



REGULAR BOARD MEETING

City Council Chambers

14400 Dix Toledo, Southgate, MI 48195

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

PRESIDENT

PAUL C. KNOTT

DATE: November 18, 2014

VICE PRESIDENT

REBECCA REED-HALL

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

SECRETARY

DR. DARLENE L. POMONIO

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Owen, Pomponio,

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Reed-Hall

TREASURER

W. KIRK HAYHURST

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Hainrihar, Pastor, McLachlan

TRUSTEES

JASON CRAIG
SUE MURRAY
PATRICK OWEN

ADMINISTRATION EXCUSED:

The pledge of allegiance was recited.
President Knott read the District Mission and Vision Statement.

REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2014/15-298 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Craig
To revise the agenda to include discussion item #2 Curriculum
Report.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Owen, Pomponio
NO:

ADMINISTRATION

SUPERINTENDENT

LESLIE HAINRIHAR

2014/15-299 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Owen that the
board approve the November 18, 2014 Regular Board Meeting
Agenda.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Owen, Pomponio
NO:

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

DIRECTOR

THERESA MCLACHLAN, C.P.A.

CURRICULUM/FEDERAL

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

JILL PASTOR

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON DISCUSSION OR ACTION ITEMS

None

HUMAN RESOURCES

DIRECTOR

MARY HILDEBRANDT

ATTENTION TO STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

Anderson High School Student Representative Ms. Frank: The Drama Club's performance of The Bold The Young and The Murdered will be Friday November 21st and Saturday November 22, 2014 at Anderson Auditorium- 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students and Senior Citizen's and \$7 for the regular admission. MSU, Marygrove and Schoolcraft Colleges will have representatives in the counseling offices Nov 12, 19 and 21st. Recognition Ceremony will be November 26 for attendance and academic achievements for 2013/14. AHS participated in Michigan Application Week, reps from colleges spoke to students about the application process and scholarship opportunities.

Asher Student Representative Jim Isue: Youth Leadership 21 Program kick off was today at UM Dearborn. Marissa Tibbs is the rep for Asher. Group oriented activities promoting teamwork are focused on. This program grooms the younger generation to become leaders. SACE cares is organizing for the distribution of food for Thanksgiving. Mr. Isue also explained the Angel Tree program, students, teachers, community members and businesses help by adopting children and buy them Christmas presents based on their wish list.

PRESENTATIONS

None

DISCUSSION

Finance Report-Ms. McLachlan reported to the board we are currently in the process of reviewing our budget. We have our final student count and information from the State regarding our retirement costs. She is making sure we are in compliance with our DEP and will have an amended budget the second meeting in December or the first meeting in January. Our Bond Underwriter has been in contact with us regarding our 2015 refunding bonds. There is a schedule of conference calls; the process is on track to close on the bonds February 1, 2015.

Curriculum Report-Ms. Pastor updated the board with information on the district "drop box". The Technology Department created this as a place for teachers to go to get stored curriculum documents. Benchmarks were aligned and placed in the drop box. Information was only accessible if a teacher was on a district computer. Rethinking that option we are looking into Google Drive. It is not yet ready, but this system will be more beneficial to teachers providing them with unlimited storage space and allow PDF documents. These documents cannot be altered but all teachers can access the folder that has information placed in it.

Elementary Science and Social Studies curriculum is posted on the website. The Math and ELA will be posted within the next few weeks. We are looking to align our documents with the Michigan and College/Career Ready Standards.

Seventeen days of Professional Development have been hosted for our teachers. Socratic Circles, K-12 math learning and ELA are among those sessions. These sessions also include a coaching piece that is instrumental in fully implementing these strategies.

A math consultant will be in the district in February. There will be an evening for K-2 and 3-5 parents. Flyers will be sent home with information. This and the other sessions are funded by grants.

Data Walks continue with Principals.

Volunteers are being sought for a District School Improvement Team. Wednesday January 14th 2015 will be the first meeting 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. Interested parties should contact Ms. Pastor.

On site review for Title 1 will take place at Fordline on March 10th, and a visit with Ms. Pastor at the district office will be March 11.

The basic premise of Data Walks was explained; they are 3-4 minute visits to a classroom conducted primarily by administrators, looking for such things as learning targets posted, is the class working on that, talking about it. Based on classroom activity it is determined whether that is aligned to the standards. Instructional strategies are also noted; thinking levels, student engagement and learning environment among others. Administrators and Ms. Pastor review their data to see where they match.

Superintendent's Report- Ms. Hainrihar also discussed Data Walks; they are quick and they are to collect information on a building not on an individual teacher. We are coming into better compliance with the law and teacher evaluations. We are observing our teachers in smaller amounts of time but more frequently. Ms. Hainrihar has finished up her Data Walks and she is coaching the administrators who help coach the teachers. When meeting with the administrators they review the data they have collected and be sure they have similar vocabulary and expectations across the district.

She is encouraged with the enthusiasm she sees throughout the district where teachers are implementing the strategies; student engagement, higher order thinking skills. This model is a coaching model not a rating one.

Ms. Hainrihar, Ms. McLachlan and the district maintenance director, Nate Lay to address the most immediate concerns with our heating system. Administrators check room temps daily and have been advised to move classrooms and allow for additional clothing to be worn for student comfort.

She reminded parents to be sure their children have all the necessary outer wear when they leave home in the morning.

Thanksgiving Break will be Thursday and Friday November 27 and 28th. She also reminded the community that good things can be found on the Southgate Superintendent Facebook page where she shares that information.

CONSENT

2014/15-300 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Mr. Hayhurst that the board approve the October 27, 2014 special board meeting minutes.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Owen, Pomponio

NO:

ACTION

2014/15-301 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Ms. Murray that the board approve the request of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Southgate Community School District and the Women of Tomorrow Mentor and Scholarship Program.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Owen, Pomponio

NO:

Ms. Hainrihar noted this is a program that targets At-Risk females. The program pairs At-Risk females with successful women mentors. This program does not cost our district anything monetarily.

2014/15-302 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Murray that the board approve the request of the Southgate Adult and Community Education Program proposal for collection of social security numbers for adult students.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Owen, Pomponio

NO:

Ms. Judy Cock explained with MiStar we do not have the access to compile this info which is required by the grant. This information will be collected and placed in a lock box. Only when the data operator needs this info, will the box be open.

This information is used to track employment of Adult Ed students which is required by law under section 107 of the School Aid Act.

EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES

None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hayhurst quoted from an article in MASB, Nov. 14. "School Bond Loan Fund in Danger with Senate Action": On Wednesday, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed Senate Bill 1977, which would severely limit access to the school bond loan fund. The bill's main provision seeks to extend the current cap on total borrowing indefinitely. The \$1.8 billion cap is set to expire in 2016.

If this bill continues to move through the process and is signed into law, borrowing from the fund will be almost nonexistent for 20 years. Clearly, this will either lead to much higher property taxes for new building projects or the inability to pass bond issues, leading to substandard buildings.

We are expecting Senate action the first week of December"

So why is this important to you and the Southgate schools? With the hard work of our administration, this board and the help of our employees we are back on track to be out of deficit within the next 2 years. When we get back to financial health you have told us that one of the 1st things that we need to address is the condition of the facilities of this district. Repairs, upgrades and improvements to our facilities have been delayed for years while we struggled to get out of deficit. We can now see the light at the end of the tunnel, but if this bill passes and gets signed into law we will get out of the tunnel to find we can't repair or replace the old tracks we are on because the state will not allow us to borrow the funds we need to solve our infrastructure problems. This is not money that the state gives away; it lends this money to districts that pay it back over time. Contact your representatives in Lansing and tell them this is not the way we help our public school districts struggle back from the brink.

Mr. Knott commented that at the recent MASB conference, they were given the directive to get in touch with Lansing and in turn tell their communities to do the same.

Ms. Murray reported on the dangerous levels of arsenic in rice. Consumer Reports is very concerned about this issue and the FDA is investigating to see if the benefits outweigh the ills of arsenic in the food source.

Mr. Knott wished everyone a blessed Thanksgiving on behalf of the board and asked if anyone needed help during the holidays to contact SACE cares.

WORK SESSION

Mr. Knott informed the viewing audience the board would be moving into a work session at 7:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

2014/15-303 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Murray the board adjourn the meeting
At 9:00 p.m.

YES: Craig, Hayhurst, Knott, Murray, Owen, Pomponio

NO:

Dr. Darlene Pomponio-Secretary
Board of Education

