



14400 Dix Toledo  
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**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**14400 Dix Toledo, Southgate, MI 48195**

**BOARD OF  
EDUCATION**

PRESIDENT  
PAUL C. KNOTT

**DATE: February 4, 2014**

VICE PRESIDENT  
REBECCA REED-HALL

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

SECRETARY  
DR. DARLENE L. POMPONIO

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

TREASURER  
W. KIRK HAYHURST

**BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

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

TRUSTEES  
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 - 113 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall, that the Board of Education revise the agenda to add action item number four and a Closed Session to discuss property sale and employee relations.

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

2013/14 - 114 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall, that the Board of Education approve the revised February 4, 2014 Regular Board Meeting Agenda.

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

BUSINESS AND FINANCE  
DIRECTOR  
THERESA MCLACHLAN, C.P.A.

CURRICULUM/FEDERAL  
PROGRAMS DIRECTOR  
JILL PASTOR

HUMAN RESOURCES  
DIRECTOR  
MARY HILDEBRANDT

## **ATTENTION TO STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Ms. Franks-AHS reported on a new program for students dealing with the loss of a loved one, Facing the Darkness. ACT Seminar is Feb 24 and 25. Juniors took the practice ACT and scores will be available Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. MME is March 4, 5, and 6<sup>th</sup>. Upcoming events: Figure Skating, Competitive Cheer and Boys Hockey.

Mark Kremer and Jimmy Iesue-Asher Representatives-reported that the harsh weather did slow down enrollment recently. ACT and MME will be March 4 thru 6. Conferences are coming up and a blood drive date will soon be announced. Feb 10<sup>th</sup> Rep. Kandrevas will be at Asher to address the student body.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

None

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

None

## **DISCUSSION**

### FINANCE

Ms. McLachlan explained to the board that the Resolution for Best Practices makes us eligible to receive \$52 per student from the state. We have met the requirements and once we adopt the resolution, the state will review it. Our requirements include keeping our website updated with Transparency and Accountability information that can be viewed by anyone.

Dr. Pomponio inquired if there were areas we still needed to work on. It was stated that Blended Learning is being reviewed. Ms. Pastor commented that at the next ILDT meeting, which will be held at Gerisch, there will be a presenter with information on Blended Learning so that we can move forward in that area.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Grusecki commented about the potential bad weather coming in tonight and let the audience know there was no decision to close school at this time. Local superintendents do communicate with each other when there is a possible school closure.

With 6 snow days already, we have met the limit the state builds into each calendar year. It is too early to tell what the course of action will be if there are more closures. The state has not made a decision about adding minutes to a day or more days. We need to get through March and see where we are at that time. Mr. Grusecki is in favor of adding days, it is not a sound educational practice to add minutes to a day.

He commented on the snow conditions around the buildings and how difficult it has been to maintain and clear the ice now that salt has become scarce. The demand has caused the cost to go up. There have

also been issues with the kitchens at DMS and AHS. He assured the board those problems are being worked on. The word "polar vortex" is one he will not miss.

He thanked all those involved with the process of interviewing for a new superintendent and the board for spending three consecutive Tuesdays in meetings. He apologized for putting everyone through that.

Recently he toured the Chormann and Heintzen properties with an Environmental Study Scientist. This is Phase #1 to determine what, if any issues there are with these properties before they can be sold or developed. They toured all areas of both buildings. If Phase #1 goes well, Phase #2 will be how to address the issues that may have been found. Inspections have occurred regularly at these buildings. One plus is that the fuel storage tanks at Heintzen were above ground which makes it less of an environmental hazard.

The FIT and Finance Committee's will have Beverly Bonning from the Truan Law Firm at their meeting on Thursday Feb 6<sup>th</sup> at 4p.m. to answer questions and explain our deficit situation.

Dr. Pomponio asked Mr. Grusecki if we are on target with our Deficit Elimination Plan as far as cuts go. Mr. Grusecki explained that some more layoffs have occurred that do directly affect student learning. He said Ms. McLachlan will have numbers when the budget is amended.

Dr. Pomponio expressed concern that the cuts, specifically the Library Para would affect student learning. Mr. Grusecki commented that the district is trying to avoid cuts to student education.

Mr. Hayhurst asked if the walk-throughs revealed any shocking issues. Mr. Grusecki said there were none. He also commented that the City of Southgate is supporting this study and there is no cost to the District for Phase #1.

Mr. Knott inquired if the snow days would affect senior activities such as commencement if we were to add days to the school year. Mr. Grusecki said those events are already scheduled and would proceed as planned.

## **CONSENT**

### DISBURSEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 2013

2013-2014 - 115 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall, that the Board of Education approve the disbursements for January 2014 for \$5,413,066.26 as presented.

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

NO:

### MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING JANUARY 14, 2014

2013-2014 - 116 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Jan. 14, 2014 Organizational Board Meeting.

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

NO:

**ACTION**

ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY ROWING TEAM TRIP REQUESTS

2013-2014 - 117 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall, that the Board of Education approve the AHS Varsity Rowing Team Trip Requests.

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

NO:

BEST PRACTICES INCENTIVE RESOLUTION

2013-2014 - 118 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall, that the Board of Education approve the Best Practices Incentive Resolution.

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

NO:

SUPERINTENDENT HIRE-LESLIE HAINRIHAR

2013-2014 - 119 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of Leslie Hainrihar as the new superintendent.

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

NO:

AMEND POLICY 4402.1-STUDENT REPRESENTATION

2013-2014 - 120 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Ms. Reed-Hall, that the Board of Education amend Policy 4402.1 to allow for Asher Student Representatives to be included at the Board table.

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

NO:

**EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES**

None

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None

**INFORMATION**

Dr. Pomponio cautioned parents and students to be careful around the schools due to the snow and ice conditions after seeing several students slipping and falling.

Mr. Hayhurst commented: "Lately we have begun to hear some troubling comments coming out of Lansing. Since the Governor's State of the State address where he claimed to have increased state spending on education by almost 800 million dollars during his 1<sup>st</sup> term; he has been forced to admit that it was not true. That the increase he spoke of DID NOT go to our children's education, in fact he has been forced to admit that each child in Michigan has lost between \$300 and \$400 dollars in their foundation grant money. We have started hearing disparaging remarks about "Rogue" school board members and "Rogue School Boards" who have not gotten in line with Gov. Snyder's vision for the future of education here in Michigan. Lansing would much rather deal with the board of directors of charter school corporations and the CEO's of out of state virtual education providers and not the locally elected board of citizens who are more interested in the quality of our kids' education than Lansing's political agenda."

"I consider myself somewhat conservative in my financial views but I am one of those "Rogue" school board members and I think it is safe to say that this is a "Rogue School Board" because none of us are happy with the way Lansing and Gov. Snyder are treating our kids."

"So I guess the question is-Are you a Rogue parent, or Rogue Grandparent, Aunt or Uncle, or are you a Rogue stakeholder or taxpayer and are you going to let Lansing know you are not happy either?"

Ms. Murray commented that she had a recent conversation with a teacher regarding the running of school districts and the profits they make. When Ms. Murray asked the teacher what she meant by that, the teacher replied that school districts make money. Ms. Murray asked her where she teaches to which the teacher responded 'a charter school'. Ms. Murray wanted everyone to know that Public Schools do not make money, they are not making profits. Charters however are "for profit" schools.

Dr. Pomponio stated that when people see the governor in commercials saying that he is putting money back into education, he has taken far more than he has returned.

Ms. Reed-Hall added that it is a re-instatement of what he has taken, not him giving us a gift of more money.

Mr. Knott also added that it's all smoke and mirrors in regard to the governor's approach to funding Public Education. The claims of him doing a great job are not accurate. He does not support Public Education; the political climate is not supportive of Public Education.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

## **WORK SESSION**

2013-2014 -123 It was moved by Ms. Reed-Hall supported by Mr. Hayhurst that the Board of Education enter into Open Session at 9:16 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Kremer

NO:

2013-2014 -124 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Mr. Hayhurst that the Board of Education approve the purchase agreement and sale of the Walnut St. property.

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

ABSENT: Kremer

NO:

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

2013-2014 - 121 It was moved by Ms. Reed-Hall supported by Mr. Hayhurst that the Board of Education enter a Closed Session at 9:05 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Kremer

NO:

2013-2014 - 122 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Ms. Reed-Hall that the Closed Session meeting be adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Kremer

NO:

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

2013-2014 - 125 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Hayhurst that Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 9:20 P.M.

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

ABSENT: Kremer

NO:

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Dr. Darlene Pomponio, Secretary  
Board of Education



