

**SALINE AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MINUTES
March 27, 2007**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Saline Area School District was held on Tuesday, March 27, 2007, in the Board Conference Room at Historic Union School.

Board Members present: Trudy Driscoll, Lisa Slawson, Kim Van Hoek, Art Trapp, Dave Phillips, and Paul Hynek
Absent: Bari Livsey

Central Administrators present: Beverley Geltner, Nancy Brenton, Betty Rosen-Leacher, and Tom Wall

Others present: Brian Cox of The Saline Reporter, Rob White, Brian Boze and his family, Scot Graden, Jim Letcher, Tim Heim, Mary Lirones, 35+ high school students, and several community members

I. CALL TO ORDER of the Regular Meeting of March 27, 2007, by President Driscoll at 6:32 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ITEMS OF INTEREST AND INQUIRY

A. Public

- Athletic Director Rob White presented the *Michigan Coach of the Year* award for Division I to Brian Boze. Mr. White said that Brian was chosen by his peers to receive this prestigious award; he is a graduate and former athlete of Saline High School; graduated from U of M and earned four-year letter in track; received his Juris Doctorate from Toledo University and practiced law before coming to Saline to teach and coach.

B. Administration

- Superintendent Geltner and all others present applauded Brian Boze.
- Superintendent Geltner addressed the high school students in attendance and asked them if they had checked out the school district's new web site. She complimented Ken Lupo, Web Master, and those students who were involved in the web site's redesign.
- Superintendent Geltner announced that Jim Letcher, Literacy Coordinator at Harvest and Woodland Meadows, will be the next featured *Employee of the Month*, and the DECA Program will also be highlighted on the web – great things are happening!
- Superintendent Geltner talked about avoiding \$1.5 million in cuts for next year; school district receives from state \$7,451 per student, but it costs over \$9,000 to educate each student; she referred everyone to her *Monday Morning Highlights* posted on the web; state may be taking back \$34 per student; made lots of savings this year; Cabinet (Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, and Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services) have all agreed to take a wage freeze for next year.

(6:47 p.m. - The required Board member attendance check was conducted. Absent – Bari Livsey.)

- Deputy Superintendent Brenton shared that a vote on the Sinking Fund is scheduled on the May 8, 2007 ballot. Success of this proposal will enable the school district to make infrastructure improvements without having to dip into any general fund money. Passage of Senate Bills 367 and 54 will expand the language of Sinking Funds to include the purchase of buses, etc.
- Deputy Superintendent Brenton said that Houghton Principal Jess Stevenson provided her with an update on the Kindergarten meeting held last week - 32 families attended. 58 students have been enrolled in the Young 5's program – program will now go from 3 to 4 sections.
- Assistant Superintendent Wall said that if the senate passes the bill to reduce the foundation allowance by \$34 per student, it would be \$190,000 in lost revenue for Saline. Norm is that house will review and there will be a compromise somewhere in between.
- Assistant Superintendent Rosen-Leacher stated that the administration is pleased that so many of the Houghton teachers have volunteered to teach extended-day Kindergarten. A minimum of 20-22 students must be enrolled to break even.
- Assistant Superintendent Rosen-Leacher also said that building principals are completing their work on *EdYes*.
- Superintendent Geltner announced that WISD has agreed to provide a \$20,000 grant to Saline to pay for the services of Dennis Sparks of the National Staff Development Council. Mr. Sparks is a leader in staff development, and Saline teachers, counselors, and administrators, etc. will reap huge benefits from his insights.
- Superintendent Geltner said that a report on the AP Program will be presented at the April 10 board meeting. Next school year, Saline High School is adding three new AP classes to its course selections. She encouraged the high school students in the audience to take as many AP classes as they can – colleges will take notice – they want to recruit students who are smart, hardworking, and focused – and students can save thousands of dollars in college tuition.
- Superintendent Geltner also announced that a member of the Harvest school family donated \$5,000 to the Literacy Program.
- Superintendent Geltner told the student audience that the school district is a \$46 million business. She referenced the qualifications and contributions of each board member – public servants. She told the students that the meeting was a living example of the democratic process.

C. Board of Education Members

- Trustee Hynek asked Deputy Superintendent Brenton if our Sinking Fund ballot language was written to incorporate passage of the two senate bills.
- Deputy Superintendent Brenton responded that the school district's legal counsel wrote the ballot language to include passage of new laws.
- President Driscoll requested that the two school board candidates stand and introduce themselves – David Friese and David Medley.

IV. REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Assistant Superintendent Wall said that due to illness of an employee's children and her absence, the accounts payable figure is not available for Item B on the Consent Agenda. This figure will be available at the April 10 board meeting.

MOTION by Kim Van Hoek, seconded by Lisa Slawson, to approve the agenda as revised. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – all present.

V. SCHEDULED REPORTS/PUBLIC STATEMENTS - None

VI. ACTION ITEMS

Superintendent's Evaluation

President Driscoll presented the evaluation of Dr. Geltner for ratification and signatures.

MOTION by Dave Phillips, seconded by Lisa Slawson, to ratify the results of Superintendent Geltner's evaluation. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – all present.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS - None

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Lisa Slawson, seconded by Paul Hynek, to authorize the following item as part of the Consent Agenda:

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 13, 2007.

MOTION CARRIED. Ayes – all present.

IX. ACTION ITEMS – None

X. DISCUSSION ITEMS - None

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

XII. ITEMS SCHEDULED ON NEXT AGENDAS

- Saline High School Advanced Placement Program
- Superintendent's Contract
- Extension of Contracts/Brenton, Rosen-Leacher, Wall

(7:05 p.m. – *Break*)

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

MOTION by Lisa Slawson, seconded by Dave Phillips, to enter Closed Session of the Board of Education at 7:10 p.m., with the intent to re-enter Open Session at 8:30 p.m., for the purpose of discussion related to negotiations. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – all present.

(8:17 p.m. - The required Board member attendance check was conducted. Absent – Bari Livsey.)

RE-ENTER OPEN SESSION at 8:32 p.m.

XIV. POST-CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS - None

XV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Art Trapp, seconded by Dave Phillips, to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting of March 27, 2007, at 8:32 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – all present.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly W. Van Hoek, Secretary

By: Marilyn S. Martin, Recording Secretary

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