

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF YPSILANTI
Administrative Offices
1885 Packard Road – Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197-1817
Telephone: (734) 714-1218
Fax: (734) 714-1220

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Monday, May 10, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President David Bates at 7:01 p.m. in Room 138 of Ypsilanti High School, 2095 Packard, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESENT

Trustee Bates, Trustee Berman (arrived 7:06 p.m.), Trustee Brumfield (arrived 7:06 p.m.), Trustee Devaney, Trustee Fanta, Trustee Jackson, Trustee Snedacar-Horne

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

James Barmore/Absent, Jennifer Starr/Absent

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jaden Kersey and Jordan Smith, kindergarten students from Perry Child Development Center, led the Board of Education and audience members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

President Bates asked that the agenda be adjusted as follows: moving the presentation of certificates to teachers receiving tenure to item IV. b. after Public Input.

PUBLIC INPUT

Topics Included: support for the hiring of Jennifer Martin to serve as Assistant Superintendent for Educational Quality, the Ypsilanti High School PTSO is hosting a welcome reception on Wednesday, May 12, 2010 for incoming YHS Principal Justin Moore, it was a pleasure to attend the performance of "Grease" at Ypsilanti High School –students and staff did a wonderful job, hopes were expressed that Elizabeth Patterson will be called back from layoff for the 2010-2011 school year to her current position at Ypsilanti High School.

Board Response: audience members were thanked for their input and the invitation to attend the reception for Mr. Moore, the YHS performance of "Grease" was an outstanding show, the Ypsilanti High School spring band concert will take place on Friday, May 14 at Pease Auditorium on Eastern Michigan University's campus.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Fanta, supported by Trustee Jackson:

09-10 That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the April 26, 2010 Regular
9201 Meeting, the acknowledgment of a donation of \$100 by Roger Peterson and the
donation of a computer by Barbara Schneider, the resignation of Martha Beitner-
Miller and Kacy Baden, a second year child care leave for Airlie Drozdowski, the
retirements of Diane Bunge, Joni Eastworth, Sandra Gast, Monica Hatta,
Jacqueline Kilburn, Ann Lamkin-Ferranti, George McCreedy, Ron Palmer, Bill
Riccobono, Mark Smith, Mary Beth Strassel, Beverly Tyler, and Gerard Wysocki.
And also the teacher tenure recommendations for Tracy Armstrong, Chad Bickel,
Tracy Bukis, Steve Feltner, Alice Gannon-Boss, Rubina Kakwan, Lori LaRonde,
Kristen Nester, Elizabeth Patterson, and Lisa Rader. Action Recorded:
7/Yes;0/No.

John Fulton, Executive Director of Human Resources, provided a brief explanation of the Michigan Tenure Law and afterwards Superintendent Martin and President Bates presented certificates to teachers receiving tenure.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

There were no Association Reports.

PRESENTATIONS

Celebrating Success

Superintendent Dedrick Martin saluted the Ypsilanti High School Air Force JROTC because they are one of 72 national units to receive the 2009-2010 Distinguished Unit Award with Merit. Mr. Martin reported this award is given to programs that have exceeded standards and have an outstanding service record with their school and community. He said he is proud of the fine accomplishments the JROTC unit has made in such a short period of time.

BOARD DISCUSSION/REQUESTS

Board Committee Structure

The Board of Education convened as a committee-of-the whole to discuss the role and purpose of Board Committees. Topics of discussion included: the current committee structure allows board members to discuss topics in more depth, a suggestion was made that each committee report to the Board at a public meeting on a regular basis, there is an interest in planning for the future at committee meetings, the translate questions into a vision for the district, the creation of a planning committee that consisted of all board members, board members would set the agenda and explore topics in depth, the current Curriculum Committee structure has been valuable, what is the concern regarding the current committee structure, taking advantage of Ad Hoc Committees, administration will

Page 3 – Regular Meeting – 5/10/10

play a central role in planning and development of vision, board members will contact their counterparts in Ann Arbor and see how their committee structure compares to Ypsilanti's. In conclusion, President Bates stated the main topics gleaned from the discussion tonight regarding committee structure were: providing an opportunity to reflect and an opportunity for more planning and visioning, an opportunity to assist and provide oversight is desired, the current committee structure works for us and the use Ad Hoc Committees in the future to reach specific goals. Vice-President Horne suggested further discussion on committees at the retreat on June 5 and speaking with other Washtenaw County Board of Education members prior to that meeting.

Transportation Consolidation Discussion

President Bates announced Dr. Bill Miller, Superintendent of the Washtenaw Intermediate School District, would attend the May 24 Board Meeting to answer questions about transportation consolidation. He suggested providing questions to Dr. Miller prior to the meeting so he can be prepared to answer them. Board members asked the following questions: How will seniority and bumping rights in the YSSA be affected, clarify how two way communication and cameras will be used on buses, will new antennas be needed for communication towers, where will cost savings come from (routing, difference in wages and healthcare?), how are pensions affected, how are personnel affected in regards to union salary, benefits and healthcare, how will changes in structure affect routes, facilities, utilities and repairs.

Race to the Top Memo of Understanding

President Bates noted that Board members received a copy of the Race to the Top Memo of Understanding Phase II application at the board table at the beginning of the meeting. He said it was hoped that the application would be approved by the federal government and provide additional funding to Michigan schools.

Superintendent Martin said the MOU application can be found on the Michigan Department of Education website and is more detailed than the Phase I application. He stated there is not a union representative signature requirement but having the signature is preferred. Mr. Martin said there is a tight timeline and asked that the Board approve a resolution giving President Bates the authority to sign the Memo of Understanding on behalf of the Board of Education. He also said having the MOU on file puts the district in line for school improvement grants.

President Bates said this was on the agenda as enclosure #5 and by signing the MOU it signaled the Board's willingness to work with the State of Michigan to seek federal funds. He also said Phase II of the MOU application was a more collaborative process and the Michigan Education Association was on board early in the process. Members of Board of Education decided to recess in order to read the document and they also stated they would like to have feedback from the unions.

The meeting recessed at 8:12 p.m. and reconvened at 8:27 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution of Support of 2010-2011 WISD Budget

A motion was made by Trustee Horne, supported by Trustee Brumfield:

09-10 That the Board of Education has received and reviewed the proposed Washtenaw
9202 Intermediate School District budget in accordance with Section 624 of the
Revised School Code, as amended, and by the adoption of the attached resolution,
expresses its support for the proposed 2010-2011 Intermediate School District
budget. Action Recorded: 7/Yes;0/No.

Topics Included: Trustee Devaney stated for the record she was an employee of the Washtenaw Intermediate School District and as her job was not specifically referenced in the budget she would vote on the motion.

Hiring of Assistant Superintendent

A motion was made by Trustee Brumfield, supported by Trustee Fanta:

09-10 That the Board of Education approve the hiring of Jennifer Martin for the position
9203 of Assistant Superintendent of Educational Quality with a two year contract at an
annual salary of \$108,000. Action Recorded: 7/Yes;0/No.

Topics Included: the Human Resources Committee met to discuss the hiring process and recommended the Board take action to hire Ms. Martin, Jennifer Martin is not related to Superintendent Dedrick Martin, appreciation for the reduction in the salary, Ms. Martin distinguished herself during the interviews and brings a unique perspective to the position.

Authorization to Sign Memo of Understanding for Race to the Top

A motion was made by Trustee Devaney, supported by Trustee Jackson:

09-10 That the Board of Education authorize President David Bates and Superintendent
9204 Dedrick Martin to sign the Memo of Understanding on behalf of the Board of
Education. Action Recorded: 7/Yes;0/No.

Topics Included: pleased with changes perceived in the MOU in relation to bargaining unit contracts, there is an obligation to work with other districts collaboratively, the regional data initiative through the WISD which has Ypsilanti staff involvement.

PUBLIC INPUT

Topics Included: three Ypsilanti Public Schools students will be honored (Tiyia James, Arielle Wallace and Delisia Morris) at the Delta Sigma Theta Solid Gold Awards Brunch on May 15 and Superintendent Martin will be the guest speaker, additional funding for Adult Education is needed, bus drivers currently make \$18.16 per hour, the Ypsilanti Support Staff Association is participating in a coloring book competition and will announce the winners on May 24.

Board Response: President Bates said he would write letters of congratulation to the students on behalf of the Board of Education, Ypsilanti Pride Day is May 15, thank you for your comments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Superintendent Martin stated the district has an Adult Education Program in operation. He also said he enjoyed attending the performance of "Grease" at Ypsilanti High School and the students did a fabulous job. He offered kudos to the staff also.

Mr. Martin acknowledged Sharine Buddin and Jerry Fouchey for their work, time and effort to keep things running smoothly in the Department of Educational Quality after the resignation of Assistant Superintendent Weigel. He thanked them for their help and assistance and their continued support to acclimate Ms. Jennifer Martin to the district.

BOARD COMMENTS

Trustee Devaney issued an invitation to the Leadership and Design Initiative Showcase on Wednesday, May 12 at the Washtenaw Intermediate School District. **Trustee Fanta** provided a brief update on the Ypsilanti Public Schools Foundation Scholarship Committee activities. **Trustee Berman** encouraged attendance at the Ypsilanti Public Schools Foundation Art Auction fundraiser at the University of Michigan Exhibit of Natural History on June 5. **Trustee Brumfield** reported the Michigan Association of School Boards had contacted him and asked him to write an article on why he enjoyed participating as a member of the Board of Education. He said he would provide a copy for distribution to the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen S. Allen, Secretary
Ypsilanti Board of Education