

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES -- BOARD OF EDUCATION
REDFORD UNION SCHOOLS, DISTRICT NO. 1
February 12, 2007

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A regular meeting of the Redford union Board of Education was held February 12, 2007, in the John C. Raeside Administration Building, 18499 Beech Daly Road, Redford Township, Michigan. Vice President Isabell called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Regular Meeting
2/12/07

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

Attendance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Pledge

Nothing at this time.

President's
Remarks

Superintendent Rhodes spoke to:

Superintendents
Remarks

- Recognized Barbara Christopherson and Sarah Daoust, from Bulman Elementary, for their work with Wayne RESA pm the Mathematics AYP: IEP Work Team.
- Governor Jennifer Granholm has proclaimed February 11-17, 2007 as Principals' Week. We don't always hear about principal's appreciation, this evening Kathy Robbins joins us. Superintendent personally thanked the principals for all they do for the district. Because of the challenges in Redford Union, they have worked extremely hard during the realignment of the elementary schools last year, as well as the welcoming activities in blending the parents and children in the new schools configurations. There are creative things happening in the high school that we are very excited about under the leadership of Karen Moran. As you know Mrs. Shelton and Mr. McGowan are always working toward bettering our Hilbert Middle School. Thanks to each of them and I ask you to do the same if you are in their buildings.

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

Adoption of
Agenda

Nothing at this time.

Call to Audience

MOVED by Caloia, seconded by Brenner, waive and approve the reading of the January 15, 2007 special, closed session, regular meeting minutes and January 22, 2007 special, closed session and work study session minutes of the Redford Union Board of Education, as presented. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Disposition of
Minutes

Nothing at this time.

Communications

A. Szewczyk, President and M. Cates, Vice President, presented the RUEA bargaining unit's deficit elimination suggestions;

Presentation

- Advertise inside school buses
- Hiring a grant writer/publicist/salary covered by grant

- Programs to bring other FTE’s to RU within one of the district’s vacant buildings;
 - Open alternative education to other districts.
 - Drug Recover Program / High School
 - Vocational Education
 - Performing Arts School
 - Traverse City’s Efforts (Montessori Program, Friday’s Lunch with Superintendent, etc.)
 - Auto Shop Revamping (electronic reader for vehicles, donations, auto detailing, etc.)
 - Recycling Bins for Paper (Abitibi)
 - Culinary Arts Program
- Eliminate: Athletic Calendar (Estimate savings of \$251.77)
High School Activity Calendar (\$1,116.28)
 - Coordinate a shopping spree for furniture and supplies at Roosevelt, after shopping spree, coordinate a “Garage Sale.”
 - District Thrift Sale

S. Smith and C. Styvenburg presented the RUEAA bargaining deficit elimination items;

- College Extension (Satellite Site) in one of the districts empty buildings.
- ADHOC Committee
- Grant Writers
- Advertise Inside School Buses
- ASE Legislation up for renewal
- Friends of education – who are these / call legislature
- Letter writing to legislature / send information to every resident

A. Wujcik asked that item “b.” of the Business and Operational Services be removed from the consent agenda.

Removal of Item from Consent Agenda

C. Calvert excused herself from the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Board Member excused from meeting

MOVED by Brenner, seconded by Gubachy, to approve the Fiscal and Budgetary Services consent agenda items as presented. Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Fiscal & Budgetary Services

a. Recommend payment of 51806 through 52037 with the exception of check numbers, 51883, 51890, 51892, 51899, 51915, 51925, 51930, 51945, 51946, 51969, 51999, 52000 and 52009, which were voided.

Disposition of Checks

MOVED by Gubachy, seconded by Caloia, 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 January 2007.

Elec Trans Jan ‘07

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

Human Resources

- a. Approve the following new hires effective date as shown:
 - April Swanson – Special Education Teacher/Hilbert effective 1/30/07. A. Swanson
 - Rachel Ferguson - Reading Skills Class/Hilbert effective 1/29/07. R. Ferguson
- b. Approve Childcare Leave for the following effective date as shown:
 - Terri Turner – Teacher/Stuckey effective 1/24/07. T. Turner
- c. Approve Health Leave for the following, effective date as shown:
 - Katherine Barba, Bus Driver, effective 2/13/07. K. Barba
 - Debra Mullen, Behavioral Specialist/EDT effective 2/15/07. D. Mullen
- d. Approve FMLA Leave for the following, effective date as shown.
 - Kelly Abraham, Teacher/MacGowan effective 3/16/07. K. Abraham
- e. Approve layoff for second semester effective January 29, 2007.
 - April McPherson, Pearson, Teacher. A. McPherson
- f. Accept resignations for the following effective date as shown:
 - Carla Highe, Bus Aide effective 2/16/07. C. Highe
- g. Approve termination for the following effective date as shown:
 - Dawn Lehr, Educational Assistant/EDT effective 2/13/07. D. Lehr

Nothing at this time. Educational Services

MOVED by Gubachy, seconded by Caloia, to approve the Board-Administrative Services consent item as presented. Ayes: all. Motion carried. Board-Admin Services

- a. Approve second reading of revisions to policy #1030 School Board Membership and Term of Office. Policy #1030

MOVED by Gubachy, seconded by Brenner, to approve the Business and Operational Services agenda item as removed from the consent agenda. Ayes: all. Motion carried. Item Removed from Consent Agenda

- b. Approve “parameter resolution” to seek necessary approvals from the Department of Treasury and to authorize the prospective underwriter, UBS Securities LLC, to “test” the municipal market to sell the school district’s refunding bonds. Resolution to test refunding bond market

Treasurer Brenner mentioned the Board Compensation check distribution will need to be changed from the June date to a December date. This change is due to the change in School Board Election. Board of Education Communications

D. Rhodes responded to the items presented on behalf of the MEA by President, S. Losey at the January 22, 2007 Work Study Session. Superintendent’s Communication

1. Statement: Act 18 Funds

- Center base programs that the county pays for
- Place most senior people in these positions
- Bargaining agreement allows for this

Findings:

- Review Special Education Staff Cost Distribution listings.
- These positions, as all positions in the district, will be reviewed for the 07-08 Deficit Elimination Plan

2. Statement: Athletic Director/Assistant

- How can the district pay for this position as an administrator
- Athletic Director Stipend
- Is an Assistant necessary

Findings:

- Does not receive a Phys. Ed. Chair Stipend
- Does receive a Varsity Basketball Coach Stipend
- These positions, as all positions in the district, will be reviewed for the 07-08 Deficit Elimination Plan

3. Statement: Co-Teaching Program

- Placement of 2 teachers in a classroom
- Children need to be serviced
- Do not see that it is successful @ the high school
- Create a method to running the program
- IDEA Federal Law

Findings:

- Less restrictive environment
- MEAP improvements at Hilbert
- Acknowledge that special education teachers do not always have expertise in the content area they are assigned to
- Continue to work on professional development with all staff regarding co-teaching

4. Statement: Consultant

- 2 Psychologist outside / 1 inside

Findings:

- 1 psychiatrist – General education
- 2 psychiatrists – Special education (Day Treatment)
- 1 Psychologist – Hearing impaired
- 3 Psychologists – Part time – General education and district special education
- 1 Staff Psychologist – Supervised by Dr. Bebe while renewing license
- 1 Staff member will qualified to do assessments in May 2008
- These positions, as all positions in the district, will be reviewed for the 07-08 Deficit Elimination Plan

5. Statement: EDT Program Expansion

- Serves 6 districts as designated by Wayne RESA (Northville, Plymouth Canton, Livonia, Garden City, South Redford and Redford Union)
- Paid by Act 18

Findings:

- Students are enrolled regularly
- Cannot service more than our catchments area
- Students come on a referral basis
- Legal limit of 10 students per classroom with one teacher and one assistant
- Required to have behavior specialists and social workers

6. Statement: Green Schools

- Running water
- Lights
- Insulation

Findings:

- Finance & Buildings and Grounds Focus groups had addressed these
- To have a company come in and address these issues would be costly
- Simple things can be done; no coffee mug warmers, no small refrigerators, etc.
- Begin to replace constant running urinals as the district can afford to do so

7. Statement: Health Care Advisory Committee

- Prescription Program

Findings:

- 1/26/07 - Mandatory discussion with district employees on ways to keep prescription and “after hours” costs to a minimum.
- Ongoing process to decrease costs

8. Statement: Retired Teachers

- Bring them back to work not having to pay FICA and retirement
- Based on a state level proposal using retired teachers as substitutes in emergency areas

Findings:

- December 18, 2006 letter from Department of Education regarding 2007-06 Teacher Deferment and Employment of Retirants in teacher shortage areas
- Three proposals have been sent to Speaker Any Dillon’s office for review to be incorporated with the letter from the Department of Education.
- Speaker Dillon informed S. Losey that it would be 6-8 months before he could Consider this plan

9. Statement: Fifth Year Senior

- College credit
- Is there classroom seating available for these students

Findings:

- The district will continue to support Fifth Year Seniors and encourage them to participate in the “dual enrollment” process.
- Department of Education has sent dual enrollment criteria for fifth-year high school pupils.

10. Statement: Auto Shop

- Rebuild this program
- Community get Blue Book Value

Findings:

- Program is in need of being re-designed to utilize space and materials that are currently available and to develop new programs and funding to meet vocational standards.
- This position, as all positions in the district, will be reviewed for the 07-08 DEP

Speaker A. Dillon spoke to:

- State budget no better than the school district.
- School aide and general fund both short about \$400 million
- No magic in Lansing
- Setting up five work groups, one focusing on education and new solutions
- Surplus buildings
- Grant writers on staff that the district could use
- Coffee with the Speaker every second Monday of the month 8:30 a.m. @ Frank’s Diner, located on Plymouth road, just east of Beach Daly
- Thanked the Board Members for serving the district

W. Pelligran – Auto Shop, Pop machines at RUHS (can drive to help fund the Auto Shop). Letter out to people letting them know what the district is doing, she would be willing to distribute letters throughout the community. Help with grant writing.

H. Kick – Grant writing is difficult. Parental involvement is important. Reports show When parents are involved, the students do better. Track volunteers that help.

(Need for student/parent/staff/administrative involvement). Get MEAP scores up.

Use Community Bulletin Board. Let’s start something to move forward.

A. Szewczyk – Governor’s speech she mentioned that she would like to start a partnership between five high schools in the state participating in a nursing program next year.

Call to the Audience

How can we get Redford Union High School on this list? Could be a way to bring FTE's into the district. Vice President, P. Isabell, thanked the students in the audience for staying for the entire meeting.

MOVED by Caloia, seconded by Gubachy, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: all. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Gubachy, Secretary
Redford Union Board of Education