

MASON BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Regular Meeting**

**March 14, 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, March 14, 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.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Two email communications were noted.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Julie Rogers made and Becky Brimley supported a motion to approve the consent agenda, including approval of minutes of the February 8, regular meeting; February 8, closed session #1; February 8, closed session #2; Personnel Report No. 19; Financial Report No. 20; including payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$1,290,244.98, Food Service Fund bills in the amount of \$74,431.62, Student Activities Fund bills in the amount of \$27,999.34, and Sinking Fund bills in the amount of \$7,911.11. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

**COMMITTEE AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

**Finance and Property**

Kurt Creamer referred to minutes from the Monday, March 7, 2016 meeting.

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A monthly update was given. Both revenues and expenses are tracking to expectations. An increase in enrollment within the Graduation Alliance program is higher than originally expected. The program was budgeted for 15 students and we currently have 19 enrolled.

Governor Snyder's proposed budget was released and increased the foundation allowance from \$60 to \$120 per pupil. There may be a change in the head count calculation next year from 90/10% to a 50/50% weighting of the two count days.

An adjustment to Central Office employees pay was made due to a per diem calculation that was using a 260 work day count instead of 261.

Jesse Nelson from Umbaugh shared the potential to qualify for a Rural Development Loan as part of the funding of the proposed school bond. The committee asked Mr. Nelson to proceed with the preliminary application.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 11, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

### **Community and Staff Relations**

There were no staffing updates for the 2015-16 school year. Recruitment issues continue.

Professional Learning Communities were discussed. The committee discussed the possibility of starting school one hour late on Wednesdays. PLCs may be implemented in the fall.

An additional section of kindergarten may be added next year based on kindergarten registration numbers. Current class sizes average 26-27 students per classroom. Kindergarten numbers will be reviewed in May. A fifth grade classroom will be added to Alaiedon for the 2106-17 school year. If the bond does not pass, it may be necessary to use portable classrooms.

Mr. Brooks discussed the proposed evaluation schedule for professional staff.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at 4:15 p.m.

### **Policy and Curriculum**

Laura Cheney referred to the minutes from the Monday, February 22, 2016 meeting.

The committee discussed high school class rank. The group discussed those that should be recognized and/or speak at graduation. The committee discussed the proposed criteria for commencement speakers.

Mr. Delbridge and Ms. Harrington reviewed the current exam waiver process with the committee. A new proposal for allowing students to waiver exams was discussed. The pilot program will begin in the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester.

The committee recognized the hard work and generosity of the Alaiedon PTO and recommends the Board of Education accept the donor contribution.

The committee recognized and asked the Board of Education to approve the donation of computer monitors from Jackson National Life.

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Computer monitors were also donated by Farm Bureau Insurance. The committee recognized the generous donation and recommends acceptance of the gift.

The committee reviewed Internet browser security and the acceptable use agreement for information technology for K-12 students. The committee discussed the process and administration of the agreement, including compliance with CIPA.

The committee will discuss NEOLA, Inc. at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

Second Reading of Policy #3200 – Payment of Obligations

Laura Cheney made and Julie Rogers supported a motion to approve Policy #3200, Payment of Obligations, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Alaiedon PTO

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

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Jackson National Life

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

Outdated monitors will be disposed of by a company from Kalamazoo, MI.

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Farm Bureau Insurance

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

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Auto Owners

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

President Beebe thanked each group for their support of Mason Public Schools.

Laura Cheney publically thanked high school staff members for taking the initiative to start the donation campaign this year.

**Superintendent**

The Community Forum held on Thursday, March 10, 2016 was well attended. Superintendent Drzewicki thanked board members for their attendance. He stated community members appreciated the bond information, were supportive and had good dialogue. The next Community Forum is scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Another Community Forum may be scheduled in April of 2016.

Superintendent Drzewicki will present at the Mason Optimist Club, Mason Area Senior Citizens group, College Club, the City Council and many other groups before the end of the month. Information is being shared and has been provided to the townships.

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

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Tom Curtis updated the board on the campaign committee that started last month. The committee has over 30 members. The committee's goal is to identify voters. Over 100 community members attended the Yes2Mason! Kick-off held at the high school. Retired Mason teacher, Mr. Dennis Howe is the chair and he spoke on his commitment to the proposal.

Mr. Curtis visited the middle school on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and spoke with over 80 community and staff members. There were very few unsupportive community members. Frequently asked questions included information on the closing of Cedar Elementary, how soon will construction take place, and how will this impact my students.

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

Kindergarten Registration Night will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

A Community Forum is set for Monday, March 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the middle school library.

### **PUBLIC REQUESTS/COMMENTS**

Kindergarten registration information was shared with the board by Lisa Francisco, Principal of Alaiedon Elementary School. The district has 134 students registered. At this point in the year, Mrs. Francisco feels the district is on target. The registration will be collaborative this year and held at the high school.

### **CLOSED SESSION #1 - STUDENT REINSTATEMENT HEARING [CN-141503]**

Julie Rogers made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of a student reinstatement hearing. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

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 7:35 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 8:11 p.m.

### **OPEN SESSION #1 – STUDENT REINSTATEMENT RESOLUTION (CN-141503)**

Laura Cheney made and Kurt Creamer supported a motion to conditionally reinstate student CN-141503 effective immediately. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

### **CLOSED SESSION #2 - STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING [CN-151604]**

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

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

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The Board entered closed session at 8:15 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 9:00 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION #3 – PROPERTY**

Julie Rogers made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of property discussion. All yes. Motion carried 7-0.

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 9:05 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 9:25 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Julie Rogers made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

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Laura Fenger  
Secretary

