

**SALINE AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

MINUTES

**Liberty Media Center
Tuesday, April 27, 2010
6:30 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** of the Regular Meeting of April 27, 2010 at 6:30 PM by Board President Friese.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Members Present

Trustee Cattell, Board President Friese, Trustee Hoeft, Student Representative Hogikyan, Trustee Hynck, Secretary Lesch, Vice President Medley, and Trustee Slawson.

Central Administration Present

Superintendent Graden, Assistant Superintendent Laatsch, and Assistant Superintendent Wall

3. **ITEMS OF INTEREST AND INQUIRY**

- A. Public**

None at this time.

- B. Administration**

Superintendent Graden reminded the Board that DARE Graduation would be held on Wednesday, May 5th at 8:30 AM at Heritage School.

Prom is this Saturday, May 1st at Eastern Michigan University. The junior class has done an excellent job preparing and everyone is looking forward to a wonderful evening. We are also reminding students to make good choices and be safe.

We have recently received confirmation that the Hockey Team will be able to compete against Ann Arbor Pioneer next winter at Michigan Stadium. More details will follow as they become available.

This is a great week to eat at Mac's Seafood Shack. During this time, 10% of lunch and dinner sales are being donated to Saline Area Schools.

Superintendent Graden will be cooking breakfast on May 7 for the Food Services Staff. They were this year's winner of the basket contest at the Spring Craft Show.

Assistant Superintendent Laatsch reported that the French students have finally arrived in Detroit. He spent time at the Middle School watching the Saline and French students interviewing each other. It was great seeing them interact so well.

School safety concerns are certainly widespread across the country and in Saline. In an effort to promote school safety, a Community Forum will be held on May 17th at 6:30 PM in the Pleasant Ridge Cafeteria.

Assistant Superintendent Wall reported that all of the health inspections have been completed for this year. One violation was found at the Middle School, which was corrected immediately, re-inspected, and all schools passed with flying colors. Congratulations to the Food Services staff for all their hard work.

The Saline Community Education Before and After School Care Program staff has been busy planning an enriching and fun-filled Summer Camp Program scheduled to run from June 21 – August 27. Camp will be held at Liberty School and will be open from 6:45 AM until 6:00 PM. Please call Community Education at 734-429-8020 or visit their website at www.salinecommunityed.com for more information.

C. Board of Education Members

Congratulations to the Saline FCCLA Chapter who sent nine students to the competitive events at the State Leadership Conference. All nine won gold medals! All nine also took first place in their events and will be sent to the National Leadership Conference in Chicago this summer.

Bob Cindric has been elected by the membership of Michigan Vocal Music Association as the 2010 Vocal Music Teacher of the Year. Congratulations to Bob! We should be proud because Norma Freeman won this award last year and this is the only time there has been back-to-back winners from the same district.

Trustee Slawson announced that the Superintendent's Evaluation Meeting originally scheduled for May 5 is cancelled.

Trustee Slawson commended Heritage Principal Rosen-Leacher on her handling of the situation on the playground at Heritage this past week.

Secretary Lesch invited everyone to attend the Prime Rib Dinner on Wednesday, May 5th at 6:00 PM in the High School Commons. The dinner will be prepared by Chef Musto and the SWWC Culinary Arts Students. Entertainment will be provided by the Saline High School Jazz Band and the Saline Big Band.

4. REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION made by Trustee Hoeft, seconded by Trustee Slawson to approve the agenda as printed.

Ayes – All Present - **MOTION CARRIED**

5. SCHEDULED REPORTS/PUBLIC STATEMENTS

A. **United Way Presentation** – Superintendent Graden

Superintendent Graden presented SASAA President Diroff, Board President Friese, SASMA President Harsh, SEA President Heim, and ESP President Ladd with plaques from the United Way honoring the contributions of Saline Area Schools.

6. ACTION ITEMS

MOTION made by Trustee Hynek, seconded by Secretary Lesch to **approve the tentative agreement between the Saline Education Association and Saline Area Schools as outlined by Superintendent Graden.**

Superintendent Graden passed out a copy of the tentative agreement to the Board. The agreement involved eliminating the two Option Teacher Training days for 2010-2011 and one day in 2011-2012. This will result in an approximate savings of \$500,000 over the two-year period.

Trustee Hynek was in favor of a concession, however, expressed his disappointment that the SEA decided to give up training days. He felt that training is important and stated that other bargaining units were looking at structural changes.

Trustee Slawson indicated that it is a great start. She also felt that when times are difficult it is imperative to have a strategic plan.

Board President Friese stated that this was a positive step in the right direction.

Ayes – All Present – **MOTION CARRIED**

A. **MOTION** made by Trustee Slawson, seconded by Vice President Medley to **approve the 2010-2011 elimination of courses as outlined in the memorandum from Superintendent Graden.**

Assistant Superintendent Laatsch reviewed the classes that will not be offered at the High School next year. This is a yearly process in an attempt to be more efficient and make sure that classes run at a certain level of students.

Ayes – All Present – **MOTION CARRIED**

B. **MOTION** made by Secretary Lesch, seconded by Trustee Hoeft to **approve the preliminary qualification of bonds by the State Treasurer.**

Assistant Superintendent Wall briefly outlined the discussion held at the Bond Workshop today. He emphasized that there would be no additional taxes involved. The current millage rate would stay the same.

Secretary Lesch stated that more information would be given to the public as soon as all the qualifications are received.

Ayes – All Present – MOTION CARRIED

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Policy Committee Update – Trustee Hynek

Trustee Hynek reported that the Policy Committee met last week to discuss a slight change to the Graduation Requirements Policy. The proposed change would require students to take the full battery of MME testing.

The rest of the meeting was spent discussing weighted grades. Student Representative Hogikyan and several members of the student body attended to voice the student's opinion. No clear decision was made and this will be discussed again at the next Policy Meeting.

B. School of Choice 2010-2011 – Superintendent Graden

Superintendent Graden reviewed the information given to the Board regarding School of Choice. He recommended that we continue with the current model but look to expand to include a limited number of 5-6 graders. He indicated that the target number would be approximately 90 total students to hold our enrollment steady. It is likely that 50 of these would be Kindergarteners.

Trustee Slawson inquired why we didn't open up School of Choice to 7-12 grades as well. Superintendent Graden indicated that Grades 7-12 are currently the largest class sizes in the District.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION made by Trustee Hynek, seconded by Trustee Slawson to authorize the following items as part of the Consent Agenda:

- A. **Approval** of the Regular Board of Education Minutes of April 13, 2010.
- B. **Receive and File** Minutes of the Board Policy Meeting of March 16, 2010.
- C. **Approval of Payment** of the General Fund Accounts Payable of April 27, 2010, in the amount of \$433,586.23.

D. Receive and File memorandum from Executive Director Callan indicating that the following teachers will attain tenure effective June 30, 2010:

- Megan DeGrand
- Jodi Laurent
- Beth Russow
- Melissa Styn

E. Receive and File letter from Superintendent Graden accepting the retirement of Lorrie Dominici as an Instructional Assistant effective June 16, 2010.

F. Receive and File letter from Superintendent Graden accepting the resignation of Erin Hansen as an Orchestra Teacher effective June 16, 2010.

G. Receive and File letter from Superintendent Graden accepting the resignation of Mary Landon as a Health Science Technician in the South and West Washtenaw Consortium effective June 4, 2010.

H. Approval of the 2010-2011 school calendars as submitted by Superintendent Graden.

I. Approval of Superintendent Graden's recommendation for approval of the following field trip:

- Science Olympiad State Tournament from April 30 – May 1, 2010

Ayes – All Present – **MOTION CARRIED**

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Tim Heim, SEA President, thanked the Board for voting yes on the tentative agreement and he looks forward to meeting next year to discuss insurance.

Suzanne Atzinger, Saline Resident and Parent, acknowledged the tough times that the District is facing and encouraged the Board to give careful thought with regard to the 63 teachers that were pink slipped recently. Roughly 14 of those pink slipped were Special Education Teachers. She asked that the Board take into consideration the needs and effects of their decisions on the students when making staffing changes. Her daughter has had 10 case manager/staffing changes during her school career. Please make the least disruption to students a goal.

10. ITEMS SCHEDULED ON NEXT AGENDA

A. Reproductive Health Report – Middle School Assistant Principal Szczechowicz

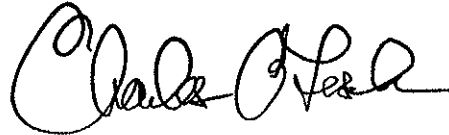
B. Superintendent Graden indicated that because of the concessions given tonight, six staff members will be recalled and one additional staff member will be recalled due to a resignation. The letters will go out tomorrow. This will be on the consent agenda for the next meeting.

C. Appointment of Auditors -- Assistant Superintendent Wall

11. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting of April 27, 2010, at 7:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Lesch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C".

Chuck Lesch, Secretary

By: Patti Waltz, Recording Secretary