

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**City Council Chambers**

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

**BOARD OF  
EDUCATION**

PRESIDENT

PAUL C. KNOTT

**DATE: May 20, 2014**

VICE PRESIDENT

REBECCA REED-HALL

**TIME: 7:00 P.M.**

SECRETARY

DR. DARLENE L. POMPONIO

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

TREASURER

W. KIRK HAYHURST

**BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Kremer

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:** Grusecki, Pastor, McLachlan

TRUSTEES

JASON CRAIG  
AMANDA KREMER  
SUE MURRAY

**ADMINISTRATION EXCUSED:**

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**ADMINISTRATION**

President Knott read the District Mission and Vision Statement.

SUPERINTENDENT

WILLIAM J. GRUSECKI

**REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

2013/14 - 183 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall that the Board approve the May 20 Regular Board Meeting Agenda.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

DIRECTOR

THERESA MCLACHLAN, C.P.A.

**YES:** Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Pomponio Reed-Hall

**NO:**

CURRICULUM/FEDERAL  
PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

JILL PASTOR

**ATTENTION TO STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Asher Student Rep Mr. Kremer stated that 100 graduates will be participating in commencements at the Taylor Sportsplex on Friday, June 13 at 7:00 p.m. On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 14 Asher graduates will be inducted into the National Adult Education Honor Society 7:00 p.m. in the Asher gym. On May 23<sup>rd</sup> Asher will host a fashion show featuring Asher preschool students as well as Asher students. Some children will be participating with their moms. This event will be in the Asher gym. Prom is Saturday May 31<sup>st</sup>. Talented Asher students are working on decorations for this years prom, the theme is Masquerade and will be held in the Asher gym on May 31<sup>st</sup> 7:00- 10:00 p.m.

HUMAN RESOURCES  
DIRECTOR

MARY HILDEBRANDT

Asher Student Rep Mr. Isue informed the board that Asher sponsored a Blood Drive through the Red Cross. The goal was to get 20 pints of blood, they ended up with 27. MAEO Stars competed with other Alternative Education Students at Grand Valley State University. Paige Silversteen and Mark Kremer came in first place for Parent Decision Making. Amy Fuentes and Megan Fraser came in second place for Management Decision Making.

Megan Fraser took second place in the job interview. Asher MAEO Stars took second place in Genius Kit and made it to the second round of Life Smarts. Jim Issue took second place in HR Decision Making and third place in the job interview.

Asher's Community Garden with the help of Terry Lauber and many volunteers, is under way. Vegetables and berries will be available for families over the summer.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

None

## **CITIZENS COMMENTS ON DISCUSSION OR ACTION ITEMS**

None

## **DISCUSSION**

### Finance

Theresa McLachlan reported to the board that she met with a representative from SETSEG who will be our new insurance carrier for property, casualty and workers compensation. We are moving away from being self-funded for workers compensation. She was provided with quotes for 2014-2015, for the workers comp policy; the first year we will have a savings of approximately \$80,000 based on the claims we have had to pay during 2013-2014. Our property and casualty insurance for next year will save us approximately \$25,000. With SETSEG they give their members dividends every year, being a new member we will not qualify until after three years.

She is still continuing with the process of working on the final amended budget for 2014-2015, as well as the revised Deficit Elimination Plan for 2014-2015. We still do not know the final number on the foundation allowance so it does make it difficult to finalize at this time. It is anticipated the State Budget will come out June 1. Our student count and enhancement millage will also be factors in the budget process.

### Superintendent's Report

Mr. Grusecki told the board he had the opportunity to speak to Rep. Andrew Kandrevas at the Kiwanis Essay Contest. Rep. Kandrevas did say the budget would be out of Lansing by June 1. When asked about the foundation allowance, Rep Kandrevas would not commit to the amount that we will be getting. There are three versions of the budget, Executive, House and Senate. It is the hope that the House and Senate versions will be better than what the Governor has planned.

The renovations at Gerisch, to prepare for Beacon, are moving right along. They are in the process of painting. GCA will strip and wax floors. By June 16 the movers will start to move items from Beacon to Gerisch. Mr. Grusecki thanked Nate Lay for overseeing the construction project, which is on time and should be complete by the end of the week.

He commented on the Asher Adult Education Honor Society induction ceremony and encouraged board members to attend. He congratulated the Davidson Middle School students for their award winning essays. Four \$100 scholarships were awarded to students.

Mr. Grusecki mentioned that Ms. Hainrihar had been in so they could review a lot of information. They also spent time at Grogan with members from the Lions, including Matthew Stafford. The rest of the day was spent in meetings with various department representatives and staff members.

Ms. Hainrihar will begin on June 2. He encouraged the board to attend as many end of the year functions as possible.

**CONSENT**

2013/14 - 184 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall that the Board approve the minutes of the May 6, 2014 Regular Board of Education Meeting.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Pomponio, Reed-Hall  
NO:

**ACTION**

2013/14 - 185 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall that the Board approve the 2014/2015 School Calendar.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Pomponio, Reed-Hall  
NO:

2013/14 - 186 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall that the Board approve the contracts for: BESS/SPSA/SAE/UTS/Administrative Assistants/ General Education Paraprofessionals/Special Education Paraprofessionals/Labor Support Staff for 2013-2018.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Pomponio, Reed-Hall  
NO:

2013/14 - 187 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall that the Board approve the Wayne RESA Budget.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Pomponio, Reed-Hall  
NO:

2013/14 - 188 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall that the Board approve the revision to Mr. Grusecki's contract.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Pomponio, Reed-Hall  
NO:

2013/14 - 189 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall that the Board approve the addendum to Ms. Hainrihar's contract.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Pomponio, Reed-Hall  
NO:

## EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES

None

## CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mr. Larry Hill and Mr. Al Worley from Cunningham Street addressed the board with their concerns regarding parking issues around Grogan Elementary School. Pictures were presented to the Board showing various areas of concern; illegal parking, garbage thrown on residents' lawns, damage to property from parents driving onto their lawns when turning around in their driveways. They also commented on the unsafe practices of parents when crossing their children.

Mr. Knott and Dr. Pomponio assured Mr. Hill and Mr. Worley that the Safety Committee as well as building administrators will continue to address these issues and concerns.

Mr. Grusecki commented that this has been an ongoing issue and unfortunately we have people that have no regard for the safety of others or respect for their property. He said we will continue to be in touch with Public Safety Director Tom Coombs to address these concerns.

## INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Pomponio reminded everyone that Shelters was having a Field Day on June 4<sup>th</sup>. June 13<sup>th</sup> there is a fund raiser where the principal will be duct taped to a door. Parks & Rec had their Dance Recital at AHS on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Grogan's 4<sup>th</sup> grade committee had a Talent Show on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Suicide Prevention Committee has a list of parent resources for Social, Academic and Emotional issues that should be on the website soon.

Girl Scouts troop at Shelters is looking for leaders, and may contact Dr. Pomponio for more information.

Ms. Reed-Hall congratulated fellow board member, Ms. Kremer, on the birth of her baby girl. She commented on the DMS Talent Show and that the funds raised, supported a local family that has sustained major medical bills. There were multiple acts that were very entertaining and enjoyable. Ms. Reed-Hall also asked that parents be aware of the usage of social media and reposting issues, asking that everyone exercise responsibility and respect when using that format.

Ms. Murray announced that Commencements for AHS will be on June 4<sup>th</sup> and the Honors will be on June 3. Asher Adult Ed will have Commencements on June 13.

Mr. Hayhurst wanted to share an article from Michigan Education Digest-"(GOP) Legislators are considering moving school testing authority from the Michigan Department of Education to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

Mlive reports that the move is being considered because of a disagreement between Republican Legislators and the Michigan Education Department over what state test will be administered next year.

Legislators have added a requirement that the MEAP test be administered for the next two years. But the MDE has indicated that doing so would put Michigan at risk of losing federal funding."

Mr. Hayhurst commented 'I assume this is being considered because of the wonderful job Treasury has done funding schools in the past'. He encouraged everyone to remember this at voting time.

He concluded by expressing his thanks and gratitude to Mr. Grusecki for his leadership through some difficult times. Saying it has been both a privilege and an honor to have walked the path with Mr. Grusecki.

Mr. Knott thanked Fire Marshall Michael Sypula for his assistance at Fordline with fire drills. He helped answer questions about procedures. Memorial Day the American Legion Post has a service in front of the Library at 6p.m. on May 22. He announced that our new K-9 officer is Kyro, his handler is Officer Newstead. Kyro is named for a K-9 dog that belonged to a SEAL unit from 9-11.

Mr. Knott invited board members to share their thoughts with Mr. Grusecki as this is his last board meeting as Southgate's Superintendent.

Ms. Murray commented that Mr. Grusecki has had more to deal with in his two years than any other Superintendent that she has worked with. Handling difficult situations with integrity, and respect for all staff and board members. She mentioned that during the interview process his interest and enthusiasm for our district stood out, and that was the kind of leader our district was looking for. She added that he will be truly missed.

Mr. Craig explained that his first meeting with Mr. Grusecki was during the time that decisions were being made about closing schools. Through their conversations Mr. Craig said he recognized Mr. Grusecki's passion for this job. Decisions were made with the best interests of kids and this district in mind, and he came to appreciate that as a parent. He thanked Mr. Grusecki for always taking his phone calls and providing him with the information he needed as a new board member.

Dr. Pomponio told Mr. Grusecki it has been a pleasure working with him. That he has been a beacon of positive support and has shown tremendous strength in the face of tragedy and conflict. She appreciates his work ethic and leadership.

Ms. Reed-Hall said we were blessed to have Mr. Grusecki be a part of our school district. She has a great deal of respect and admiration for him, commenting on how small town values are never too big.

Mr. Hayhurst wished Mr. Grusecki luck and encouraged him to enjoy playing the golf courses up north.

Mr. Knott concluded with his own well wishes and concurred with the thoughts and comments of his fellow board members. He thanked Mr. Grusecki for his professionalism and asked him to enjoy his retirement.

## ADJOURNMENT

2013/14 - 190 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall that the board adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Pomponio, Reed-Hall

NO:





