

**SALINE AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

MINUTES

**Wednesday March 5, 2008
7:30 PM**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** of the Special Board Meeting of March 5, 2008, at 7:30 PM by Board President Lisa Slawson

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

- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- III. **SCHEDULED REPORTS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

- A. **Superintendent Interviews** – Dr. Michael Emlaw, MASB

Board President Slawson announced that question cards were available on the back table if a member of the audience had a question that they would like the candidate to answer. She also announced that the interviews were being taped by SCTN.

Dr. Catherine Ash was interviewed for the position of Superintendent of Saline Area Schools by the Board of Education.

The Board took a short recess and reconvened at 8:52 PM.

Dr. Michael Emlaw facilitated the discussion about the candidates. He went over the process of ranking the candidates using the nine criteria that were previously established by the Board. The candidates were ranked on a scale from 1-5 with five being the highest available score.

The ranking was as follows:

Candidate	TD	DF	PH	BL	DM	LS	KVH
Ash	4	4	4	3	3	4	4
Glass	2	2	3	4	4	3	3
Graden	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Metcalf	1	3	2	2	1	1	2
Przygodski	3	1	1	1	2	2	1

Dr. Emlaw stated that given the fact that all of the board members unanimously ranked Interim Superintendent Scot Graden as a 5, his recommendation was that the position of Superintendent of Saline Area Schools be offered to Scot Graden.

MOTION made by Paul Hynek, seconded by Kim Van Hoek to change Scot Graden's title from Interim Superintendent, Saline Area Schools to Superintendent, Saline Area Schools effective immediately and also give the authority to Board President Lisa Slawson to negotiate a contract with Mr. Graden.

Ayes – All Present – MOTION CARRIED.

Trustee Van Hoek took this opportunity to thank Dr. Emlaw for finding such qualified candidates for the Superintendent position. She also stated that she supported the decision to conduct an outside search even with a strong internal candidate.

She stated that Superintendent Graden did have an advantage coming into this process because everyone knew him, however, that could also prove to be a disadvantage as well if he didn't do a good job in the position. She said that Superintendent Graden had done an excellent job during the last five months and that he has proven himself as Superintendent. She also stated that he was a man of integrity and good thinking processes. Her term on the Board is up this year and she will not be seeking re-election but felt that she can leave her position with a feeling of trust and security knowing that Scot Graden is running this district.

Trustee Friese indicated that he was also impressed with Superintendent Graden's performance over the last five months. He led the district through a very rough time and was instrumental in the healing process. The community asked him to once again step to the plate and he has done a great job and deserves this opportunity.

Board President Slawson indicated that one of the lessons that she felt the Board has learned in the past two years is that just because someone is the most qualified on paper does not mean that they will make the greatest difference in the community. She felt that Interim Superintendent Graden was definitely the right choice for this position.

Trustee Hynek agrees with Trustee Van Hoek that Superintendent Graden has been doing a great job for the past five months as Interim Superintendent. He felt confident that Superintendent Graden would make a good Superintendent.

Board President Slawson also thanked Chef Musto for the refreshments that he provided for the last three nights. She also thanked Dr. Emlaw and the MASB for all the work they did to help Saline find a new Superintendent.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Perry Kantner complimented the Board on their action to clearly come up with the right decision in choosing the best possible person, Mr. Scot Graden.

Mr. Tim Chaffee commended the Board on the outstanding job they have done. He is in favor of the choice made tonight and was glad to see that the Board moved quickly and accurately.

Superintendent Graden thanked everyone for all the support they have given him and he looks forward to serving this district for a long, long time.

MOTION made by Trudy Driscoll, seconded by Paul Hynek to adjourn the Special Board Meeting of March 5, 2008, at 9:20 PM.

Ayes – All Present – MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Hynek, Secretary

By: Patti Waltz, Recording Secretary

