

**SALINE AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

MINUTES

Tuesday, January 22, 2008

6:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Saline Area School District was held on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, in the Board Room at Historic Union School.

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

Board Members Absent: Kim Van Hoek

Central Administrators Present: Scot Graden, Betty Rosen-Leacher, and Tom Wall

I. CALL TO ORDER of the Regular Meeting of January 22, 2008 at 6:30 PM by Board President Lisa Slawson.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ITEMS OF INTEREST AND INQUIRY:

A. Public:

Mr. Tim Heim, SEA President presented each of the members of the Board of Education with a book that will be placed in each of our school libraries in celebration of National School Board Month.

B. Administration

Interim Superintendent Graden spoke about a gasoline odor which was reported today at Pleasant Ridge Elementary School. Saline Fire Chief, Craig Hoeft, and Director of Facilities, Doug Bacon were called in and it was determined that some gasoline spilled while the custodian was filling the snow blower. The situation was handled quickly and effectively.

Interim Superintendent Graden indicated that this is exam week at the Middle School and High School. This year a new program called Cocoa and Cram has been implemented by the Link Crew to help freshman

students study for final exams. The PTO provided the funds for the cocoa and Chef Musto provided the snacks. There was a good turnout and it is hoped that this program will continue.

C. Board of Education Members

Board President Lisa Slawson thanked Jesse Stevenson, Houghton Principal, Debbie Kolacki, Chris Pasola, and Trisha Raft, Kindergarten Teachers, for coming to speak about the new EDO Program.

Board President Slawson congratulated the High School DECA Chapter and Christy Synoweic on being awarded 69 medals and 33 state qualifiers at a . Recent DECA meet.

Board President Slawson also thanked the Board Members, Union Leaders, and Central Office Administrators who participated in the retreat last week. Board Member Hynek stated that many positive discussions were held and that the district has gone over the hurdle and is once again at a positive flow.

IV. REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDAS:

RECOMMENDED MOTION . . . made by Trudy Driscoll, seconded by Paul Hynek to approve the agendas as printed/revised.

Ayes – All Present – MOTION CARRIED.

V. SCHEDULED REPORTS/PUBLIC STATEMENTS:

A. Superintendent Search Update – Assistant Superintendent Rosen-Leacher, Assistant Superintendent Wall, and President Lisa Slawson

Board President Slawson said that she spoke with Dr. Emlaw and Dr. Hartman and the Superintendent Search process is going quite well. The deadline for applications is Friday, February 8th. The first week of March will be reserved for initial interviews followed by second interviews the week of March 17th. Negotiations will follow with Board approval at the March 25th meeting.

Assistant Superintendent Rosen-Leacher indicated that the Board will be reviewing the applications on February 19th.

B. Extended Day Kindergarten Option – Principal Jesse Stevenson

Houghton School Principal, Jesse Stevenson gave a presentation to the Board regarding the new Extended Day Option for Kindergarteners. Mr. Stevenson indicated that this was a new venture for the district but everyone is very pleased with the results of the program. The children are comfortable and progressing academically and they are really starting to see the payoff from this program.

Mr. Stevenson introduced Debbie Kolacki, Chris Pasola, and Trisha Raft who teach the Extended Day Kindergarteners. They spoke about the benefits that they were seeing the progress of the children.

Board Member Friese congratulated Mr. Stevenson and his staff and indicated that he was very impressed with the program when they received a tour last fall. Laurie Dawson will post Mr. Stevenson's presentation on the school website for anyone interested in viewing.

VI. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Revise School Calendar – Assistant Superintendent Rosen-Leacher

Board President Slawson thanked Dr. Cooper for his past eight years of service as the Principal of the Middle School. She also thanked incoming Middle School Principal David Raft and Woodland Meadows Principal, Jean Durst for taking on new responsibilities.

Assistant Superintendent Rosen-Leacher explained the logistics for the revision of the school calendar in order to accommodate the MAMSE Conference. She also worked in collaboration with the Union officials to come to the agreement and documentation was sent to the ISD to ensure that we have the sufficient number of days students are in session.

Interim Superintendent Graden announced that Community Education has partnered with the Saline Recreation Center for a program at Liberty School from 8:00 AM until 2:30 on the days of the MAMSE Conference. The cost for this program is \$10 for one day or \$15.00 for both.

RECOMMENDED MOTION ...made by David Medley, seconded by Bari Livsey to approve the recommended revisions to the 2007-2008 School Calendar as submitted by Assistant Superintendent Rosen-Leacher.

Ayes – All Present – MOTION CARRIED.

A. Facility Use Rates and Regulations

Interim Superintendent Graden discussed the current facility rates and regulations and outlined the proposed changes to the Board.

RECOMMENDED MOTION ...made by David Friese, seconded by Trudy Driscoll to approve the recommended revisions to the Facility Use Rates and Regulations as submitted by Interim Superintendent Graden.

Ayes – All Present – MOTION CARRIED.

B. 2007-2008 Appropriations Amendment – Assistant Superintendent Wall

Assistant Superintendent Wall stated this is to formally adopt the changes that he presented to the Board in October and at the last retreat. This will be the baseline for discussions for the upcoming budget meetings.

RECOMMENDED MOTION ...made by Trudy Driscoll, seconded by Bari Livsey to approve the recommended 2007-2008 Appropriations Amendment as submitted by Assistant Superintendent Wall.

Ayes – All Present – MOTION CARRIED.

C. High School Marquee Sign Recommendations – Assistant Superintendent Wall

Interim Superintendent Graden said that the district is committed to have the sign in front of the High School by Memorial Day for graduation this year. He gave a special thanks to Ann Dowling and the PTO for all their hard work on this project. Huron Sign Company were very aggressive in helping us get the nicest sign in the area.

Board Member Hynek asked if the Building and Trades class was going to help with construction but Interim Superintendent Graden indicated that with the excellent pricing we received from Huron Sign it wasn't really necessary. He indicated that Wal-Mart and the Class of 2008 have donated \$10,000 each to the project.

RECOMMENDED MOTION ...made by Paul Hynek and seconded by David Medley to approve the purchase of the marquee sign at the High School from Huron Sign Company in the amount of \$25,286.40 and the custom designed frame for a total contract of \$50,041.40 for which funding is from public donations and Capital Project Funds.

Ayes – All Present – MOTION CARRIED.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Policy Committee Update – Board Member Hynek

Board Member Hynek spoke about the Policy Committee Meeting which was held last Thursday. The group received the 1000 series packet from MASB and they have been reviewing approximately 10-15 policies at each meeting. Dr. Scharfee from MASB will be attending the meeting this Thursday to help oversee the process. He reminded everyone that these were open meetings and are held on Thursdays at 5:30 PM in the Superintendent's Office. Assistant Superintendent Rosen-Leacher has been assigned to be the recording secretary at these meetings.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA:

RECOMMENDED MOTION . . . made by Bari Livsey, seconded by Trudy Driscoll to authorize the following items as part of the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval** of Board Meeting Minutes of January 8, 14, and 15, 2008.
- B. Approval of Payment** of the General Fund Accounts Payable of January 22, 2008, in the amount of \$394,844.08.
- C. Receive and File** the memorandum from Assistant Superintendent Wall with regard to the revision of Administration Regulation 2302 on "Special Use" Credit Cards.
- D. Receive and File** letter from Executive Director for Human Resources Callan accepting the retirement of Dr. Nic Cooper as Middle School Principal effective January 31, 2008.
- E. Receive and File** letter from Executive Director for Human Resources Callan confirming Emily Sickler has successfully completed her probationary period and will be tenured beginning January 28, 2008.
- F. Acceptance** of the recommendation of Executive Director of Human Resources Callan to hire (for school year 2007-2008) the following candidate for the position of Paraeducator within the Saline Area Schools, in accordance with the Support Collective Bargaining Agreement:
 - a. Tricia Kuta**, to be placed on Step 1 of the Paraeducator Scale

- G. **Receive and File** letter from Executive Director for Human Resources Callan on the promotion of David Raft to Principal, Middle School (Step 5) according to the SASAA contract for Middle School Principals.
- H. **Receive and File** letter from Executive Director for Human Resources Callan on the transfer of Jean Durst to Principal, Woodland Meadows Elementary.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT:

A student in the audience inquired as to when the High School sign would be completed. Interim Superintendent Graden indicated that it would be completed by Memorial Day.

XII. ITEMS SCHEDULED ON NEXT AGENDAS:

- A. **Election Resolution**
- B. **Henne Field Redevelopment**
- C. **Middle School Review – Dr. Ronald Williamson**
- D. **Superintendent Search Update**
- E. **Policy Committee Update**
- F. **Board Assessment**
- G. **Superintendent Assessment – Informal Evaluation**
- H. **Closed Session for the purpose of evaluating the Interim Superintendent**

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

RECOMMENDED MOTION . . . made by Trudy Driscoll, seconded by David Medley to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting of January 22, 2008, at 7:35 PM.

Ayes – All Present – MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Hynek, Secretary

By: Patti Waltz, Recording Secretary