MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MACOMB C.U.S.D. #185
JANUARY 25, 2021
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, Gray, Adams, Torrance (via MS Teams), Myers (via MS Teams), Thompson (via MS Teams), and La Prad.

No members of the public called in to address the Board.

The Board recognized Atoa Stone for being chosen Senior of the Month for the month of February.

Ms. Myers noted the next meeting of the Board would be held Monday, February 22, 2021.

Dr. Twomey reported on the following:

- **Middle School Update:** first pre-construction meeting has taken place and there will be weekly progress meetings as the project moves forward. Plans for the groundbreaking ceremony are underway. Options for the design on the gym walls will be reviewed and chosen by a committee comprised of a 6th grade student, a parent, a community member from the neighborhood, and the junior high art teacher.
- **District Update:** the District moved back to the A/B schedule January 19. A group of students expressed concern about the new online schedule and it was determined students need more social interactions with friends since they are split into A/B groups. The student group is coming up with ideas for social interaction opportunities. The District could cover the cost of the activities if reasonable. Member La Prad thanked Dr. Twomey and Mr. Sullivan for providing the opportunity for the students to be heard.
- **Vaccines:** a survey of District employees indicated close to 71% would take the vaccine if offered. First shots were administered January 18 and 21. We still have 32 who have not received their first shot. Administration of second shots will be in three weeks. Member La Prad commended the health department for doing a great job rolling out the vaccine.
- **Bond Issue** – the Board approved a $17 million bond issue in 2020, but only $9.5 million was issued. Members will be asked to give authorization for the issuance of the remaining $7.5 million later in the meeting. The paperwork and public hearing held on the initial amount applies to the remaining balance.
- **FOIA Requests:** Local labs request for data on elected officials.
- **Out of State Athletics** – Dr. Twomey addressed the issue of athletes who have been playing in out-of-state leagues and the requirements for return to regular play. He advised his number one priority is the safety of all the students and requiring those who have been playing in out-of-state leagues to stop league play immediately and sit out 10 days or show a negative COVID test result is part of that effort.

Member Adams moved, and member Gray seconded, to approve the items on the Consent Calendar as listed: Minutes from the December 14, 2020 regular Board meeting, Treasurer’s Report, Monthly

Member La Prad moved, and member Adams seconded, to approve and hold indefinitely the minutes from the closed meeting held during 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.

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

Certificated Staff:
Retirement:
   Joel Hildenbrand, Biology Teacher, Macomb Senior High School, requesting retirement under the 2020-2024 contract, Article IX, Section A., Payment Upon Retirement Notification, effective end of the 2024-2025 school year.
Employment:
   Brandi Patton, Math and Exploratory Teacher, Macomb Junior High School, to be placed at Step 10, Bachelor Degree with 24 additional hours, on the salary schedule, effective January 19, 2021 (replaces Melvin transfer).

Educational Support Staff:
Request for Leave:
   Sally Mohamed, Program Assistant, MacArthur Early Childhood Center, request for unpaid leave January 14, 2021, through February 12, 2021.
Resignation:
   Lura Kreuger, Program Assistant, Edison Elementary School, effective January 22, 2021.
   Sarah Lambert, Program Assistant, Edison Elementary School, effective January 22, 2021.
   Trenna McKelvey, Custodian, Macomb School District, effective January 8, 2021.
Employment:
   Blaire Litchfield, Program Assistant, Edison Elementary School, up to 29 hours per week, effective January 25, 2021.

Co-Curricular:
   Emily Platt, Division Chairperson, Macomb Senior High School, Level 1, effective school year 2021-2022.

Volunteer:

Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.
Mr. Scott Torrance and Mr. Steve Gray, members of the Board Finance Committee, reported on the proposed issuance of the $7.5 million remainder of the $17 million bond issue. They recommended proceeding with the issuance of the $7.5 million and continuing with the term of 19 years to secure a lower interest rate.

Member Gray moved, and member Kapale seconded, to authorize the superintendent to proceed with the issuance of $7.5 million in general obligation bonds. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Adams moved, and member La Prad seconded, to approve Fire & Life Safety Amendment #43 in the amount of $441,000 for repair of bleachers and replacement of the Dectron unit that controls heating, cooling and humidity in the pool area at Macomb Jr./Sr. High School. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Kapale moved, and member La Prad seconded, to approve Fire & Life Safety Amendment #9 in the amount of $48,000 for replacement of roof drains and removal of ACM wrap at Grant School. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Myers moved, and member Kapale seconded, to approve the change in plumbing subcontractor for the middle school construction project from Stoops Plumbing to Crawford Company. Dr. Twomey advised Hein Company, the contractor for the project, provided documentation confirming Crawford Company was the low bidder for the plumbing work, but that Stoops Plumbing was mistakenly entered on the final bid documents. There will be no cost consequence to the District and no change in terms of the contract delivery. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Dr. Twomey presented the proposed 2021-2022 calendar for review. New on this calendar is a School Improvement Day every month for a total of eight SIP days instead of six. The purpose of the SIP days is two-fold: to continue the professional collaboration traditionally done on SIP days, and to maintain and hone the skill of delivering/receiving online instruction. The exact structure of the days is still under discussion. Member Gray moved, and member Kapale seconded, to approve the proposed 2021-2022 calendar. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

Member Myers moved, and member Kapale seconded, to approve the resolution temporarily transferring the powers of the Board to the Superintendent. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Certified Annual Financial Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. Dr. Twomey advised the report contained nothing that concerned him and noted the District’s net position has increased every year for the past eight years. Member La Prad moved, and member Gray seconded, to accept the CAFR for year ending June 30, 2020. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Motion carried.
Member Adams moved, and member Kapale seconded, to authorize the administration to prepare a budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022. Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

At 8:07 p.m., member La Prad moved, and member Adams 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), and to conduct the semi-annual review of minutes and audio recordings from closed meetings, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21). Members voting “yes”: Kapale, Gray, Adams, Torrance, Myers, Thompson, and La Prad. Members voting “no”: none. Motion carried.

The Board returned to open session at 9:13 p.m. Member Kapale moved, and member Myers seconded, to adjourn at 9:14 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

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President

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Date

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Secretary