

CONSTANTINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Constantine, Michigan

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Monday, October 12, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Shuler in the Mason Township Hall at 7:01 PM.

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

Members Absent: None

Moved by Smith and seconded by Touse that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of October 12, 2009 be adopted as written.

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

Moved by Colley and seconded by Touse that the consent agenda, including the Regular Meeting minutes of September 14, 2009, Work Session minutes of October 6, 2009, and bills in the amount of \$246,397.61 for the regular Board Meeting of October 12, 2009 be adopted as written.

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

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Action Items:

Moved by Smith and seconded by Touse to approve a High School diploma through the Alternative Education program for Mason Owen, as presented.

Voice Vote: Motion Carried

Moved by Burgess and seconded by Colley to approve an Alternative Education Certificate of Completion for Ben Hall, as presented.

Voice Vote: Motion Carried

*Alternative Education Director, Dale Wentela spoke about both graduates.

Audience with Individuals:

- a) Wentela asked if the Board had the chance to review the new Alternative Ed curriculum. Frisbie stated that it had been discussed at the Work Session.

Building Reports:

- a) Craig Badman, ES Principal was not present.

- b) Todd Boyer, RS Principal stated that Grandparents Day and Open House were successful. The third grade also had the opportunity to go to the St. Joseph County Fair for a good learning experience. The Math Curriculum is still being looked at. Parent teacher conferences and the Book Fair are just around the corner.
- c) Jean Logan, MS Principal reminded the Board that MEAP testing starts tomorrow. She commended those that have helped her keep testing on track. Mr. Baker is coordinating a social project for the military personnel buried in the local cemetery. Mr. Sellers is incorporating math assignments to go along with the "Capstone Project". Mrs. Christopher's classes will be looking into genealogy also. Results will be passed on to the American Legion. Parent teacher conferences start Monday.
- d) Michael Mulligan, HS Principal also has parent teacher conferences next week. He commended Dave Horn for all of his hard work on the Military Honor Roll wall. The Math books recently purchased have been a huge asset. The web resources are extremely helpful. Homecoming was a nice success. Pre ACT testing took place this past week also. This string of testing provides solid data for the ACT expectations and measures progress in 9th and 10th grades. He passed around a chemistry book and materials that are currently being looked at for possible purchase. There are two classes without text books at this time other than what is provided by the teacher. Alternative Ed curriculum vendors are also being reviewed for interface upgrades and lower pricing. These could also be used for credit recovery in the Middle School & High School also. The cost for the chemistry books would be \$10,266.00. They could be delivered within a week. The Board was in agreement that the books should be purchased.
- e) Mike Messner, Athletic Director introduced Ernest Hawkes who is doing his internship with Mike Messner for Athletic Administration. He also interns over at Glen Oaks Community College. He also expressed his appreciation for the extra recognition activities in the district. He spoke about Tom Wagner and Webb and Joan Carlson and their contributions to the community. The Hall of Fame weekend just took place. It was a valuable experience enjoyed by all in attendance. Inductees were Tom Moe, Stephanie Bishop French, Brian Stears, Kevin Watkins and the 1994 Varsity Football team. The meal was catered by Chartwells and they once again outdid themselves. Frisbie thanked Messner for his continued efforts and all he does for the district. It is greatly appreciated by all. Burgess commented that Mr. Hawkes is learning from the best!
- f) Mr. Bob Sutton also commended Mike Messner on his accomplishments in Constantine. He also presented the 4th grade curriculum books to the Board. He discussed Grade Level Expectations. This curriculum will help teachers coordinate teaching techniques and strategies. Updates will also be easier. He also discussed Curriculum Crafters. Next he will look at strategies to use. He gave a very in depth look at the new binders he created to go along with the materials. Frisbie commented on how fortunate we are to have Bob & Marie working on this project. Bob will continue after retirement beginning again in December.

Superintendent Update (Discussion Items):

- a) Safe Schools meeting took place this afternoon with state and community officials. A first meeting will take place around a Board meeting. There will be a community walk from 3:00-5:00 followed by a social hour at dinner and then on to the Board meeting. There is money available depending on the project. MSU engineers will plan the project before it is submitted to MDOT. Safer routes in and around Eastside school have been discussed. There will be three meetings total before the actual plan. There will also be community meetings and kids will be encouraged to be involved. The regular Board meeting might be moved up to 5:30 next month to accommodate on November 9th.

- b) The cafeteria/LGI sound amplifiers are currently having issues. Some money may have to be spent to fix this problem. This facility is used community and district wide more than anticipated, so things are wearing out.
- c) Jan Reed brought in a grant application for NFL Bleachers which is a matching grant. This could be very beneficial to the district if we qualify. Frisbie will follow up.
- d) The final decision for school funding at the state level was a \$165 cut per student for the foundation allowance. This is \$55 more per student than anticipated. Next year's cut will be much steeper. The positive side of this issue is that we are up approximately 70 students at this point. The ISD has had their budget cut by 20%, so there meetings will begin next week to see what the county districts can live without in programming. Michigan School Readiness funding has been restored, so we are now facing a lack of facilities in finding place for the program.
- e) The H1N1 flu virus looks like it's spreading towards our district. Precautionary letters are being sent home to parents this week. He has been in contact with the Health Department also. The virus dies within 6-8 hours on a hard surface, so that extra cleaning is not needed. There will be more antibacterial wipes available in all high traffic areas of the district.
- f) Board Committees were rearranged to accommodate the appointment of Marilyn Ritzer after Phil Portinga's resignation. The following meetings were decided; October 21st Facilities at 5:30, November 5th Policy, and November 4th Finance will meet. They will be posted.
- g) Our auditor Rick Strawser from Norman & Paulsen gave a good report with a district fund balance at \$925,000. He is concerned only with the debt levy as funds may have to be pulled from the fund equity to cover inequities in revenues and expenses.
- h) Annual Report for 2008-09 was presented. All buildings met Annual Yearly Progress (AYP). It also contains a lot of additional data including dual enrolled students and parent teacher conference turn out rates. Logan stated that the format (Ed Yes) will remain the same next year due to budget issues. Touse noted that Alternative Ed test scores were separated from the High School scores which resulted in an increase of high school test scores.

Action Items:

Moved by Smith and seconded by Ritzer to approve the district Technology Team at \$500 each, as presented

Steward, Terry
Coplin, Jeremie
Yager, LaNae
Middleton, Susan
Dahms, Jaime
Mahoney, Donna
Bullock, Donna
Eby, Doug
Buckhold, Elizabeth
Barth, Jessica
Norton, Lori
Messner, Kathy

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

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith to approve the district Curriculum Team as presented.

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|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Owens, Libby | 1st | \$500 |
| Baker, Carol | 2nd | \$500 |
| Bratt, Dave | 3rd | \$500 |
| Pettit, Linda | 4th | \$500 |
| Wright, Beth | SpEd | \$500 |
| Klebba, Beth | Science, MS | \$500 |
| Christopher, Barb | SS, MS | \$500 |
| Coville, Stacey | Math, MS | \$500 |
| McCullough, Alex | English, MS | \$500 |
| Coville, Lyndsay | SpEd, MS | \$500 |
| Gormley, Jenna | SIT, MS | \$500 |
| Brauer, Amy | Electives, MS | \$500 |
| Gifford, Adam | Science, HS | \$500 |
| Baum, Roberta | SS, HS | \$500 |
| Barth, Jessica | Math, HS | \$500 |
| Buckhold, Elizabeth | English, HS | \$500 |
| Norton, Lori | SpEd, HS | \$500 |
| Barth, Jessica | SIT, HS | \$500 |
| Anderson, Marilyn | Electives, HS | \$500 |
| Norton, Lori | CIMS-2 | \$1,000 |
| Wittenberg, Barb | Title I | \$500 |
| Schrock, Crystal | Title I | \$500 |
| Wilson, Steve | District Coordinator | \$1,500 |

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

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Dalrymple and seconded by Colley to approve the district 2008-2009 Annual Report as presented.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Ritzer to ratify the 3 year IUOE Transportation Contract, as presented.

*Shuler commended the department for a contract which reflects a 0% increase over the course of three years.

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

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

*Board will table this item until next meeting to clear up some inconsistencies in the language.

Moved by ____ and seconded by ____ to approve the Alternative Education handbook, as presented.

Motion failed for lack of action

Moved by Smith and seconded by Ritzer to approve the resignation of Robert Sutton, MS teacher effective October 30, 2009, and thank him for his 15 years of service to the district.

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

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Touse to approve the resignation of Marie Giacabone, HS teacher effective November 4, 2009, and thank her for her 23 years of service to the district.

*Frisbie stated that Anna Johansen has volunteered to help with some of the curriculum aspects when Marie retires.

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

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Burgess to approve the FMLA request from Kevin Wright, as presented.

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

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Additional Audience with Individuals:

1. Mulligan reminded everyone that the NHS induction will take place Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the LGI.

Board Member Items:

1. Touse updated on the county meeting of the SJCSBA that met at Centreville in September. Some interesting topics were discussed. Lack of funding may affect some new ideas.
2. Smith reminded everyone to set up informational tables at the parent teacher conferences for Headlee info. Frisbie will meet with CEA to discuss. Colley said signs were expected any day; he will distribute. Honeywell will be used to send the message out. It should be working well by the election.
3. Dalrymple thanked Jan Dull & Mason Township for their hospitality.

Moved by Burgess and seconded by Smith to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent
Motion Carried

Charles Colley
Secretary Board of Education