

On Line With the Board

The following actions, comments, or discussions took place at the August 14, 2013 regular meeting of the board of education. The meeting was held in the Board Room at the districts Central Office at 100 Big Red Dr.

1. President Bushart called the Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Approval for the minutes to the July meetings and approval for bills/reimbursement of expenses was given.
3. The Master Agreement with the Milan Educational Association was approved.
4. An approval was given to raise lunch prices for the upcoming year.
5. Superintendent Girbach reported on the following:
 - Staff Issues
 - Paddock Elementary Parapro Melissa Buie's mother passed away recently.
 - Middle School Assistant Principal Janet Martin's father passed away in late July.
 - Other District Information
 - The next Logo Committee meeting is on 8/22 at 7:30 a.m. The committee will choose logo renderings to bring to the board.
 - The Symons Elementary interview committee has reviewed 97 applications for the Principal position. First round interviews (10) are scheduled for tomorrow. Final interviews will be on August 20th.
 - Board Issues
 - Bids are in for the Privatization of the Custodial department. They will be reviewed and information will be shared at the August 28th Workshop.
 - Superintendent Girbach updated the board on the single tier bus possibility. The district has determined that at this time, our busing will remain a two tier process. One tier busing is still a consideration for the future.
 - The district administration has been involved in ALICE (active shooter training) through the Washtenaw ISD. The training is going very well and will help to coordinate the efforts of multiple law enforcement agencies in the event of an active shooter within the school district.
 - Asst. Superintendent Peter Kudlak reported on the following:
 - Science & Social Studies – focus on the new standards and how to teach in an inquiry-based methodology
 - Formative Assessment – Four teachers are starting 'Assessment For Learning' training (as opposed to Assessment Of Learning)
 - The new Elementary Report Cards will be rolled out this year. The report cards will have a uniform look in both the elementary buildings.
 - Symons Principal interview process is going well. There will be 10 people interviewed tomorrow. There is a team of nine Symons staff members on the first round interview committee. All of them have been stepping up to help with the administrative tasks until the new principal is in place. Thanks to all of them!
6. High School Lead Custodian Jay Bleifeld made a general public statement inclusive of the following:
 - A personal comment on the tentative agreement for the Support Staff group and the up-coming Privatization RFP that the board will be deciding on. The union vote is scheduled for Sunday, August 18th.

- Commented on the recent decision from Chartwells Food Dining group to begin charging our lunchroom staff for their meals.
 - Expressed a statement of concern regarding a rumor that is circulating about the Superintendent and the Administrative team getting salary increases during this budget crisis that is resulting in salary and benefit reductions for the remainder of district employees.
7. Board Member Kerri Moccio commented on being asked to be a Mystery Reader at the Paddock Summer School this past week. She enjoyed being a reader and seeing the program that is being offered. Kindergarten Round-up was also in progress that day and she commented on that process as well.
 8. Board Vice President John Leacher thanked all the employee groups for their hard decision to take salary and benefit deductions in an effort to assist the district in balancing the budget. He encouraged all employees to contact their legislative representatives regarding the inequity in the school funding.
 9. The board voted to go into Closed Session for a student issue at 7:50 p.m.
 10. The board returned to Open Session at 8:09 p.m.
 11. Approval for a high school student to graduate after the first semester pending successful completion of all graduation requirements was given.
 12. The board voted to go into Closed Session for another student issue at 8:14 p.m.
 13. The board returned to Open Session at 8:36 p.m.
 14. Student #2012/2013-3 was reinstated per the committee's recommendation and the board's approval.
 15. The board entered into Closed Session at 8:39 p.m. to discuss negotiation strategies.
 16. The board returned to Open Session at 10:37 p.m.
 17. President Bushart adjourned the meeting at 10:38 p.m.