

# MASON BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Regular Meeting**

**February 8, 2016**

**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, February 8, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ralph Beebe, President.

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

Absent:

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**

Julie Rogers made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to approve the agenda as printed. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

### **PUBLIC REQUESTS/COMMENTS**

Ralph Beebe welcomed those in attendance.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Julie Rogers made and Becky Brimley supported a motion to approve the consent agenda, including approval of minutes of the January 11, regular meeting; Personnel Report No. 17; Financial Report No. 18; including payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$1,529,168.77, Food Service Fund bills in the amount of \$68,039.70, and Student Activities Fund bills in the amount of \$37,216.85. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

### **COMMITTEE AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

#### **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee did not meet in January.

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### **Finance and Property**

Kurt Creamer referred to minutes from the February 1, 2016 meeting. Cheryl Wald updated the committee on monthly budget numbers as of December 31, 2015. There were no notable changes.

Two different versions of the proposed Sinking Fund were discussed. One version would be worded as a new tax levy and would allow the money to be used towards the purchase of real estate. The other version would be a renewal of the current Sinking Fund which does not allow for the purchase of real estate. The committee recommends the renewal of the current sinking fund language.

Kevin Doty shared facilities updates. He emphasized the completion of HVAC systems in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade wing at the middle school. Bids on the remaining HVAC issues at the middle school are expected and with the work to be completed during spring break. Mr. Doty shared 2016 Sinking Fund projects that were requested by district administrators. He will continue to work through the proposed list to make final recommendations.

A 5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom will be added at Alaiedon Elementary and a kindergarten classroom will be added at North Aurelius Elementary for the 2016-17 school year. Superintendent Drzewicki stated the kindergarten classroom decision will be finalized following kindergarten registration numbers.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 7, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

### **Community and Staff Relations**

Becky Brimley referred to minutes of the January 18, 2016 meeting. Rick Brooks presented a 2015-16 staffing update. Superintendent Drzewicki shared cost savings measures at Central Office. An open accountant position has been filled. A bus driver staffing update was shared. The committee discussed substitute teachers and EduStaff's application process.

Superintendent Drzewicki gave an overview of Bond Proposal plans.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 15, 2016 at 4:15 p.m.

Rick Brooks stated the district has a full capacity of regular bus drivers. When substitute drivers are needed, a mechanic or custodial member is available to fill-in. The district will continue to recruit additional substitute drivers.

### **Policy and Curriculum**

Laura Cheney referred to the minutes of the January 25, 2016 meeting. The committee recognized an anonymous donation of \$25,000 for athletic capital improvements. The committee discussed potential opportunities for athletic capital improvements. The committee recommended acceptance of the donation.

Building principals provided an update on cell phones and bullying policies. The policies were updated last year and issues were reviewed. Positive responses were received from middle school and high school staff. The committee discussed anti-bullying interventions, parental engagements and behavior change approaches. Conflict resolution was discussed amongst committee members.



Superintendent Drzewicki briefed the group on Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).

The committee discussed revision to policy #3200 – Payment of Obligations. The committee recommends policy #3200 to the school board for first reading.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

#### Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Anonymous Alumnus

Laura Cheney made and Julie Rogers supported a motion to approve the Anonymous Alumnus donor contribution, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

#### Superintendent

Superintendent Drzewicki indicated Sinking Fund ballot language has been reviewed with the Finance and Property Committee. The committee recommends approval of the renewal language.

#### Sinking Fund Renewal Ballot Language

Tom Curtis made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to approve the Sinking Fund Renewal Ballot Language, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

#### Bond Proposal Ballot Language

Tom Curtis made and Julie Rogers supported a motion to approve the Bond Proposal Ballot Language, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

#### Informational Campaign Update

Bond Information meetings for all buildings will conclude this week. Superintendent Drzewicki is presenting and the information is well-received by staff members.

A video highlighting the bond is in the final editing stages. Public meetings will begin the week of February 15, 2016. Superintendent Drzewicki will attend Good Morning Mason on February 18, 2016 and again in April of 2016. Three Community Forums are scheduled for February 24, March 1 and March 28, 2016. Each meeting will be held in the library at the middle school.

Superintendent Drzewicki shared that the 60 day gag order has been lifted.

Absentee voter ballots will be available on March 19, 2016. Superintendent Drzewicki will meet with the Mason Area Senior Citizens group on March 17, 2016 prior to the ballots coming out.

Fact sheets were available at the Foundation's Red Carpet Gala this past weekend. A PowerPoint presentation was displayed for guests. Superintendent Drzewicki briefly spoke to the bond in his Gala speech.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF OTHER MATTERS BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**

Becky Brimley reminded the group of legislation highlights provided in the Ingham School Officers Association (ISOA) minutes. Becky Brimley has resigned as President of the Executive Board. Mrs. Brimley was thanked for her service.

Tom Curtis informed the board of an advocacy committee formed to monitor voters for the bond. The committee is chaired by retired teacher, Dennis Howe. Mr. Howe will keep Mr. Curtis

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informed of committee events. The committee has adopted a slogan titled, “Yes 2 Mason!” after the two proposals on the May 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot. Over thirty community members attended the first meeting.

Mr. Beebe thanked the Foundation for the Red Carpet Gala event. The Gala had a record number of attendees. Board of Education members are appreciative of effort that goes into planning this event.

### **INTRODUCTION OF OTHER MATTERS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Superintendent Drzewicki reminded the board of the 2015 Mason Area Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Eldorado Golf Course. Teacher, Tracy Casali will be recognized as the Excellence in Education recipient.

Kindergarten Registration Night is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, March 15, 2016 at 6:30 p.m., in the High School Auditorium. Matt Stuard explained plans for the registration evening. A district-wide registration will insure that consistent information is shared with families. Kindergarten students will have an opportunity to visit their elementary school at a later date.

The district is working toward ensuring students are ready and prepared for kindergarten. Future kindergarten students will be provided workbooks for academic practice over the summer. The packet will include incentives for student completion.

A grant was received to assist the district to have more students score proficient in reading by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Struggling students will be provided a summer packet to work on prior to returning next fall.

Schools of Choice students do not attend registration. Available kindergarten slots are determined following the district registration and then offered to Schools of Choice families.

### **PUBLIC REQUESTS/COMMENTS**

#### **CLOSED SESSION #1 – STUDENT REINSTATEMENT REQUEST [CN-141505]**

Julie Rogers made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of conducting a student reinstatement request.

Roll call vote: Yes – Beebe, Brimley, Cheney, Creamer, Curtis, Fenger, Rogers; No – None. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

The Board entered closed session at 7:24 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 7:40 p.m.



**OPEN SESSION – STUDENT REINSTATEMENT REQUEST [CN-141505]**

Laura Cheney made and Becky Brimley supported a motion to deny the petition for reinstatement of student CN-141505. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

**CLOSED SESSION #2– NEGOTIATIONS, PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AND SUPERINTENDENT’S EVALUATION**

Julie Rogers made and Becky Brimley supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of negotiations, purchase of property and superintendent’s evaluation.

Roll call vote: Yes – Beebe, Brimley, Cheney, Creamer, Curtis, Fenger, Rogers; No – None. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

The Board entered closed session at 7:41 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 9:47 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Julie Rogers made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

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Laura Fenger  
Secretary

