

# **ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

September 10, 2012

### **MINUTES**

#### **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education for the Rochester Community Schools, Rochester, Michigan was held on Monday, September 10, 2012, in the Rochester Community Schools Administration Center, 501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan. President Jennifer Berwick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **ROLL CALL**

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

Members Absent: Gerald Moore with notice

Others Present: Fred Clarke, Geraldine Moore, Dan Romzek, Beth Davis, Debbi Hartman, John Stoner, Jeff Mozdierz, Anne Evans, Lori Hartnell, Irene Larson, Dave Harwell, Debi Fragomeni, Jason Grant, Victoria Righter, Teresa DiMaria, Michael Behrman, Dan Mooney, Cathy Kochanski, Rachel Guinn, Don Maskill, Mike Dillon, Doug Hill, Amy Schuster, Christine Keener and approximately 15 visitors.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Secretary of the Board of Education** – Mr. Coutteau shared the following communications that the Board of Education received since the prior meeting: Deborah Curtis regarding kindergarten concerns at North Hill Elementary; Mary Jordan regarding starting school on September 5 as a cost savings method; and Dawn Peterson regarding bus transportation.

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

**C. Members of the Board of Education** – Mr. Piskulich shared that he received communication from Louis Gallien, resident and Dean of Education at Oakland University, regarding Mr. Ulrich's replacement.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made to approve the following Consent Agenda items as presented.

**A. To approve the Current Bills Payable for July 29, 2012 through August 24, 2012 in the amount of \$6,077,053.11.**

**B. To approve the Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes of August 30, 2012.**

**C. To approve the Board of Education Closed Meeting Minutes of August 30, 2012.**

**D. To approve the Head Start Director's Report for June, 2012.**

**E. To approve Mrs. Berwick attending the Oakland County School Boards Association meeting on September 19, 2012 in the amount of \$30.00. Source of funding: General Fund**

Moved by: Ms. Nowak  
Supported by: Mr. Coutteau  
Motion carries: 6-0

**REPORTS**

**A. Human Resources Recommendations (Action Item) Ms. Davis**

Ms. Davis, Executive Director of Human Resources, presented the following recommendations:

**NEW TEACHER HIRES**

Randee Davison, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Hampton Elementary  
Jessica Drew, Art Teacher, Brooklands Elementary  
Ryan McConnell, Art Teacher, University Hills Elementary  
Nathaniel Muncie, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Baldwin Elementary  
Hadley O'Brien, Art Teacher, West Middle School  
Camie Lee Peasley, Art Teacher, North Hill Elementary  
Kendra Seitz, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher, Hampton Elementary  
Lauren Stack, E.I. Teacher, Long Meadow Elementary  
Sarah Stouffer-Bann, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher, Hampton Elementary

**RESIGNATION**

Joseph Galaska, Math and Computer Science Teacher, Rochester High School voluntarily resigned because he was recalled to his former district. He was a new teacher hire approved on August 13, 2012.

A motion was made to approve the Human Resources recommendations as presented.

Moved by: Mrs. Talbert  
Supported by: Mr. Piskulich  
Motion carries: 6-0

**B. Summer Learning Program (Informational Item) Mrs. Moore**

Mrs. Moore, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, reported on the Summer Learning Programs (SLP) for elementary and secondary students.

Board members discussion included participation numbers, tuition based, E20/20, credit recovery, face-to-face vs. on-line, enrollment trends, and SLP being a self-sustaining program.

Joshua Raymond, parent, questions included: increasing the variety of classes offered for the skill enhancement courses and offering a skipping a grade class.

**C. Opening Day (Informational Item) Mrs. Moore**

Mrs. Moore gave an update of the activities taking place the first day of school including the number of new enrollments.

**D. Legislative Update** (Informational Item) Mr. Clarke

Mr. Clarke gave a summary of the bills that are working their way through the legislature including in the MPERS reform act signed into law by the governor. After the bill was signed into law a suit was filed relating to the short time frame for employees to make retirement decisions. Further action by the legislature will probably taper off until after the election.

Before excusing himself from the meeting, Mr. Clarke thanked the Board for their support as he seeks employment elsewhere and wished them well in their appointment of an interim.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Board Transition Committee Report and Recommendation for Interim Superintendent Candidate**  
(Informational Item) Mrs. Berwick

Mrs. Berwick shared the following report from the Board Transition Committee:

As you are aware, Superintendent Clarke has informed the Board of Education of his intent to seek employment in a district that better fits his passion for working with underachieving students. In anticipation of Mr. Clarke's departure from the district, the Board appointed a Superintendent Transition Committee to identify a potential Interim Superintendent Candidate. The Committee is bringing forward Dr. Tresa Zumsteg for consideration of the full board.

Dr. Zumsteg is the retired Deputy Superintendent of the Oakland Intermediate School District where she had responsibility for the leadership and management of all instructional services for the 28 school districts and 200,000 students that comprise the ISD. Her prior experience includes 7 years as the Superintendent and 6 years as the Deputy Superintendent of the Berkley School District. From 1978-1993, Dr. Zumsteg was employed by the Rochester Community School District as a Teacher, Assistant Principal (Reuther), Principal (West), and as the Principal who opened Hart Middle School.

The Superintendent Transition Committee is recommending that the Board interview Dr. Zumsteg at the September 10, 2012 Board of Education meeting. Secondly, the committee recommends that the Board vote to enter into contract negotiations with Dr. Zumsteg. The committee believes this course of action will allow the district to make a seamless transition of leadership at the time of Mr. Clarke's departure.

**B. Board Interview: Interim Superintendent Candidate: Tresa Zumsteg** (Informational Item) Mrs. Talbert

Mrs. Talbert led the Board in asking Dr. Zumsteg questions in order to get to know her and learn more about her educational experiences and background. Dr. Zumsteg shared a summary of her professional experiences, how the role of the Interim Superintendent would be different than her prior experiences as a Superintendent, student achievement including what worked in other districts with helping assess and improve the delivery of instruction, her experience working with budgets and contracts, how she will be successful with the transition of the district's leadership, prioritizing work and time along with which areas she will focus her most attention on, communicating with the Board of Education, staff, parents and community groups.

**C. Contract Negotiations with Interim Superintendent Candidate** (Action Item) Mrs. Berwick

A motion was made for the Board of Education to enter into contract negotiations with Dr. Tresa Zumsteg for the position of Interim Superintendent.

Moved by: Mr. Coutteau  
Supported by: Mrs. Pierobon

Board members comments included taking responsibility for the position the district is currently in, the importance of the RCS staff feeling supported by Dr. Zumsteg as the Interim Superintendent, and the recent conversation with Dr. Vickie Markavitch, Superintendent of Oakland Schools, as a reference check for Dr. Zumsteg.

Mr. Coutteau read the following Proposed Board Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorize the Board of Education Transition Committee to negotiate an employment contract with Tresa Zumsteg to act as the District's interim superintendent at the point in time that Mr. Clarke steps down from the superintendent position, and further, to permit Mrs. Zumsteg to begin working on issues of transition hereafter at such times that the Board President and she may agree as an at-will employee without benefits on a per diem basis pending Board approval of such employment contract.

Motion carries: 6-0

### **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

**A. Citizens Present at the Meeting – None**

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

**C. Members of the Board of Education –** Mrs. Talbert thanked the staff for the opening of school and also shared the discussion that took place at Chat with the Board with Matt and Erin Ebach regarding schools of choice. Mrs. Nowak attended the PTA Council Leadership day last Thursday which was very well attended.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Upcoming RCS Events**

September 24, 2012 Board of Education Regular Meeting / Study Session, Administration Center, 7 p.m.  
October 8, 2012 Board of Education Regular Meeting, Administration Center, 7 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Moved by: Mrs. Pierobon  
Supported by: Mrs. Talbert  
Motion carries: 6-0

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Keener  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

  
Charles H. Coutteau  
Secretary, Board of Education