

CONSTANTINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Constantine, Michigan

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Monday, September 8, 2008

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

Members Present: Marilyn Ritzer, Phil Portinga, Pat Touse, Mary Smith, Connie Dalrymple, Chuck Colley, and John Shuler

Members Absent: None

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith to adopt the agenda as presented.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Portinga and seconded by Touse to approve the Consent Agenda as presented to include minutes of the August 11, 2008 Regular Board of Education Meeting, Special Meeting Minutes of August 12, 2008, Work Session minutes of September 2, 2008, and bills in the amount of \$64,222.55 for the general fund.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Portinga and seconded by Smith to grant diplomas to two Alternative Education graduates, Linsey M. Miller and Joshua G. Hively, as recommended by the Administration.

*Dale Wentela spoke on each of the graduates and the Alt Ed program before Shuler presented their diplomas. Hively was not present.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Audience with Individuals:

1. Dorothy Brueck, RS Art teacher presented some of her students and recent art accomplishments. She had certificates for Danica Lucas, Sam Yoder, Roopa Singh, Toni Schwemer, Cody Ley, Alyssa Evilsizor Samantha Mulder, Kristin Kinney, and Adara Gibson.
2. Mike Messner, Athletic Director spoke about the letter of congratulations from the MHSAA on Constantine's good sportsmanship.
3. Shuler also presented the newsletter from the Alumni Association.

Action Items:

Moved by Smith and seconded by Colley to accept with regret the resignation of Chris Barnes, High School Media Specialist and Teacher, and thank her for her eight years of service to the district and its students.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Dalrymple to accept with regret the resignation of Suzanne Coffman, Eastside Elementary Teacher, and thank her for her year of service to the district and its students.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Colley to approve the hiring of Amanda Niblock as Eastside Kindergarten Teacher at BA Step 0, as recommended by the Administration.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Touse and seconded by Smith to approve the hiring of Ashley Warnement as Eastside Kindergarten Teacher at BA Step 0, as recommended by the Administration.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Portinga and seconded by Smith to approve the hiring of Robert Doe as Full Time Bus Driver, as recommended by the Transportation Director and Superintendent.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Colley to approve the hiring of Alfred Pfenning as Permanent Substitute Bus Driver, as recommended by the Transportation Director and Superintendent.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Dalrymple and seconded by Portinga to approve the hiring of Vern Granger as Permanent Substitute Bus Driver, as recommended by the Transportation Director and Superintendent.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Ritzer and seconded by Portinga to approve the hiring of Betty Patchett as Pre-School Bus Aide, as recommended by the Transportation Director and Superintendent.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Colley to approve the change in assistant 7th grade football coaches with the resignation of Jeremie Coplin and hiring of Jerry Burgess at \$500, as recommended by the Athletic Director and Superintendent.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Ritzer to approve the 2008-2009 Constantine High School handbook revisions as recommended by the Dean of Students and Administration.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Portinga to approve the 2008-2009 Constantine Riverside Elementary handbook revisions as recommended by the Principal and Administration.

Motion was withdrawn by Colley as no revisions are available at this time.

Moved by Colley and seconded by Touse to approve the 2008-2009 Constantine Middle School handbook revisions as recommended by the Principal and Administration.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Touse and seconded by Smith to approve the 2008-2009 Constantine Eastside Elementary handbook revisions as recommended by the Principal and Administration.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Dalrymple and seconded by Touse to nominate Peggy Hall as Special Education Parent Advisory Committee Representative for the 2008-2010 term, as recommended by the St. Joseph County ISD.

Roll Call Vote: C.D. aye, P.T. aye, M.S. aye, M.R. aye, C.C. aye, P.P. aye, J.S. aye

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Discussion Items:

1. Frisbie discussed the final School of Choice numbers for in county applications. Constantine had a net gain of 48 students. Count day is September 24, 2008.
2. Frisbie also announced that bids for health insurance will be going out this week, according to state requirements. There will be one going to MESSA.
3. Frisbie asked the Board if they had any additions to the agenda for the cooperative meeting scheduled for September 22, 2008 with facilitator Craig Meisner from MLI.
4. Frisbie announced that five Board members would be attending the St. Joseph County School Board Association Meeting on the 29th of September.
5. Frisbie gave a High School gym floor update. Jim Petersen from Schelde will meet with the lawyers this week. Currently the district is getting bids for new flooring and will await word from the lawyer on what the next step will be.
6. Farmer's State Bank was awarded the State Aid Loan bid, with the lowest interest rate of 3.74%.

7. Diane Northrup, Food Service Director and Frisbie discussed the bids that will be going out for new tables for Riverside and Eastside schools, as the current amount is around \$27,000 for hydraulic tables that will increase safety issues for staff and students.
8. Tom Muckel, Buildings & Grounds Director stated that the Middle School roof was completed today except for the gymnasium, which should be done by the end of the week.
9. Frisbie also told the Board that he had the Trane contract for the chillers, and was looking at a plan for maintaining the district's infrastructure. He will present that next month.

Additional Audience with Individuals:

1. Nancy Hill, Riverside teacher asked the Board about the status of the Canaris Street School. Frisbie stated that the boiler will not be turned on due to cost, and he is looking for community input on the issue.
2. Craig Badman, Riverside Principal stated that he still has high numbers for third grade, with 106 students (including many special education students) between 4 teachers. He would like the Board to consider adding a teacher if his numbers go up any more.
3. Kristin Flynn, Eastside Principal congratulated and thanked both Rhonda King, new Transportation Director and Tom Muckel, Maintenance Director on the fine job they are both doing to ensure an efficient start to the 2008-09 school year.
4. Dorothy Brueck, Riverside teacher asked the Board and district to celebrate coming back to school and to realize how fortunate we are to be in a district like Constantine.
5. Chad Thelen, CEA President stated to the Board that he appreciated the improved communication between the Association and Superintendent.
6. Deb Dolbee, Bus Driver stated that she was very pleased on how smooth this new school year has started in the transportation department.

Board Member Items:

1. Shuler discussed the Board Mission Statement and Goals were satisfactory, and the Board expectations for the Superintendent. These include a mentoring aspect so that Constantine will be more likely to promote within.

Shuler adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Charles Colley
Secretary Board of Education