



REGULAR BOARD MEETING

City Council Chambers

14400 Dix Toledo, Southgate, MI 48195

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

PRESIDENT

REBECCA REED-HALL

VICE PRESIDENT

PAUL C. KNOTT

SECRETARY

DR. DARLENE L. POMPONIO

TREASURER

W. KIRK HAYHURST

TRUSTEES

JASON CRAIG
MARK KREMER
PATRICK OWEN

DATE: April 21, 2015

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig, Knott, Kremer, Pomponio,
Reed-Hall

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Hayhurst, Owen

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Hainrihar, McLachlan, Pastor

ADMINISTRATION EXCUSED:

The pledge of allegiance was led by Cassidy Morey 8th grade student from Davidson Middle School.
President Reed-Hall read the District Mission and Vision Statements.

ADMINISTRATION

SUPERINTENDENT

LESLIE HAINRIHAR

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

DIRECTOR

THERESA MCLACHLAN, C.P.A.

CURRICULUM/FEDERAL

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

JILL PASTOR

HUMAN RESOURCES

DIRECTOR

MARY HILDEBRANDT

REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2014/15-366 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott that the board revises the agenda to include in Consent, the April 14, 2015 Regular Board Meeting minutes for approval.

YES: Craig, Knott, Kremer, Pomponio, Reed-Hall
NO:

2014/15-367 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott that the board approve the revised April 21, 2015 agenda

YES: Craig, Knott, Kremer, Pomponio, Reed-Hall
NO:

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON DISCUSSION OR ACTION ITEMS

None

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

Anderson High School student representative Ms. Frank announced Anderson's Prom will be May 8th from 7p.m. until 11 p.m. at Burton Manor in Livonia. The Theme is A Night of Mystery. Tickets are \$60 for a single and \$100 per couple and will be on sale during lunch and in Mrs. Furkas' room after school. Registration forms are in the main office or in Mrs. Furkas' room

Representatives from Concordia College will be at AHS on Tuesday April 21st during both lunches to meet with students.

Anderson High School student representative Mr. Swinehart gave the sports schedule for Softball/Baseball and Soccer teams for the upcoming week. He reminded students attending the Philadelphia trip they need to be at AHS for the bag check 7:30p.m. Friday April 24. The busses will arrive by 8:30 p.m. and leave promptly. LINC crew applications are due by April 28 to the counseling office.

Ms. Reed-Hall mentioned that students who wish to take the ACT again need to go to ACT.org to register, the fee will be \$55. May 8 is the deadline for registration and the test will be administered at Allen Park High School. A current picture ID is required and the ID will be needed on testing day.

PRESENTATIONS

School Improvement Plans: The co-chairpersons from the elementary buildings; Ali Kopp-Fordline Shannon Plocharczyk-Fordline, Melissa Kochanoski-Grogan, Alyson Hanna-Shelters, Tammy Biggs-Shelters, Scott Piestrak-Allen was unavailable to attend, gave the board the Elementary School Improvement Plan.

Goals: All Elementary's have the same goals; Increase student engagement and Higher Order Thinking Skills in all content areas. Their belief is by increasing these skills success will occur in all students in whatever task the students are presented. By becoming active thinkers students will master any situation that is presented throughout their lifetime.

Progress toward Goals: Data is collected during Data Walks which occur regularly in each building. One focus for the staff is to write and display daily learning targets. It is the belief that when students know the objective they can reflect on their learning and "own" what is being taught. Another way to progress toward the goal is to create "I Can" statements for the standards being taught. These help the students organize what is to be learned and assist the teacher by focusing on the specific content expectations. A strong focus for the staff this year was utilizing Total Participation Techniques. Various techniques were demonstrated at Professional Development meetings, and help incorporate engagement into any lesson. Elementary teachers were trained in ELA for grade 3 through 5 and Math in grades K through 5. Both trainings focused on incorporating High Order Thinking Skills and strategies to implement them within lessons.

Evidence of Progress: Based on elementary Data Walks student engagement has increased from September 2014 until January 2015 by 9%; an increase in Higher Order Thinking Skills from September 2014 until January 2015 by 9%. In January 2015 90% of the visits showing that learning objectives were evident and learning targets were posted and the students knew what those were.

What is going well: From the beginning of the year with our first Professional Development and the message from Ms. Hainrihar saying "I can help"; her presentation on Project Based Learning which is all about Higher Order Thinking Skills and Engagement Techniques. Ms. Pastor's Book Study that staff could choose to attend, were filled with Total Participation Techniques. Staff had the opportunity to have a-hands on approach to see how powerful those techniques were and how effective they would be in the classroom. Data Walks were unsettling at first for teachers, but quickly were seen to be of value when teachers received the objective feedback from the principal. Principal-led Professional Development puts the principal in the role of the lead teacher, which research shows works well. Principals have the vision and the pulse of the school. The teachers know the professional development is meant for them, that principals are coming to them as helpers.

Changes for 2015/16: Continue a district wide focus on collaboration of Professional Development resources and instructional practices. Administration has led the way with professional development opportunities to share Student Engagement Techniques and Higher Order Thinking Skills. These philosophies are the core of teaching.

We have increased the communication with parents so they too can see our successes. The website has an abundance of information and the Superintendents Facebook page continues to expand and improve our ability to reach the community. The News Herald inserts also highlight the wonderful things we are doing. Our kindergarten orientation campaign included lawn signs. These things help the community understand our school spirit and Titan pride.

The Engagement Model and our focus on High Order Thinking Skills have become topics of professional development and district wide discussion. There is a common language and common practices district wide. Education is changing rapidly and teachers are the experts in practice not just theory.

Positive Elementary highlights: W.A.T.C.H. Dogs, a group of fathers, grandfathers or uncles who provide positive male role models for students. They volunteer in the buildings on a daily basis. The Title 1 Audit passed with flying colors. A district-wide parent Math Night was held to help parents understand the Common Core and give them support to help their children at home. Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS), teaches behavior expectations from K through 5 in the same manner. Children are taught to be Respectful, Responsible and Safe, that is the mission and positive behavior is rewarded.

Dr. Pomponio said she is honored to have the type of teachers and administrators we do in Southgate, and she is proud to have her daughter go through our schools.

Mr. Knott concurred with Dr. Pomponio. He also stated that our successes start at the top with Ms. Hainrihar and her leadership, which then moves down to the buildings, teacher, and parents all buying into the positives. This board is ready to move forward, creating new classes and programs to build our base, which cannot be done without the support of the staff and teachers. He thanked everyone and stated that soon Southgate will be on top again.

Ms. Reed-Hall commented that this is her favorite board meeting. Every time the elementary group speaks to the board they stand united, work cohesively and do not stand alone- they stand together. She has dedicated 20 years of her life to children and knows she cannot do her job as a clinician without teachers. She understands they help raise our children and mold their personalities and give them the bedrock in which they will stand for all future education from K-12 to PHD. Ms. Reed-Hall stated, she and other board members have toured the buildings for many of their events and is always impressed with the enthusiasm and excitement in each building. There has been, what seems to be, never-ending challenges yet they show no discouragement whenever they come before the board. Knowing that we are going through rough times as a district but never reflect it in the classroom or in front of the board. This group always appears positive. When she speaks with parents in the district, the elementary schools are always the ones that are talked about. Even when buildings closed and positions were shifted, they continued to remain dedicated and reflected that to their students. She thanked them from the bottom of her heart.

DISCUSSION

Finance Report- Theresa McLachlan had no report saying that sometimes no news is good news

Curriculum Report-Jill Pastor said we are in the second week of M-Step testing and she has been in all four elementary buildings and at DMS. She spent time observing students and is amazed at the amount of effort the students are putting forth. The time estimates have not been on target and have gone as much as two hours on sessions, but the students have persevered. It has been phenomenal to watch 5th graders and 8th graders. She gave kudos to the Technology department for their preparation to get everything ready to go for this testing period. Ms. Pastor said she had administrators and staff work on Good Friday to print test tickets for the M-Step. This was a tremendous amount of work that took 3 hours. The teachers have shown the utmost in professionalism when it comes to proctoring and the securing of the test tickets. She ended her report with a quote from a 5th grader taking the ELA portion of the test: "Are there supposed to be typos in this test? I found three".

Superintendent's Report-Ms. Hainrihar said this M-Step has been a bit of a challenge. In her 40 years of teaching she never complained about testing. Something seems a bit off-kilter as this has been an unprecedented time of criticism of educators and she is pretty sure they are wrong. She wished our legislators would come and visit Southgate, leave their assistants at home, leave the media at home and walk into any classroom unannounced. She knows they would witness small miracles every day.

CONSENT

2014/15-368 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott the board approve the minutes from the April 14, 2015 Regular Board Meeting.

YES: Craig, Knott, Kremer, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

NO:

2014/15-369 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott the board approve the HR Updates as presented.

YES: Craig, Knott, Kremer, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

NO:

ACTION

2014/15-370 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott the board approve the opening of a new student activity account #01382325525 for Southgate Anderson High School, for fundraising purposes.

YES: Craig, Knott, Kremer, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

NO:

Ms. McLachlan wanted to commend everyone in the district for their fundraising efforts in light of our financial situation. Everyone has really stepped up to the plate.

2014/15-371 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott the board approve the proposal to add a Transitional Kindergarten Program to Southgate Community School District.

YES: Craig, Knott, Kremer, Pomponio, Reed-Hall
NO:

Ms. Hainrihar commented that this proposal was brought to the board in a work session by a stellar team of District employees that worked on the proposal. We are excited about this program and more information will be shared with the public soon. This affords us the opportunity to provide yet another level of instruction for the youngest of our students who may not be quite ready for a traditional kindergarten day.

2014/15-372 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott that the board approve the adoption of the district's Continuing Disclosure Compliance Policy.

YES: Craig, Knott, Kremer, Pomponio, Reed-Hall
NO:

Ms. McLachlan stated that due to changes with SEC requirements, because we issue Bonds, she is required each year to do a disclosure statement and we need to have a formal policy. This also appoints her to be the official person in the district to do this.

214/15/373 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Knott that the board approve the Grogan Safety's Field Trip to Toledo.

YES: Craig, Knott, Kremer, Pomponio, Reed-Hall
NO:

EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES

None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Pomponio announced the Annual Art Show begins April 22 through May 5th. The reception on April 22nd is from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

WORK SESSION

Ms. Reed-Hall announced the board would be going into a work session at 7:45p.m. and will not be returning to the viewing audience.

ADJOURNMENT

2014/15-374 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Mr. Knott the board adjourns the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

YES: Craig, Knott, Kremer, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

NO:

Dr. Darlene Pomponio-Secretary
Board of Education

