the leadership of classroom teacher Laura Carino held a Red Cross Blood Drive and had 31 donors 20 units of blood were collected which will save 60 lives.
- The Service Squad also held a Thank a Soldier Initiative for Thanksgiving. The Service Squad organized a station at the Thanksgiving Potluck to provide students with an opportunity to make a card for a soldier thanking them for the many sacrifices he/she makes in service to our country.
- Huron High School's German students helped the city of Ann Arbor decorate the Kempf Haus museum which features the history of German influence in Ann Arbor.

 - The Hikone Student Exchange Program received a grant for \$2,000 from the Japanese Business Society of Detroit.

 - Pioneer students, Kelsey Thompson, grade 12, and Emmy Guttman, grade 11, were named to the Midwest Regional Field Hockey Team by the United States Field Hockey Association.

 - The "MEA Voice" has a story this month about H1N1 entitled, "Fighting the Flu." AAPS Nurse Laurelle Brennan is pictured on the cover as well as featured in the story.

- AAPS Psychologist Mary Spence has written a chapter on special education in a recently released book, “Principles and Practice of Child Adolescent - Forensic Mental Health.” It was her summer work in 2008
- Skyline High School is featured in “School Planning & Management” magazine as one of their top ten picks in the 2009 Green Education Design Awards.
- I want to thank Chartwell’s Food Service Director, David Lahey, and chef, Neil Murphy for their support in two recent initiatives to help feed some of our students.

The Pre-School and Family Center held a Food Gatherers' food distribution and Chef Neil gave a cooking demonstration for all the families. He developed a dinner menu of inexpensive ingredients and explained how to choose kid-friendly foods that are healthy and easy to prepare. This was a great support of our wellness efforts to encourage healthy eating.

Chartwells is supporting a food backpack pilot at Mitchell Elementary School to provide food for identified families who do not have food over the weekend. Food Gatherers supplies the food and Chartwells contributed the backpacks and staff time to pack the food and deliver it to Mitchell each Friday.

- Budget Forums at 6:30 pm: Huron-January 7; Skyline-January 12; Scarlett-January 14; Pioneer-January 19

ITEMS FOR AGENDA PLANNING

Memorandum of Understand to apply for the Michigan Race to the Top funds will be added to the January 6 agenda.

ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Nelson noted the University Record cooperative effort between UM and the AAPS through Healthy Schools. Went to poetry night sponsored by the Neutral Zone.

Vice President Patalan welcomed the new Trustee and noted that she will be contacting her for orientation.

ADJOURNMENT

10:15 pm