

CONSTANTINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Constantine, Michigan

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday, February 8, 2010

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

Members Present: Chuck Colley, Mary Smith, Marilyn Ritzer and John Shuler

Members Absent: Pat Touse, Connie Dalrymple, Terry Burgess

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of February 8, 2010 be adopted as written.

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

Moved by Smith and seconded by Ritzer that the consent agenda, including the Regular Meeting minutes of January 11, 2010, Work Session minutes of February 2, 2010, and bills in the amount of \$ 531,545.51 for the regular Board Meeting of February 8, 2010 be adopted as written.

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

4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

Audience with Individuals: None

Building Reports:

a) Mike Messner, Athletic Director discussed the upcoming girls and boys basketball district events. In the event of a snowstorm on Wednesday, the basketball districts that are supposed to be held at Centreville will be held at Constantine. We will also host the wrestling districts on Saturday. The wrestling team won their first KVA League title this past Saturday. There are 4 boys that have won their 100 career wrestling match this year, Ricky Waterman, Zach Mallo, Zach Lucas and Chase Gearhart. There is a fundraising faculty vs. cops basketball game coming soon also.

b) Tom Muckel was working on the sound system, so Michael Mulligan commented on the progress of the updates to the sound equipment in the LGI. These items were purchased with activity money from all of the different groups that use the LGI.

c) Craig Badman, ES Principal talked about kindergarten round up coming soon. They are also fine tuning their conduct program, which seems to be coming along well.

d) Todd Boyer, RS Principal stated that they have been busy with Winter Olympics and thanked all those who helped. Ident-A-Kid will be in on the 17th, while Jump Rope for Heart will be here on the 19th. That night is also Family Fun Night. The choristers will be present at the next Board meeting in March. On the 26th of March RS will be hosting a basket auction.

e) Jean Logan, MS Principal noted that the MS PTO is taking off. Family game night is coming up and Ident-A-Kid will also be at the MS on the 17th. Loose change for lockers has raised several hundred dollars and Logan is still counting! The CHAMPS program is still plugging along with the kids getting the winter blues. Amber Anderson was recognized for a poster she made about conservation. Eighth grade commencement exercises are in the works.

f) Michael Mulligan, HS Principal highlighted a few happenings in the high school. A financial aid meeting for seniors took place tonight, hosted by Glen Oaks. MME is coming up! Testing will be March 9-11th. Juniors will be the only class which will have school on those dates at the high school.

Superintendent Update (Discussion Items):

a) The White Pigeon Superintendent visited the work session last week asking the Board to consider other options for transporting of School of Choice students. Shuler noted that they would like us to discontinue picking up the approximately 82 students that attend Constantine while residing in White Pigeon district. In the past, we have agreed to not create any new stops but allowed them to keep up the practice until they caught up. They have not caught up yet. Shuler cannot think of any other viable options. Colley noted that we will eliminate stops as they are no longer used and this should eventually create an equitable situation.

b) The district sends sympathetic thoughts and prayers to the families in the district that were affected by the accident involving 7 of our students this morning. Two of those students have been released and are home now.

c) Elizabeth Buckhold, high school teacher, presented the Board with an opportunity for students to visit England next year.

d) Safe Routes for School representatives visited the district and have set up another meeting for March 24th at 5:30. Soup and sandwiches will be available at 5:00 in the HS cafeteria. There will be graphic representations of options for safer routes to school.

e) Bus purchasing is coming along with the sale of 2 buses and buy-back of 2 buses by Holland Bus Company. There will be a new lease agreement to replace 2 buses.

f) The Finance Committee met last week and discussed extending the time line for the retirement incentive proposal. This would enable those considering retirement some extra time to see what the state is going to do. Frisbie discussed some items that will affect next year's budget.

g) Tomorrow's forecast is for 7"-14" of snow, the county Superintendents have already discussed calling school early if conditions worsen. They will try to make a decision early.

h) Bob Sutton has been going through the MEAP data and he has taken another step in interpreting the data for MEAP testing. It addresses the areas that are going well and others that need improvement. He has made great strides.

Action Items:

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith to approve the phone system bid from MOSS Telecom, at a total cost of \$47,655.60 as presented.

*The Board discussed some of the details that led to this decision.

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

4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by and Smith and seconded by Ritzer to approve the FMLA request of Amanda Brooks, Alternative Education teacher, as presented.

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

4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by and Smith and seconded by Colley to approve the FMLA request of Sheree Sorensen, Eastside teacher, as presented.

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

4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

**The following motion was tabled by Shuler until next month.*

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

Voice Vote:

4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Ritzer to approve the purchase of a school bus from Holland Bus Company at a total cost of \$86,811.00 as presented.

*The funding for this bus came from Special Education stimulus money.

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

4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Colley to approve the lease of school bus from Holland Bus Company at a cost of \$79,811.00 for 3 years with the option to purchase, and the turn in of 2 buses at \$3500 each, as presented.

*Shuler commended Larry Springer on the excellent job he is doing in looking ahead to improve the fleet.

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

4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Ritzer to approve the Letter of Agreement from the CEA to extend the timeline for the retirement incentive as presented.

Roll Call Vote: M.S. aye, C.C. aye, M.R. aye, T.B. absent, C.D. absent, P.T. absent, J.S. aye
4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Ritzer to approve the trip request of Elizabeth Buckhold to England using fund raising and grants, pending review by legal counsel, as presented.

*Shuler questioned the school's liability concerning the trip. Buckhold has to write the grant in March. Colley asked about student insurance and chaperone issues.

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

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith to approve the purchase of pre-calculus and calculus textbooks, as presented.

Roll Call Vote: M.S. aye, T.B. absent, M.R. aye, C.C. aye, P.T. absent, C. D. absent, J.S. aye
4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent
Motion Carried

Additional Audience with Individuals: None

Board Member Items: None

Shuler adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Charles Colley, Secretary
Board of Education