

Proposed Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
December 14, 2009

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President Freeman called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the elementary media center.

Members present: Butler, Freeman, Keyes, Palmer, Ryckman, Van Sickler

Members absent: Peglow

Administrators present: Myers, Beal, Hubbard, Kelly

Administrators absent: none

Visitors present: Chad, Angie and Kylie Mortensen, Ron Stalica, Jeff Jarvis, Gerald Deslover, Sharon Davis, Bonnie Walker, Connie Marshall, Jim Hodges

Approval of Agenda

Freeman asked to amend the agenda.

Add: VIII New Business

F. NHS Trip

Motion by Butler, support by Van Sickler to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Recognition of Guests

None

Questions on Building Reports

Van Sickler questioned why the elementary musical is not on the marquee. Van Sickler thought it needed to be advertised more.

Van Sickler also questioned the middle school report concerning M.S. Student Council.

Communications

Special Recognition - Kylie Mortensen – coat drive

Mrs. Kelly introduced Angie and Chad Mortensen and their daughter Kylie.

Kylie organized a coat drive for Vestaburg kids. She collected 190 coats and snow pants for Vestaburg kids. Mrs. Kelly presented Kylie with a certificate for her efforts.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Butler, support by Palmer to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held November 9, 2009 as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

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Freeman asked to change the date on the minutes to November 23rd, 2009
Motion by Butler, support by Van Sickler to approve the minutes from the special meeting held November 23, 2009 as amended.
Motion CARRIED 6-0

Motion by Ryckman, support by Butler to approve the minutes of the special meeting held November 30, 2009 as presented.
Motion CARRIED 6-0

Treasurer's Report- December

Freeman presented the treasurer's report.
Motion by Butler, support by Van Sickler to approve the bills as monies become available.
Motion CARRIED 6-0

Audit

Mr. Gerald Desloover, from Rehmann discussed the audit with the superintendent and board members.
Motion by Van Sickler, support by Ryckman to accept the 2008-09 Audit Report.
Motion CARRIED 6-0

Consent Agenda

Motion by VanSickler, support by Keyes to approve Amanda Slezak's maternity leave.
Motion CARRIED 6-0

New Business

Scott Koenigsknecht – ISD Superintendent

Dr. Koenigsknecht, Superintendent of the Intermediate School District discussed the services the ISD provides. Pupil accounting, truancy, court ordered students. The district works with the ISD using the CIMS program for the bookkeeping and student database programs. These consortia with the ISD saved the district about 10,000.00. The ISD purchased software to save student test scores, like MEAP, Dibels, etc. The ISD also coordinates the Schools of Choice program.

Consortia participation and access for several programs

GenNet

Safe and Drug Free Schools

Battle Creek Science training kits

Write and secure grants. Title IID Technology Grant, Homeless Grant, Service Learning Grant, Great Start Collaborative Grant, Great Start/Great Parent

The district pays about \$7.00 per student. But the previous list is part of what we are receiving for the investment.

Budget Discussion

Superintendent Myers gave a presentation to the board on the budget. Where the district is with the cuts from the state. The presentation talked about where the revenue comes from to allocate to schools. Tax cuts reduce school operating funds.

Superintendent Myers said that we do have a challenge “survive and thrive”. Mr. Myers said that a few years ago the district did vote for the headlee override and we have been working with those 18 mills.

Myers stated we have already reduced staff a few years back, we contract subs through PESG, made energy improvements, spending freeze, not hiring substitute custodians when they are gone one night unless there is a special event. Sold unused books, old tools from the woodshop class on eBay, created space and revenue for the district. Cuts of 165.00 per pupil with a possible 127.00 per pupil extra. Myers stated we are looking at realistically just under 6000.00 per pupil instead of the 7000.00 that the state tells you the district are receiving.

Myers would like to form a committee with a couple of board members, staff, and community members to look at the needs of the district. What the district needs to do to meet the requirements of the state for the collaboration/finance action plan. Myers quoted “Children are the future, apparently Michigan does not need a future.”

Service Consolidation Plan Resolution

Myers stated that this is basically saying that we are working on a consolidation plan to be able to use preschool funds in other areas.

Motion by Van Sickler, support by Palmer to approve the Service Consolidation Plan.

Roll call: Butler – yes, Freeman – yes, Keyes – yes, Palmer – yes, Ryckman – yes, Van Sickler - yes

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Michigan Renewable Energy Program

Myers stated that this is 8000.00 coming out of general fund or possibly the 2009 bond. Myers stated after crunching numbers, figuring the number of days that we have sun we could possible only save 100-200.00 a year? This would be 8000.00 for a 42,000.00-dollar project.

Motion by Butler, support by Ryckman to not accept the renewable energy program.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

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Michigan Race to the Top

Myers stated that this is a grant that Michigan is competing for against the other 50 states. If Michigan is granted this grant the school could have a chance to receive money.

Motion by Butler, support by Van Sickler to approve Michigan Race to the Top
Motion CARRIED 6-0

NHS Trip

Mr. Hodges presented to the board a proposal for the National Honor Society to take a trip to Toronto. Student fundraisers fund the trip.

Motion by Butler, support by Palmer to approve the NHS trip to Toronto this spring.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Other Business

None

Old Business

Ron Stalica - TEPG

Mr. Stalica talked about the potential scope of the project with the high school energy bond. Stalica stated that they are working with C2AE on the project to make sure they are not already covering something.

Stalica presented a playbook to show ways to change the behavior to save money.

TEPG will work hand in hand with the project manager of the bond proposal.

Part of the difference in the boiler is because part of it is covered through the 2009 bond money.

Palmer questioned the boiler system. Myer stated in the bond proposal it will be a basic boiler system. With the energy bond the district can purchase it and use the millage money in other areas.

Ryckman stated that it should be a good investment.

TEPG stated that working with C2AE, TEPG looked at anything that would have an energy savings is taken out of the bond.

Freeman stated that with the last energy bid TEPG hired a contractor and that contractor hired a local contractor to come in and do part of the work. Freeman stated that we could have probably saved money if the local contractor would have been hired initially.

TEPG stated that they would be using the multiple high efficiency boilers like what they used in the elementary/middle school. It would be bigger than the one in the elementary. TEPG would be doing all of the work in the mechanical room and the bond would cover everything outside the mechanical room. Stalica stated that with their proposal you are guaranteed no change orders. Myers stated that with phase one in the elementary they found the multiple boilers TEPG put in was not heating the building sufficiently so TEPG added another boiler at their

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expense. Ryckman just wanted to make sure that the district is receiving a return in the first year. Boilers have a 10-year warranty through TEPG. Freeman would like the amount of the controls in the original 2009 proposal. Motion by Ryckman, support by Keyes to table until the special board meeting on December 21, 2009.
Motion CARRIED 6-0

Work in Progress

Bus Replacement Schedule

Myers stated that with the budget cuts the district would not be purchasing a bus this year.

Athletic Handbook – due process vs. student handbook

Butler questioned whether the committee would be presenting to the board what the committee has come up with for the due process for the appeal procedures in athletics. Butler stated that the board promised the parent that there would be something at the January meeting.

Recognition of Guests

Mr. Hodges thanked the board again for approving the NHS trip.

Items for next Board Meeting January 12, 2010

Athletic due process for the athletic appeal process.

Myers asked for board members for volunteers for the committee to work on strategies to save money. The committee will meet at 6:30 in the elementary media center on Tuesday December 15, 2009. Dan Ryckman and Dave Freeman volunteered for the committee.

Motion by Ryckman, support Van Sickler to adjourn at 9:14 p.m.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Karen Grover
Recording Secretary