

Pending approval.

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

Regular Board Meeting of the

Lawrence Public Schools Board of Education.

Members Present: Julie Beam, Chuck Carpp, Jeff Johnson, Carol Sjoquist,

Jim Sanborn. Absent: Bill Lux, Carrie Rokos

Administration Present: Bob Gendron, Sue McQueen, John Overley.

All present

The meeting was called to order by Johnson at 7:30 p.m.

Beam moved and Carpp supported the motion to approve the March 2, 2009 open and closed minutes as presented and the special board meeting minutes of March 30, 2009 as presented. The March 2, 2009 open and closed minutes were approved 4-0 with Sanborn abstaining and the March 30, 2009 minutes were approved 5-0.

Beam moved and Sjoquist supported the motion to approve the bills of \$534,439.86 as presented. Discussion was held. Motion carried 5-0.

There were no comments from the public.

McQueen presented the elementary principal's report. She highlighted the positive response to the parent-teacher conferences. She stated the elementary has had 66 students leave the district this year and has had 59 new students register. The upcoming events included the Tera Nova testing for Title 1 placement, the KG roundup, the book fair and the Father/Daughter Dance.

Gendron presented the Jr./Sr. high school principal's report. He stated the spring leadership summit is completed and the students had another positive experience.

The high school band had received straight "I's" at festival and will participate in State Festival. The Sr. Lit class performed their successful annual play under the direction of Mr. Carey. He stated the Michigan Merit Exam testing is completed. Juan Estrada has been named Valedictorian and Greta Taylor has been named Salutatorian for the Class of 2009. The student council will be hosting a blood drive on April 29. Gendron noted he has a concern over the lack of attendance to the Jr./Sr. parent-teacher conferences and is looking into alternative options.

There was no athletic director report however Gendron noted that we had received notification from the MHSAA that Lawrence will be Class "C" for 2009-2010 for tournament classification. He also stated Coach Salvano was named AP Class "D" Coach of the Year.

Overley stated the school elections will be held on May 5, 2009. There are two board seats open with five persons running for the positions. There will be a Candidate Forum on April 29 at 7:00 in the High School AV room. The Headlee Override is also on the ballot.

Carpp moved and Beam supported the motion to approve the resolution for the Van Buren Intermediate School District Budget. Roll call vote: Beam Y, Carpp Y, Sjoquist Y, Sanborn Y, Johnson Y. Motion carried 5-0.

Carpp moved and Sjoquist supported the motion to accept Bill Lux's resignation from the Board of Education. Motion carried 5-0. A special board meeting will be held on May 12, 2009 at 7:30 to interview prospective replacements for this position. Overley will post the position.

Security quotes for door entrances and cameras were presented to the board by the District Technology Director Gene Butler. He recommended to the board to accept the bid from Netch. Sanborn moved and Beam supported the motion to accept this recommendation at \$69,500 as presented. Discussion was held. Motion carried 5-0.

The Student's Against Destructive Decisions group has requested permission for an off campus After Prom activity. Sjoquist moved and Carpp supported the motion to approve the S.A.D.D. request to hold an After Prom activity at the Y.M.C.A. in Kalamazoo on May 9, 2009 from midnight to 6:00 a.m. Discussion was held. Motion carried 5-0.

Gendron reported the seniors have not turned in any request for a senior trip to date.

Alyssa McAndrew and Ashley Butler, 7th graders representing the Students Taking A New Direction group, requested permission for an after school off campus activity. Beam moved and Carpp supported the motion to approve the STAND request to take approximately 50 seventh and eighth graders to Airway Lanes and CC's Pizza in Kalamazoo on April 24, 2009 after school. Motion carried 5-0.

8:20 Beam left the meeting.

Carpp moved and Sjoquist supported the motion to approve a field trip to the Field Museum in Chicago on May 13 for members of the National Honor Society and the Quiz Bowl team. Motion carried 4-0.

The first reading of the Written Notification and Dispute Resolution Forms for Homeless Education Program was accepted.

#### Written Notification Form

This form should be completed by a school administrator or Homeless Liaison when the parent's/guardian's request to return to the school of origin is denied. Give the original to the parent/guardian along with the Dispute Resolution Form (page2)

Date:

School:

Name & Title of Person Completing Form:

In compliance with Section 722(g)(3)(E) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2001, the following written notification is provided to:

Parent/Guardian:

Student(s):

After reviewing your request to enroll the student(s) listed above, the enrollment request is denied. This determination was based upon:

Please have the parent/guardian sign and date below to indicate that they have received a copy of this form.

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date:

- You have the right to appeal this decision by completing the attached Dispute Resolution Form or provide your explanation verbally to the district's Homeless Liaison Sue McQueen at 269-674-8231
  
- Resolution by the Homeless Liaison will be made within five (5) business days of receipt of Dispute Resolution Form
  
- If the matter is not resolved at that level, you may set up a meeting with the Superintendent and present him with a written complaint. The Superintendent shall issue the District's decision within five (5) business days of the second dispute by parent/guardian.
  
- If the dispute is still not resolved, the complaint may be brought before the Board of Education.
  
- If the complaint is not resolved in a satisfactory manner at the local level, you may direct your complaint to the State Coordinator for Homeless Education, Michigan Department of Education, P.O. Box 30008, Lansing, MI 48908.

Your complaint must include the following:

-Description of the situation that prompted the complaint.

-Name(s) and age(s) of the child/children involved.

-Name(s) of the involved school districts and district personnel involved.

-Description of the attempts that have been made to solve the issue.

- The student listed above has the right to enroll immediately in the requested school, including full participation in all school activities pending resolution of the dispute.

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## Dispute Resolution Form

To be completed by the parent/guardian or unaccompanied youth when a dispute arises over school enrollment. The information may be shared verbally with the Homeless Liaison instead of completing this form. The Homeless Liaison can be contacted at 269-674-8231

Date Submitted:

Student(s):

Person completing form:

Relation to student(s):

I may be contacted at (phone or e-mail):

I wish to appeal the enrollment decision made by:

School:

I have been provided with a written explanation of the school's decision:

(check one)  Yes  No

You may include a written explanation to support your appeal in this space or provide your explanation verbally.

Signature of person submitting dispute:

Return completed form to the superintendent, Lawrence Public School

Discussion was held regarding the driver's education company that uses a room in the high school and provides services to the Lawrence students. Johnson appointed Sanborn, Beam and Carpp to look into concerns expressed and to report back to the board at the next meeting.

Overley gave a brief update and discussion was held regarding the stimulus money.

Sanborn moved and Sjoquist supported the motion to extend the administrative contracts for the 2009-2010 school year for the following:

John Overley, Superintendent

Bob Gendron, Jr./Sr. High School Principal

Sue McQueen, Elementary School Principal

Sue Goldenberg, Elementary School Social Worker

Motion carried 4-0.

Sjoquist moved and Carpp supported the motion to approve Gene Butler's contract as District Technology Director for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried 4-0.

Sanborn moved and Carpp supported the motion to approve Mirinda Amthor's contract as an At-Risk Interventionist with At-Risk funds for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried 4-0.

8:37 Beam returned to the meeting.

Overley commended both principals and the staff for the positive MEAP scores.

Discussion was held regarding cell phone use during school hours. Gendron stated the current policy was being updated.

Discussion was held regarding the ordering of supplies by teachers.

Overley stated Linda Marshall had paid \$258.33 in March and early April towards restitution of the embezzlement leaving a balance owed to the school of \$52,664.66.

Discussion was held regarding the condition of the track. Overley stated he had received one quote to resurface and restripe the track for \$35,500. The Athletic Boosters will help with some of the costs. Other bids are being sought.

Overley thanked the Athletic Boosters for paying for the student buses to the basketball tournaments.

Sjoquist moved and Carpp supported the motion to move into closed session. Roll call vote: Beam Y, Carpp Y, Sjoquist Y, Sanborn Y, Johnson Y. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned 9:00

Pat Garrod, Recording Secretary

The board returned to open session at 9:04 and adjourned.