

CONSTANTINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Constantine, Michigan

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Shuler in the High School LGIA at 7:02 PM.

Members Present: Pat Touse, Connie Dalrymple, Chuck Colley, Mary Smith (arrived at 7:10),
and John Shuler

Members Absent: Terry Burgess Phil Portinga (resigned)

Moved by Dalrymple and seconded by Touse that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of September 14, 2009 be adopted as written.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Touse that the consent agenda, including the Regular Meeting minutes of August 10, 2009, Work Session minutes of August 4 & September 8 2009, Personnel Committee Meeting minutes of August 24, 2009, Finance Committee meeting minutes of August 25, 2009, Special Meeting minutes of September 3, 2009 and bills in the amount of \$240,307.81 for the regular Board Meeting of September 14, 2009 be adopted as written.

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

4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

Action Items:

Moved by Dalrymple and seconded by Colley to approve a High School diploma through the Alternative Education program for Katie Lanning, as presented.

Voice Vote: Motion Carried

Audience with Individuals:

- a) Awarding of High School diploma, Katie Lanning
- b) Marge Caid, Band Director had her drum line perform on their new donated equipment (from Caid and Patchett) and introduced Dan Roberts her band assistant.

Building Reports:

- a) Craig Badman, ES Principal updated on current ES events and back to school info.

- b) Todd Boyer, RS Principal commented that the transition is going well and students and staff have all been welcoming.
- c) Jean Logan, MS Principal discussed their open house this year, which took place after the start of school with good results. PD days at the beginning of the year were very successful. Staff and students have started off on a positive note.
- d) Michael Mulligan, HS Principal highlighted how they have restructured the academic assistance area and special education departments.
- e) Mike Messner, Athletic Director went to a conference over the summer and heard Craig Hilliard speak. He has shared Craig's book with his teams and coaches to show the importance of leadership and direction. He is currently evaluating the entire athletic program. He also discussed the value of Recognition Night.

Superintendent Update (Discussion Items):

- a) The latest enrollment number is at 1493, with the budgeted amount at 1440. He is cautiously optimistic.
- b) The help of Marie Giacobone and Bob Sutton with the new Kent County Curriculum has been very helpful.
- c) He also thanked the staff for their diligence and positive attitude for the start of the year, as no negative phone calls have been received thus far.
- d) The Safe Routes to School Grant has been submitted with several options for safe travel of students to school. If the district qualifies, it would be very beneficial.
- e) Postings have been sent out for the District Teams which would be included in cooperative meetings.
- f) The transportation department would like to have the drop off policy revised. Rhonda King, Transportation Director discussed that students 4th grade and under would require a parent or guardian to be home at the time of drop off with the exception of a note from the parent under special circumstances. They would also like to have the entire Transportation Handbook reviewed by the Policy Committee.
- g) The Purchase Policy 6320 currently states that any purchase above the \$3000 mark should be brought to the Board for approval. He would like to raise that amount to match the State of Michigan annual rate.
- h) The audit policy for the GASB inventory amount currently is at \$1000. He would like to raise that amount to \$5000 at the suggestion of our auditor.
- i) Additional staffing is being discussed as classrooms continue to grow. By adding a second grade teacher we would drop our class size to 21-22 instead of 27 per class. The fourth grade is also facing large class sizes and a decision will be made by week's end.
- j) We will need to appoint a new School Board member as Phil Portinga resigned earlier this month. The candidates are Scott Manning, Marilyn Ritzer and Brad Sharpe. Shuler suggested that Marilyn Ritzer would provide continuity. The Board agreed.

Action Items:

Moved by Smith and seconded by Colley to ratify the CEAAA (Constantine Educational Administrative Assistants Association) contract, as presented.

*Frisbie stated that it reflects a 0% salary increase with only a \$250 increase in the HRA amount.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Dalrymple to approve the hiring of Piper Walker, MS Special Education teacher at BA Step 0.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Dalrymple and seconded by Touse to approve the hiring of Dale Rauh, JDT (Juvenile Detention) teacher at \$161.94 per day for 195 days.

*Frisbie explained that Rau is teaching at Centreville and we will be reimbursed through the ISD.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Touse to approve the hiring of Ashley Metcalfe, Eastside teacher at BA Step 0.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Dalrymple and seconded by Colley to approve the hiring of Amanda Brooks, Alternative Ed Special Education teacher at BA Step 0.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Touse to approve the hiring of Middle School Volleyball coaches, Karla White for 7th grade at Step 3, and Tracy Denney for 8th grade at Step 1, as presented by the Athletic Director.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith to approve the resignation of Victoria Wentela, Curriculum Director and thank her for her 20 years of service, as presented.

*Colley commented that Tori had been an integral part of the district and worn many hats. The Board all agreed that she was extremely dedicated. Frisbie stated that she did a lot of behind the scenes.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Touse and seconded by Colley to approve the purchase of the new district curriculum from Kent County Curriculum Crafters for \$7,900.00, as presented.

*Colley commented that training is currently in place and he is optimistic. He appreciates the follow through. Frisbie stated that the funding will come from stimulus money.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Touse to approve the purchase of the Level Data system at a cost of \$12,580.00 as presented.

*Frisbie discussed how this system will allow all of our systems to communicate and will be great time saver in gathering data. This will also be funded by stimulus money.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Touse and seconded by Smith to approve the amending of the GASB threshold capitalization amount to \$5,000 which was previously \$1000.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Colley to approve the amending of Policy 6320 to the state based yearly amount.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith to approve the revision of the Transportation Department's drop off policy as presented.

Voice Vote:

Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Touse to approve the FMLA request of Jeremie Coplin as presented.

Voice Vote:

Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Touse to approve the resignation of Phil Portinga, School Board trustee, and thank him for his service on the Board, as presented.

Voice Vote:

Motion Carried

Moved by Dalrymple and seconded by Touse to approve the appointment of Marilyn Ritzer to the vacant seat on the Constantine Board of Education, which will be up for re-election in 2010.

Voice Vote:

Motion Carried

Additional Audience with Individuals:

1. Betty Patchett, taxpayer questioned Colley on whether or not he had discussed an issue with the band. Colley and Jim Romain have discussed that the Band Director & Drum Major at the football games should not be standing on a wooden ladder. He is bringing that to the attention of the Board in hopes that something new can be furnished. Someone “borrowed” the aluminum ladder that the band had, and they are currently using the wooden ladder. Muckel stated that there is a specific stand for the drum majors. This item is quite pricey. Patchett stated that a good stand is well over \$1000.

Board Member Items:

1. Shuler thanked Caid and Patchett for their donation to the band program. He also congratulated Katie Lanning on her accomplishment.
2. Dalrymple welcomed Marilyn Ritzer back to the Board.
3. Touse reminded the Board that SJCSBA will meet at Centreville this week at 6:00 on Tuesday.

Moved by Touse and seconded by Smith to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Voice Vote:

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent
Motion Carried

Charles Colley
Secretary Board of Education