

MASON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

August 14, 2017

Harvey Education Center

400 South Cedar Street

7:00p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Mason Board of Education was held at the James C. Harvey Education Center on Monday, August 14, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. by Kurt Creamer, President.

Present: Kurt Creamer, Ralph Beebe, Laura Cheney, Tim Ayres, Liz Evans and Christopher Mumby

Absent:

Also Present: Ronald Drzewicki, Superintendent; Cheryl S. Wald, Chief Financial Officer; Matt Stuard, Curriculum Director; Rick Brooks, Director of Human Resources; Mason staff and community members

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ralph Beebe made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve the amended agenda to include item #7, Election of Vice President, as printed. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC REQUESTS/COMMENTS

President Creamer acknowledged those in attendance.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Wonders, StmlvSync and Chromebook Update

Matt Stuard updated members on the arrival of Chromebooks and carts funded by the Dart Foundation's "Next Level Grant" and Mason Public Schools Foundation.

Wonders and StudySync materials were delivered, inventoried and sorted by secretarial staff, aides, volunteers and Curriculum Assistant, Jodi Somerville. Classroom sets and materials will be ready when students return. WonderWorks (tier 2) and the Flex (tier 3) pilot program for special education were delivered as well. Photos of the received materials have been posted on the district's Facebook page. Some outdated materials were offered and/or sold to Follett and local charter schools. Unwanted materials were recycled.

With financial support from the Dart Foundation Grant and Mason Public Schools Foundation, 814 new Chromebooks and 43 carts were ordered. This takes the district total to 1679 Chromebooks and 59 carts. IT staff, secretarial support, aides, Jodi Somerville and high school

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volunteers unpacked the Chromebooks and carts. Carts and Chromebooks will be delivered to grade levels designated in the grant.

In the fall, all 3-6th grade and 7-12^h grade ELA classrooms will have a set of Chromebooks. Cognitively Impaired and Emotionally Impaired classrooms will also receive Chromebooks. Electives at the middle school and K-2 elementary classrooms will have access to share Chromebooks.

The IT Department is in the process of contracting new wireless access points which will be installed at the middle and high school. Minor upgrades will be made to elementary schools. Matt Stuard stated, "These are exciting times for our staff and students."

President Creamer publically acknowledged the Dart Foundation and Mason Public Schools Foundation for supporting the district with funding.

COMMUNICATIONS

The board acknowledged one communication pertaining to the 5.0 grading scale. The board has responded. Superintendent Drzewicki and High School Principal, Lance Delbridge will follow-up on the communication.

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT

Board members discussed the vacant vice president seat.

Ralph Beebe nominated Christopher Mumby for vice president, Laura Cheney supported the nomination. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Laura Cheney made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve the consent agenda, including approval of minutes of the July 11, 2017, regular meeting; July 11, 2017, closed session #1; July 11, 2017, closed session #2; Personnel Report No. 3; Financial Report No. 4; including payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$1,234,361.39, Food Service Fund bills in the amount of \$265.38, Student Activities Fund bills in the amount of \$16,691.46, and Sinking Fund bills in the amount of \$114,156.36. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

COMMITTEE AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Executive Committee

President Creamer referred to minutes from the August 9^h meeting. The committee reviewed letters of interest from 5 potential board candidates. Members set the interview date and schedule.

President Creamer referred to minutes from the July 11th meeting. The committee discussed the Superintendent's School Advance scoring framework and rubric evidence. Evidence of success was presented and discussed. Recommendations for central office contract renewals and the superintendent's contract were discussed.

No future meetings are scheduled.

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Approval of Contract For Human Resources Director

Ralph Beebe made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve the contract for Human Resources Director as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Christopher Mumby stated that within a few months of being on the Board of Education he recognized how many things the central office administrators do for the district. He believes they all do a great job.

Approval of Merit Pay for Human Resources Director

Ralph Beebe stated it is a requirement of the state that those who have direct oversight/involvement in student achievement have merit pay language in their contracts.

Ralph Beebe made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve merit pay language for 2017-18 for the Human Resources Director, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Approval of Contract For Executive Director Of Curriculum

Ralph Beebe made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve the contract for Executive Director of Curriculum, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Christopher Mumby shared that he has worked with Matt Stuard on the new curriculums. Mr. Mumby stated the district is glad to have Matt Stuard. It is not easy to find someone with Matt's level of expertise.

Approval of Merit Pay For Executive Director Of Curriculum

Superintendent Drzewicki stated merit pay is a requirement of the state for those that have direct impact on student instruction. Merit pay is outside of the contract.

Ralph Beebe made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve merit pay language for 2017-18 for the Executive Director of Curriculum, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Approval of Contract For Chief Financial Officer

Ralph Beebe made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve the contract for Chief Financial Officer, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Ralph Beebe thanked Cheryl S. Wald for all she does. He said he is proud of how efficient the Central Office staff is with the district's resources.

Appointment of Board Member

Interviews for a new board member were conducted prior to this meeting.

Ralph Beebe stated excellent candidates requested to serve on the board. The Board of Education narrowed and recommended two candidates be interviewed. He encouraged each candidate to continue in the process. Laura Cheney stated she is excited for the future of the school board. Christopher Mumby thanked each candidate and shared his process to becoming a board member. He encouraged both candidates to run in November of 2018.

Laura Cheney made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to appoint Steve Duane to serve as a member of the board of education for Mason Public Schools for the unexpired term of Tom Curtis ending on December 31, 2018. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.



Christopher Mumby stated the board could not have made a wrong decision. Both candidates were Impressive.

President Creamer thanked both candidates and welcomed Steve Duane to the Board of Education. Superintendent Drzewicki will follow-up with Mr. Duane.

Finance and Property

The committee met prior to this meeting. The committee discussed technology department staffing plans and options following the retirement of director, Jerome Brzezinski. A staffing plan with cost savings is in place. IT staffing will be discussed with each board committee.

The committee reviewed a potential agreement to move administrative offices to Mason City Hall if the Bond is approved. City council members are discussing the option and may take action in the next few weeks.

Three media firms were interviewed for the informational bond campaign. Of the three, the superintendent felt King Media would provide thorough expertise to communicate bond information to staff and community members. Superintendent Drzewicki reminded the group that staff can not advocate on company time. The district will stay within the boundaries of an informational campaign and information will be available for all to access.

King Media Contract

Ralph Beebe made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve the contract with King Media, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Bread Bids

Board members discussed and discussed bread and milk bids and last year's usage. The district is only charged for actual usage.

Ralph Beebe made and Liz Evans supported a motion to award the contract to supply bread products for the 2017-18 school year to Aunt Millie's Bakeries, for a contract total of \$11,683.00, as presented in Report No.5. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Dairy Bids

The district received two of three solicited dairy bids. Prairie Farms, Inc. was low bidder and the district has been satisfied with their services.

Ralph Beebe made and Liz Evans supported a motion to award the contract to supply dairy products for the 2017-18 school year to Prairie Farms, Inc., for a contract total of \$85,470, as presented in Report No. 6. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Winter Tax Certification

Ralph Beebe shared information regarding the levying of summer taxes.

Ralph Beebe made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve the 2017 winter tax levy, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

The committee discussed purchasing HVAC equipment for the James C. Harvey Education Center.



The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 11,2017 at 5:30p.m.

Community and Staff Relations

The committee did not meet.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 21, 2017 at 5:30p.m.

Policy and Curriculum

The committee did not meet.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 28,2017 at 5:30p.m.

Superintendent

Members reviewed the resolution prepared by Thrun Law Firm to call the election on November 7, 2017.

On behalf of the School Study Committee and many other hard working community and staff members, Superintendent Drzewicki asked the Board of Education to consider the resolution to call the November 7, 2017 bond election.

Bond Proposal Ballot Language

Ralph Beebe made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve the resolution calling the election, as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Beebe -yes, Evans - yes, Creamer - yes, Ayres - no, Mumby - yes,
Cheney – yes

Motion carried 5-1.

INTRODUCTION OF OTHER MATTERS BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Ralph Beebe indicated disappointment following the bond proposal ballot language vote. He asked for consensus as a Board to promote the proposal moving forward.

President Creamer recognized the chairperson vacancy on the Community and Staff Relations Committee. President Creamer appointed Liz Evans as chairperson. Liz Evans accepted the appointment.

INTRODUCTION OF OTHER MATTERS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Drzewicki announced the 2017 staff kick-off meeting. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 23, 2017 at the high school. A continental breakfast will be provided by the Optimist Club, Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club from 7:00- 8:00a.m. Superintendent Drzewicki thanked these groups for advocating for our district. Following breakfast, a presentation will be held in the auditorium from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. Board members, service club members, the Mason Public School Foundation and Dart Foundation members were invited to attend.



PUBLIC REQUESTS/COMMENTS

Jerry Lawson of 12855 Peacock Rd., Leslie, MI addressed the Board of Education. Mr. Lawson is the high school assistant building engineer and custodial union steward. Following approval of the maintenance contract, the group had issue with McClaren Health Plan insurance. He explained the group had one day to vote on which insurance carrier to choose. The group felt rushed and were waiting for return calls from McClaren Health Plan that did not come until after the vote the following week. A member learned batteries for her disabled son's wheelchair will not be covered. Doctors in Ann Arbor, MI indicated medications for kidney disease would be covered and McClaren Health Plan has indicated they are not. Mr. Lawson understands the savings to the school district, however, requests members be able to pay extra to continue with MESSA insurance. MESSA insurance is better for some members of their bargaining unit. Mr. Lawson expressed concerns for increases in prescription costs. He stated the union vote for insurance passed by only one vote.

President Creamer thanked Mr. Lawson for his comments.

CLOSED SESSION- NEGOTIATIONS

Christopher Mumby made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of negotiations.

Roll Call Vote: Beebe, Cheney, Evans, Mumby, Creamer, Ayres

All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

The Board entered closed session at 7:45 p.m.

The minutes of the closed session are on file in the Superintendent's office as provided by P.A. 167 of the Public Acts of 1976.

The Board returned to open session at 8:36 p.m.

INGHAM CLINTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION- MDMEA TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

Christopher Mumby made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve the Ingham Clinton Education Association – MDMEA tentative agreement, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

MAA – MASON ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

Christopher Mumby made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve the MAA-Mason Administrators' Association tentative agreement, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF MASON TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

Christopher Mumby made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve the Transportation Employees Association of Mason tentative agreement, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

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IUOE-LOCAL 324 AFL-CIO CUSTODIAL/MAINTENANCE TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

Christopher Mumby made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve the IUOE Custodial/Maintenance tentative agreement, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

IUOE-LOCAL 324 AFL-CIO SECRETARY/OFFICE ASSISTANT UNIT TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

Christopher Mumby made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve the IUOE Secretary/Office Assistant Unit tentative agreement, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Ralph Beebe thanked all parties involved in the negotiation process.

CLOSED SESSION-STUDENT REINSTATEMENT REQUEST [CN-1617011]

Liz Evans made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of conducting a student discipline hearing.

Roll Call Vote: Creamer, Beebe, Ayres, Cheney, Evans, Mumby

All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

The Board entered closed session at 8:50p.m.

The minutes of the closed session are on file in the Superintendent's office as provided by P.A. 167 of the Public Acts of 1976.

The Board returned to open session at 9:05p.m.

OPEN SESSION-STUDENT REINSTATEMENT REQUEST [CN-1617011]

Laura Cheney made and Tim Ayres supported a motion to conditionally reinstate student CN-161701 effective immediately. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

CLOSED SESSION- PERSONNEL EVALUATION

Laura Cheney made and Liz Evans supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing a personnel evaluation.

Roll Call Vote: Evans, Ayres, Mumby, Creamer, Cheney, Beebe

All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

The Board entered closed session at 9:08 p.m.

The minutes of the closed session are on file in the Superintendent's office as provided by P.A. 167 of the Public Acts of 1976.

The Board returned to open session at 11:40 p.m.

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APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

Laura Cheney made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve the Superintendent evaluation, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT MERIT PAY

Laura Cheney made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve merit pay for the superintendent for the 2016-17 school year for \$3,750.00. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Laura Cheney made and Liz Evans supported a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 p.m. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

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Laura Cheney
Secretary

