

CONSTANTINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Constantine, Michigan

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Monday, September 10, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Jeffrey Zimont in the Riverside Media Center at 7:00 PM.

Members Present: Jeffrey Zimont, Phil Portinga, Pat Touse, Chuck Colley, Mary Smith, and John Shuler

Members Absent: Jacob Bergh

Moved by Smith and seconded by Shuler to approve the Consent Agenda as presented to include minutes of the August 13, 2007 Regular Board of Education Meeting, and the Personnel Committee Meeting minutes of August 29, 2007, and Work Session minutes of September 4, 2007, and bills in the amount of \$517,405.34 for the general fund.

Roll Call Vote: J.B. absent, P.T. aye, M.S. aye, C.C. aye, J.S. aye, P.P. aye, J.Z. aye

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Celebrations & Audience with Individuals:

1. Victoria Wentela, Curriculum Director, thanked the Board for the new reading materials. She is distributing them to buildings at this time. Thank you banners from Eastside and Riverside signed by students were on display.

Action Items:

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith approve the hiring of Suzanne Coffman, Kindergarten teacher, at BA, Step 0, as presented by the Administration.

Roll Call Vote: J.S. aye, C.C. aye, P.P. aye, M.S. aye, J.B. absent, P.T. aye, J.Z. aye

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Touse to approve the hiring of Alicia Geisler, as the Eastside Administrative Assistant, at a beginning hourly rate of \$14.80, as presented by the Administration.

Roll Call Vote: J.B. absent, P.T. aye, J.S. aye, C.C. aye, P.P. aye, M.S. aye, J.Z. aye

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Touse to approve the hiring of Jean Logan as the CMS Principal at a prorated salary of \$74,000, as presented by the Administration.

Roll Call Vote: P.P. aye, C.C. aye, P.T. aye, M.S. aye, J.B absent, J.S. aye, J.Z. aye

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Portinga to approve the resignations of Danilo Beligano and Paul Szynski as Full Time Substitute Bus Drivers, and the hiring of Robert Doe as Full Time Substitute Bus Driver, as presented by the Administration.

Roll Call Vote: J.S. aye, P.P. aye, C.C. aye, P.T. aye, M.S. aye, J.B absent, J.Z. aye

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Portinga and seconded by Touse to approve the procurement of a third Special Ed teacher for the MS as needed to meet compliance requirements, as presented by the Administration.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Shuler and seconded by Smith to approve the Cooperative Education Program Resolution with White Pigeon for the 2007-2008 school year, as presented by the Superintendent.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Shuler and seconded by Portinga to approve Zimont & Colley as designated Voting Delegates and Touse as alternate to the 2007 MASB Fall Conference.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Discussion Items:

1. Taylor announced that the latest enrollment numbers are slightly below the projected / budgeted number of 1570 (count day is Wednesday, September 26, 2007). He thanked the staff for their wonderful efforts to make this a smooth start to the 2007-08 school year.
2. Taylor handed out a maintenance projects update to the Board, including a five year improvement plan. There were several questions from the Board. Taylor will update. A Facilities Committee meeting is suggested for comparison of lists.
3. Taylor began a discussion for a Fall Planning Retreat, Zimont has specific ideas but isn't ready to set a date at this time. Further discussion will take place at the October Work Session.
4. Zimont, Colley & Touse announced School Board Association Meeting Report and Update, which focused on collaboration and sharing of services.

5. Taylor updated the Dean of Students selection process. Colley will represent the Board, Mulligan the Administration and Fred Grunert the High School. Twenty eight resumes have been reviewed and interviews will begin Thursday, September 13, 2007.
6. Taylor discussed the possibility of the Canaris Street School as a community center, or for use by other organizations that need a facility. Taylor, Chief Mark Honeysett, Renee Welch, Pastor John Austin and Jake Bergh will meet Monday October 1, 2007. Zimont stated that he felt the groups wishing to use the facility should generate their own surveys, as school policy does not clearly allow use of the website in this manner. It is possible if it comes from the district. Shuler thinks that it is a good forum for comments, but should be produced by the district.
7. Taylor mentioned that the district lunch and breakfast prices are comparable and/or on the low side when compared to other schools in our county or league. He also gave copies of the district Technology Plan to the Board. A clean copy of the LaSalle Banking Resolution was also included in Board packets this month. Next month's regular meeting will take place at the Mason Twp Hall on October 8, 2007.

Additional Audience with Individual:

1. Dale Wentela updated Board on Alternative Ed. There have been some heating and cooling issues with the new unit, but bugs are being worked out. Students' numbers seem to be up but predicting actual numbers is impossible. There are seats for 54 students and currently he has 50. He discussed a previous Alternative Ed student that was transferred to the National Guard Academy. He is having great success. He will continue to involve the students in community projects; they will participate in "Rake My Day" this year. He is also looking into the possibility of beginning an Adult Ed. program. Alternative Ed graduation is set for May 29, 2008. He thanked the Board for their support.
2. Michael Mulligan, High School Principal presented a survey to his staff and he thought it was interesting that Mike & Kathy Messner have made such an impact on the district.

Board Member Items: None

Moved by Smith and seconded by Portinga to go into closed session and return for the purpose of discussing bargaining updates and a personnel issue at 7:55PM.

Roll Call Vote: C.C. aye, P.T. aye, M.S. aye, J.B absent, J.S. aye, P.P. aye, J.Z. aye

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

President Zimont brought the Board out of closed session at 9:05 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Chuck Colley, Secretary
Board of Education