



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**City Council Chambers**

**14400 Dix Toledo, Southgate, MI 48195**

**BOARD OF  
EDUCATION**

PRESIDENT

JASON CRAIG

**DATE: March 27, 2018 7:00 p.m.**

VICE PRESIDENT

TIMOTHY O. ESTHEIMER

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Kupser, Mossop  
Pomponio

SECRETARY

DR. DARLENE L. POMPONIO

**BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

**BOARD MEMBERS UNEXCUSED:**

TREASURER

JASON R. KUPSER

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:** Pastor, Baker-Herring, McLachlan, Morin

**ADMINISTRATION EXCUSED:**

TRUSTEES

NEIL J. FREITAS  
ANDREW A. GREEN  
REBECCA MOSSOP

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Craig read the District Mission and Vision Statements.

**REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

2017/18-128 It was moved by Mr. Kupser supported by Mr. Green, the board approve the March 27, 2018 Regular Board Meeting Agenda.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Kupser, Mossop, Pomponio

NO:

**ADMINISTRATION**

SUPERINTENDENT

JILL M. PASTOR

**CITIZENS COMMENTS ON DISCUSSION OR ACTION ITEMS**

Jim Hunt addressed the board with his questions about the Anderson High School Hockey Team and the possibility of merging with another city to form a team. He asked what the process is for making this decision and when that may occur as players begin signing up with teams in April.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

DIRECTOR

THERESA McLACHLAN, C.P.A.

**PRESENTATIONS**

CURRICULUM/FEDERAL

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

DR. MICHELLE BAKER-HERRING

Preschool/Latchkey Report: Director, Crystal Priest gave the board an update on the Latchkey program which currently is caring for 350 students. There are sites at each of the four elementary buildings. The ratio of students to teachers is 1 to 18. The program is at capacity for the a.m. and p.m. Parents were surveyed about the Summer Program, there was enough response so the program will be held at Grogan Elementary.

DIRECTOR OF

HUMAN RESOURCES

GERARD L. MORIN

The Preschool Program has 29 four year olds. 24 are residents and are registered for kindergarten this fall. Of the 5 non-residents, three have registered with our district for kindergarten. There are 26 three year olds, 16 are non-residents. Pre-registration is now taking place with current parents. 14 of the 26 three year olds are registered for the four year old program for the fall. The programs are strictly tuition based. Parent/Teacher conferences were held with much parent support. Parents were surveyed and expressed their surprise regarding the curriculum and assessment of the students, they were amazed and thankful for the organized and academic atmosphere. Ms. Priest complemented her staff for their support, she is very appreciative of them. Four year old graduation will be in June, board members will be invited.

Food Service Report: Director, Dan Connors thanked the board for allowing him to attend the Legislative Action Conference in Washington D.C. March 4-6, with the School Nutrition Association. The group met with our local Senator and Representative. The School Nutrition Association (SNA) represents 57,000 professionals who work in the frontlines in school nutrition programs. They focus on urging Congress and the Administration to protect students by strengthening the federal government's commitment to these programs. The Associations Position Paper was reviewed and the concerns expressed to our representatives in the Capitol, which included seeking their support for the Healthy Breakfast Help Kids Learn Act. Discussion took place about the merger with Grosse Ile, banning of processed meat, the reduction in revenue for Food Service and the Block Grant.

Budget Hearing-Special Revenue Funds 2017/18 Amended Budget: Business and Finance Director, Theresa McLachlan presented board members with the Amended Budgets for the Special Revenue Funds; Special Services-Center Program, Food Service and Community Services Fund which is made up of Latchkey & Enrichment. The sources of revenue and the increases and decreases along with the expenditures for each fund were reviewed and explained. Board members were provided with a power point presentation and packet of budget information. This Budget was sent to Wayne RESA November of 2017 and was approved. Discussion took place about indirect costs, outgoing transfers without incurring a deficit in Food Service.

Preschool Budget: Theresa McLachlan reviewed the Preschool Budget, it is still in the General Fund because it was not self-sustaining. Nothing has changed since the amended budget in November. There was an operating loss of \$154,334 as of June 30, 2017. Original projected budget was based on full capacity; 5 days a week for the 3 and 4 year old preschool programs. The current projected loss is \$9066. There have been significant changes in the program; we no longer have an infant/toddler room, staffing was decreased, the 3 and 4 year old preschool classes are tuition based. Starting with the 18/19 school year this activity will be moved to the Community Service Fund.

### **STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Big Brothers & Big Sisters: Donna Ray and Karen Dunholter spoke on the origins of the Big Brothers & Big Sisters program. Ms. Ray stated the Big Sisters program began 17 years ago when students approached her seeking to begin a mentoring program. The programs partner high school students with elementary students, providing them a mentor to help develop positive relationships that have a direct and lasting effect on each other's lives. Children facing adversity find a strong role model and create lasting memories through group activities, field trips and crafts. These programs are student driven, student led. The students come prepared each month to plan the activity for the month based on the needs of the littles. High School students are required to submit applications and letters of recommendation in order to become a part of the program. Bigs are matched with their Littles based on their strengths.

Big Sister and Co-President, Gabriella Williams was a Little Sister when she was in elementary. The experience helped her to become more social, provided her with guidance to stay on the right path, she is thankful for being in the program and she couldn't wait to become a Big Sister when she got to Anderson. Big Sister and Co-President, Aly Ruskiewicz was also a Little Sister and finds the experience has given her a purpose. The impact the Big Sisters make on the Little Sisters is heartwarming and allows a diversion from the worries they may have. Big Sister and Historian, Mary Henderson explained that friendship, respect and equality are some of the topics Big Sister/Little Sister focus on with activities that support the development of these skills.

The Big Brothers program is co-sponsored by Ms. Dunholter and Mr. Klein. The Big Brothers program began in 2007. Each year 60 high school boys volunteer their time to mentor 60 elementary boys, 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. This unique program was visited by a representative from the Governor's office to observe and interview the boys. The program was awarded the Education and Excellence Award in 2012

and went on the final round to be chosen as Michigan's Best, from The Michigan Association of School Boards.

Big Brother-Andrew Ortman said Big Brothers lets him have fun and learn at the same time. He has had great opportunities and experiences and wants the same or better for other little kids. Interacting with the kids teaches manners and how to be respectful to adults when they are talking. Working with them helps them to mature even at a young age. His own "little" started off very quiet and withdrawn but after several meetings he became more energetic and engaging with other students which he feels is proof the program works. The kids can talk about anything; home life, social life, sports, school. Big Brother-Jason Trueblood spoke about wanting to be in Little Brothers when he was in the first grade, he wasn't able to and said he was always jealous when he saw the kids come back from Big Brothers smiling and getting a chance to hang out with big kids. When he was able to join in High School he signed up and never regretted it. He loves how his Little Brother looks up to him and it's encouraging when he runs up to give him a hug. The program shows kids how to mingle, be social and make friends and grow up to be good young men.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Policy-Dr. Pomponio-the board approved ending a contract with NEOLA. We will have a more manageable set of law driven policies with Lusk Albertson. Meetings will be Tuesday April 17, Tuesday May 15 and Monday June 25 at 4:00 p.m. in the conference room to begin the work with Kevin Sutton/LA.

Finance-Mr. Kupser-minutes from the January Finance Committee are on the website. Next meeting March 28, topics-selecting the new chair, transparency on the web for millage spending, substitute teacher costs and information and the next steps for the 5-Year Financial Plan.

Anti-Bullying-Dr. Pomponio-Will meet prior to April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. A parent support group has been set up through the committee. Parents of incoming 5<sup>th</sup> graders and parents of current middle school students will meet to discuss PTO and what direction they want the parent support group to go in for 2018/19 school year.

*All committees hold open meetings at Southgate's board offices or other location that will be posted. Dates of meetings, committee members, agendas and minutes are posted on the web page.*

### **DISCUSSION**

Finance-Ms. McLachlan updated the board on the employee severance plan. The 45 Day election period ends April 13. EPC sends her an update every time there is a change. She is given a list of those that have elected to accept the offer and those that have received counseling sessions. Those that have been counseled are ranked based on the certainty they are going to take the offer. 6 individuals have elected the plan; two are at Beacon, four are in the General Fund. 5 individuals are ranked number 1, four are General Fund, one is at Beacon. 3 are ranked number 2, two are from General Fund, one is part of Beacon in the Center Program Fund. Looking at those who have elected and those that are ranked number 1, we are at eleven from General Fund and four from Beacon. Final letters will go out to employees who qualify for this program next week for the final counseling session April 11.

The Region 10, Section 107 Adult Education Review was last week. Two individuals came to Central Office, two went to Asher for the fiscal and program review. They were scheduled to be in district for four hours, they were here for two. It went very well, both buildings had everything ready for them, they were very pleased with what they saw. The report will be issued in the near future which she will share with the board.

Transportation RFP update-Out of seven RFP's, two bids were received. Plante Moran has facilitated this process, analyzing and following up on areas that needed more information and summarized the results for administration. Both companies were interviewed March 26, the interview committee consisted of; Ms. McLachlan, Ms. Pastor, Kelly Thomas-Special Education Director and Dave Pinkowski-Athletic Director. Interviews went well, current concerns with the current provider were discussed at that time. Follow-up from the companies and the district are needed to gather more information in order to finalize the cost analysis that Plante Moran will prepare for the district.

Plante Moran should be at the April 24 board meeting to share the final results of the two bids and the interview committee will provide input to the board for making a decision starting on July 1, 2018. Ms. McLachlan asked if the board would like the transportation companies at the April 24<sup>th</sup> board meeting to ask questions. The board requested the companies attend, Ms. McLachlan will notify them. The board will receive the summaries with time to review before the board meeting. A decision needs to be made by the May 8, 2018 board meeting so summer route planning can be prepared.

Curriculum-Dr. Baker-Herring met with the School Improvement Chairs and Principals today to go over the new Michigan School Index, the new way our schools are being held accountable. This replaces the Accountability Scorecard and the Top-to-Bottom Rankings. Student scores are still embargoed, she will share this information with the board in May when she presents the overview of the District School Improvement Plan. SAT's start April 10 and M-Step follows.

Superintendent-Ms. Pastor encouraged parent input regarding several topics, the parent perception survey is available right on the Southgate Schools website. It will close Thursday March 29, 2018. She would really appreciate parents taking a few moments to share their opinion. Staffing for the 2018/19 school year has started, she reminded the board we are being very conservative considering the number of students we have lost over the last several years. Our five year enrollment trend is at a negative 20.5%, almost 1000 students since 2014. Looking at mobility reports for that time, which indicate how many Southgate residents we have that chosen to attend other school districts or charters, versus those coming in, in 2014 we had a gain of 380.6 FTE's (380 non-residents coming in). In 2017 we have 879.85 FTE's coming in and 934.21 going out. Our net result now is a -54.36 FTE's. This causes her to be more conservative with our staffing. It is easier in September to add a teacher than it is to have to close a section and get rid of a teacher. She wished everyone a safe and happy spring recess, there are 10 days off beginning this Friday and pick up a book and read.

#### **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

None

#### **CONSENT**

2017/18- 129 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Mr. Estheimer, the board approve the March 13, 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and the HR update as presented.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Kupser, Mossop, Pomponio

NO:

#### **ACTION**

1. **Approval of Curriculum Adoption for 6-8 ELA for DMS:** Ms. Pastor recommended the adoption of StudySync ELA curriculum for Davidson Middle School. This would be the first curriculum for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA since 2002. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum was adopted in 2010. The entire ELA department at DMS spent hours comparing, reviewing and trying materials from different companies to make sure that this was the best choice.

2017/18-130 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Mr. Green, the board approve the adoption of the McGraw-Hill StudySync program for \$85,151.44 to be purchased from the millage funds.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Kupser, Mossop, Pomponio

NO:

2. **Approval of Early Middle Colleges (EMC) opportunity for high school students:** Ms. Pastor recommended the approval of the Early Middle Colleges opportunity for students at Southgate Anderson. This would allow high school students to take college courses at Anderson and then later attend classes on campus. These classes may be used towards an associate's degree or used for transfer credits. We would partner with WCCCD to allow this scholarship-like benefit for students.

2017/18-131 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Mr. Green, the board approve the Early Middle Colleges' opportunity for students at Southgate Anderson High School.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Kupser, Mossop, Pomponio  
NO:

3. **Approval of 2017-18 Special Revenue funds Amended Budgets, as presented:**

2017/18-132 It was moved by Mr. Green supported by Mr. Estheimer, the board approve the 2017-18 Special Revenue Funds Amended Budget as presented.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Kupser, Mossop, Pomponio  
NO:

4. **Approval of DMS Overnight and Out-of-State Trip to Washington D.C.:** Ms. Pastor explained to the board this is an overnight and out-of-state trip request for Davidson Middle School students and parent chaperones to visit the Washington D.C. area from May 13, to May 17, 2019.

2017/18-133 It was moved by Mr. Freitas supported by Dr. Pomponio, the board approve the May 2019 Overnight and Out-of-State trip request for the Davidson Middle School to visit the Washington D.C. area.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Kupser, Mossop, Pomponio  
NO:

#### EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES

None

#### INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Estheimer, on behalf of Ms. Gundick, gave thanks to the 100+ guest readers at Shelters during Reading Month. Bingo for Books was a huge success. Thanks went out to the teachers and National Honor Society students who volunteered at the event. Tomorrow is the Reading Counts assembly, the year-long "Read Like-A-Pirate" event comes to a conclusion at this assembly. There will be music-by Music Teacher Mr. Richendollar, entertainment and a bouncy house. A top reading winner for each grade level will be chosen. Cake pop fundraiser pick up is tomorrow. Wednesday Lifetouch photographers will be at Shelters for Spring Pictures. PTO Color-Run is May 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m., there is still time to get donations to the office.

Fordline's Family Fun Dance is coming up, any donations may be sent in to the office or sent in with your child. [FordlinePTO@gmail.com](mailto:FordlinePTO@gmail.com) for more information. He wished a happy retirement to Ms. Gregosky, Mr. Guzman and Ms. Ross who works at Beacon and won the DTE Teacher of the Year Award last year.

Dr. Pomponio wished Beth Goudreau good luck on her transition to AHS next year and wished congratulations and good luck to Jill Ross on her retirement.

Ms. Mossop reminded parents that Friday is Good Friday and there is no school that day. She attended her 6<sup>th</sup> JROTC banquet last week, it was a good time watching the kids get their awards and hearing their accomplishments over the year. Everyone should be very proud of their students and Southgate should be very proud for having and hosting a JROTC program. Prom tickets go on sale directly after Spring Break, students must have no outstanding dues or debts to the front office.

## WORK ITEMS

## ADJOURNMENT

2017/18-134 It was moved by Mr. Estheimer supported by Mr. Green, the board adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Kupser, Mossop, Pomponio

NO:

*Respectfully submitted by: Theresa Grzechowski*

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Dr. Darlene Pomponio-Secretary  
Board of Education

*For detailed conversation, Board meetings may be viewed in their entirety on our website: [www.southgateschools.com](http://www.southgateschools.com)*



















