MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MACOMB C.U.S.D. #185
NOVEMBER 16, 2020
7:00 P.M.

Board President Jill Myers called the meeting to order in the C.T. Vivian Library at Macomb Jr./Sr. High School. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll was taken with the following members present: Kapale (via MS Teams), Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson (via MS Teams), and La Prad.

The Board recognized Grace Murphy for being selected Senior of the Month for the month of November.

Ms. Myers shared school board election information and noted the December regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, December 14. Member Adams advised the IASB delegate assembly, held November 14, generated 8 resolutions, 3 reaffirmations, and one position statement. All are available for review on the IASB website. Member La Prad congratulated the boys’ cross country team for their 4th place finish at sectionals and for being invited to an unofficial State meet, where Stan Melkumian placed 21st overall.

Dr. Twomey provided information on the following issues:

- Construction Report:
  - Middle School – a pre-bid meeting is scheduled for November 18 in the MHS Commons.
- Fast Track Grant – update on status of investigation into why the District’s grant application was not funded. Attorneys will send one final letter so the District is in a good position if other opportunities come up. Short of filing suit against the state, there is not much else to be done.
- District Update – Last attendance days for hybrid students will be November 14 and 15; November 17 and 18 will be used for planning, and a fully remote schedule will begin Monday, November 30 and run through January 18, 2021. Increases in local and regional positivity rates, hospital utilization rates, and hospital capacity rate are the reasons for the decision. The District has done well so far controlling numbers, but these increases dictate the best choice is to move to fully remote instruction.
- FOIA Requests:
  - LocalLabs requested guest speaker contracts for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.
  - Don Adams, Municipal & Scholastic Placements, requested a copy of the current package insurance policy, including liability, casualty, and workmen’s compensation coverage.
  - The Markup requested records related to Activtrak software.
  - SmartProcure requested purchase order and vendor information for the period beginning 07/17/20.

Member Adams moved, and member Gray seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar, which included: Minutes from the November 16, 2020 regular Board meeting, Treasurer’s Report, Monthly Board Report, Bills and Payroll, Financial Update on Life Safety Projects (.05 levy), Monthly Activity Account Reports, Monthly Food Service Report, State Funding Update, and WCISEC Personnel and

Member La Prad moved, and member Torrance seconded, to approve and hold indefinitely the minutes from the closed meeting held during the November 16, 2020 regular Board meeting. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Gray moved, and member Adams seconded, to approve the following recommendations regarding personnel:

Certificated Staff:

Request for Leave:
- Teresa Brewer, Custodian, Lincoln Elementary School, request intermittent leave to begin September 3, 2020, and extend for 12 weeks.
- Samantha Cameron, Physical Education Teacher, request intermittent leave to begin November 23, 2020, and extend through December 16, 2020.
- Anna Hanold, Reading Teacher, Lincoln Elementary School, request leave to begin October 16, 2020, and extend through January 1, 2021.
- Shawn Hanold, Grade 2 Teacher, Lincoln Elementary School, request intermittent leave to begin October 15, 2020, and extend through December 4, 2020.
- Brittany Thompson, Special Education Teacher, request leave to begin December 11, 2020, and extend through February 19, 2021.

Educational Support Staff:

Change in Assignment:
- Hayden Douglas, was Program Assistant, Macomb Senior High School, student attendance days, now Grounds/Maintenance Helper, Macomb School District, 12 months per year, effective November 23, 2020 (Roberts).

Employment:
- Madelyn Stambaugh, Program Assistant, Edison Elementary School, up to 29 hours per week, student attendance days only, effective November 2, 2020 (D. Brown).

Co-Curricular:

Resignation:

Employment:
- Megan Bainter, Dance Team Co-Sponsor, Macomb Senior High School, shared stipend, Level 3, effective November 16, 2020.
- Skyler Cagle, Dance Team Co-Sponsor, Macomb Senior High School, shared stipend, Level 3, effective November 16, 2020.

Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Members La Prad and Myers reported on the October 19 Board Policy Committee meeting. They noted most proposed changes were tied to changes in Title IX law and thanked the administrative team for their work reviewing and modifying policies as necessary. First reading was conducted on proposed changes to the following Board policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits:
Second reading and consideration of approval will take place at the December regular meeting.

Members Gray and Torrance, representatives to the District Insurance Committee, reported on that committee’s October 27 meeting. Member Gray advised there has been good progress on the plan’s loss ratio, from 130% last year to 90.1% so far this year. Plan data on COVID related services showed 35 individuals received services, 50 services were provided, and the plan payed out $4,053.00. The committee also discussed EAP services and the upcoming open enrollment.

Dr. Twomey advised the Board that District social workers submitted a proposal to have professionals from the community do short 1-2 minute videos giving mental health/health tips. The videos would be sent out to families across the district.

Member Myers moved, and member Gray seconded, to approve a resolution abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2020 to pay debt service on the General Obligation Bonds (Alternative Revenue Source), Series 2020, of the District. Dr. Twomey explained the resolution directs the County Clerk not to put that bond amount on the tax rolls The District will use proceeds from the 1-cent sales tax to pay the bond, rather than passing it on to the tax payers through the levy. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Dr. Twomey presented the proposed 2020 levy, providing an overview of the levy process. He emphasized the levy is a request for tax dollars, but the requested amount is not what the District will receive due to PTELL. The most the District can get is CPI or 3%, whichever is less. Although the levy shows an amount of $17,218,236, the District will likely receive closer to $16.9 million. Member Gray moved, and member Adams seconded, to authorize the administration to put the levy on display in preparation for adoption at the December 14, 2020 regular Board meeting. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the proposal for Board legal, liability, workmen’s compensation, cyberliability, and package insurance provided by Unland Insurance. Member Thompson requested confirmation that the property figure accounts for the new construction and suggested asking for a quote on a higher limit on Employment Practices Liability Insurance. Dr. Twomey recommended approval of the quote as presented, with the option to amend if necessary. Member Torrance moved, and member Kapale seconded, to approve the proposal in the amount of $191,210. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Board President Myers advised the next two agenda items regarding leaving the West Central Conference and joining the Prairieland Conference, would be taken together. Member Thompson
moved, and member Kapale seconded, to withdraw from the West Central Conference, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year, and to accept the invitation to join the Prairieland Conference, effective with the 2021-2022 school year. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

At 8:15 p.m., member La Prad moved, and member Torrance 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), the purchase or lease of real property, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5), student discipline, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9), and pending or imminent litigation, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11). Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, and La Prad. Member Thompson was unavailable for the vote. Motion carried.

The Board returned to open session at 9:05 p.m.

Member Torrance moved, and member La Prad seconded, to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote.

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President

__________________________________________  
Date

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Secretary