

CONSTANTINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Constantine, Michigan

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Monday, December 11, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President Jeffrey Zimont in the High School Large Group Instruction Area at 7:06 PM.

Members Present: Jeffrey Zimont, Dale Davidhizar, Mary Smith, Chuck Colley, Kevin Brouse, and Jacob Bergh

Members Absent: John Shuler

Moved by Davidhizar and seconded by Smith approve the Consent Agenda as presented to include minutes of the November 6, 2006 Regular Board of Education Meeting, and December 6, 2006 Finance Committee meeting, and Work Session minutes, and bills in the amount of \$261,029.66 for the general fund.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Audience with Individuals:

1. Zimont recognized the major district donors to the enhancement fund for benches, trees, school crest and other district projects. They were treated to an appreciation dinner prior to the Board meeting, and Zimont presented them with framed certificates at the meeting.
2. Ethan Strawser, teacher, had concerns about the current situation with the teacher contract. He asked the Board to reevaluate their parameters and invest in the teachers of the district.
3. Beth Klebba, teacher, discussed involuntary teacher transfers within the district. She has changed assignments 5 times since 2000. Only one change was voluntary due to an expected resignation. She asked the Board to consider the teacher's preparation dilemmas when involuntary transfers take place.
4. Mary Ann Grile, teacher, discussed the insurance situation and unsigned teacher contract within the district. She feels underappreciated.
5. Beverly Smith, teacher, talked about the 3rd grade program which took place last Thursday with over 400 in attendance. She thanked Kevin Brouse for his contributions to the success of the program. The choristers will perform next Wednesday for the Council on Aging and Thursday evening for their friends and families. She also read a prepared statement addressing her concerns with the teacher contract.
6. Ashley Stevens, musical play director, announced the upcoming 2007 musical "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying". There are three performances in January 2007. The 19th and 20th

shows will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the high school LGIA and the Sunday show at 2:00 p.m. on the 21st.

7. Hilary Curtis, teacher, discussed the efforts of new and young teachers and that they may feel the need to move to another district when they don't feel their hard work is being recognized. She also presented the Board with the Riverside newsletter and student achievement program.
8. Donna Bullock, teacher and band booster president, announced the holiday concert along with the raffle will take place next Tuesday night at 7:00 in the LGIA. Eight Constantine students participated and received praise from Vicksburg band officials at a special honors concert last month.
9. Tina Hochstetler, parent/taxpayer, expressed her disappointment in the negativity of the negotiation process thus far between administration and teachers. She urged them to come to a conclusion.

Action Items:

*Dale Wentela, Alternative Education Director, had some opening remarks and praise for each student.

Moved by Davidhizar and seconded by Bergh to approve the granting of CHS diplomas to Travis King and Kyle C. Horsley, as presented by the Administration.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

*Lisa Pointer-Seidner, Business Manager presented the changes to the 2006-07 budget, while Taylor explained some of the changes in the budget process.

Moved by Colley and seconded by Davidhizar to approve the proposed budget revisions of \$342,230.00 in additional revenues and \$501,916.00 in additional expenditures, as presented by the Business Manager and Superintendent.

Roll Call Vote: J.B. aye, C.C. aye, D.D. aye, J.S. absent, K.B. aye, M.S. aye, J.Z. aye

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Davidhizar and seconded by Smith to approve the second reading and adoption of these new and revised Board policies: 0168.3, 2260, 2431, 3120.09, 3121, 4120, 4120.09, 4121, 5320, 5530, 5532, 5540, 6110, 8210, 8400, 8420, & 8500, as presented by NEOLA and the Superintendent.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Brouse to grant Family Medical Leave to Julie Hoffman-Hoxie, Maria Jessica Kelley, and Mary Lynn Hocevar, as presented by the Superintendent.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Davidhizar and seconded by Smith to approve the contract renewal of Business Manager Lisa Pointer-Seidner from January 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008, at a prorated salary of \$54,049 until June 30, 2007, as presented by the Superintendent.

Roll Call Vote: J.B. aye, M.S. aye, K.B. aye, J.S. absent, C.C. aye, D.D. aye, J.Z. aye

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Brouse and seconded by Smith to approve the long term suspensions of a CHS student 06.11.03HS and an Alternative Education student 06.12.04HS, through the end of the 2006-07 school year, as presented by the High School Principal and Superintendent.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Discussion Items:

1. Zimont & Davidhizar reported on the MASB Conference and Delegates Assembly. Davidhizar stated that his attendance at the assembly was a rewarding experience. There were poignant discussions with the Senators concerning upcoming change.
2. Zimont updated the Board and public on the progress of the Strengthening Our Schools meetings. Facilitator Kent Roberts encouraged all in attendance to work together and focus on a common goal and continue discussions. Zimont asked everyone to seek feedback from those who attended.
3. Taylor discussed the upcoming Tuesday, May 8, 2007 election status. Davidhizar and Smith's four year terms, along with Colley's appointed position (three year term) will expire in June. The Election Schedule & Candidates Responsibilities sheet will be available in the Central Office when received by the clerk's office. The deadline for candidates will be Tuesday February 13, 2007. He also discussed whether another Headlee Proposal should be added to the ballot.
4. The building principals highlighted the charitable activities taking place in each of their buildings during this holiday season.

Additional Audience with Individuals:

1. Holly Stabler, taxpayer, has concerns over issues that have been brought to the administration about handbook rules and unprofessional teacher conduct. She worries about issues of negligence over other matters with different students in the district. She feels the rules need to be consistent throughout the student population. Zimont stated that situations not currently brought to the Board’s attention will be dealt with accordingly.
2. Lynn Patterson, taxpayer, spoke about current issues she is dealing with concerning her daughter. She would like for there to be no compromises when student issues involving the handbook.
3. Trina Patterson, taxpayer, is worried over outdated and non-existent textbooks in the high school. Zimont responded that the principal is aware and the curriculum committee is attempting to address the issue.
4. Sue Lowler, teacher, stated that in her many years teaching here she doesn’t see the attitudes at Board meetings reflected within the high school. She stated that she fully supported the high school principal and his managing of hand book issues with accuracy.

Board Member Items:

1. Kevin Brouse stated that at the Friday night game at St. Phil, the cheerleaders are working with Toys for Tots to collect toys. Any one bringing a toy to the gate will receive a dollar off with paid admission.
2. Zimont proposed that the January 15, 2007 Board meeting be moved to the High School Media Center due to dress rehearsals for the school musical that evening in the LGI.

Moved by Davidhizar and seconded by Bergh to move the location of the January 15, 2007 regular Board meeting to the High School Media Center.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Davidhizar and seconded by Bergh to go into closed session at 8:47 to discuss negotiations.

Roll Call Vote: M.S. aye, J.S. absent, C.C. aye, J.B. aye, K.B. aye, D.D. aye, J.Z aye

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Zimont adjourned at 9:59 PM.

Kevin Brouse, Secretary
Board of Education