

# **ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING / STUDY SESSION**

March 25, 2013

### MINUTES

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting / Study Session of the Board of Education for the Rochester Community Schools, Rochester, Michigan was held on Monday, March 25, 2013, in the Rochester Community Schools Administration Center, 501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan. President Beth Talbert called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Beth Talbert, Lisa Nowak, Pat Piskulich, Jennifer Berwick, Chuck Coutteau, Jane Pierobon, Mike Zabat

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Robert Shaner, Dan Romzek, Beth Davis, Debbi Hartman, Jeff Mozdierz, John Stoner, Irene Larson, Debi Fragomeni, Dave Harwell, Anne Evans, Rachel Guinn, Ali Hamka, Eric Kausch, April Wuest, Sheila Scovic, Doug Hill, Amy Schuster and approximately 20 visitors.

#### **POINTS OF PRIDE**

##### **A. Hart Middle School, "Reading Buddies"**

Mr. Eric Kausch, Hart Middle School Assistant Principal Intern, shared the Reading Buddies program with the assistance of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students from Hart Middle School and four year olds in the Pre-K program.

#### **SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS**

##### **A. Former Board of Education Recognition, Gerald Moore**

Mrs. Hartman presented Mr. Moore with a plaque and thanked him for his service to the Board of Education from 2010-2012. Mrs. Talbert, Ms. Nowak and Mr. Coutteau expressed their thanks to Mr. Moore.

##### **B. Excellence in Education Award, Emily Smith, AHS**

Mr. Kevin Cumming introduced Emily Smith, student, and shared her achievements. Dr. Shaner and Mrs. Talbert presented Emily with a certificate of congratulations on behalf of the district.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

##### **A. Secretary of the Board of Education**

Mr. Piskulich shared the following communications that the Board of Education received since the prior meeting: Karen Passalacqua regarding concerns with outdoor recess; Julie Smith regarding a bullying situation at McGregor Elementary; Tracy Gruber regarding crossing guards at Reuther Middle School; and Leena Shah regarding her input on differentiation for RCS students.

**B. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda - None**

**C. Members of the Board of Education**

Mrs. Pierobon received communication from Coach Kramer at Hart Middle School; and Mr. Coutteau received communication from Mrs. Costew requesting a contact name from ACT.

Ms. Nowak also shared at Chat with the Board this evening that she spoke to Rich Maikoski regarding his thoughts on the RACE program.

**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

**A. Citizens Present at the Meeting**

La Toya Tung spoke regarding differentiation of gifted children.

Joshua Raymond thanked the Board of Education for having a study session regarding differentiation and shared discussion questions for the Board to consider.

**B. Members of the Administration - None**

**C. Members of the Board of Education**

Mr. Coutteau attended the Van Hoosen PTA Meeting and the District Reflections ceremony at Stoney Creek High School. He also attended "Little Shop of Horrors" at Adams High School and said that the performance and sets were excellent. Mr. Coutteau also attended the State of Oakland County Schools address with Mr. Romzek.

Mrs. Berwick attended the PTA Council Founder's Day Event which recognizes district volunteers.

Mrs. Pierobon attended three events including the District Art Show, the Hugger Hoedown and the Adams High School Invitational for wrestling where the district boys performed very well.

Mr. Piskulich attended the Sparkle Awards, along with other board members, which honors our special education students and individuals who work with them.

Mrs. Talbert was part of a panel at Oakland University on the topic of bullying following a screening of the film "Bully". She also spent the day at University Hills, Baldwin and Hamlin in classrooms.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Upcoming RCS Events**

March 28 - April 5, 2013

April 15, 2013

April 29, 2013

No School K-12 Spring Recess

7:00 P.M., Board of Education Regular Mtg., Harrison Room

7:00 P.M., Board of Education Regular Mtg. & Study Session, Harrison Room

## **STUDY SESSION**

### **A. The Differentiated Classroom (Informational Item) Ms. Larson and Mrs. Fragomeni**

Elementary Program Consultant, Mrs. Scovic opened the evening with a foundation for traditional versus differentiated classroom instruction. She clarified a workshop model for differentiating instructional strategies and focus on professional development for teachers, past, present and future learning opportunities.

The Board started in a fishbowl activity with Ms. April Wuest, Principal of Long Meadow. Ms. Wuest invited board members to "be a fourth grader" and experience a differentiated writing lesson illustrating how targeted instructional strategies can be successfully implemented in a classroom setting.

Board members then moved into small groups where teachers demonstrated how they differentiate in different subject areas using the workshop model.

Ms. Irene Larson, Director of Assessment, gave an overview of a district collaborative initiative to develop a systemic Multi-Tier Approach to teaching and learning.

A panel discussion with questions and answers by Board and audience members was offered to clarify, inquire and grow the conversations around differentiated instruction.

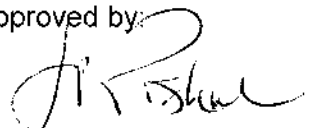
## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

Moved by: Mrs. Pierobon  
Supported by: Mr. Piskulich  
Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Amy Schuster  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:   
Secretary, Board of Education