



Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

Powell 9th Grade Academy – Media Center

Called to Order 6:00 p.m. Called to order by President, Anita Banach. 7 members present. 0 members absent.

Pledge of Allegiance Led by the Board

Approved Agenda for May 1, 2023 Regular Meeting. Demas moved. Conner supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried. Agenda Approved.

Dr. Robinson asked to amend the agenda and move up 'For the Good of the District' and the last public comment before the closed session. He also made mention that Resolution #30 was tabled and removed from the agenda but will come back at another meeting.

Celebrations Dr. Robinson shared district celebrations and photos.

Presentations Paul Wills from Plante Moran Cresa gave a presentation on the enrollment projection study that was conducted. He reviewed demographics and trends and shared enrollment data and projections.

Approved **Consent Action Items.** Antoine moved. Conner supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

- General Fund Bills (check register)
- Financial Reports (summary, revenue & expense reports)
- Wire Transfer report
- Purchasing Card Expenditures
- Minutes from Regular Meeting held on March 27, 2023

**Informational
Updates/New
Business**

Communications – The MISD Operating Budget was shared with the Board.

Committee Reports –

Curriculum - Ms. Eichhorst stated the topics of discussions at the meeting included the AP microeconomics textbook, the K-5 ELA adoption and the Lü Interactive System. They received updates on staffing and summer programs. She mentioned that end of the year testing is going on and many activities are happening throughout the district. They also discussed the HIV/AIDS video, the K-12 social studies curriculum and the RVA and the needs there. She stated that there was a Labor Day Hearing and the Labor Day waiver was approved for the next 3 years.

K-5 ELA Curriculum Proposal – Mr. Murray spoke of the shift in K-5 curriculum from a balanced approach to a structured literacy program. A video was shared outlining the new ELA curriculum (Amplify CKLA). Several teachers and a Principal spoke regarding their success with the pilot program.

Superintendent's Report –

Academic Services Update – Ms. McFarlane gave a staffing and hiring update. She shared open positions and where we are at in the hiring process for those positions.

Mr. Murray gave an update on the Lü Interactive System which upon approval, would be installed in the elementary school gymnasiums. A short video was shown demonstrating the system. Mr. Antoine stated they have these installed in the district he is employed in and spoke highly of the system and stated that the company provides great support.

Construction Update – The Transportation Department has moved into the new Transportation Facility and a celebratory opening was held. Group 1 projects are underway and Group 2 projects are in the design phase.

Safety Update – The 2-way radio tower agreement with Bruce Township was approved at their meeting and the project will be moving forward at the beginning of next school year.

2023-24 District Leadership Priorities – Group 2 - District Leadership Priorities were shared for Group 2: an additional RMS Administrative position, middle school academies planning, support for K-5 Language Arts and K-12 Social Studies Curriculum adoptions and RVA Counseling position for student support.

Elementary Redistricting Proposal – An internal review and forecasting study was conducted at the elementary level due to rising enrollment at Amanda Moore and declining enrollment at Washington elementary. Studies on new residential developments were conducted. Enrollment analysis was collected and shared for Amanda Moore, Hevel and Washington. The data collected supports the redistricting proposal to help balance enrollment. The impacted families have been notified by mail, email and phone and no action will be taken on this tonight.

Public Comment

Parent, Jessica Dodson, spoke regarding her concern with the redistricting proposal. She asked that the plan be reconsidered. She stated the designated school her children would attend played a big part in the decision of purchasing their home. She values education, feels this is not in the best interest of her children and is hoping they can consider different options.

Parent, Angela Allen, spoke regarding her experiences and the struggles her family went through when they were previously rezoned. She mentioned that it is harder on the parents than the kids and that the kids adjust and everything works out in the end.

Parent, Cristie Mauyer, expressed her concern with the redistricting. She asked for reconsideration and asked that current students be grandfathered into the school they attend. She feels they are being targeted to decrease disparity between schools and asked that they explore other options.

Parent, Lou Welch, spoke regarding the redistricting. He mentioned that Washington Elementary is the only school in the district that requires traffic control by the sheriff so he feels declining enrollment at this building is a good thing. He feels that schools of choice should be revisited at these buildings as well. He also shared safety concerns with 2 bus stops on 27mile road and stated these concerns have been addressed multiple times and nothing is ever done about it.

Approved

Resolutions

- **Employee Services Resolution #29 – Personnel Update**
Demas moved. Eichhorst supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Employee Services Resolution #31 – Additional Teaching Positions 2023/24**

Conner moved. Eichhorst supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

- **Superintendent's Resolution #32 – 2023-24 Leadership Priorities – Group 2**
Eichhorst moved. Conner supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Academic Services Resolution #33 – Lü Interactive Systems**
Young moved. Antoine supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Academic Services Resolution #34 – AP Economics Textbook**
Demas moved. Eichhorst supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Academic Services Resolution #35 – 5th Grade HIV/AIDS Video**
Eichhorst moved. Antoine supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Academic Services Resolution #36 – K-5 ELA Adoption – Amplify CKLA**
Demas moved. Rice supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Academic Services Resolution #37 – District Professional Development Advisory Committee**
Antoine moved. Eichhorst supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Business Services Resolution #38 – CTE Equipment Purchase Approval – Construction Trades Forklift**
Young moved. Conner supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

**Board Discussion/
For the Good of
the District**

Dr. Demas reminded everyone that the Early College of Macomb commencements are taking place on May 11th and the IAM commencements will be on May 25th. Ms. Banach mentioned that the Top 10 Breakfast is taking place tomorrow.

Public Comment

Parent, Frank Fiore, shared some observations regarding digital curriculum and the resources that go along with that. While working with his children, he realizes there is disparity between resources and they often have to go to outside resources for reference. The students seem to be getting hand-outs but no books. He asked that as they continue considering curriculum, to please consider supplementing classes with digital textbooks. He also mentioned that he finds it sad that they are not teaching cursive anymore.

Resident, Richard Cory, spoke in regard to the old middle school property. He has formed a committee of residents who live in the area. These people did not have an opportunity to meet with the hired consultants. He asked the school board to consider a pause for 6 months on making any decisions. He mentioned creative development of the open space and gave examples of how it could be used. He hopes that they can work together to make the best use of the land for students.

Resident, Mary Meissner, spoke regarding the Prospect St. property and stated that the facilitator of the citizen's group has been transparent. She mentioned that a town-hall meeting would have been nice to allow a conversation among the tax-payers. She asked that they consider not selling the property, that they review the material that was provided, and that they consider a motion to pause on decisions for 6 months to 1 year regarding this sensitive issue.

Resident, Jason Foltz, stated he has done research on the history of Romeo. He spoke with families that donated property and he mentioned deed restrictions on the Prospect Street property. He stated there is a long history with this property and feels that no homes should be built it. He shared material from his research with the board.

Resident, Donna Folland, spoke regarding the old middle school property. She has been meeting with her neighbors regarding their interest in the future of the property. She requested that they pause their efforts to sell and develop the property and work

with their group of residents to consider options for use of the property. She mentioned maintaining the property for educational purposes.

Maddie Kuchenmeister, a 2022 graduate spoke regarding LGBTQ inclusivity and equality. She shared statistics on suicide rates in queer youth and shared results of a poll she conducted from previous alumni. She stated steps need to be taken to reduce discrimination and protect students.

Resident, Beti Petreski, spoke regarding the inclusion of students with disabilities. She mentioned that these students have to face difficulties every day and should not feel left out or alone and that we need to stop fighting parents that are trying to have their kids included.

- **Closed Session – Collective Bargaining**

Antoine moved. Demas supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

8:24 p.m. into Closed Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining. Roll Call: 7 members present. Todd Robinson, Julia Butler and Vicki Laseke were also present.

9:08 p.m. out of Closed Session. Into Open Session. Demas moved. Conner supported. Roll call: 7 members present. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Adjournment

9:13 p.m. Antoine moved. Eichhorst supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Approved by: Mike Antoine, Secretary _____