MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MACOMB C.U.S.D. #185
FEBRUARY 24, 2014

Board President Matt Bierman called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 7:03 p.m. Roll was taken with the following members present: Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Member Kiah was absent.

The following individuals addressed the Board on behalf of the band program:
- Mr. Scott Coker, 16135 N. 1050th Road - Macomb
- Dr. Matt Thomas, 614 South Randolph Street – Macomb
- Jeanette Moon, 17390 N. 1300th Road – Macomb

The Board recognized the following students:
- Alema Stone - Senior of the Month for the month of January.
- Vivian Li, Michelle Liu, Jamie Duncan, Grace Merrett, Owen Huff, Andrew McGowan, Will Bosworth, Lauren Knicl, Nick Johnson, Vince Mahr, Daniel Bartlett, and Will Inman – IMEA All State Festival participants.
- Alex Dranes, Maya Sadler-Stovall, and Emma Wohlstädter – State Cross Country.

Member La Prad discussed his concerns about the time, energy and money invested by the District, students and parents in the standardized testing programs and expressed reservations regarding the new PAARC assessment and PERA evaluation system.

Mr. Bierman reminded the Board that the IASB Western Division Dinner meeting is scheduled for March 25. He also advised that he and Dr. Sutton submitted proposals for presentations at the Joint Annual Conference in November.

Dr. Twomey shared highlights of the AASA National Conference on Education. He attended sessions on what makes effective school teams, the evolution from implementing 1-1 technology to being textbook free, discussing the issue of race, the power and impact of social media use on society and its institutions, and the positive impact on communities and organizations of moving from a “me” to a “we” philosophy. Dr. Twomey discussed how the information provided at each session could be implemented in the district.

Member La Prad moved, and member Thompson seconded, to approve the items on the Consent Calendar as presented, which included: Minutes from the January 27, 2014 regular Board meeting; Treasurer’s Report; Monthly Board Report; Bills & Payroll; Financial Update on Life Safety Projects (.05 levy); Financial Update on Life Safety Projects (all buildings); Activity Account Reports; Food Service Report; and, State Funding Update. Members voting “yes”: Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Sutton moved, and member La Prad seconded, to approve minutes from the closed meeting held during the January 27, 2014 regular Board meeting. Members voting “yes”: Myers, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Member Adams abstained. Motion carried.
Member Thompson moved, and member La Prad seconded, to approve personnel recommendations as presented:

**Certificated:**
- **Request for Leave:**
  - Mindy Frier, Grade 5 Teacher, Edison Elementary School, request for extension, leave to begin January 21, 2014.
  - Karigan Spalding, School Counselor, Edison Elementary School, request for extension, leave to begin January 3, 2014.

**Educational Support Staff:**
- **Resignation:**
  - Marsha Wetmore, Program Assistant, Macomb Senior High School, effective January 6, 2014.
- **Change in Assignment:**
  - Jenifer Bower, from Custodian, Administrative Service Center, to Custodian, Edison Elementary School, effective December 27, 2013.
  - Robert Schnarr, from Custodian, Edison Elementary School, to Custodian, Macomb Junior Senior High School, effective December 27, 2013.
  - Tanna Swanson, from Custodian, Macomb Junior Senior High School, to Custodian, Lincoln Elementary School, effective December 27, 2013.

**Employment:**
- Lisa Allen, Program Assistant, Macomb Junior Senior High School, 29 hours per week, effective January 8, 2014 (replaces West).

**Co-Curricular:**
- **Employment:**
  - Tyler Taylor, Assistant Track Coach, Macomb Junior High School, effective 2013-2014 season.

Members voting “yes”: Myers, Adam, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Sutton moved, and member Myers seconded, to release for public inspection minutes from closed meetings held on August 28 and October 28, 2013, and to continue to hold minutes from closed meetings held on July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 7, November 18, and November 25, 2013. Members voting “yes”: Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Thompson moved, and member La Prad seconded, to destroy audio recordings from closed meetings held on February 20 (8:29 p.m.), April 16, May 21, and June 12, 2012, and to continue to hold audio recordings from meetings held on January 16, February 20 (7:07 p.m.), March 19, and June 18, 2012. Members voting “yes”: Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Dr. Sutton reported on the Board Finance Committee’s February 5 and 18 meetings. The meeting discussions focused on the proposed policy regarding donations of programs/funds for programs to the District and cost containment for FY ’15. The committee worked with projection models for the budget based on current figures and various levels of expenditure reduction, and then charged Dr. Twomey to draft a cost containment plan.
Mr. Bierman advised those in attendance that Dr. Twomey would present the cost containment plan, the Board would discuss the plan, but not take action until the March meeting to allow time for the public to respond. He stated that based on comments and conversations over the course of the month, the proposal could be a little or a lot different by March, when the Board will vote on the way it will cut $500,000 from the budget in FY ’15.

Dr. Twomey began presentation of the cost containment plan by acknowledging the input from administrators, teachers and the community through individual and group conversations, as well as the community forums held in the fall. He emphasized that he tried to create a list of cost cutting options that would have the least amount of impact on the District and classrooms. Dr. Twomey shared the assumptions included in the model – an 89% GSA level and a .5% pension shift cost. With a $500,000 reduction in the budget, the Education Fund balance is projected to grow from $15 million to $17.5 million by 2019. The $500,000 cost containment is comprised of attrition, program reductions, revenue enhancements and savings, as follows:

- **Attrition**
  - Early Childhood Special Education position (retirement) - $80,000
  - 3rd Grade Teaching position (retirement) – $75,000
  - Custodial position (retirement) - $64,000
  - Library Aide – hired part time instead of full time - $20,000
  - MSHS Special Education positions (three retirements – replacing two) - $85,000
  - P.E./Health/Drivers’ Ed position (retirement) – $75,000

- **Reduction of Programs**
  - Eliminate Jr. High football program - $10,000
  - MSHS Musical – eliminate three stipend positions - $1800
  - Eliminate MSHS Marching Band Assistant position - $2800

- **Revenue Enhancements**
  - Allow 2 fund raisers/club - $10,000
  - Field/Court sponsorship – 8 fields/courts @ $2500 per - $20,000
  - NCLB professional development waiver - $35,000/year savings
  - Technology Fee - $15/student - $20,000
  - Drivers’ Ed Fee increase - $125/student - $6250

Dr. Twomey thanked all who participated in and contributed to the process of identifying ways to reach the $500,000 budget reduction. Mr. Bierman reiterated the Board would welcome feedback prior to the March 17 meeting.

Member Kiah arrived at 7:58 p.m.

Member Thompson reported on the February 6 Board Policy Committee meeting. The committee reviewed suggested revisions to Board policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits, and discussed the newly proposed policy regarding donations of programs/funds for programs to the district. Member Myers noted that updates to policies regarding teen dating violence, new gun laws, and reporting sexual/child abuse were included in the review. The Board conducted first reading of proposed changes to the following policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits:

- 2:20-E
- 5:90
- 5:200
- 6:310
- 8:30
- 3:60
- 5:100
- 6:60
- 7:185
- 8:80
- 4:100
- 5:120
- 6:60-AP
- 7:185-E
- 4:170-AP1,E5
- 5:120-AP2
- 6:250
- 7:190-AP1
- 5:50
- 5:120-E
- 6:250-E
- 7:280-AP
Member Sutton moved, and member Thompson seconded, to accept the first reading of the above listed policies. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Sutton reported on the February 11 Board Strategic Plan Committee meeting. The committee is reviewing the strategic plan one goal at a time and plans to make recommendations for changes to the plan for the 2014-2015 school year.

Member Thompson moved, and member La Prad seconded, to approve waiver of the following legal holidays: Columbus Day, Veterans’ Day, Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday, Lincoln’s Birthday, and Casimir Pulaski Day, per 105 ILCS 5/24-2(b). Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Adams moved, and member Myers seconded, to approve Fire & Life Safety amendments in the amount of $599,515.20 for work to be done at Edison, Macomb Jr./Sr. High School, the Field House, and Washington Street Gym during the summer of 2014. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Mr. Bierman announced the date of the next regular Board meeting: Monday, March 17, 2014. He advised that following the closed meeting the Board would return to open session and take action on agenda item 13.

At 8:10 p.m., member Myers moved, and member Sutton seconded, to hold a closed meeting for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), collective negotiating matters, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), student discipline, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9), the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10), and pending or imminent litigation, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11). Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Adams, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

The Board returned to open session at 11:46 p.m.

Member Sutton moved, and member Myers seconded, to waive the requirements of policy 6:300 with regard to student 003:1314, as discussed and reflected in minutes from the closed meeting held during the February 24, 2014, regular meeting. Members voting “yes”: Kiah, Myers, Sutton, Bierman, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: Adams. Motion carried.

Member La Prad moved, and member Kiah seconded, to adjourn at 11:48 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.