

Proposed Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

February 9, 2015

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President Van Sickler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the high school media center.

Members present: Davis, Drumm, Herman, McNerney, Palmer, Van Sickler, Zinn (arr. at 7:01)

Members absent: None

Administrator present: Hubbard, Walderzak, Weaver

Administrators absent: None

Visitor present: Frank Sabastion, Larry Koutz, Sharon Davis, Connie Marshall

Approval of Agenda

Van Sickler amended the agenda by adding to New Business: Expanding the MSAC League (adding Breckenridge and Merrill)

Motion by McNerney, support by Palmer to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion carried 6-0

Guest recognition:

Larry Koutz 7395 Avenue C., Vestaburg - on behalf of the high school student council, Mr. Koutz presented the board members with a certificate of appreciation.

Building reports: None

Communications:

Superintendent Hubbard recognized Mrs. Weaver and Mr. Walderzak for all of the work that they do. Mrs. Weaver is very knowledgeable and pushes him to be better. Walderzak has the most thankless job in the district. Both as the athletic director and Dean of Students, you are always hearing the negative. Van Sickler, also thanked both Mrs. Weaver and Mr. Walderzak for all of the work they do for the school district.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by McNerney, support by Herman to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

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Davis stated that in one of the paragraphs the word can should be cannot.

Motion by McNerney, support by Zinn to approve the executive minutes held during the regular meeting as amended.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

Treasurer's Report:

Motion by Drumm, support by McNerney to approve the bills as monies become available.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

Consent Agenda:

Motion by McNerney, support by Palmer to approve hiring Mr. Brian Zinn as the varsity softball coach.

Roll call: Davis – yes, Drumm – yes, Herman – yes, McNerney – yes, Palmer – yes, Van Sickler – yes, Zinn – abstain

Motion CARRIED 6-0, 1 abstain

Motion by McNerney, support Davis to approve the resignation of Zinn as the JV softball coach.

Roll call: Davis – yes, Drumm – yes, Herman – yes, McNerney – yes, Palmer – yes, Van Sickler – yes, Zinn - abstain

Motion CARRIED 6-0, 1 abstain

Motion by Zinn, support by Herman to approve the hire of Mr. David Ruckle as the varsity baseball coach. McNerney asked for a little information on the new baseball coach.

Walderzak stated that Ruckle has been involved with travel ball for several years and assisted with both varsity baseball and softball for several years. Zinn stated that Mr. Walderzak had a 3 panel committee that interviewed all candidates.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

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New Business:

MASC League expansion with Merrill and Breckenridge.

Walderzak stated that this has been coming for a while. In both cases it has been community pressure to stay in their current league because their current league is bigger and more recognition. Both schools are the same caliber as our current league schools. Walderzak stated that the only school opposing this is Ashley. Ashley feels they will be locked in to playing schools that are twice their size. The benefit for their schools is that they will be in a league that is more competitive for them. They will not be the smallest school in their league. Hubbard stated this also adds to our academic competitions. Hubbard stated that 8 schools in the league are better than 6 or 5 school districts. Van Sickler stated that he has concerns that Breckenridge has gone through this before and then backed down. Walderzak stated that all of the athletic directors are aware of that and agree with that concern. This league addition would start the 2016-2017 school year if passed. Hubbard stated that Walderak has put a lot of work into this. Walderzak has been the league president for the last several years and has done a great job building the league.

Motion by McNerney, support by Davis to approve the addition of Merrill and Breckenridge to the MSAC League starting in the 2016-2017 school year.

Drumm questioned Merrill's sportsmanship standards. Walderzak stated that the althetic directors have all discussed this and met with the Merrill Athletic Director and coaches.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

Other Business:

Michigan Virtual Program

Doctor Sebastian, Director of the West Michigan Virtual program came tonight to talk to the board about the program and the progress they are making. Currently the district shares a couple of students between the high school and the virtual program. Currently there are 42 students attending the West Michigan Virtual program. Dr. Sabastion stated that Vestaburg has some pretty nice kids attending. Hubbard stated that Dallas Bell is working on getting our number up to 50. Once the district reaches 50, the district will transition them to our own program in the central office building.

Hubbard stated that out of all of the kids the district has sent over, they have either graduated or are still attending. None of them have dropped out. Sabastion would like to share with the

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board about the superintendent when he was still the principal while working with the ombudsman program. The district had 3 students that did some vandalism at the school. Hubbard gave those students the opportunity to attend the ombudsman program and one of them did graduate. Sabastian stated that says a lot about your principal and the care he has for the students and giving them the opportunity to receive an education.

Principal/Superintendent Evaluation:

Hubbard talked to the board about the evaluation of the Superintendent/Principal. Hubbard stated that Dr. K from the ISD also tried to get some information from other school districts on how they do their evaluations. Zinn stated that if the school district ever has the money again it would be nice to go back to 2 principals and a superintendent. Zinn thinks that we need to have some guidelines and goals to go by to evaluate both positions to proceed in the future. McNerney spoke to the other board members on what his expectations are for the dual position. McNerney stated that the board has never evaluated the principals before. That is always done by the Superintendent. McNerney stated that he feels that the evaluation of the principal needs to be more of a team evaluation. Zinn stated that he feels there needs to be standards and goals for the principals. Zinn believes that it is important that we start that process. Hubbard stated that the board is welcome to talk to Weaver and Walderzak as much as they want. But Hubbard also does not want to make them uncomfortable. Hubbard stated you need to have a team approach to improve.

Van Sickler asked board members if they will need further discussion after the board does the superintendent evaluation to discuss the principal evaluation process.

Items for discussion:

Set date for Facilities Committee

Hubbard would like to set up a 3-5 year plan for the facilities. Hubbard talked about a few items that the committee will need to discuss and set a plan. Zinn stated that McNerney talked about setting a personnel committee and Zinn would be interested in that committee also. The facilities committee would like to meet Wednesday, February 25th at 4:30 p.m. in the central office conference room

Van Sickler reminded the board of the board retreat on Monday, February 23rd at 4:30 p.m. at the MAISD. Hubbard talked about some training for the board to help them. Zinn asked why the retreat is held at a different location. Herman asked if it is intended to make it so that there

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are not guests in attendance? McNerney stated it is an opportunity to get away instead of the same location as the formal board meeting.

Power of One Award:

Hubbard awarded the Power of One to the preschool program for all of their work in receiving a 5 star rating from the State of Michigan. First and foremost, Mrs. Weaver for all of her work getting the extra students, filing the grant, etc. Hubbard also spoke about the teachers; Karen Gostomski, Tammy Dickman, Bethany Wieber and Kris Olejniczak. The paraprofessionals; Candace Schilling, Teresa Hammond and Brienne Snyder and their work with the program.

Guest recognition:

Larry Koutz a week from Tuesday is the Alumni Basketball game on February, 17th. Mr. Koutz invited the board and appreciates their participation.

Mr. Van Sickler reminded the board of the next meeting.

Motion by McNerney, support by Zinn to adjourn at 8:22 p.m.

Motion CARRIED 7-0

Karen S. Grover

Recording Secretary