

MASON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

February 13, 2017

Harvey Education Center

400 South Cedar Street

7:00 p.m.

AMENDED MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Mason Board of Education was held at the James C. Harvey Education Center on Monday, February 13, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Kurt Creamer, President.

Present: Kurt Creamer, Tom Curtis, Ralph Beebe, Tim Ayres, Liz Evans and Christopher Mumby

Absent: Laura Cheney

Also Present: Ron 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 Tom Curtis supported a motion to approve the agenda as printed. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

SPECIAL REPORTS/RECOGNITION

President Creamer recognized Elizabeth Bailey as Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Education recipient.

The Mason Foundation's annual Gala event has grown every year. President Creamer recognized Mrs. Carrie Geyer and others for organizing a successful event.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

English Language Arts (ELA) Program Review

Matt Stuard referred to a PowerPoint presentation supporting the recommendation of a new K-12 English Language Arts curriculum. Instructional Support Teacher, Melissa Netzel and Steele Elementary Principal, Kevin Dufresne representing the ELA committee were present and introduced.

Mr. Stuard shared that the ELA committee reviewed the district's Strategic Plan emphasizing that Mason Public Schools will be an exemplary learning community that enables each student to flourish. The committee reviewed the district's three to five year targets and priorities and agreed the ELA program required improvements.

INSPIRE



EMPOWER



SUCCEED

Matt Stuard provided the history and background of the current Benchmark Literacy program. Benchmark literacy was piloted in 2011 and was implemented in 2012-13. Prentice Hall Literature was adopted in 2012 for grades 6-8. The high school currently does not have a core ELA program. Mr. Stuard explained these programs were purchased before Common Core. The district's current programs do not contain the rigor necessary and don't prepare students for the M-step and SAT.

Matt Stuard shared surveys of enacted curriculum and presented results from teacher surveys. Research shows our current program is weak in many areas. The program has 47% alignment to the ELA Common Core State Standards for 6-8 grade students and 60% for students in 9-12th grade. Teachers are often playing catch up as students get older.

Kevin Dufresne addressed the Board of Education. Administrators met and discussed guiding principles for the K-12 ELA program in October of 2016. A Rubric was created for gathered data and an ELA committee was formed. The committee discussed and reviewed 8-10 new ELA programs. The committee studied state reviews and met with publishers. Rubrics were compiled with a point system, totaled and narrowed down to Reading Street and the Wonders program. During the process, materials were available on the district's website for all staff.

At an open meeting, publishers presented their products. Staff members completed a survey and administrators reviewed it. It was unanimous to recommend the Wonders program to the Policy and Curriculum Committee for consideration.

Board of Education members discussed student transition to a new program and student modification. With teaching fidelity, students will rise to the higher level of rigor.

COMMUNICATIONS

An email was received regarding athletic transportation. President Creamer responded to the email on behalf of the Board.

President Creamer highlighted MSU Federal Credit Union's upcoming student art exhibit. Student artwork is available for viewing through February 20, 2017.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Ralph Beebe made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve the consent agenda, including approval of minutes of the January 9, 2017, organizational meeting; January 9, 2017, closed session; Personnel Report No. 18; Financial Report No. 19; including payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$764,706.10, Food Service Fund bills in the amount of \$44,348.63, Student Activities Fund bills in the amount of \$12,326.44, and Sinking Fund bills in the amount of \$3,100.00.

Tom Curtis recognized retiring employees for their years of service to the district.

COMMITTEE AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Finance and Property

INSPIRE



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SUCCEED

Ralph Beebe referred to the minutes of Monday, February 6, 2017. The monthly budget report was presented. The report contained three pay periods in December.

Bids were received for the playground improvement project. Cost savings were achieved by re-bidding the project for completion during summer months.

A copier lease vendor was selected from bids. Staff reviews were solicited and Toshiba Business Solutions was recommended.

The district's phone system is out-of-date and may soon be out of State compliance. Bids were received and Voiplink is recommended to the board for consideration.

Kevin Doty updated the committee on the need for repairs to the domestic hot water system at the high school. Six bids were received. Kevin Doty and GMB recommend Johnson & Woods, LLC complete the project.

A roof replacement schedule has been in place for years. Bids were solicited for replacement of 70,000 square feet of roofing.

English Language Arts curriculum and materials were recommended for purchase from McGraw Hill Education. Budget plans will be presented as part of the budgeting process for 2017-18.

Staffing for the 2017-18 school year was discussed. The number of first grade sections will increase by one next year. The current portable at N. Aurelius may be expanded to a double classroom.

The auditor agreement is ready to expire. Services will be re-bid to insure we are getting the best value for tax payers.

Child Development Services may have a price increase. Area rates were reviewed and the modest proposal was in-line with others in the area.

The high school band continues to grow in size. The program is looking to purchase 20 uniforms. Costs will be included in the 2017-18 budget.

Copier Lease

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

Response call-time for machine service is within an hour and included in the contract. Repair technicians are assigned to Ingham County.

Phone System

Ralph Beebe made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve the purchase of district phones from Vioplink, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

H.S. Domestic Water Boiler

Ralph Beebe made and Tom Curtis supported a motion to approve the high school domestic water boiler replacement, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

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SUCCEED

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February March 6, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

Community and Staff Relations

Tom Curtis referred to the minutes from the Monday, January 16, 2017 meeting.

Rick Brooks presented a comprehensive staffing update. The committee discussed substitute teachers and floating sub system. A posting for Child Development Services Director will be posted in the spring. Emily Riley is serving as interim with support from Lori Hansen.

The high school office staff configuration changed from 4.0 to 4.5 FTE. The classification combination is different. Staffing levels have increased to where they were in 2015-16.

Superintendent Drzewicki updated the committee on progress of the School Study Committee.

A \$5,000 grant was recognized from Dart Foundation for Chromebooks at Alaiedon Elementary.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 20, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Policy and Curriculum

Liz Evans referred to minutes from the January 23, 2017 meeting.

Questions were clarified for the proposed trip to Germany in the summer of 2018.

A new class proposal for 12th grade special education students was reviewed. The class will count as a math credit and provide understanding of finances. The course will meet transition goals for formal IEP's.

English Language Committee members presented the need for a new ELA program. The ELA committee recommended the Wonders program for K-5 adoption. The ELA committee was recognized for their efforts.

The committee reviewed the high school baseball team's out-of-state field trip request. Insurance coverage was discussed and clarified.

Deb Disbro, Special Education Director presented on timely IEP data. Wording verification was rectified and no cross indicator analysis was needed.

Gifts and Bequest Donation forms were reviewed and discussed. The committee recognized two awards from the Mason Foundation and an anonymous donation for athletics.

A NEOLA work session was held on February 7th to revise series 7000, 8000 and 9000.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 27, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Second Reading of 0000-4000 Series, Policy Revisions

Liz Evans made and Ralph Beebe supported a motion to approve 0000-4000 series, Policy Revisions, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Second Reading of 5000 Series, Students

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SUCCEED

Liz Evans made and Ralph Beebe supported a motion to approve 5000 series, Students, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

A first reading of the 6000-9000 policy series was presented.

A first reading of the ELA K-5 Program – Wonders was presented.

Out of Country Field Trip – Germany, June –July 2018

Liz Evans made and Tom Curtis supported a motion to approve the out-of-country field trip request for high school German students to travel to Germany, June – July 2018, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Out of State Field Trip – Vero Beach, FL, March 31 – April 8, 2017

Liz Evans made and Tom Curtis supported a motion to approve the out-of-state field trip request for high school students to travel to Vero Beach, FL March 31 – April 8, 2017, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

New Course – 12th Grade Resource Personal Economics

Liz Evans made and Ralph Beebe supported a motion to approve new course – 12th Grade Resource Personal Economics, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Mason Public School Foundation, Special Fund Awards

Liz Evans made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve the 2016-17 school specific special fund awards, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Mason Public Schools Foundation, Annual District-wide Commitment

Liz Evans made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve the annual district-wide commitment, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

The Mason Foundation was recognized for the commitment to the students of Mason Public Schools.

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Anonymous Donor

Liz Evans made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve an anonymous donor contribution, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Board of Education members discussed a few of the NEOLA policies that are up for first reading. Ralph Beebe thanked the Policy and Curriculum Committee for their extensive work on NEOLA.

INTRODUCTION OF OTHER MATTERS BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Board members discussed their function as building liaisons. Christopher Mumby suggested a liaison be appointed to the James C. Harvey Education Center. Tom Curtis accepted the role of liaison to the James C. Harvey Education Center.



Board members discussed the Alaiedon Elementary septic tank issue. Kevin Doty shared both pumps were malfunctioning and both tanks filled up. Both tanks were drained.

INTRODUCTION OF OTHER MATTERS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Evaluation School Advance Training is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2017 from 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the board room. Another local district will attend this training.

Kindergarten Registration Night is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. The event will be held in the high school cafeteria.

CLOSED SESSION - NEGOTIATIONS

Ralph Beebe made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of negotiations. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

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

Absent: Cheney

The Board entered closed session at 8:48 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 9:11 p.m.

MASON ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS – MEA/NEA TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

Ralph Beebe made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve the Mason Association of Educational Assistants – MEA/NEA Tentative Agreement, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Christopher Mumby made and Liz Evans supported a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Laura Cheney, Secretary

