

**SALINE AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

MINUTES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

6:00 PM

The Special Retreat Meeting of the Board of Education of the Saline Area School District was held on Thursday, December 6, 2007, in the Saline High School Hornet Hive. The meeting was preceded by a dinner provided by the Saline High School Culinary Arts program under the direction of Chef Sam Musto.

Board Members Present: Trudy Driscoll, David Friese, Paul Hynek, Bari Livsey, David Medley, Lisa Slawson, and Kim VanHoek

Administrators Present: Eric Diroff, Scot Graden, Tom Wall, and Ben Williams

CALL TO ORDER of the Special Retreat Meeting of December 6, 2007, by President Lisa Slawson at 6:55 PM.

ITEMS OF INTEREST AND INQUIRY:

Public:

No public comment at this time.

AGENDA - BOARD

BOARD PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

Board President Slawson discussed the results of the Board Performance Appraisal for the Fall 2007 period. The results were very favorable with most categories ranking higher than last spring. Lisa praised the Board for a job well done and stated that she felt that they have really come together as a very cohesive unit especially in the last couple of months.

BOND UPDATE

Interim Superintendent Graden met with Assistant Superintendent Wall and Director of Facilities, Doug Bacon about capital projects that the District would like to pursue with the remaining revenue from the bond dollars.

It was determined that the top five priorities for the District at this time are: High School Energy Reduction Plan, Pleasant Ridge Update (to address the groundwater concerns),

Middle School Bleachers, Update to Fiber Network, and Student Management Hardware and Software.

The remaining monies total approximately \$800,000 and must be encumbered in early January in order to send out and receive the bids, award the contracts, and have the work scheduled for after school is dismissed for the summer.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Interim Superintendent Graden discussed a need for a Budget Committee to meet to prepare for the 2008-2009 budget year. This Committee would consist of three Board members, Assistant Superintendent Wall, and Interim Superintendent Graden. They will begin meeting in late January to start the process. Board members Bari Livsey, David Medley, and Kim Van Hoek volunteered to serve on this committee. Assistant Superintendent Wall will arrange for a meeting to be held in late January.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Interim Superintendent Graden, Assistant Superintendent Wall, and Director of Facilities, Doug Bacon have held several meetings with the Saline District Library staff concerning the possible acquisition of a small section of the Middle School Parking Lot for expanded Library parking. The total projected cost for the project would be \$300,000 - \$444,000 which would all be funded by the Saline District Library. Board Member Bari Livsey stated that of the two options presented – the first one appeared to be the most favorable. The Board agreed.

INDUSTRIAL DRIVE/CAMPUS PARKWAY TRAFFIC LIGHT

A number of discussions have been held recently between Interim Superintendent Graden and the City of Saline Officials to discuss the possibility of installing a left turn signal at the traffic light on Industrial Drive and Campus Parkway.

The Township has indicated that they have no current plans to install a turn signal light at that location but would work with the school if they were interested in pursuing the matter. The cost of the traffic light would be approximately \$20,000.

Board Member David Friese indicated that although it was a traffic flow problem it only occurred before and after school. He felt that this was a great deal of money to spend at this time. Board Member Kim Van Hoek agreed that perhaps drivers could try other routes or allowing a little extra time to accommodate the wait.

HIGH SCHOOL SIGN

Interim Superintendent Graden reported that talks are underway to construct a sign out in front of the High School to advertise upcoming events. The cost of building such a sign is approximately \$50,000. He indicated that the following groups have expressed an interest in

in donating funds: Wal-Mart - \$10,000, High School PTO - \$5,000, High School Student Council - \$1,500, Saline Community Education – an amount to be determined, and the Class of 2008 – an amount to be determined.

High School Principal Ben Williams made the suggestion that he would like to see the Building Trades Class help in the construction of the sign. This would not only lower the cost to build the sign, it would also help the students feel as though they contributed to their school.

ROUNDTABLE

A. Policy Manual Committee

Board President Slawson led the discussion about the Policy Committee to oversee the revision of the Board Policy Manual. It was decided that the group would consist of Board Members Trudy Driscoll, David Friese, Paul Hynek, and Lisa Slawson. The first meeting of this group will be on Wednesday December 12 at 4:30 PM in the Superintendent's Office.

B. Interim Superintendent Duties

A discussion was held regarding the daily experiences and scheduling for Interim Superintendent Graden. Board President Slawson asked Interim Superintendent Graden how the quest to get some additional help in the Community Education and Alternative Education Departments was coming. Interim Superintendent Graden indicated that Brian Puffer has become the Community Education Supervisor and is taking on a lot of the day-to-day running of the Community Education Department.

He also indicated that Sean Enright has stepped in and is helping him with the running of Alternative Education. He stated that he was trying to keep as much continuity in the program due to the fact that they just had a change in leadership over the summer.

Interim Superintendent Graden also asked the Board if there were any items that they would like to seem him do that he was not doing at this time. They all felt that there was a good balance between the information exchanged between the Board and the Superintendent's Office.

C. MASB Training

Interim Superintendent Graden informed the Board that there is going to be a MASB Training held on January 25-26, 2008. Anyone interested in attending should let Patti Waltz know as soon as possible so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

D. WASB Roundtable

Interim Superintendent reminded the Board that there will be a meeting on the High School Graduation Requirements being held on Thursday, December 13th at the WISD. Anyone interested should RSVP to Patti Waltz by Friday, December 7th.

E. Crimestoppers Club

High School Principal Williams discussed the recent article in the Saline High School Newspaper regarding a new Crimestoppers Club at the High School. He indicated that the school reporter was a little premature in his article and that talks are currently underway regarding a club of this nature but it has not been started yet – and may never be launched.

F. Student Discipline Hearings

The Student Discipline Hearing originally scheduled for December 3rd at 8:30 was cancelled due to a conflict with the student's family. The hearing has been rescheduled for Monday, December 17th at 5:30 PM in the Union School Board Room.

The Board held a discussion on the current Student Discipline Hearing procedures.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Trudy Driscoll to adjourn the Special Board of Education Meeting of December 6, 2007, at 10:05 PM seconded by David Medley.

Ayes – All Present – **MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Hynek, Secretary

By: Patti Waltz, Recording Secretary