

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING / STUDY SESSION

September 26, 2011

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE

A regular meeting / study session of the Board of Education for the Rochester Community Schools, Rochester, Michigan was held on Monday, September 26, 2011, in the Rochester Community Schools Administration Center, 501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan. President Barb Cenko called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECORD ROLL

Members Present: Barb Cenko, Jennifer Berwick, Lisa Nowak, Beth Talbert, Marty Sibert, Chuck Coutteau

Gerald Moore arrived at 7:06 p.m.

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Fred Clarke, Geraldine Moore, Bill Mull, Beth Davis, Irene Larson, Debbie Hartman, Anne Evans, John Stoner, Jeff Mozdierz, Lori Hartnell, Josie Petitta, Michael Dillon, Don Maskill, Doug Hill, Christine Keener and approximately twenty visitors.

Mrs. Cenko welcomed audience members to the meeting and reminded the community of the ways in which they could participate in the meeting and/or contact the Board of Education.

ACADEMIC SPOTLIGHT – West Middle School

West Middle School staff, Christine Sisoler, Learning Consultant, and Rachel Ruddle, Math and Language Lab Teacher, highlighted academic intervention programs. Also, two middle school students shared their success with the SuccessMaker program.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Secretary of the Board of Education

Mr. Moore shared the following communications that the Board of Education received since the prior meeting: Diana Huettman regarding information on the district website, and Sarah Lewis regarding the location for graduation ceremonies.

B. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda – None

C. Student Representatives to the Board of Education

Theresa Knapp, student representative from Stoney Creek High School, shared information about activities taking place since the start of school which included homecoming activities, athletic teams, clubs and the fall play.

Leah Mazzara, student representative from Rochester High School, shared information about activities taking place since the start of school which included spirit week, homecoming, an upcoming presentation from Judge Nicholson, band festival, choir, college night and conferences.

D. Members of the Board of Education

Ms. Nowak received a communication from Reed Cao, student at Stoney Creek High School, regarding the media center operations and the affect of the media assistant reductions.

Mrs. Cenko received a communication from the Adams High School newspaper staff with no particular question.

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Mrs. Hartman, Manager of Community Relations, announced that the Rochester Community Schools Board of Education has been awarded the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Board Visionary Leadership award which recognizes board governance teams for their vision, leadership and success in raising student achievement.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Cenko requested Item B, Approve the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2011, to be removed from the Consent Agenda. This agenda item would become the first agenda item under the New Business portion of the agenda.

A motion was made to approve the following consent agenda item.

Moved by: Ms. Nowak

Supported by: Mrs. Talbert

A. Approve the current bills payable for August 2011 in the amount of \$1,906,980.22.

Motion carried: 7-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Board Bylaw 0170 Attachment: Self Assessment Tool (Action Item, Second Reading) Mrs. Cenko

A motion was made to remove the item from the table.

Moved by: Mrs. Talbert
Supported by: Mrs. Berwick

Mrs. Cenko. President of the Board of Education stated she had not received any suggestions for any changes since the last meeting, and therefore is recommending the Board approve revised Board Bylaw 0170 Attachment: Self Assessment Tool.

Mrs. Talbert thanked Mrs. Cenko for developing this new instrument.

Ms. Nowak requested clarification on the Unsure column from fellow Board members.

A vote was then taken on the motion to approve the Board Bylaw 0170 Attachment: Self Assessment Tool as presented at the September 12, 2011 meeting.

Motion carried: 7-0

NEW BUSINESS

A. Consent Agenda Item B, Approve the Board of Education Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2011.

A motion was made to return the item to the table.

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

Ms. Nowak proposed an amendment to the Board Minutes on page 5 in the first paragraph.

Current paragraph:

Discussion included how many other Michigan school districts are in compliance, 90/10 cost sharing, MASA insurance concerns, annual February 1 status, and the possibility of the Best Practices incentive being made available again. Mr. Mull replied that this is a one time funding incentive.

Revised paragraph:

Discussion included how many other Michigan school districts are in compliance, 90/10 cost sharing, MASA insurance concerns, and the possibility of the Best Practices incentive being made available again. It was also noted that even though the funding was for a single year, the district is obligated to report on the consolidation plan in perpetuity. Mr. Mull replied that this is a one time funding incentive.

A motion was made to amend the Board of Education Regular Minutes of September 12, 2011 to include deleting the one phrase and adding a sentence to accurately reflect the discussion.

Moved by: Ms. Nowak
Supported by: Mrs. Talbert

There was no further discussion with regards to the amended Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2011.

A vote was then taken on the motion to approve the amended Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2011.

Motion carried: 7-0

There was no further discussion with regards to the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2011.

A vote was then taken to approve the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2011.

Motion carried: 7-0

STUDY SESSION

A. District Objectives Discussion (Informational) Mr. Clarke

Mr. Clarke led the Board and the Administration in an informal dialogue regarding the district objectives as they relate to the Board Vision - College Ready, Career Ready and Life Ready. The discussion began with an overview of the strategic plan which was modeled on the school improvement framework designed by the Michigan Department of Education in 2005. When the state moved to school and district improvement plans, the district also began using this in addition to the strategic plan. Both have been running concurrently. The strategic plan includes non-instructional data.

The Board discussed the first Goal area, Student Achievement, and offered input into the objectives and measurability.

Mr. Joshua Raymond, parent, commented on Curriculum Goals for high achievers, student education plans and additional options to draw in private school students to the district.

The Board took a recess at 9:18 p.m. and re-convened at 9:25 p.m.

The Board discussed the remaining 5 goals including Finance, Facilities / Operations, Communications, Technology and Board Governance and offered input into the objectives and measurability.

Mr. James Casazza, community member, suggested that Student Achievement Objectives 1.21 and 1.22 could fall under the Finance Objectives.

The revised objectives will be brought back to the Board for review at the October 10, 2011 Board of Education meeting. Tentatively the finalized objectives will be presented at the October 24, 2011 Board of Education meeting for approval.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

A. Citizens Present - None

B. Members of the Administration - None

C. Members of the Board of Education

Ms. Nowak questioned enrollment figures. Mrs. Moore responded that there appears to be an increase in kindergarten and 8th grade.

Mrs. Berwick requested that all the board packet materials be made available to the Board members on the Thursday prior to the Board meeting. Also, she inquired on the conference that Mr. Clarke and Mrs. Moore attended last week. Mr. Clarke shared that he and Mrs. Moore attended the Michigan Association of School Administrators conference that focused on building a culture for educational growth.

Mr. Coutteau commented on the reporting requirements that the district must meet which are ongoing but only have a one-time funding incentive. Mr. Clarke responded that this will be investigated and if a letter is needed one will be crafted.

Mrs. Cenko stated she will be working with Mr. Clarke for an upcoming Study Session or a Board meeting on the "not as easily measured skills" that students should have when they leave our district. She suggested that Senator Marleau and Representative McMillin attended Board meetings on a more periodic basis in order to provide legislative updates. Mr. Clarke shared that he met with Representative McMillin recently and discussed the legislation regarding the cap on charter schools.

Mrs. Talbert shared that she, Mrs. Berwick and Mr. Coutteau attended the Oakland County School Boards Association dinner meeting last week that included a panel discussion on legislative updates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming RCS Events

Rachel's Challenge Evening Community Event: September 29, 2011 at 7 p.m., Adams High School

No School K-12 / Professional Development: October 3, 2011

Superintendent's Community Coffee: October 12, 2011 from 10-11:30 a.m., Rochester Hills Public Library

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 p.m.

Moved by: Ms. Nowak

Supported by: Mrs. Talbert

Motion carried: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Keener
Recording Secretary

Approved by:


Secretary, Board of Education