

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF YPSILANTI
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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Monday, June 9, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President David Bates at 7:03 p.m. in Room 138 of Ypsilanti High School, 2095 Packard, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESENT

Trustee Bates, Trustee Brumfield, Trustee Devaney, Trustee Fanta (left at 7:26 p.m.), Trustee Reiber, Trustee Snedacar-Horne, Trustee Temple

STAFF & STUDENT RECOGNITION

Celebrating Success

Dr. Hawkins recognized David Poole, Ypsilanti High School teacher and coach, for his quick response to save the lives of two students in the YHS swimming pool. Coach Poole was presented with a certificate of recognition for his heroic lifesaving action and he was commended and congratulated by the Superintendent and Board of Education.

Michael Veizaga-Ramsey, a Chapelle 4th grade student, was not able to attend the meeting. He was recognized for his heroic action that resulted in saving lives when his grandmother suffered a stroke while driving a car. Michael drove the car three miles to seek help at a doctor's office. A certificate of recognition will be sent to Michael.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

President Bates requested the agenda be adjusted to include item d. Student Release under Information and Inquiry.

PUBLIC INPUT

Topics Included: concerns about budget cuts to intra-district School of Choice transportation and a parent reported her son was injured in an incident at East Middle School.

Board Response: administration was asked to contact the parent about the EMS incident, forming a committee to address intra-district School of Choice transportation, what is the Superintendent's recommendation regarding transportation of intra-district School of Choice students, equity of access for all students, review policy regarding student fights.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Superintendent thanked Rois and Nathalie Savvides for a donation of \$500 to the Ypsilanti High School band program. Dr. Hawkins reported the following donations had been made to the R.C.T.C. Program in May: a 1992 Ford from John Nick Pappas and \$1000.00 from the Washtenaw Contractors Association. He said these donations will be appropriately acknowledged.

Trustee Fanta announced he had a new grandson and was going to leave the meeting and visit the hospital. Before he left Trustee Fanta indicated he had produced a senior exit survey that he would like to administer to YHS seniors in lieu of the survey currently used. Trustee Fanta also said he had provided materials to Board members from a conference he had attended recently on data-informed decision making. In conclusion, he asked trustees to support the resolution of appreciation for Justin King that was on the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS

Bond Project Status Update

Paul Wills from Plante Moran CRESA presented an update to the Board of Education on the Technology Bond Project. His presentation covered the following topics: a review of the Bond Proposition Application Phase I Scope of Work, an update on technology implementation, an update of the Phase I Scope of Work budget, and an update of the Phase I schedule. Mr. Wills reported a current savings of \$2,298,940 which is 17% under budget. He stated that demolition had begun and work was started on the pools prior to the last day of school. Mr. Wills commended teachers and staff for their packing skills and preparation for the move. He said he would be providing monthly reports to the Board of Education and there would be an opportunity for a bus or walking tour of the work sites. In conclusion, Mr. Wills said bids for Phase II would take place in early winter for six facilities.

Gretchen Reist, Technology Director, provided a technology update that included: information on purchase of computers from Apple, coordinating professional development with the purchase of software, sound amplification systems, providing teachers with technology to demo prior to purchase, a PowerSchool implementation update, recycling of old computers, YHS Business Department computer needs, laptop carts, technical support and training for teachers, use of technology to enhance instruction, the interface of home computers and computers used in the classroom.

Preliminary 2008-2009 Budget

Superintendent Hawkins stated there has been a lot of discussion in the preparation of the 2008-09 budget. He said the Finance Committee has met and reviewed the budget and the district is using the best information available at this time from the state on the foundation allowance. Dr. Hawkins reported that the district continues to be conservative in estimating the per pupil increase and student enrollment figures. Other topics covered in Dr. Hawkins' presentation included: salary increases, utility increases, retirement rate,

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benefit cost increase, fund balance, projected revenue, and the anticipated deficit. The Superintendent announced the district would not make cuts in intra-district School of Choice busing this year because combining transportation changes and the hiring of a new Transportation Supervisor would involve too much change in one year. Dr. Hawkins stated the \$75,000 savings will have to be found elsewhere and would not involve personnel or program cuts. In conclusion, he said total proposed cuts for 2008-2009 are \$502,500. Dr. Hawkins reminded everyone that over \$14 million has been cut since he re-joined the district in 2005 and unless there is a significant increase in funding at the state level the district will face a deficit of \$3.5 to 4 million in 2009.

Topics Included: setting a date for a public hearing on the budget on June 16 or 17 at 6:00 p.m., fuel costs, fund equity, timely state aid payments, the status of the sale of Ardis School, class size will not be affected by position cuts, there will not be employee layoffs, establishing a budget committee in the fall to address the 2009-2010 budget.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Brumfield supported by Trustee Devaney:

07-08
8916 That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 12, 2008 Regular Meeting, the minutes of the May 12, 2008 Closed Session, the minutes of the May 14, 2008 Special Meeting, the minutes of the May 14, 2008 Closed Session #1, #2 and #3, the minutes of the June 2, 2008 Special Meeting, the minutes of the June 2, 2008 Closed Session, the reinstatement of student #813582 and 814811, the retirement of Cheryl Barget, the leave of absence for Jeanna Fox, the hiring of Karl Neff and the monthly bills payable for April 2008 in the amount of \$7,055,691.91. Action Recorded: 6/Yes;0/No.

Approval of the 2008 Superintendent Evaluation

A motion was made by Trustee Reiber, supported by Trustee Temple:

07-08
8917 That the Board of Education approve the 2008 Superintendent Evaluation. Action Recorded: 6/Yes;0/No.

Topics Included: Trustee Temple said it had been a pleasure working with Superintendent Hawkins and that he is a hard worker and an excellent leader. Dr. Hawkins thanked the Board of Education for their confidence in him.

Setting the Date for the Organizational Meeting

President Bates asked if the Board would consider suspending their Bylaws to hold the Organizational Meeting after July 15. He suggested meeting on July 21, 2008.

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

07-08 That the Board of Education suspend their Bylaws and move the Organizational
8918 Meeting to after July 15. Action Recorded: 5/Yes;1/Abstain (Reiber).

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

07-08 That the Board of Education set the Organizational Meeting date for Monday,
8919 July 21, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. Action Recorded: 5/Yes;1/Abstain (Reiber).

Approval of Board Member Attendance at a Conference

Trustee Temple stated he was concerned about conferences attended prior to Board approval and suggested the motion be separated into two motions. The Board of Education discussed this topic and agreed approval should be sought prior to the conference in the future.

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

07-08 That the Board of Education in accordance with Section 1764.b of the State
8920 School Aid Act, which requires prior Board authorization for reimbursement of
Board members incurring expenses while on official duty business of the Board of
Education, the following is approved for Board members to attend: Data
Informed Decision Making on May 23, 2008 in Lansing, Michigan at MASB for a
cost of \$125 and \$50 in mileage and the 2008 Legislative Conference on May 27,
2008 in Lansing, Michigan at the Lansing Center for a cost of \$125 and \$50 in
mileage. Action Recorded: 6/Yes;0/No.

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

07-08 That the Board of Education in accordance with Section 1764.b of the State
8921 School Aid Act, which requires prior Board authorization for reimbursement of
Board members incurring expenses while on official duty business of the Board of
Education, the following is approved for Board members to attend: CBA 101 –
Introduction to School Board Service on June 21, 2008 in Lansing Michigan at
MASB for a cost of \$170.00 and \$50 in mileage and the 2008 Leadership for
Achievement Conference August 6-8, 2008 in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Action
Recorded: 6/Yes;0/No.

2008-2009 Michigan High School Athletic Association Membership

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

- 07-08
8922 That the Board of Education approve the yearly resolution for membership in the Michigan High School Athletic Association, and by this action, agree to be bound by and enforce the MHSAA regulations and qualifications concerning eligibility and game rules effective August 1, 2008 through July 31, 2009. Action Recorded: 6/Yes;0/No.

Approval of Ypsilanti Principals and Administrators Association Contract

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

- 07-08
8923 That the Board of Education approve a 1% wage increase for 2007-2008 and a two (2) year contract July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010 with the Ypsilanti Principals and Administrators Association. Action Recorded: 6/Yes;0/No.

Establish Non-Union Employee Salaries for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009

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

- 07-08
8924 That the Board of Education adjust the salaries of the following non-union employees to reflect a 1% raise for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 school year: contractors, supervisors, the Assistant Superintendent, network engineer, Executive Secretaries, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and lunchroom supervisors. Action Recorded: 6/Yes;0/No.

Resolution of Appreciation

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

- 07-08
8925 Whereas the Michigan Association of School Boards is an organization that was developed for the professionalism and training of Michigan school board members, and, Whereas the MASB teaches a wide range and number of classes designed for the enhancement of school board members, and, Whereas the MASB works with the Governor, the State Legislature and Superintendents of Michigan school districts to further the goals and welfare of Michigan school districts, and, Whereas, Justin King has served with honor and distinction as Executive Director of the Michigan Association of School Boards from November 2, 1987 to May 31, 2008, Therefore, be it resolved that the Ypsilanti School Board publicly commends Justin King for over twenty years of exemplary service on behalf of Michigan school districts and directs the Superintendent to forward this resolution of honor, appreciation and gratitude to him forthwith. A roll call vote was recorded as follows: Trustee Brumfield/Yes; Trustee Devaney/Yes; Trustee Reiber/Yes; Trustee Temple/Yes; Trustee Horne/Yes; Trustee Bates/Yes.

INFORMATION AND INQUIRY

First Read Board Policy #7540-Computer Technology & Networks

The Board of Education conducted a first read of Board Policy #7540 and this policy will be placed on the June 23, 2008 agenda for a second read and board approval.

Board Visionary Leadership Award

Dr. Hawkins stated he had spoken to a representative of the Michigan Association of Schools Boards with questions on the application process to see if the YPS Board of Education was eligible for the award this year. He reported two Ypsilanti schools did not meet AYP and there were student achievement policies that needed to be adopted if the Board hoped to compete for this award. The Superintendent suggested applying in the 2008-09 school year. President Bates said he would bring this item back to the Board of Education in the fall.

Senior Exit Survey

Dr. Hawkins said Trustee Fanta had contacted him regarding conducting a senior exit survey. Dr. Hawkins said this survey has been done in the past by the WISD and he would get a copy that could be replicated and revised. Trustee Devaney reported to him that the WISD still does this survey annually county-wide and the Class of 2008 at YHS had received the survey. After further investigation, Dr. Hawkins found that the seniors had completed the survey and it had been returned to the WISD. At the meeting, Trustee Devaney said she disagreed about changing the survey tool. She also said this is the seventh year data has been collected and more information can be obtained for the district if requested. Trustee Devaney also said there is quantitative and qualitative data available from the survey.

Topics Included: making a decision when Trustee Fanta is available, continuing with the same survey, having the survey document available for review by board members and included in the June 23 board packet.

Student Release

President Bates stated Dr. Hawkins had received a request for a student release from the school district and had asked if the Board wants the Superintendent to make these decisions or if they want to provide him with written guidelines. Dr. Hawkins said he gets frequent requests from people who reside in the school district but want to send their children to a non-school of choice district.

Topics Included: allowing the Superintendent to make the decision and the parent has the option of appealing the decision to the Board of Education, the Board would like to know when requests are made, appreciation expressed to the Superintendent for bringing the request to the attention of the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board of Education acknowledged thank you notes from Karen Parish-Foster and Amy Webb for flowers sent in condolence.

PUBLIC INPUT

Topics Included: athletic eligibility needs to be monitored, thank you for postponing the transportation issue.

Board Response: agreement that students that play sports must pass their classes.

BOARD COMMENTS

Trustee Temple thanked fellow board members for their support when his family member died in Texas. **Trustee Reiber** congratulated the building trades students for doing a fine job building a beautiful house. **Vice-President Horne** said she is aware the high school principal has talked to coaches about eligibility and this issue is being addressed. **Trustee Devaney** asked for clarification of the athletic eligibility policy and **President Bates** asked that the policy be checked to make sure it meets our needs.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen S. Allen, Secretary
Ypsilanti Board of Education