



Board of Education
January 11, 2010
7 PM

BECC Building, Board Room
125 S. Church Street
Brighton MI 48116

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Board of Education
Brighton Area Schools
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 11, 2010
7:00 p.m. - BECC

Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Greg Gray at 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Oath of Office

Dr. Gray administered the Oath of Office to William Anderson and Miles Vieau.

IV. Election of Officers

Moved by Anderson to nominate Cheryl Leach as President of the Board of Education.

Moved by Powers, supported by Minert to close nominations. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Nominations closed.

Roll call vote to elect Cheryl Leach President: 7 ayes - Anderson, Krause, Leach, Minert, Powers, Rassel and Vieau. Motion carried.

Cheryl Leach was seated as President and chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Moved by Beth Minert to nominate Greg Rassel as Vice President of the Board of Education.

Moved by Powers, supported by Krause to close nomination. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Nominations closed.

Roll call vote to elect Greg Rassel Vice President: 7 ayes - Anderson, Krause, Leach, Minert, Powers, Rassel and Vieau. Motion carried.

Moved by Powers to nominate Beth Minert as Secretary of the Board of Education.

Moved by Krause, supported by Rassel to close nominations. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Nominations closed.

Roll call vote to elect Beth Minert as Secretary: 7 ayes - Anderson, Krause, Leach, Minert, Powers, Rassel and Vieau. Motion carried.

Moved by Rassel to nominate Jay Krause as Treasurer of the Board of Education.

Moved by Powers, supported by Rassel to close nominations. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Nominations closed.

Roll call vote to elect Jay Krause as Treasurer: 7 ayes - Anderson, Krause, Leach, Minert, Powers, Rassel and Vieau.

V. Roll Call

All Board of Education Trustees were present.

Also present: Superintendent Gray, Assistant Superintendents Gisting, Schwager, and Surrey, Attorney Frank Mancuso, staff, press and visitors.

VI. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Powers, supported by Rassel to approve the agenda with the addition of a closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiation strategies connected with the BEA bargaining unit, Item XIII. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Motion carried.

VII. Public Participation

James Stuttenger addressed the Board concerning financial education for high school students.

Rebecca Alexander, bus driver, addressed the Board concerning the budget deficit and wage concessions. She indicated that the support staff were supportive of a 20% wage reduction to keep jobs.

John Conely addressed the Board concerning past employee contracts that were settled. He suggested a 20% wage concession.

VIII. Board Reports/Correspondence

Superintendent Gray reported that January is School Board Recognition month and thanked the Trustees for their service to the Board and the school district.

Mrs. Powers thanked the staff members and schools for the sentiments and gifts that were presented to each Trustee at the December meeting.

President Leach distributed the Board liaison and committee assignments for this year.

IX. Organizational Matters

A. Setting Dates, Times and Location of Board Meetings

Moved by Krause, supported by Rassel to adopt the 2010 Board of Education meeting dates as January 25, February 8 and 22, March 8 and 22, April 12 and 26, May 10 and 24, June 14 and 28, July 12, August 9 and 23, September 13 and 27, October 11 and 25, November 8 and 22, and December 13 and further that all meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at BECC, 125 South Church Street, Brighton MI. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Motion carried.

B. Depositories

Moved by Anderson, supported by Rassel to designate Comerica Bank, National City Bank, Michigan Commerce Bank, Charter One Bank, First National Bank, TCF Bank, Michigan Investment Liquid Asset Fund, Fifth Third Bank, Key Bank, Huron River Credit Union, LaSalle Bank, Midwest, LOC Federal Credit Union, Michigan Educational Credit Union, University of Michigan Credit Union, JP Morgan Chase Bank, Huntington Bank, Flagstar Bank, Citizens Bank and MBIA/Michigan Class as depositories for the Brighton Area Schools. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Motion carried.

C. Signatories

Moved by Powers, supported by Rassel that in accordance with the Michigan General School Laws for General Powers School Districts, the Secretary is authorized to draw and sign orders upon the Treasurer for all monies to be distributed from the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, all Debt Retirement Funds, Building and Site, Agency Funds and further that such order by countersigned by the President of the Board of Education. Be it further designated that the following personnel be designated signatories for the following funds: Gregory B. Gray, Superintendent of Schools and/or Maria Gistingier, Assistant Superintendent for Finance - Certificates of Deposit, Savings Accounts, Imprest Fund, All Internal Accounts, Payroll/Accounts, Payable Accounts, Money Market Accounts, Wire Transfer for Funds and Automated Clearing House Transfer of Funds; John Thompson, Athletic Director - Athletic Officials/Entry Fee Accounts and Kay Lane and/or Deb Hobbs for Tot Spot Field Trip Accounts. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Motion carried.

D. Authorization to Transfer Funds

Moved by Krause, supported by Rassel that the following employees are authorized to transfer (Automated Clearing House) funds subject to the listed limitations: All funds (unlimited authority)–Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent for Finance and all funds (\$3,000,000 limited)–General Ledger Accountant. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Motion carried.

E. Legal Matters

Moved by Anderson, supported by Minert to retain the services of Thrun Law Firm and also the services of the McCririe Law Firm for matters requiring legal assistance. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Motion carried.

X. For Action

- A. Consent Agenda - Moved by Krause, supported by Rassel to approve the consent agenda as presented. Voice vote: 6 ayes, 1 abstention - Vieau. Motion carried.
- B. Resolution, Cash Flow Borrowing - Moved by Minert, supported by Krause to approve the Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Notes in Anticipation of State School Aid. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- C. Resolution, School Readiness - Moved by Anderson, supported by Rassel to approve the School Readiness Resolution as presented. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- D. Leave Request - Mr. Schwager presented the general leave of absence request from Brad Gibson for the second semester of the 2009/2010 school year.

Board discussion took place regarding the leave request. It was agreed that granting the request is non-precedent setting and further, that since the district is in layoff mode, it would be advisable not to incur a mid-year staff change.

Moved by Minert, supported by Anderson to grant the leave request as presented and further, the action would be non-precedent setting. Voice vote: 7 ayes. Motion carried.

XI. For Future action

- A. Acceptance of Donation - As per Board Policy 7230-Gifts, Grants and Bequests, all gifts exceeding \$1,000 must be accepted by the Board of Education. The Maltby PTO has generously agreed to donate \$8,158 for the purchase of 11 Lumnes document cameras for classroom math instruction and 10 N computing kits that will allow the building to update computers by running 4 work stations from 1 CPU. This item will be placed on the January 25, 2010 board agenda.
- B. New Course Proposals, High School
 - 1. Personal Finance - Personal Finance is a semester course focusing on consumer education and personal finance. The course explores money management skills for all consumers. The course will be an elective in 2010/11 for juniors and seniors to fulfill .5 FTE of the four year math requirement. Approval of the course will be placed on the January 25, 2010 board agenda.
 - 2. Active Physics - Active Physics is a year long applied physics course. In order to earn a full credit in physics to be applied toward the Michigan Merit Core Curriculum, students must combine this course with a semester of either Physics Essentials or Chemistry Essentials as a prerequisite. For those students who do not need

the Chemistry or Physics requirement for the Michigan Merit Core Curriculum will be able to take Active Physics as a science elective. Approval of the course will be placed on the January 25, 2010 board agenda.

- C. Bid Award, E-Rate - It was recommended that the Board approve AT&T as the provider for Centrex lines and T-1 telecommunications services. It is a requirement of Federal E-Rate legislation that bids be taken and that the Board take action to accept the bid in order to be eligible for E-Rate reimbursement. This item will be placed on the January 25, 2010 agenda for Board consideration.
- D. Insurance, Property and Casualty - Dr. Gisting reported that the district sought soft bids for Property and Casualty Insurance. Currently the district is in the Middle Cities Risk Management pool. SET-SEG provided a quote for the board to consider. In order to join a new pool, the district would need to provide a six (6) month notice to MCRMT.

XII. For Information

- A. Curriculum/Instruction - no report.
- B. Finance - The Board will receive an update on the Deficit Elimination Plan on a regular basis. A letter has been sent to Aramark notifying them of the district's intent not to renew its contract, RFP's were issued to out source non-instructional staff, an elementary building was closed for the 2010/11 school year, and three positions will be eliminated within BASAA for the 2010/11 school year. To date there has been action to reduce the deficit by \$2.8 million.
- C. Human Resources - Mr. Schwager reported that a mock staffing will be held the week of January 18, 2010.

XIII. Transportation Reorganization, LESA

LESA has been working with the county school districts that were interested in participating in a regional transportation collaborative. Public Act 63 supports school districts in their efforts to develop opportunities for shared services. Superintendent Menzel and Assistant Superintendent for Finance Mike Hubert of LESA reviewed the plan for transportation reorganization through LESA. This reorganization would allow for personnel to remain in the retirement system, provide a savings of approximately \$500,000 to Brighton, as well as provide five (5) news buses per year to the district. LESA would purchase the buses and the district would reimburse LESA for the purchases over a six year period and the buses would be the property of Brighton Area Schools.

Discussions took place regarding the proposal and Trustees were encouraged to obtain needed additional information prior to the January 25, 2010 board meeting. This item will be placed on the agenda for consideration.

XIV. Closed Session, Negotiations

Moved by Rassel, supported by Minert to enter closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiation strategies connected with the BEA bargaining unit, inasmuch and the administration requested a closed session. Roll call vote: 7 ayes - Anderson, Krause, Leach, Minert, Powers, Rassel, and Vieau. Motion carried.

Board entered closed session at 8:45 p.m.

Meeting recessed at 8:45 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 8:53 p.m.

Board entered open session at 9:25 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Date Approved:

Approved by:

Cheryl Leach, President

Elizabeth Minert, Secretary

(Sheri Lohmiller, Recorder)