

CONSTANTINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Constantine, Michigan

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Monday, March 17, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Jeffrey Zimont in the CHS LGI at 7:00 PM.

Members Present: Jeffrey Zimont, Phil Portinga, Mary Smith, Chuck Colley, Jacob Bergh, and John Shuler

Members Absent: Pat Touse

Moved by Smith and seconded by Bergh to approve the Consent Agenda as presented to include minutes of the February 11., 2008 Regular Meeting, and March 3, 2008 Finance Committee and Work Session minutes, and bills in the amount of \$495,632.15 for the general fund.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Celebrations & Audience with Individuals:

1. Dorothy Brueck, RS Art Teacher updated the Board on students involved and receiving awards for art projects at district wide over the past school year. She presented certificates to Bailey Potter, Mason Dull, Dylan King, Emily Mumaw and Amber Chupp for their work which went to the regional show. Four out of five are moving on to the State competition.
2. The High School and Middle School Science Olympiad instructors Adam Gifford and Clint Fund presented some of their students along with projects and gave updates on the results of the recent competitions. Clint Fund thanked Fibre Converters for their sponsorship and presented some of his team, Courtney Tyler, Tim Eby, Trent Bullock, Andrew Cocanower, Cody Mallo, Alex Miller and Phil Lorenz. Adam Gifford also thanked the sponsors, and presented some members of the High School team, Casey Smagala, Brooke Holderman, Kylie Oldenberg, and Chelsea Strawser, who discussed their portion of the competition and what they learned.
3. Beverly Smith, Riverside music teacher thanked all those who were involved in the production of the recent musical play "Willie Wonka". She then led the Riverside choristers in a few songs for the Board and audience. There were approximately 45 members of the group on hand for the performance. They have performed for local groups and will sing the National Anthem at a South Bend Silverhawks game this spring.
4. Chad Thelen, CEA President, commented on the Board's upcoming action of the proposed non-represented pay increase.

Action Items:

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Smith to accept with regret, the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Donald Hocevar, Transportation Supervisor with appreciation for his 17 years of service, Susan Lowler, High School teacher with appreciation for her 28 years of service, Kenneth Rimer, Middle School teacher with

appreciation for his 31 years of service, Mary Ann Grile, Eastside teacher with appreciation for her 23 years of service, Kerry Coomer, Eastside teacher with appreciation for her 18 years of service, as presented.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Shuler to approve the hiring of Jamie Ballard-Miller as Middle School Language Arts teacher, for the 3rd trimester, at BA Step 0, as presented by the Administration.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Bergh to approve the hiring of Sara Russell as Middle School Counselor, beginning April 1, 2008, at MA+20 Step 10, as presented by the Administration.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Smith to approve the slate of spring coaches as presented by the Athletic Director.

Chris Sicklesmith	Asst. MS Wrestling	\$500
Joe Stacey	Head Varsity Baseball	Step 4
Chad Bojanich	Asst. Varsity Baseball	\$750
Wayne Kaylor	Asst. Varsity Baseball	Volunteer
Curtis Ray	Asst. JV Baseball	\$500
Dave McGee	Head JV Baseball	Step 4
Dave Barney	Asst. Varsity Baseball	\$750
Marge Caid	Head Varsity Softball	Step 5
Steve Wilson	Asst. Varsity Softball	\$750
Joy Freude	Asst. JV Softball	\$500
Mike Sellers	Head Golf	Step 4
Dick Larrance	JV Golf	Volunteer
Steve Steward	Head Tennis	Step 5
Terry Steward	Asst. Tennis	Volunteer
Tim Baker	Head Boy's Track	Step 5
Tom Moe/Mike Messner	Asst. Boy's Track	Step 5, 50/50 split
Mike Tulley (Fund)	MS Head Boy's Track	Step 5, 50/50 split
Clint Fund (Tulley)	MS Asst. Boy's Track	Step 5, 50/50 split
Chad Thelen	Head Girl's Track	Step 5
Amy Brauer	Asst. Girl's Track	Step 1
Judy Elliott	Asst. Girl's Track	Volunteer
Rachel Peters	Head MS Girl's Track	Step 2
Emily Wittenberg	Head JV Softball	Step 1

Barb Wittenberg

JV Softball Asst.

Volunteer

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Portinga to grant a six week leave of absence to Ursula Bernhardt, RS Media Center Specialist, from approximately 2/1/08 to 3/14/08 in accordance with Article 12.C of the Master Agreement using all accumulated sick days with any remaining days of the leave to be unpaid per Article 12.C, Family Medical Leave Act, as requested.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Portinga to approve the granting of Constantine High School diplomas to Jeffrey David-Leroy Tuturow and Ashley Kline, as presented.

*Dale Wentela, Alternative Ed Director, presented the diploma along with President Zimont to Ashley Kline.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Shuler and seconded by Portinga that grievance #0708-02 and grievance #0708-03 filed by the Constantine Education Association be denied.

*Jean Logan, MS Principal gave the Board some of the background details concerning the grievance. Dave Casey also addressed the Board regarding their rights as a Board on this grievance.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Portinga that Constantine Public School district Board of Trustees hereby adopt the Legend 403(b) governmental plan to benefit certain district employees at the Board's discretion. The Business Manager is hereby directed to execute any and all measures to carry out this resolution, including but not limited to, executing the plan adoption agreement.

Voice Vote:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith that the amended budget as presented by approved.

*Lisa Pointer-Seidner, Business Manager presented the amended budget changes to the Board for discussion.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Portinga to go into closed session to discuss a student discipline issue at 8:20 p.m.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Portinga to come out of closed session to discuss a student discipline issue at 9:26 p.m.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Portinga to approve the long term suspension for student 08.03.10HS, with the possibility of Alternative Ed Summer School, as presented.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Portinga to approve the expulsion through the end of the 2007-08 school year for student 08.03.11HS, as presented.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Bergh to approve the \$1000.00 stipend for Michael Mulligan, High School Principal, due to his recent additional task of checking severe road/weather conditions, as presented.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Shuler to approve a 1% retroactive pay increase for non-represented employees for the 2007-08 school year, as presented.

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

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Discussion Items:

1. Great Start, Kindergarten Round-Up update (Tuesday March 11, 2008) Kristin Flynn stated that numbers were close to last years round up and follow up is on going with incoming parents/students.

2. Casey explained QZAB Money to the Board. It would be a great help to the district to obtain a 1 ½ % loan for district building improvements through state funding. No loans are currently available, but the district could be added to the waiting list. The Board agreed.
3. Headlee Override Proposal is being discussed to possibly be added to an upcoming election. A request to be added to the ballot would need to be done at the clerk's office by May 26, 2008. The MEA is currently being proactive and would help endorse the addition of this item to the fall ballot. There was discussion among Board members on how to proceed.
4. Zimont discussed the Superintendent search process and upcoming deadline for applications to MLI.

Additional Audience with Individuals:

1. Michael Mulligan let the Board know on behalf of Mike Messner, Athletic Director that he received a glowing letter of praise from Cassopolis Schools concerning our student's behavior at the regional basketball game.
2. Chad Thelen expressed his disappointment with the Board's denial of the grievances.
3. Ethan Strawser, High School teacher was disappointed that the Board explained the reasoning behind the 1% increase for non-represented employees.
4. Mike Tulley, MS teacher discussed the grievance which was denied.
5. Chris Stacey, MS teacher praised Mike Tulley for his efforts to make the fitness room what it is today.

Board Member Items:

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Smith to go into closed session to discuss negotiations at 10:15 p.m.

Voice Vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Portinga and seconded by Smith to come out of closed session at 10:55 p.m.

Voice Vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Shuler to ratify the proposed contract between the Constantine Public Schools and the Constantine Educational Support Personnel Association (SMEA), as presented.

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

2 Ayes, 4 Nays, 1 Absent
Motion Denied

Zimont adjourned the meeting at 11:03 PM.

Charles Colley, Secretary
Board of Education