

Proposed Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
January 10, 2011

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President Van Sickler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Member present: Freeman, Keyes, McNerney, Palmer, Peglow, Van Sickler, Ryckman  
arrived at 7:05

Members absent: none

Administrators present: Beal, Hubbard, Weaver

Administrators absent: none

Visitors present: Larry Koutz, Steven Lott, Jim Hodges, Tracey Reed, Tom Anderson,  
Amy Johnston, Bambi Grossett, Chris Grossett, Kody Goodgasell, Jen Stratton, Scott  
Stratton, Jody Zinn, Brian Zinn, Bonnie Walker, Christa Phillips, Bill Johnson, Tara  
Johnson, Lori Wolfe, Beverly Stratton, Melissa Benavidez, Akisha Benavidez,  
Damien Benavidez, Karen Gostomski, Jamie Fockler, Crystal Ketner, Lisa Donley,  
Connie Marshall, Marcie Peglow, Steve Keeler, Wendy Keeler, Dillon Gatehouse,  
Elaine Lowery, Sam McNerney, Caleb Palmer, Chris Denman

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Freeman, support by McNerney to approve the agenda as presented.  
Motion CARRIED 6-0

Recognition of Guests

None

Questions on Building Reports

None

Communications

Letter from Neicko and Melissa Benavidez

Presentation from Mrs. Berry's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class.

Mrs. Berry's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class did a presentation on Native Americans. Each  
student talked about the Native American group they researched and gave the  
board a little background and showed them the houses that they constructed.

Quiz Bowl Team Recognition: The Board vs. The Students

The 4 alumni board members of Ryckman, Keyes, McNerney and Freeman  
challenged the Varsity Quiz Bowl Team. The Varsity Quiz Bowl Team took 2<sup>nd</sup>  
place in the league. The JV Team finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the league.

The Quiz Bowl team won the challenge by a score of 135 to 30. Great job!!

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Jeff Beal – School Board Recognition Month

Beal personally thanked the school board members for their dedication to the school district. Beal presented the board members with a certificate and a Vestaburg shirt.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Freeman, support by Palmer to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting held December 13, 2010 as presented.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

Motion by Freeman, support by McNerney to approve the minutes of the Executive Session held December 13, 2010.

Motion CARREID 7-0

Treasurer's Report- January

Motion by Peglow, support by Freeman to approve the bills as monies become available.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

Beal mentioned to the board about ARRA funds that came to the school district. Beal also mentioned that there are rumors about shifting money from the school aid fund. If this happens it could be a \$1000.00 deduction per pupil to the budget.

Peglow asked if anyone is looking at grants for the school district. Beal stated that the ISD has a person on staff that looks for grants for each school district.

Consent Agenda

A. Employ

1. Scott Marshall – Varsity Baseball Coach

Motion by Freeman, support by Palmer to approve the consent agenda.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

New Business

Motion by Peglow, support by Keyes to enter executive session - Student Reinstatement (P.A. 1976 Amended by Act. No 256 of 1978, per 15.268, Section 8, paragraph b.) at 7:42 p.m.

Roll Call: Freeman – yes, Keyes – yes, McNerney – yes, Palmer – yes,

Peglow – yes, Ryckman – yes, Van Sickler - yes

Motion CARRIED 7-0

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Motion by McNerney, support by Palmer to re-enter regular session at 8:16 p.m.

Roll Call: Freeman – yes, Keyes – yes, Palmer – yes, Peglow – yes,  
McNerney – yes, Ryckman – yes, Van Sickler - yes

Motion CARREID 7-0

Motion by Peglow, support by Freeman to reinstate Student A.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

Motion by Freeman, support by Palmer to reinstate student B

Motion CARRED 7-0

#### Other Business

Dr. K from the ISD introduced Ron Simon in the financial office; he is taking over for Helen Hamler.

Kate Flynn from the ISD gave the board an outline of the programs offered for Special Education through the ISD. They provide service from birth to the age of 26. Some are referred right at birth and they are considered early on. Services are offered at the local district and at the ISD. They have adult programs for students ages 18-26. They are excited about these programs because they build lifelong skills.

Dr. K presented to the board a table of each school district in the county. Dr K also included numbers from the 6 surrounding ISD's. Montcalm County brings in the least amount of money for Special Education. Dr. K also showed the board the expenses/cost for special education services.

Approval of Neola Policies #0167.3, 0168.3, 2260, 2260.01, 2623, 3122.02, 3160, 3362, 3419.02, 3430.01, 4122.02, 4140, 4160, 4362, 4419.02, 4430.01, 5136, 5517, 9160

Beal stated to please look over these for approval at the next meeting in February.

#### Items for Discussion

##### Construction Update

Beal stated that construction workers came in over break to finish up some of the punch list items. Beal stated they are working on the noise level in the gym. The air handlers are too loud. The air handlers are working correctly, but are extremely loud. Beal stated with the fitness room floor, the floor is taking a long time to cure. It cures from the bottom up. There were 3 bids; the first bid was too expensive. Beal feels that the district should just wait it out and let the floor cure. The floor will take about three days to put down when the floor is cured. The board also talked about the traffic flow in front of the school. The stop sign should be put back up in front of the elementary gym by Avenue A.

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Superintendent Evaluation Procedure

Beal stated that the board has the evaluation tool. One part that needs to be added to the evaluation is student test data. Student test scores show students that are improving and students that are declining. It is Beal's goal to have that in place this year. Beal will have that rubric to the board by the end of January.

Peglow asked about merit based pay. Is there a plan in place to compensate those teachers that are achieving the high test scores compared to those that are just here?

Work in Progress

- Bus Replacement Schedule
- Election of Officers Mid-Year
- Bid Process for Auditor
- Naming the Track after Ron Cain

Recognition of Guests

Tara Johnson, 11722 Fleck Rd. Riverdale, MI 48877 is here today to address a safety issue at the school. One of the bond issues was to make sure that our buildings are safe. It is her hope that these were not hollow words. It is time that we look inside our buildings. The district has a teacher that has been suspended three times in one year. That is not a teacher she would like for a role model for her kids. Johnson stated that this same incident happened to her daughter last year.

Items for next Board Meeting February 14, 2011

Approval of Neola Policies.

Freeman would like to add to the agenda the moving or removal of the silo at the baseball field.

Decide on a date for the board retreat to discuss Superintendent Evaluation.

Motion by Freeman, support by Peglow to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

JANUARY SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

*Lynn Van Sickler - President*

*Dan Ryckman - Trustee*

*Ivan Palmer - Vice President*

*Thomas McNerney - Trustee*

*Bob Peglow - Treasurer*

*David Freeman - Trustee*

*Bruce Keyes - Secretary*