

MASON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

October 10, 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, October 10, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Becky Brimley, Vice President.

Present: Becky Brimley, Laura Fenger, Julie Rogers, Laura Cheney,

Absent: Ralph Beebe, Kurt Creamer, and Tom Curtis

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 4-0.

PUBLIC REQUESTS/COMMENTS

Mrs. Colleen Heathman of 850 Wildmere Drive, Mason, MI addressed the Board of Education. Mrs. Heathman has had discussions with Superintendent Drzewicki and Kevin Doty regarding the district's policy on eligibility for student transportation services. She stated existing bus stops are available within their neighborhood and requested an exception to this transportation policy for her daughter.

Mrs. Heathman's request will be referred to the Board of Education's Policy and Curriculum Committee.

SPECIAL REPORTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Alan Panter, a partner of Abraham and Gaffney, P.C. presented an audit presentation for year ending June 30, 2016. He shared financial statements, supplemental documents and a communication letter with the Board of Education. Mr. Panter shared that the audit went well and was better than the past two years. He stated the management team was well prepared and thanked everyone from the Mason Public Schools business office. Mr. Panter had no audit findings this year. The district's fund balance is 8.9% as compared to 4.5% last year. A short term note was paid off and no new note was taken, showing the district is not borrowing. Mr. Panter shared highlights from the audit and gave an Unmodified Opinion. An Unmodified Opinion is the best a district can receive.

INSPIRE



EMPOWER



SUCCEED

Board members thanked Mr. Panter.

COMMUNICATIONS

Board of Education members noted an email they received regarding a bussing concern.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Julie Rogers made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to approve the consent agenda, including approval of minutes of the September 12, regular meeting; Personnel Report No. 9; Financial Report No. 10; including payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$967,276.04, Food Service Fund bills in the amount of \$63,136.00, Student Activities Fund bills in the amount of \$28,119.93, and Sinking Fund bills in the amount of \$114,720.86. All yes. Motion carried 4-0.

COMMITTEE AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Finance and Property

Julie Rogers referred to minutes of the October 3, 2016 meeting. The committee discussed the audit report and monthly budget update. Cheryl S. Wald reviewed all major differences and will work on producing a revised 2016-17 budget for presentation in December. A March 2017 budget revision is planned.

Landscaping is moving forward at all schools with positive feedback. After receiving only one bid, playground renovations have been tabled until the spring of 2017.

Superintendent Drzewicki and Kevin Doty will produce a scope of work for Sinking Fund dollars. GMB will attend the next meeting and may be used for design work if necessary. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 7, 2016.

Audit Report

Julie Rogers made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to approve the 2015-16 audit, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Community and Staff Relations

Laura Fenger referred to minutes from the September 19, 2016 meeting. The first draft of NEOLA, Inc. was distributed. Late Start Wednesday's began on September 21, 2016. The committee discussed programing options for all buildings. Mr. Brooks presented a staffing update.

Superintendent Drzewicki shared updates about the communication plan. Ingham ISD has produced two communications. Information was shared with all stakeholders. The team will begin reviewing the Post Bond Survey from parents. The district's Keynotes newsletter will be reformatted to mail to community members.

Policy and Curriculum

INSPIRE



EMPOWER



SUCCEED

Laura Cheney referred to minutes from the September 26, 2016 meeting. A bullying report was presented and an ELA Study Committee update was presented by Matt Stuard. The study committee has co-chairs in place and discussions are continuing.

The committee discussed the NEOLA policy development process. The committee recommended first readings on policy series 0000, 1000, and 2000.

Board members recognized the generous gifts/bequests donor contributions.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 24, 2016.

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Anonymous Parent

Laura Cheney made and Julie Rogers supported a motion to approve the anonymous parent donation of \$5,000 for building, athletics and special education improvements, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – Jack Hart

Laura Cheney made and Julie Rogers supported a motion to approve the contribution of lumber from Mr. Jack Hart, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Gifts/Bequests Donor Contribution – N. Aurelius P.T.O.

Laura Cheney made and Julie Rogers supported a motion to approve the donation of classroom supplies from the N. Aurelius P.T.O., as presented. All yes. Motion carried 4-0.

INTRODUCTION OF OTHER MATTERS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Mason Public Schools Foundation has set a tentative date for the Red Carpet Gala. The event will be held at the Crown Plaza in Lansing, MI on Saturday, February 4, 2017. Superintendent Drzewicki indicated there was record attendance last year. He stated the group is looking for donations and help with ticket sales.

October is Principals Appreciation month. District principals will be recognized on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at a Leadership Team meeting.

The Harlem Ambassadors are coming to the Mason High School on Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Mason Promise Scholarship and Mason Kiwanis Club.

PUBLIC REQUESTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Christopher Mumby of 827 Charrington Court addressed the Board of Education. He shared information regarding a Mason Public Schools Foundation event scheduled on November 4, 2016 from 6:00–8:00 p.m. in downtown Lansing. Tickets will be sold for access to Impressions 5 Science Center, the R.E. Olds Museum and the Michigan Surveyors Museum. The event is geared toward elementary and middle school children. Advance tickets are \$8.50 per person or \$25.00 per family (up to 6). All proceeds will benefit Mason Public Schools Foundation.

Mr. Eric Haynie of 5950 Patriots Way, East Lansing, MI spoke to board members. He spoke regarding the communication plan, district landscaping updates and the district's positive budget. Mr. Haynie stated the district has decreased support staff, primarily secretarial staff, in half over the last decade. He praised the secretarial staff for their efforts when more and more tasks are being added. He asked board members to consider adding support when concentrating on the next

INSPIRE



EMPOWER



SUCCEED

budget cycle. Mr. Haynie stated, “we have great people, doing a great job at the high school.” He would be disappointed if we start losing staff. Mr. Haynie recognized Marcy DeKett for always giving over and above. He praised Shannon Kesler, new hire in the technology department, for easing the transition of new office and counseling staff. Mr. Haynie wanted to make sure the Board of Education knows we have a number of people around here doing a wonderful job.

Mr. Haynie referred to Mason staff stating, “We do take great pride in this place, we do great things and we have a high level of care.” He thanked Board of Education members for “climbing a steep mountain.”

CLOSED SESSION - NEGOTIATIONS

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

Roll Call Vote: Brimley, Cheney, Fenger, Rogers

Absent: Beebe, Creamer, Curtis,

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 7:52 p.m.

MASON FOOD SERVICE EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

Julie Rogers made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to approve the Mason Food Service Employee Association Tentative Agreement, as presented. All yes. Motion carried 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Julie Rogers made and Laura Cheney supported a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. All yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Laura Fenger
Secretary

