

Proposed Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
November 10, 2014

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

Members present: Davis, Drumm, McNerney, Palmer, Van Sickler

Members absent: Ryckman

Administrators present: Hubbard, Walderzak, Weaver

Administrators absent: none

Visitors present: Carol Herman, Sharon Davis, Larry Koutz, Matthew Koutz, Barb Alexander, Katie Bissell, Bonnie Walker, Brian Zinn, Laura Neelis, Amy Janofski, Jay Janofski, Dianne Wilson, Connie Marshall

Approval of Agenda

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

Motion CARRIED 5-0

Recognition of Guests

Amy and Jay Janofski - 8605 E. Lake Montcalm Rd. They are concerned about their 4th grade son with the size of the classroom. He has been coming home the last few days very agitated and upset. Mrs. Janofski stated they do not have any concerns with the teacher; Mrs. Vissman does an outstanding job with the students. She is concerned that there are 38 students in the classroom and feels that it takes a lot of time to address all of the issues.

Board Interviews

The board interviewed two candidates for the open seat on the Board of Education.

Carol Herman, retired teacher interviewed and Sean Phillips, community member also interviewed back in July and was unable to attend tonight because of a medical appointment. Mr. Phillips asked if we could use his interview from July. The board asked questions about budget cuts, sports, liberal arts, and clubs. The role of the Board of Education and the Superintendent. The board talked about communication, with community, teachers, staff, and administration. The board asked what their strengths/weaknesses would be on the board. The board asked what their long range goals would be for Vestaburg.

The board discussed the two candidates.

Motion by McNerney, support by Drumm to appoint Carol Herman to fill the vacancy of Dave Freeman for the next two years.

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Oath of Office

Superintendent Hubbard gave the Oath of Office to Charlene Davis elected November 4th and Carol Herman appointed tonight.

Questions on Building Reports: None

Communications: None

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Davis, support by Palmer to approve the Minutes of the Regular meeting held October 13, 2014 as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Motion by McNerney, support by Palmer to approve the Minutes of the Executive meeting held during the Regular meeting held October 13, 2014 as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Treasurer's Report- November

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

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Consent Agenda

A. Reinstate

1. Traci McCormick – Paraprofessional

B. Employ

1. Jason Crowder – Food Service
2. Matthew Koutz – Teacher

C. Resignation

1. Doris Vining – Paraprofessional
2. Daniel Rons – Varsity Softball Coach

Motion by McNerney, support by Davis to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Mr. Hubbard welcomed Mr. Matthew Koutz aboard. Hubbard stated that he has been subbing for the school district and doing a very good job. Hubbard also welcomed back Traci McCormick. Jason Crowder has been subbing in the kitchen and has proved to be a dependable employee. Hubbard thanked Mrs. Vining and Mr. Rons for their years of service with the district.

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New Business

Amended Budget 2014-2015 – Set Special Meeting

The board set a special board meeting on Monday, December 1, 2014 for the Amended Budget 2014-2015 school year.

Neola Policies Volume 29.1 – 1st Reading

This is the first reading of the Neola policies. Mr. Van Sickler stated that if you have any questions, please contact Mr. Hubbard.

Old Business: None

Items for Discussion

Balanced Calendar Exploratory Discussion

Hubbard discussed with the board some of the pros and cons of a balanced calendar. One of the reasons the administration is looking at this is because of the summer slide and what the kids lose over the summer. Hubbard stated that he believes the state will be moving in this direction. Most of the local school districts are already looking at starting this next year. Hubbard stated there is a 5 question survey on the web site and parents will be asked to take the survey during parent-teacher conferences. Hubbard talked about in the month of August students would come back about the same time fall sports start. The students would only come 4 days a week in the month of August and have 3 day weekends. Hubbard stated there is also a student survey. McNerney stated that we should not base it on the students because we do not base what math class they are taking because they might not like it. McNerney stated that we need to have the data from other schools that are already participating in a balanced calendar to show our parents. Carol Herman asked about starting the day later. Studies show that 8:00 a.m. is too early for high school students. Hubbard stated there would be a 3 week break at Christmas, 3 weeks for spring break and then a 6 week break during the summer.

Charlotte Davis spoke about the facilities committee meeting. Davis talked about the buses and what is going on with them. Ken Carll is going to use parts from the old bus that can be used on the current buses to save money for the district. They talked about maintenance issues, floor tiles will be replaced during break. This is an ongoing process from the building project.

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Power of One

Hubbard stated that a student was nominated for the Power of One award. Kristian Gostomski has been nominated for the Power of One. Kristian has stepped up when kids have been inappropriate or making bad choices. Kristian is working with the Cool to be Kind group and has been a good role model for other students.

Work in Progress: None

Recognition of Guests: None

Items for next Board Meeting December 8, 2014

Motion by McNerney, support by Herman to adjourn at 7:54 p.m.
Motion CARRIED 6-0

Karen S. Grover
Recording Secretary