

Pending Approval

January 7, 2008 Special meeting of the Board of Education
Lawrence Public Schools, Van Buren County, Michigan

Members Present: Julie Beam, Chuck Carpp, Jeff Johnson, Dave
Nicholas, Carrie Rokos, Jim Sanborn, Carol
Sjoquist.

Administration Present: Sue McQueen (arrived 7:05), John Overley,
Bob Gendron.

Absent: Phil McAndrew

Student Representatives Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by President Johnson.

Sanborn moved and Nicholas supported the motion to approve the
December 3, 2007 minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Sanborn moved and Rokos supported the motion to approve the bills of
\$491,887.21 as presented. Motion carried 6-0 with Carpp abstaining.

There were no comments from the public.

Gendron presented the HS principal's report highlighting the successful Miss
Lawrence contest, the band concerts, the first annual Reindeer games and
the recent teacher inservice. Upcoming events included the National Honor
Society and Student Council Red Cross blood drive, the semiformal dance
and the Student Leadership Summit.

Overley stated the school elections would be held May 6, 2008. There will be
two open seats on the board. Both Johnson and Nicholas' positions will be
open for the elections. Johnson stated he would be running for the position
again; Nicholas will not be running for his position. Overley will place notices
in the local papers that petitions are available from his office and must be
turned in by February 13, 2008.

Sjoquist moved and Rokos supported the motion to approve the high school
English Class field trip to Chicago on March 7, 2008 to see a Shakespearean
play. Motion carried 7-0.

Rokos moved and Carpp supported the motion to approve a twelve-week
maternity leave for Abbi Grimes-Abbott. Discussion was held. Motion
carried 7-0.

Troy Zimmerlee, wrestling coach, asked the board for permission to stay
overnight for the individual wrestling districts on February 16, 2008 near
Holton because of the long distance to the meet that would start early in the
morning. He stated he would use wrestling funds and would have a
fund-raiser to help cover costs. The students would be responsible for their
food. Sjoquist moved and Sanborn supported the motion to allow the
wrestling team to transport to the meet in cars and to stay overnight if all the
necessary paper work was completed. Discussion was held. Motion carried
7-0.

Sanborn moved and Beam supported the motion to approve Bank of New
York, Detroit, MI as the Appointing Paying Agent-Bond Registrar. Motion
carried 7-0.

Overley stated the Chemical Bank had given the low bid of 3.34% interest
rate. Sjoquist moved and Carpp supported the motion to accept the
Chemical Bank bid for the General Obligation Bonds and to create two
special bank accounts designated 2008 Capital Projects Fund and 2008
Bond Issuance Fund. Discussion was held. Motion carried 7-0.

Sanborn moved and Carpp supported the motion to approve a retainer for
Thurn Law Firm as legal counsel for the district for \$1,100 for the 2008
calendar year. Discussion was held. Motion carried 7-0.

Overley stated funding had been approved for the 2007-2008 preschool
Michigan School Readiness program at \$47,600. Rokos moved and Sjoquist

supported the motion to approve participation in the Michigan School Readiness program for the 07-08 school year. Discussion was held. Motion carried 7-0.

Sanborn moved and Beam supported the motion to approve, with regret, Chris Orlaske's resignation from his position as assistant Jr. High track coach. Motion carried 7-0.

Overley stated the Van Buren Historical Society sent their appreciation for the donation of the 1912 County Atlas.

Beam moved and Sjoquist supported the motion to approve MaryAnn Nunez as volunteer middle school basketball assistant. Motion carried 7-0.

Sanborn presented a proposal from the Athletic Boosters which asked the board to agree to not cut any sport except for the lack of participation or to implement a "pay to play" program if the boosters donated \$15,000 per year. Discussion was held. The proposal was tabled to the February meeting.

Chi-Dog has asked permission to open a concession stand for the baseball/softball games and possibly the little league games. The board stated the approval of the Band Boosters would be needed before the outdoor concession would be opened up to an outside group.

Overley has placed ads in local newspapers for the leasing of part of the bus garage building.

Johnson will contact board members to set a time to go over administration evaluations.

The budget survey had several suggestions as to where small cuts could be made and some of the suggestions have been implemented. The budget committee will be meeting soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20.

Pat Garrod, Recording Secretary.