

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES -- BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REDFORD UNION SCHOOLS, DISTRICT NO. 1  
April 16, 2007

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A regular meeting of the Redford Union Board of Education was held April 16, 2007, in the John C. Raeside Administration Building, 18499 Beech Daly Road, Redford Township, Michigan. President Pytel called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting  
4/16/07

Present: Brenner, Caloia, Calvert, Gubachy, Isabell, Pytel and Wujcik

Attendance

The Pledge of Allegiance led by the RUHS JROTC "Panther" Battalion.

Pledge

President Pytel spoke to:

President's  
Remarks

- The district lost not only a wonderful human being, but a great teacher last week with the passing of Leslie Mayo. On behalf of the Board of Education, we would like to express our sincere condolences to her family during this time of grief.
- Data for Schools of Choice versus declining enrollment and what the net affect would have been were put together in graph form for us to take a look at during that portion of the agenda.

Superintendent Rhodes spoke to:

Superintendents  
Remarks

- Leslie Mayo was an RU graduate and taught at Bulman for 12 years. We were fortunate to have Principal Stanley and the district Crisis Team available to work with the staff and students. Thanks to all who's time and efforts made a smooth transition for Leslie's students.
- Reminder that Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is May 6-12, 2007.
- The board will need to decide this evening to approve or end schools of choice. A formal vote is not required, however, I feel it is important that the board have an opportunity to share their thoughts and concerns through a vote.
- Thank you to the Redford Union Staff for their help with a family in need after a fire in their home.
- Congratulations to the Madrigal Chorale, Mad-Men and MadriGALS both taking first place at the Michigan School Vocal Music Association State Festival. Senior K. Hovey also took 1<sup>st</sup> place in the solo division. This is the first time all teams swept 1st place at the state level.
- Eighty-eight high school Advanced Biology and Health Occupations will visit the Detroit Science Center on Monday, April 23, 2007. This trip was made possible by a private donation.
- There were rumors that guns were brought to RUHS. Officer Lazell confirmed that the car was there to pick up the driver's sibling. The gentleman had purchased and airgun and a BB gun a half hour prior to the pick-up. This was verified with a receipt that stated the date and time of purchase. The police are looking into a township policy that may have been violated, however, this would not be a criminal charge. Officer Lazell's cell phone number was given to call if they ever need clarification. Superintendent's number was also given. Again, rumors are destructive; they not only hurt individuals, but also the district.

- Schools of Choice background information:
  - Reviewed a letter from the Office of the State Budget referring to the possibility of the school aid payment being reduced \$90-125 per pupil. The proration would affect the June, July and August school aid payment. Post cards will be sent home this week for community members to write their legislatures.
  - The student count process was explained.
  - Discussion of declining enrollment from 1998 to present.
  - 2006/2007 revenue vs. enrollment analysis was presented.
  - Deficit elimination plan as the district is now, and a “what if” column for 2007-2008.
  - J. Brenner reviewed enrollment information that he had put together.

MOVED by Isabell, seconded by Gubachy, to approve the agenda as amended. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Adoption of  
Agenda

H. Kick –A parent meeting was held on Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at Redford Union Public Library. To this he addressed:

Call to Audience

General feeling of those who communicated to them was not to allow Schools of Choice for the 07-08 school year (Not everyone felt that way). With these points in mind, we are asking the Board of Education not to allow new SOC students next year. We wish instead to ask the School Board to try to repair our system. 1) By recommending to the administration a district wide policy that helps to regain some control over our students both their conduct inside and out of the school building. This will help us build the confidence in the parents in the district as to which direction we are going. 2) By recommending to the administration to reduce the number of students in classrooms for the 07/08 year. We feel the current levels do not provide the beneficial learning environment to our children. Keeping these numbers the same or increasing them next year will not improve the situation. We feel these numbers also impact the disciplinary issues. 3) By recommending to the administration to install a curriculum that is the same for all students by grade level and that is stable and builds upon itself, provides some excitement and draw for our students (an AP vocational program). 4) By recommending to the administration to sell Roosevelt to help fund some of these requests through the next year. We feel these things will bring marketability to the Redford Union School educational system, assist us in attracting and maintaining a core student population within our district. It is our desire to attract permanent residents to the district, not just SOC. We understand that one of the responsibilities of the Board of Education is to provide an educational environment that is conducive to the growth and advancement of our children. Our children’s education and opportunities through grade twelve and beyond. We feel that today we still have a ways to go. We must try to stop the flight from our school district, not just by SOC. We are eagerly awaiting your insights, opinions and options on these matters. Just as we invited all Redford Union parents to participate in this ongoing effort to build this quality, marketable Redford Union School system, we now look to you to provide us with the leadership that we need and that our community deserves. This is going to be a continuing operation. Feel free to contact me any time.

MOVED by Brenner, seconded by Calvert, to waive and approve the reading of the March 12, 2007 regular and closed session meeting minutes and March 15, 2007 special meeting minutes of the Redford Union Board of Education, as presented. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Disposition of Minutes

Mike Taylor, Varsity Baseball Coach, presented a proposal to upgrade the baseball diamond and its surroundings at Redford Union High School using funds from the Hank Klotz Memorial Fund specifically allocated for Varsity baseball use. There will initially be two phases 1) The construction of two dugouts and a press box, 2) Construction of a brick-paved plaza behind the backstop.

Presentation

L. Gubachy asked that item X. a. 1. "School of Choice" be removed from the consent agenda.

Removal of Item from Consent Agenda

MOVED by Isabell, seconded by Calvert, to approve the Fiscal and Budgetary Services consent agenda item as presented. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Fiscal & Budgetary Services

a. Recommend payment of 52307, through 52599 with the exception of check numbers, 52336, 52338, 52343, 52351, 52379, 52386, 52472, 52481, 52502, 52503, 52504, 52515, 52518, 52528, 52529, 52576 and 52577, which were voided.

Disposition of Checks

MOVED by Brenner, seconded by Wujcik, to approve the Business and Operational Services consent agenda item as presented. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Business & Operational

a. Recommend approval of electronic transfers for the month of March 2007.

Elec Trans Mar '07

MOVED by Isabell, seconded by Caloia, to approve the Human Resource Services consent agenda items as presented. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Human Resources

a. Approve Childcare Leave for the following effective date as shown:  
• Catherine Heller, Social Worker/EDT effective 5/17/07 to the end of the year.

C. Heller

b. Approve Health Leave for the following, effective date as shown:  
• Cassandra Brown, Food Service, effective 3/19/07 to the end of the year.  
• Beverly Grezlik, HI Consultant, effective 4/2/07 to the end of the year.  
• Paul Honan, ROTC Program/RUHS, effective 3/19/7 through 4/6/07.

C. Brown  
B. Greslik  
P. Honan

c. Approve FMLA Leave for the following, effective date as shown.  
• Kevin Delpup, Teacher/Pearson, is requesting an FMLA Leave effective 5/18/07.

K. Delpup

d. Accept retirement letter from the following effective date as shown:  
• Ruth Ann Fifield, Spch & Lang Teacher/Day Treatment Program, effective 6/30/07.  
• Mary Bryan, Secretary/Central Office, effective July 1, 2007.  
• Fay Bellman, Custodian/MacGowan, effective June 30, 2007.

R. A. Fifield  
M. Bryan  
F. Bellman

e. Approve resignation for the following effective date as shown:

R. Kalis

- Rachel Kalis, Teacher/ Spch & Lang, effective 6/30/07.

h. Approve Tenure for the following effective date as shown:

E. August  
B. Sloma

- Ellen August, Teacher/EDT, effective 4/14/07.
- Brian Sloma, Teacher/RUHS, effective 9/1/05.

MOVED by Caloia, seconded by Wujcik, to approve the Educational Services consent items as presented. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Educational Services

a. Cancellation of MASC State Conference for RUHS Student Council Members. Date(s) of travel: 3/24-26/07.

Cancellation of MASC Conf.

b. Approve Outdoor Education Center trip for two groups of Bulman Elementary students (Walled Lake). Date(s) of trip: 6/4-6/07 and 6/6-8/07.

Bulman Outdoor Education Center Trip

MOVED by Calvert, seconded by Isabell, to approve the Board Administrative Services consent agenda item as presented. Ayes=5, Nays=1, Abstain=1. Motion carried.

Board-Admin Services

a. Approve resolution affirming support for legislative attention to funding shortfalls and cost containment legislation.

Resolution affirming shortfalls & cost containment

MOVED by Isabell, seconded by Calvert, to approve Schools of Choice, 105C as “limited” in grades 1-5 with 125 student openings, as removed from the consent agenda. Roll Call Vote: Brenner=Yes, Caloia=No, Calvert=Yes, Gubachy=No, Isabell=Yes, Pytel=Yes, Wujcik=No. Vote: Ayes=4, Nays=3. Motion carried.

Item Removed from Consent Agenda – Schools of Choice for 07-08

Secretary Gubachy read letter of retirement from Fay Bellman.

Board of Education Communications

Nothing at this time.

Superintendent’s Communication

Discussion and review of February’s Budgetary Control Report.

Review of Feb Budgetary Control Report

D. Miracle – Against Schools of Choice, we have developed a problem and now need to solve the problem. Glad it passed, the district cannot bail out in the middle of the plan.

Call to the Audience

L. Taylor – What percentage of the district is SOC (12%)? On the projections did you think about how many kids are going to leave because of this vote passing?

S. Pherson – Does not support SOC and share concerns. If the district supports SOC, this is what will make the schools work. One of the biggest problems we have with this district is that people are bad-mouthing the district. We are our own worst enemy. If we can support the changes that are made we can make a difference. The programs are here for the children.

D. French – Complimented the board and their dealings with serious issues.  
A. Szewczyk – Inquired about M. Bryan retirement letter. Request agenda.  
K. Merrill – Special education students being in the classroom is necessary.  
SOC worries that people will move out of the district. Need all parents involved in our schools.

MOVED by Gubachy, seconded by Isabel, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: all.  
Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Gubachy, Secretary  
Redford Union Board of Education