
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION
Redford Union Schools
August 12, 2024

Regular Meeting
8/12/2024

A Regular meeting of the Redford Union Board of Education was held on August 12, 2024, at MacGowan School (District Meeting Room), 18255 Kinloch, Redford Twp., MI 48240, (Entrance on Curtis – Door #3)

Call to Order:

Call to Order

President Pridemore called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

Roll Call:

Roll Call

Present: Bailey, Martin, McAfee, Miller, Osowski, Pridemore

Absent: Dean

Pledge of Allegiance:

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President Remarks:

President's Remarks

President Pridemore asked that everyone please place their cell phones on silent.

President Pridemore highlighted a specific agenda item, noting that community members were present to discuss the Beech Bus Loop. She clarified that, unlike the previous month's meeting, the Beech Bus Loop was on tonight's agenda, allowing community members the chance to speak on the subject earlier in the meeting. Typically, if an item isn't listed on the agenda, those remarks would be scheduled for later in the night.

President Pridemore read the Public Communication Guidelines for the meeting.

Adoption of Agenda:**Adoption of
Agenda**

It was Moved by Member Osowski, Seconded by Member Bailey, to adopt the Agenda of the August 12, 2024, Regular Board Meeting as presented:

President Pridemore made a motion to adopt the Agenda as presented.

Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion: Carried

Presentations:**Presentations**

2021 Capital Bond Projects Update – Beech Elementary Bus Loop - *Plante Moran Realpoint, The Christman Company, and French Associates*

The team gave an overview of the Beech Bus Loop from the beginning, including everything that happened before the bond, a recap of the entire process, and an update on the current safety concerns and the steps taken so far. They are currently in the final few weeks of the project.

The Beech Bus Loop presentation included the following:

Current Safety Concerns at Beech Elementary:

- Student safety is RUSD #1 priority.
- Traffic backs up with 3 schools at the corner of Beech Daly and Pembroke during student drop-off and pick-up.
- Congestion/delays are significant and often require Redford Twp. Police Department intervention.
- More students get dropped off today than in years past, with less kids walking or taking the bus.
- Bus traffic and parent traffic often get co-mingled.

2021 Bond Campaign/Marketing:

- During the bond campaign, RUSD met with Redford Twp. Representatives to discuss the overall bond projects including the Beech Elementary bus loop.
- Bond campaign marketing material outlined the work included to improve traffic flow.
 - Public Presentation(s)
 - Exterior A-Frame Signs
 - 4x6 cards
 - Informational handouts
- Bond Scope was approved by the State of Michigan in early 2021

Designs and Construction:

- Initial bus loop project redesigned to impact less green space, be more fiscally responsible, and meet Wayne County standards during spring/summer 2023.
- Plans submitted to Wayne County permit office on 8/23/23.
- Wayne County permit office confirmed receipt on 8/25/23.
- OHM sent an approval letter to Wayne County permit office on 12/18/23.
- Wayne County permit office sent approval letter and permit instructions on 1/17/24.
- Project formally publicly advertised and issued for bid on 2/12/24.
- Sealed bid proposals received from subcontractors on 2/28/24.
- Project overview presented to Board of Education (BOE) at public meeting on 3/11/24.
- Project award recommendation presented to and approved by BOE at a public meeting on 4/8/24.
- Construction started on-site on 6/17/24.
- Construction substantial completion scheduled for 8/26/24

Project Design Highlights:

- Minimal impact to cul-de-sac on school days only
- Entrance drive is to be utilized by buses only for student morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up.
- A minimal amount of buses to utilize the drive each day. (Currently 6-8 buses at drop-off and pick-up.)
- Gates will be installed to close-off the approach when not utilized by the buses.
- New drive approach will help alleviate congestion on Beech Daly and Pembroke and improve safety for students and public.
- Buses to enter from the North off Olympia and exit at the South to Pembroke.

Drawings were included in the presentation.

The team also gave an overview of the drainage. It was stated that they are not changing any drainage patterns on site. The one area that they are impacting is the area of the new driveway approach. The only area that they are disturbing and improving as part of the project is the public greenbelt area directly West of that southern in of the cul-de-sac. There are no impacts sites in terms of the project or the north of that driveway at Beech. The team did identify a clog South of Pembroke. They have reached out to Wayne County and have them planned to come out. They also found an additional obstruction further down in the line.

The Board had a discussion.

There were questions and answers.

Miles Tomasaitis, Director of Operations, Grounds and Transportation spoke with a representative from Wayne County Roads and was told they would be out tomorrow.

The presenters were Rob Kakoczki, Owners Rep, Plante Moran Realpoint and Jacob Ensley, Civil Engineer with Spalding DeDecker

Mrs. Monique Baker-McCormick Commissioner (District 6) from Wayne County addressed the Board and the community regarding the Beech Bus Loop Project. Commissioner Baker-McCormick acknowledged the effort of the Redford Union School Board, for putting this meeting together. She thought it would be helpful to the community and create a level of communication so that everyone could see what was going on or maybe what was not going on.

There were questions and answers.

The project is 15 days from completion and cannot stop now. The design team looked at every possible option before they presented the design.

The local Township authorities Mike Dennis and Supervisor Pat McRae were invited to tonight's meeting, but neither were present.

Call to the Audience for Public Participation Regarding Agenda Items:

Beech Elementary Bus Loop:

The residents listed below addressed the Board.

- Paul Milsk
- Sandra Erickson
- Donna Hansen-Gill
- Daniel O'Neil

Other Agenda Items:

There were no other items addressed.

The Board took a short recess and returned at 6:35 p.m.

Superintendent Communication:

Beech Elementary Barrier-Free Playground Proposal

Wayne RESA provided Districts that operate center-based programs with some financial incentives for operating those programs. The District has been given an allotment of money that needs to be reinvested in the facilities that house the ACT

Call to the Audience: Public Participation Regarding Agenda Items

Superintendent Communication

18 programs, and that combination of factors has put the District in a position to look at some projects to improve those facilities. The one project the District is ready to move forward on is the Beech Elementary Barrier-Free Playground if the Board approves the recommendation later tonight. The project would take 6 to 8 weeks for completion in the Fall. The approximate cost for the playground itself is \$209,000. The District has been given roughly \$300,000 over the course of two years. A roughly total of \$600,000.

The Board had a discussion. There were questions and answers.

Communication Received by the Board Secretary:

None. Secretary Dean was absent.

**Communication
Received by the
Board Secretary
Lorna Dean**

Chief Financial Officer's Communications:

The District was awarded \$47,000 by the State of Education for our Educational Assistance Program. The money is given to us to repay teachers that qualify for their educational expenses. The District would have to establish a 127 Program which is an Educational Systems Program. And that would allow the District to send the 1st \$5,250 to each employee. The reimbursement would be tax free, which is part of the program. If the District does not establish the 127 Program the reimbursement would be taxed to the employee. The verbiage will be provided to the Board at the next regular Board meeting. It is a great benefit to the teachers. The plan is to have the initial reimbursements to the employees at the end of September.

They are continuing to work towards the audit that will be coming up in September.

The District have 24 teachers that asked, so they will be reimbursed for their student loan payments. Any that were made from October 1, 2023, through October 3, 2024. They will receive a payment in September, and then there is enough funding to pay for at least an additional year. The state has predicted it to go through 2026.

**Chief Financial Officer's
Communications,
Mike Beltinck**

Executive Director of Human Resources and Labor Relations Communication:

None.

**Executive Director of
Human Resources and
Labor Relations
Communication,
Judy Nachman**

Executive Director of Curriculum & Technology Communications:

None.

**Executive Director of
Curriculum &
Technology,
Kim Crenshaw****Consent Agenda:**

It was Moved by Member Osowski, Seconded by Member Martin, to approve the consent agenda items as presented below:

Waived the reading and approved July 17, 2024, Organizational Minutes of Redford Union Board of Education as presented.

Waived the reading and approved July 17, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes of Redford Union Board of Education as presented.

Approved the recommend payment of \$1,480,525.55 for checks dated 7/1/2024 – 7/331/2024.

Approved the electronic transfers for the month of July 2024 in the amount of \$10,629,387.75.

Approved **NEW HIRES: Certified** as listed below:

- Madison Vandyke/Mental Health Clinician/MacGowan/Effective 8/27/2024
- Natalie Sisson/Mental Health Clinician/MacGowan/Effective 8/27/2024
- Emily McMichael/Mental Health Clinician/MacGowan/Effective 8/27/24
- Dr. Katie Stevenson/Audiologist/B. Beck Education Center/Effective 8/20/2024
- Laura Bowers/Math Teacher/RUJHS/Effective 8/27/2024
- Abby Holzman/Math Teacher/RUHS/Effective 8/27/2024
- Jamie Moran/ASD Teacher/Beech Elementary/Effective 8/27/2024
- Brooke Timlin/School Social Worker/Hilbert Elementary/Effective 8/27/2024
- Michael Cook/Computer Information Systems/RUHS/Effective 8/27/2024
- Shayna Swinson/2nd Grade Teacher/ Hilbert Elementary/Effective 8/27/2024
- Rachel Wiggins/Spanish Teacher/ RUJHS/Effective 8/27/2024
- Takiyah Thomas/Resource Room/MacGowan/Effective 8/27/2024
- Angela Maggioncalda/S.T.E.A.M Teacher/Hilbert/Effective 8/27/2024
- Susan Schroeder/DHH Outreach Consultant/B. Beck Education Center/Effective 8/27/2024

Approved **NEW HIRES: Non-Certified** as listed below:

- Seleste Murillo/Educational Assistant/Beech Elementary/Effective 8/27/2024
- Doris Jones/Academic Teaching Assistant/Beech Elementary/Effective/9/3/2024

Approved **SEPARATIONS** as listed below:

- Heather Witt/School Nurse/Keeler Center/Effective 7/17/2024
- Lavender Bertch/2nd Grade Teacher/Hilbert Elementary/Effective 6/27/2024
- Sarah Gering/3rd Grade Teacher/Beech Elementary/Effective 8/7/2024
- Valeria Simuel-Hazziez/4th Grade Teacher/Beech Elementary School/Effective 8/7/2024

Consent Agenda**July 17, 2024
Organizational Minutes****July 17, 2024, Regular
Meeting Minutes****Check Register
7/1/2024 – 7/31/2024.****Electronic Transfers for
the month of July 2024****New Hires: Certified**

Madison Vandyke
Natalie Sisson
Emily McMichael
Dr. Katie Stevenson
Laura Bowers
Abby Holzman
Jamie Moran
Brooks Timlin
Michael Cook
Shayna Swinson
Rachel Wiggins

Takiyah Thomas
Angela Maggioncalda
Susan Schroeder

New Hires: Non-Certified

Seleste Murillo
Doris Jones

Separations
Heather Witt
Lavender Bertch
Sarah Gering
Valeria Simuel-Hassiez

Approved **SES GROUP NEW HIRES** as listed below:

- Mackenzie Robertson/AP Psychology/Regina High School/Effective 8/12/2024
- Jodi Austin/Kindergarten Teacher/St. Thecla Catholic School/Effective 8/26/2024
- Allison Cramer/AP Literature and Composition/Regina High School/Effective 8/12/2024
- Carolyn Michielutti/Young 5's Teacher/Our Lady Star of the Sea/Effective 8/26/2024
- Jennifer Flanagan/Art Teacher/Our Lady Star of the Sea/Effective 8/26/2024
- Christine Wilder/Art Teacher/St. Joan of Arc/Effective 8/26/2024

SES Group New Hires

Mackenzie Robertson
Jodi Austin
Allison Cramer

Carolyn Michielutti

Jennifer Flanagan
Christine Wilder

The Board had a discussion.

It was noted that Brooke Timlin, Social Worker at Hilbert is an RU Alumni.

There were questions and answers.

Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion: Carried

Action Items:

Special Consideration Non-Consent Agenda Action Item(s):

Beech Elementary Barrier-Free Playground Proposal

Moved by Member Osowski, Seconded by Member McAfee, that the Board of Education, at the recommendation of Jasen Witt, Superintendent and Mike Beltinck, Chief Financial Officer approve the Beech Elementary Barrier-Free Playground Proposal total cost not to exceed \$225,000. The complete expense will be covered by ACT 18 funding specifically provided for building/infrastructure/facility improvements.

The Board had a discussion. There were questions and answers.

The District has looked at another projects and is contemplating a dimmer light project for Keeler and even doing some a similar project with LED lighting and dimmers in the ASD classrooms. A portion of the funds have been used to upgrade some of the classrooms with swings and different things in the ASD classrooms.

Trustee Bailey requested Strategic Planning. The District is out of the five-year cycle for strategic planning.

Regarding projects, Trustee Bailey requested that the Board get to see a higher level of the projects that may be possible.

Action Items:

**Beech Elementary
Barrier-Free Playground
Proposal**

**2024 MASB Call for
Delegates and
Alternates**

Throughout the fall, there will be items on the agendas on how to improve some of the way they do business as a District and operate as a group. Then a Strategic Planning would follow.

Roll Call:

J. Bailey: Yes, L. Dean: ABS, L. Martin: Yes, J. McAfee: Yes, L. Miller: Yes,
J. Osowski: Yes, E. Pridemore: Yes

Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion: Carried

2024 MASB Call for Delegates and Alternates

President Pridemore shared that in July 2024 she was appointed to the MASB Committee that will set bylaws. Therefore, she will already be at the event.

Motion 1 – Moved by Member Miller to nominate Pridemore as the Delegate and Seconded by Member Osowski to nominate Martin as the Alternate.

The Board had a discussion.

Moved by Member Martin, Seconded by Member Osowski, that the Board of Education, approve Pridemore as Delegate and Martin as Alternate to represent Redford Union Schools Board of Education. MASB's 2024 Delegate Assembly will begin Thursday, October 24, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan. Delegates selected by boards of education across the state will decide MASB's positions on a wide variety of issues affecting education.

The Board had a discussion.

Roll Call:

J. Bailey: Yes, L. Dean: ABS, L. Martin: Yes, J. McAfee: Yes, L. Miller: Yes,
J. Osowski: Yes, E. Pridemore: Yes

Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion: Carried

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:

None.

**Items Removed
from the Consent
Agenda:**

Call to the Audience: Public Participation Regarding Non-Agenda Items:

A resident addressed the Board without the required form. Her discussion was on the roads at Beech Elementary.

The District will reach out to Commissioner Baker McCormick regarding the safety of the roads and salting for the residents near the Beech Bus Loop.

Superintendent's Remark:

Board of Education Public Communication Guidelines:

The Board will continue discussing the Guidelines during the Board Workshop on August 20, 2024. If an agreement is reached on the Guidelines, they will be expanded and displayed in the meeting rooms as a reminder for all attendees.

Board of Education Communication/Discussion:

President Pridemore will share information about the WCASB at the August 20, 2024, Board Workshop. She will share some of the upcoming training dates with the Board at the next Workshop.

President Pridemore shared that late September, early October there will be a very important Wayne County meeting around what MASB's legislative priorities are going to be for the next two years. She will share the date with the Board.

Secretary Martin shared the following:

The Michigan Association Annual Leadership Conference is Thursday, October 24th through Sunday, October 27th at the Lansing Center and it is open up to everyone. If any Board members are interested in attending to please see Jackie Warren.

She gave a reminder that the First Day of School is September 3, 2024. She asked that parents that may have students with IEP's, please look over your IEP to know what is in there so you will be prepared for the school year. Also, for students that may be interested in Career Technology classes find information about that, so you can be aware of the programs being offered.

Secretary Martin asked if the Board could have a study session on the Student Code of Conduct and maybe have an update or presentation on the meeting that was held about the student Code of Conduct.

Superintendent Witt shared that Secretary Martin's request would be included on future Workshop agendas.

**Call to the Audience:
Public Participation
Regarding Non-Agenda
Items:****Superintendent's
Remark:****Board of Education
Communication/
Discussion**

On September 6, 2024, the District will have its first football game and pregame events at their new Bob Atkins Field. The pregame events at 5:00 p.m. and at 7:00 p.m. the Field dedication with Redford Union Panthers vs. Romulus HS to follow. More information will follow. Superintendent Witt will make sure the Board is updated.

Information on the Districts Back-to-School Open Houses will be communicated and posted.

Future Meeting Dates:

Future Meeting Dates

Tuesday, August 20, 2024, Board Workshop – 5:30 PM
MacGowan School (District Meeting Room), 18255 Kinloch, Redford Twp., MI 48240,
(Door #3)

Monday, September 9, 2024, Regular Meeting – 5:30 PM
MacGowan School (District Meeting Room), 18255 Kinloch, Redford Twp., MI 48240,
(Door #3)

Tuesday, September 24, 2024, Board Workshop – 5:30 PM
MacGowan School (District Meeting Room), 18255 Kinloch, Redford Twp., MI 48240,
(Door #3)

Adjournment:

It was Moved by Member Osowski , Seconded by Member Martin, to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 PM.

Adjournment

Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion: Carried

Respectfully Submitted

LaKeya Martin
Secretary
Redford Union Schools
Board of Education