

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE
CITY OF HAZEL PARK
COUNTY OF OAKLAND AND STATE OF MICHIGAN
REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Hazel Park Board of Education was held at the Ford School Administration Office on July 14, 2014, and was called to order by President Nagy at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Nagy, Polowski, C. Hemple, Hammonds, S. Hemple
Members Absent: Cook, LaForme
Others Present: André, Barlow, Berger, Mayo, Meisinger, Stefanski, Watripont, Paterson

The Invocation was delivered by Mr. James Meisinger, Superintendent, and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Mr. Hemple, supported by Mrs. Hemple, that the Agenda be approved with the following addition:

Under “New Business” – Add to Item #8 - Closed Session – consider Attorney Client Communication which is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Section 8(h) of the Open Meeting Act

Discussion

None

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: C. Hemple, S. Hemple, Polowski, Hammonds, Nagy

Nays: None

AUDIT OF THE BILLS

Moved by Mr. Hemple, supported by Mrs. Hammonds, that the Bills dated July 8, 2014, be approved as follows: Capital Projects Funds – \$200,499.45; Debt Service Funds – \$23,400.00; Special Revenue Funds – \$43,092.37; General Fund – \$1,137,746.87; Total Expenditures – \$1,404,738.87.

Discussion

None

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: C. Hemple, Hammonds, Polowski, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes – to be approved as written
 - a) June 9, 2014, Budget Hearing
 - b) June 9, 2014, Regular Meeting and Closed Session

2. Resignations – to be received and filed
 - a) **Mary Tobkin** - Informs the Board of Education her intention to resign
Great Start effective June 4, 2014.
Readiness Program
Teacher

3. Conference Reports – to be received and filed
 - a) **Jerry Carroll**, Teacher at Webb Elementary School, attended the “Readers’ Workshop” conference on September 25, October 23, November 20, December 18, 2013, January 29, and March 26, 2014, at Oakland ISD. (Conference report submitted - Title 2, Part A funds)

 - b) **Amber Delisi**, Teacher at Webster Elementary School, attended the “Writing Units of Study – First Grade Study Group” conference on July 31, August 5 – 6, October 15, November 21, December 11, 2013, February 6, and June 3, 2014, at Oakland ISD. (Conference report submitted - Title 2, Part A funds)

 - c) **Amber Delisi**, Teacher at Webster Elementary School, attended the “Writing and Assessment” conference on June 4, 2014, at Webster Elementary School. (Conference report submitted - Title 2, Part A funds)

 - d) **Debra Dimas**, Teacher at Webster Elementary School, attended the “K – 2 CCSS/Maisa Writing Units Study Group” conference on July 31, August 5 – 6, October 15, November 21, December 11, 2013, February 6, and April 3, 2014, at Oakland ISD. (Conference report submitted - Title 2, Part A funds)

 - e) **Debra Dimas**, Teacher at Webster Elementary School, attended the “Science Writing Pilot” conference on April 1, and May 29, 2014, at Oakland ISD. (Conference report submitted - Title 2, Part A funds)

 - f) **Debra Dimas**, Teacher at Webster Elementary School, attended the “Closing the Achievement Gap” conference on April 29, 2014, at Oakland ISD. (Conference report submitted - Title 2, Part A funds)

- g) **Debra Dimas**, Teacher at Webster Elementary School, attended the “Writing with Sandy Biondo” conference on June 6, 2014, at Webster Elementary School. (Conference report submitted - Title 2, Part A funds)
- h) **Debra Edwards**, Paraprofessional at Webb Elementary School, attended the “High Scope International” conference on May 7 – 9, 2014, in Ypsilanti. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- i) **Esther Faber**, Social Worker at Edison M.A.X., attended the “Personality Disorders” conference on May 22, 2014, at Best Western. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- j) **Dawn Gafa-Davis**, Teacher at Hazel Park High School, attended the “EPI Performance Referent Group” conference on May 13 – 14, 2014, in Lansing. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- k) **Jessica Geiche**, Great Start Readiness Teacher at Webster Elementary School, attended the “High Scope International” conference on May 7 – 9, 2014, in Ypsilanti. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- l) **Colleen Gubow**, Great Start Readiness Teacher at Webb Elementary School, attended the “High Scope International” conference on May 7 – 9, 2014, in Ypsilanti. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- m) **Dwana Jezierski**, Paraprofessional at Webster Elementary School, attended the “High Scope International” conference on May 7 – 9, 2014, in Ypsilanti. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- n) **Janet Langtry**, Counselor at Hazel Park Junior High School, attended the “Teens, the World They Live In” conference on May 22, 2014, at Perspectives. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- o) **Corri Nastasi**, Teacher at Hoover Elementary School, attended the “Oakland Schools Literacy Consortium” conference on November 15, 2013 and February 13, 2014, at Gratiot-Isabella RESD. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- p) **Corri Nastasi**, Teacher at Hoover Elementary School, attended the “SIT Meetings / Work Session” conference on February 26, March 20, April 24, May 22, and June 5 2014, at Hazel Park Schools Administration Building. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- q) **Corri Nastasi**, Teacher at Hoover Elementary School, attended the “Maisa ELA Model Curriculum Trainings” conference on March 5, April 17, and May 15, 2014, at Gratiot-Isabella RESD. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- r) **Corri Nastasi**, Teacher at Hoover Elementary School, attended the “Making Readers and Writers Workshop Work for You” conference on April 25, 2014, at Hoover Elementary School. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)

- s) **Corri Nastasi**, Teacher at Hoover Elementary School, attended the “Closing the Achievement Gap” conference on April 29, 2014, Hazel Park Schools Administration Building. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- t) **Mary Pirkola**, Great Start Readiness Program Supervisor, attended the “Intensive Interventions for Addressing Challenging Behavior in Early Childhood Classrooms” conference on February 25 and March 4, 2014, at Oakland ISD. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- u) **Mary Pirkola**, Great Start Readiness Program Supervisor, attended the “High Scope International Conference” on May 7 – 9, 2014, in Ypsilanti. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- v) **Pamela Sparks**, Teacher at Hazel Park High School, attended the “OAA Science Department Meeting” conference on May 15, 2014, at Rochester Schools Administration Office. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- w) **Mary Tobkin**, Teacher at Hoover Elementary School, attended the “High Scope International” conference on May 7 – 9, 2014, in Ypsilanti. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)
- x) **Karen Tylenda**, Psychologist at Hazel Park Junior High School and Webster Elementary School, attended the “Consultation Services Challenges and Opportunities for School Psychologist” conference on May 30, 2014, at MISD. (Conference report submitted – Title 2, Part A funds)

Moved by Mr. Hemple, supported by Mrs. Polowski, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: C. Hemple, Polowski, Hammonds, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - (Limited to items listed under “Unfinished Business” and “New Business”)

No Participants

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Non-Homestead Property Tax

Mr. Steven Watripont, Director of Business Services, introduced James Crowley, with Clark Hill. Mr. Watripont stated that the Non-Homestead Property Tax proposal will be on the August ballot. If approved the 18 mills will be levied in December.

Discussion

Mr. Ricky Nagy, Board President, asked if this proposal was formerly voted on in the May elections. Mr. Watriont confirmed that in previous years this proposal would be on the May ballot, however, there were additional issues with the proposal since it has not been voted on in ten years. Going forward, the proposal will be on the November ballot the year before it expires.

Mrs. Sue Hemple, Board Trustee, asked if all the taxes will be collected for the summer or winter. Mr. Watriont stated the taxes will be collected for the year; there will be a larger winter tax for the non-homestead property.

Mr. James Paterson, Board Counsel, asked if the District has spoken with Oakland County regarding this matter. Mr. Watriont confirmed that he spoke with the county and they instructed him to submit a revised L-4029 after the proposal is approved in August.

Mr. Charles Hemple, Board Secretary, inquired about the date the Non-Homestead Property Tax Proposal expired. Mr. Watriont confirmed that the proposal expired in June. Going forward the Non-Homestead Property Tax Proposal will be on a seven-year cycle. The next time it will be on the ballot is November 2020.

Mr. James Crowley, Clark Hill Attorney, stated that in the past, the District has elected to collect the non-homestead property tax early. Under the statute providing the Non-Homestead Property Tax Proposal has passed and the District submits the revised L-4029 before September 30, the county has an obligation to collect the taxes in December.

NEW BUSINESS

1. HPEA Personnel Recommendations

Mr. James Meisinger, Superintendent, stated the District would like to recommend to the Board of Education to approve the following teachers for their 2014/2015 school year contracts.

a) Teachers recommended for a **tenure contract** for the 2014/2015 school year:

- 1) Ricardo Castillo
- 2) David Dawson
- 3) Margaret Pease
- 4) Kelly Sims

Moved by Mr. Hemple, supported by Mrs. Polowski, that the above teachers be approved for **tenure contracts** for the 2014/2015 school year.

Discussion

None

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: C. Hemple, Polowski, Hammonds, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

- c) Teachers recommended for **fourth year, non-tenure probationary status** for the 2014/2015 school year:

- 1) Candice Bissonnette
- 2) Carla Brown
- 3) Kenneth Calloway
- 4) Janet Springsteen
- 5) Angela Wilkins
- 6) Geralyn VanHout

Moved by Mr. Hemple, supported by Mrs. Hammonds, that the above teachers be approved for **fourth year, non-tenure probationary status** for the 2014/2015 school year.

Discussion

None

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: C. Hemple, Hammonds, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

Abstain: Polowski – Conflict of Interest

- c) Teachers recommended for **third year, non-tenure probationary status** for the 2014/2015 school year:

- 1) Carla Beach
- 2) Sabriena Bennett
- 3) Jennifer Bryson
- 4) Alexandra Burton
- 5) Carrie Fresch-Irwin
- 6) Katherine March
- 7) Rachel Martinez
- 8) Darcy Platt
- 9) Christina Stachel

Moved by Mrs. Polowski, supported by Mr. Hemple, that the above teachers be approved for **third year, non-tenure probationary status** for the 2014/2015 school year.

Discussion

None

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: Polowski, C. Hemple, Hammonds, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

d) Teachers recommended for **second year, non-tenure probationary** status for the 2014/2015 school year:

- 1) Christopher Evans
- 2) Emily Hanna
- 3) Scott Hanna
- 4) Anita Harris

Moved by Mr. Hemple, supported by Mrs. Hammonds, that the above teachers be approved for **second year, non-tenure probationary** status for the 2014/2015 school year.

Discussion

None

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: C. Hemple, Hammonds, Polowski, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

e) Teachers recommended for **first year, non-tenure probationary** status for the 2014/2015 school year:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1) Alexandra Barnett | - | Speech-Language Pathologist (*) |
| 2) Ashley Filpula | - | High School Teacher (*) |
| 3) Elizabeth Flanigan | - | High School Teacher (*) |
| 4) Jamie Jakubowski | - | Special Education Teacher (*) |
| 5) Jacob Linklater | - | Special Education Teacher (*) |
| 6) Heather Thick | - | High School Counselor (*) |

Moved by Mrs. Polowski, supported by Mr. Hemple, that the above teachers be approved for **first year, non-tenure probationary** status for the 2014/2015 school year.

Discussion

None

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: Polowski, C. Hemple, Hammonds, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

f) The following professional employees are recommended for continuing **non-tenure ancillary service status** for the 2014/2015 school year:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1) Emily Avendt | - | School Psychologist |
| 2) Jennifer Barrett-Benson | - | School Psychologist |
| 3) James Bellini | - | Social Worker |
| 4) Katherine Byerly | - | Social Worker |
| 5) Esther Faber | - | Social Worker |
| 6) Tina Erkfritz | - | Occupational Therapist (*) |
| 7) Kathy Jones | - | School Psychologist |
| 8) Larry Marks | - | School Psychologist |

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 9) Ryan Page | - | School Psychologist |
| 10) Andrea Rasmussen | - | Social Worker |
| 11) Ksymena Ratynski | - | School Psychologist |
| 12) Nanette Renkiewicz | - | School Psychologist |
| 13) Erin Roddis | - | Social Worker |
| 14) Karen Tylenda | - | School Psychologist |
| 15) Crystal Witherell | - | Social Worker |

(*) *New HPEA Hires for 2014/2015 SY*

Moved by Mr. Hemple, supported by Mrs. Polowski, that the above teachers be approved for non-tenure ancillary service status for the 2014/2015 school year.

Discussion

None

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: C. Hemple, Polowski, Hammonds, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

2. Promise Zone Update

Ms. Kayla Roney, Promise Zone Executive Director, stated that she is finishing coordinating the scholarships for the students. Ms. Roney stated that she and Edward Klobucher, Hazel Park City Manager, met with the Board of the Sutar Sutaruk Meyer Foundation, they pledged a \$50,000 grant to be used toward scholarships, and to pay for an expansion of the Promoting Academic Success for our Students (PASS) Program in the junior high school. Ms. Roney stated that she recommends students who plan to attend a community college meet with their college advisor and begin their scheduling process, since typically community colleges are on different tracks than universities.

3. Purchase of Maintenance Department Trucks w/Snowplows

Mr. Ken Mayo, Director of Maintenance, Custodial, Food Services, and Transportation, and Mr. Allan Sheridan, Maintenance Master Mechanic, informed the Board of Education the current fleet of maintenance department trucks, the reason that two of the trucks need replacing, and the details regarding the purchase of the two new trucks with snowplows. Mr. Mayo stated that the truck quotes are from the state bid site; each truck including the snowplow will cost \$4,731.00. The trucks will be bought from the Capital Improvement Fund. Mr. Steven Watrion, Director of Business Services, confirmed the expenditure.

Moved by Mr. Hemple, supported by Mrs. Polowski, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of two (2) Maintenance Department Trucks w/Snowplows, as recommended.

Discussion

Discussion was held and questions were asked by the Board of Education of Mr. Mayo and Mr. Sheridan.

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: C. Hemple, Polowski, Hammonds, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

4. Purchase of Special Education Wheelchair Buses

Mr. Ken Mayo, Director of Maintenance, Custodial, Food Services, and Transportation, asked Mrs. Gina Brew, Transportation Supervisor and Mr. Allan Sheridan, Maintenance Master Mechanic, to explain the Districts need to purchase two new wheelchair buses. They both explained in detail the buses that need replacing due to the failed state inspection, the age of the buses, and the out dated handicap ramps. Mrs. Brew informed the Board of Education that the District currently has a bus on loan from the Lamphere School District. Mr. Sheridan stated that the Federal bus regulations are frequently changing, and with the District's bus fleet being older he often is installing parts to keep the buses safe and in compliance with the Federal required regulations. Mrs. Brew requested permission from the Board of Education to purchase two Special Education Wheelchair Buses that will each cost approximately \$90,512.00, including the extended 10-year warranty.

Moved by Mrs. Polowski, supported by Mrs. Hemple, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of two (2) Special Education Wheelchair Buses, as recommended.

Discussion

The Board of Education held a discussion with Mr. Mayo, Mr. Watriont, Mrs. Brew and Mr. Sheridan regarding the existing fleet of buses and possible new purchases of buses. Mr. Watriont assured the Board of Education that the purchase of buses would be disbursed from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: Polowski, S. Hemple, C. Hemple, Hammonds, Nagy

Nays: None

5. 2012 Bond Project Update

Mr. Fred Nix, Owner's Representative for the 2012 Bond Project, updated the Board of Education on both the technology and construction projects. Mr. Nix stated that with the guidance of Mr. Ryan Stefanski, Director of Technology, the technology bond project is progressing as they projected. The projectors are currently being installed in the classrooms; the technology carts and equipment for the carts will be arriving by mid August. Both the projectors and technology carts will be ready as planned for the start of the school year. All the technology bond funds have been allocated to the vendors. Mr. Nix and Mr. Stefanski will be reviewing the technology punch list in August. Mr. Nix stated that the roofs at Hoover Elementary School, Ford Administration/Alternative Education, Webster Elementary School and Hazel Park High School are being replaced and or repaired. Mr. Nix explained to the Board of Education the procedure in replacing the roofs and indicated that providing the weather cooperates the roofs would be completed by the start of school. Mr. Nix indicated that he is near completion with the High School Athletic Complex's punch list.

Mrs. Sue Hemple, Board Trustee, asked if there is a warranty on the new high school concrete. Mr. Nix indicated that the contractor would typically take care of any issues for the first year.

Mrs. Rose Hammonds, Board Treasurer, inquired about the new parking lots being cemented. Mr. Ken Mayo, Director of Maintenance, Custodial, Food Services, and Transportation, indicated that all the parking lots will not have cement, but they will be reinforced for all the heavy vehicles and traffic.

6. United States Tennis Association (USTA) Facility Grant

Mr. Fred Nix, Owner's Representative for the 2012 Bond Project, informed the Board of Education of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Facility Grant. Mr. Nix stated that George Lowe, USTA Representative, contacted him regarding a grant that the District may be available to obtain. Mr. Nix stated that he pursued completing the lengthy grant application process. Mr. Nix said he was recently notified that the District has been awarded the \$25,000 grant, however, the grant comes associated with a few conditions. The District must be willing to add blended lines to the tennis courts for the community youth to play tennis, the District will have to publicize the receiving of this grant and how the grant will benefit the community, and lastly disclose that all the bills relating to the tennis courts have been paid. Mr. Nix stated that he would like the approval from the Board of Education to move forward accepting this USTA grant. Once the board approves he then will move forward in contacting the contractor regarding painting the blended lines. Mr. Nix said that he has contacted the Madison-Park News for a grant article to be written and he will meet the requirement to USTA regarding the payment disclosure. Mr. Nix stated that having the tennis courts available for organized community teams will make another great partnership with the city, much like it has with the high school pool. If the board approves this grant, the funds will be applied to the contraction funds.

Moved by Mr. Hemple, supported by Mrs. Polowski, that the Board of Education approve to accept the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Facility Grant, as described.

Discussion

Mr. Ricky Nagy, Board President, inquired about obtaining benches for around the tennis courts. Mr. Nix indicated that he would obtain pricing for benches and if the funds are available he will pursue purchasing them.

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: C. Hemple, Polowski, Hammonds, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

Mr. James Meisinger, Superintendent, commended and thanked Mr. Nix on obtaining this USTA Grant for the District and community. Mr. Meisinger stated that Mr. Nix applied for this grant on his own time and it is his resourcefulness that the District and community will benefit. Furthermore, the District and community look at the Hazel Park Promise Zone as an asset to our school district, Mr. Meisinger stated that he is not certain that the District would have the Promise Zone if it weren't for Mr. Nix. There is so much work that happens behind the scenes that the community is unaware of, such as Mr. Nix being the pioneer pushing forward for the Promise Zone. Mr. Nagy told Mr. Nix that his work is appreciated, especially the bonds that he has been involved with over the years.

7. Statewide Autism Resources and Training (START) Grant

Dr. Judy Berger, Director of Special Education, informed the Board of Education that the District has been awarded a grant from the Michigan Department of Education to receive training for the Statewide Autism Resources and Training (START) Project beginning in October 2014. There will be two multidisciplinary staff teams that will be attending the training; the training is completed by Grand Valley State University members. Dr. Berger shared autism statistics with the Board of Education. This training is considered to consist of best practices for all students, not just those with special education disabilities.

Dr. Berger stated that eleven of the fifteen ancillary staff members are fully paid for by Center Programs.

8. Closed Session – Motion to recess into closed session to consider the purchase or lease of real property up to the time an option to purchase or lease that real property is obtained which is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Section 8(d) of the Open Meeting Act, and to consider Attorney Client Communication which is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Section 8(h) of the Open Meeting Act

Moved by Mr. Hemple, supported by Mrs. Polowski, that the Board of Education adjourn to a Closed Session.

Discussion

None

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: C. Hemple, Polowski, Hammonds, S. Hemple, Nagy

Nays: None

The Board of Education adjourned to a Closed Session at 7:35 p.m. The meeting resumed as an open meeting at 8:30 p.m.

RECOGNITION/COMMENDATION

None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

No Participants

BOARD MEMBER AND ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

1. Ricky Nagy Board President - Mr. Ricky Nagy, Board President, congratulated Mr. Jack Lloyd, Hazel Park Mayor, on his retirement.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved and supported that the meeting be adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Hemple, Secretary
Hazel Park Board of Education