

MASON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
November 9, 2015
Harvey Education Center
400 South Cedar Street
7:00 p.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, November 9, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Ralph Beebe, President.

Present: Ralph Beebe, Becky Brimley, Laura Fenger, Julie Rogers,
Kurt Creamer, and Tom Curtis

Absent: Laura Cheney

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Julie Rogers made and Tom Curtis supported a motion to approve the agenda as printed. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC REQUESTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Beebe thanked the audience for their attendance.

SPECIAL REPORTS/COMMENTS

Superintendent Drzewicki introduced Mike Botke, Director of Teen Court and Child Family Charities. Mr. Botke presented the Board of Education with a picture collage of Mason students historically served by the program. He thanked the Board of Education for being a partner with the program and for being forward thinkers. The program represents and promotes the importance of students making safe choices and law education. He stated the program gives first time offenders a chance to redeem themselves. Mr. Botke stated he is grateful and feels blessed to have the opportunity to work with Mr. Nick Toodzio and Mason Public Schools.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Beebe noted a letter from the Department of Education regarding the process of the fiscal audit.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Julie Rogers made and Becky Brimley supported a motion to approve the consent agenda, including approval of minutes of the October 12, regular meeting; Personnel Report No. 11; Financial Report No. 12; including payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$1,604,870.24, Food Service Fund bills in the amount of \$73,450.73, Student Activities Fund bills in the amount of \$29,186.39, and Sinking Fund bills in the amount of \$33,135.15. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

COMMITTEE AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Finance and Property

Kurt Creamer referred to minutes of the November 2, 2015 meeting. The members reviewed an online board book option titled BoardBook. The annual cost would be \$2000.00. The option will be considered in the future. The committee recommended a secure directory be set-up on the district's server where this information can be stored and retrieved.

The committee received complete revenue and expense documents for January – August, 2015. The final audit was submitted to the State unchanged from the version presented to the board last month.

A 401a plan was restated per Federal guidelines.

Kurt Creamer made and Julie Rogers supported a motion to approve the 401a Special Pay Plan as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

The committee discussed a continued shortage of substitute teachers. At this month's superintendent meeting they will vote on raising the daily rate of pay for substitutes in hopes of attracting more applicants.

Committee members discussed the bond proposal.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 7, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

Becky Brimley commented that the finance reports provided were just what the board was looking for.

Community and Staff Relations

Becky Brimley referred to the minutes of the October 15, 2015 meeting. 2015-16 staffing updates were shared and the contract for Operations Director was reviewed by members.

The group discussed the bond proposal, school safety and Child Development Services. The waiting list for the before/after school care at Child Development Services is being addressed and more students are being served.

Becky Brimley made and Kurt Creamer supported a motion to approve the contract for Operations Director. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Superintendent Drzewicki stated the district is grateful to Kevin Doty for his dual roles creating significant savings to the district. The district is in the bottom 15% for administrative costs compared to other districts and lower than the previous administration.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 16, 2015.

Policy and Curriculum

Tom Curtis referred to the minutes of the October 26, 2015 meeting.

The committee reviewed policies.

Policy #9620, Relations with Political Organizations - 2nd Reading

Tom Curtis made and Julie Rogers supported a motion to approve Policy #9620, Relations with Political Organizations, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Policy #9840, Student Teaching and Internships - 2nd Reading

Tom Curtis made and Julie Rogers supported a motion to approve Policy #9840, Student Teaching and Internships, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Field trip requests were reviewed and the committee had an opportunity to ask questions to ensure the trips go well.

The committee recognized gracious donations from the Mason Foundation and the Steele P.T.O.

A presentation was heard from Dr. Richard Halik of NEOLA, Inc. highlighting the Board of Education policy, by-law and administrative guideline services the company provides to ensure school districts remain in compliance with Federal and state legal requirements. Costs and benefits of subscribing to the NEOLA, Inc. service were discussed.

Becky Brimley questioned how NEOLA, Inc. differs from M.A.S.B. services. The group responded indicating that M.A.S.B. no longer has a service.

The next meeting will be Monday, November 23, 2015.

Out-of-State Field Trip Request – Vero Beach, FL, April 1-10, 2016

Tom Curtis made and Kurt Creamer supported a motion to approve the out-of-state field trip request for high school baseball students to travel to Vero Beach, FL on April 1-10, 2016, as amended. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Out-of-State Field Trip Request – Chicago, IL, April 15-17, 2016

Tom Curtis made and Kurt Creamer supported a motion to approve the out-of-state field trip request for vocal music students to travel to Chicago, IL on April 15-17, 2016. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Out-of-State Field Trip Request – Chicago, IL, April 21-23, 2016

Tom Curtis made and Kurt Creamer supported a motion to approve the out-of-state field trip request for visual arts students to travel to Chicago, IL on April 21-23, 2016. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Out-of-State Field Trip – Sandusky, OH, May 27, 2016

Tom Curtis made and Becky Brimley supported a motion to approve the out-of-state field trip request for high school physics students to travel to Sandusky, OH on May 27, 2016, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Out-of-Country Field Trip – Longlac, Canada, June 13-17, 2016

Tom Curtis made and Becky Brimley supported a motion to approve the out-of-country field trip request for high school FFA students to travel to Longlac, Ontario, June 13-17, 2016, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Mason Public School Foundation

The board recognized and expressed gratitude for a \$33,000 donation from the Mason Foundation.

Tom Curtis made and Julie Rogers supported a motion to approve the 2015-16 School Specific Special Fund Awards, as presented. Big thank you to Foundation. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Steele Elementary PTO

The board recognized and expressed gratitude for a \$2,500 donation from Steele P.T.O. for ongoing support of the district.

Tom Curtis made and Becky Brimley supported a motion to approve the Steele Elementary PTO contribution, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Ralph Beebe gave thanks to all the P.T.O. groups for doing a great job in our school district.

INTRODUCTION OF OTHER MATTERS BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Ralph Beebe thanked the board members for attending the work session prior to the board meeting. He added that the Steering Committee will meet again on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 and additional meetings are being scheduled. The committee will be discussing scope of work prioritization and will review financial data for a bond proposal.

The Board of Education recognized and congratulated the Mason Boys' Soccer Team for their State Championship title. The group would like to recognize the team at an upcoming board meeting in January.

INTRODUCTION OF OTHER MATTERS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Ralph thanked the public for their attendance and gave an explanation of closed sessions.

CLOSED SESSION - STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING [CN-151601]

Julie Rogers made and Kurt Creamer supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of a student discipline issue.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Beebe, Brimley, Creamer, Curtis, Fenger, Rogers; No - None. Motion carried 6-0.

The Board entered closed session at 7:40 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 8:50 p.m.

OPEN SESSION – STUDENT DISCIPLINE RESOLUTION (CN-151601)

Julie Rogers made and Kurt Creamer supported a motion to suspend student CN-151601 for 60 days pursuant to board Policy #8150. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

CLOSED SESSION - STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING [CN-151602]

Julie Rogers made and Kurt Creamer supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of a student discipline issue.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Beebe, Brimley, Creamer, Curtis, Fenger, Rogers; No - None. Motion carried 6-0.

The Board entered closed session at 8:52 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 8:55 p.m.

OPEN SESSION – STUDENT DISCIPLINE RESOLUTION (CN-151602)

Julie Rogers made and Kurt Creamer supported a motion to expel student CN-151602 pursuant to board policy #8150. All yes. Motion carried 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Julie Rogers made and Becky Brimley supported a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Laura Fenger
Secretary