



**Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 22, 2024  
Powell 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy – Media Center**

<b>Called to Order</b>	6:02 p.m. Called to order by President, Anita Banach. 6 members present. 1 member absent with notice (Demas).
<b>Pledge of Allegiance</b>	Led by the Board
<b>Approved</b>	Agenda for January 22, 2024 Regular Meeting. Young moved. Conner supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried. Agenda Approved.
<b>Bulldog Spotlight</b>	<p>Mrs. Brush shared the roll-out of new weekly podcasts which will highlight programs &amp; initiatives in Romeo.</p> <p>Mrs. Rice asked who chooses the topics. Mrs. Brush responded that there is a team of people including Dr. Robinson and that they try and include different levels and student voice with the intent of sharing the work of the district.</p> <p>Mr. Young asked if the podcasts will be available on Apple podcast service. Mrs. Brush responded that it will only be on Spotify. Mr. Young commended Mrs. Brush on her work in getting information out to our residents. Dr. Robinson mentioned that they are hopeful that they can get students from the VPC program at the high school involved in future podcasts.</p>
<b>Presentations</b>	None.
<b>Approved</b>	<p><b>Consent Action Items.</b> Young moved. Antoine supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General Fund Bills (check register)</li><li>• Financial Reports (summary, revenue &amp; expense reports)</li><li>• Wire Transfer report</li><li>• Purchasing Card Expenditures</li><li>• Minutes from Organizational Meeting held on January 8, 2024</li><li>• Board Policy Updates – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Board Policies 1001, 2003, 2005, 4003, 4004, 4005, 6002, 6006, 6012 (New), 8001, 8002, 8007</li></ul>
<b>Informational Updates/New Business</b>	<p><b>Communications</b> – Millage Renewal Fact Cards were provided to the Board Members which will be sent home with elementary students and available in school buildings.</p> <p><b>Committee Reports</b> – <i>Policy</i> – Mrs. Banach stated they reviewed updates by the policy providers Miller &amp; Johnson. The board received notes at the meeting which give the reasons behind the updates. There were updates to policies regarding the functioning of the board, FERPA &amp; educational records, conditions of employment and evaluations, facilities and operations, energy management and general policies. She reminded the board that it is</p>

the first reading so there is time to ask questions prior to the second reading which will bring them into action.

Mrs. Eichhorst asked when the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading will take place. Dr. Robinson stated that our policy provider & lead council advise getting through the process before the laws take effect on February 13<sup>th</sup> and that the second reading will take place at a special meeting if one is held or the regular February meeting.

Mrs. Rice asked for clarification on policy #2005 and asked if she could see the suicide intervention tool which is referenced in policy #6002. She mentioned that they are in discussions regarding the A/I acceptable use policy (8001) and read the updated policy #8007 regarding discrimination and harassment aloud.

*Facilities* – Mr. Antoine stated they discussed Group 1 projects from the 2021 bond, specifically the Croswell addition, and that there are 2 resolutions on the agenda tonight - playground equipment and site work. The bid documents and bid tabs were provided to the board and they were given a detailed presentation on the playground equipment. They had discussions pertaining to Croswell alarms & door access controls to make it a district standard. The district will be going out for competitive pricing related to that. Indian Hills electrical work continues. The elevator work will be delayed until early to mid-April, however, the district will work on seeking a temporary occupancy order if the elevator is not completed but the rest of the area is. Mr. Storm talked about summer roofing projects at the high school and the Amanda Moore gym. They are currently looking at the Romeo Middle School water main and working to put together a bid project. The fire alarm panel at Washington Elementary had an emergency repair over the break and Mr. Storm is looking into the need to upgrade the systems in our other buildings. Mr. Storm reviewed his director's report and shared that we will continue our lawn service with KLM and that ABM will continue with our custodial services with a new lead supervisor.

#### **Superintendent's Report –**

Academic Services Update –

*Elementary* – Mr. Murray shared elementary updates. High-dosage tutoring in Math and ELA is being brought back at the elementary level and has grown (currently 110 students and 22 teachers). We have partnered with the MISD for the math portion as this is the first year of the launch, and we are using intervention resources from our curriculum to support our students in ELA. The NWEA testing window has closed and the data is under review. Five ELA coaches will be coming to the district on February 13<sup>th</sup> as we continue our commitment to provide professional development for our new ELA curriculum. The coaches will be visiting classrooms to provide constructive feedback.

Mrs. Rice asked how students get involved in the tutoring and Mr. Murray responded that it is by invite only for students who are most at-risk.

*Secondary* – Ms. McFarlane shared secondary updates and stated that it was a soft start for tutoring at the middle school due to having Wednesday off. The tutoring involves a smaller group of students (3-5 students). There are 3 dedicated math tutors, 3 dedicated ELA tutors and 1 teacher that is hybrid and does both. NWEA testing has not finished at the secondary level.

Schools of Choice - Dr. Robinson mentioned that the School of Choice Resolution is an action item tonight. They are recommending participation in 105 and 105C. There are some changes from last year to support the elementary redistricting that was done. The recommendation is to have unlimited choice for Y5's -8<sup>th</sup> grade. Limited choice is being recommended for 9-11<sup>th</sup> grades with a defined number of seats and a 30-day open window timeline. Intra district Choice is recommended for elementary students (with specific reasons and rationale only).

Mrs. Eichhorst asked if there is any intent on redistricting again and Dr. Robinson stated that there is not. He explained that residents of the district will always have a place and do not have to apply for Schools of Choice.

Millage Renewals – Dr. Robinson stated that he completed the municipal presentations and thanked the leadership and the boards there. Podcast and video resources will be posted on the elections page of the district website. He reminded voters that 'local only' ballots are available.

Strategic Plans (Year 2) – Final conversations regarding action plans took place at the district leadership meeting and the plans are finalized and will be shared with the board.

State of the District 2024 – This parent information meeting will take place on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the high school. Dr. Robinson will give a large group presentation and then parents can choose to attend 2 break-out sessions.

**Public  
Comment**

Brielle Cichocki expressed concern with class sizes and asked what the cap size is. She stated that there are 32 students in her child's classroom. She feels schools of choice should not be allowed in schools that are already over populated and that large class sizes are not in the best interest of the students. She asked for the board to vote no for schools of choice.

Allyson Bowman asked if schools of choice students have a different set of discipline guidelines because being granted Schools of Choice is a privilege.

**Approved**

**Resolutions**

- **Employee Services Resolution #8 – Personnel Update**  
Young moved. Conner supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Facilities Resolution #9 – Croswell ECC Playground Equipment Purchase**  
Antoine moved. Conner supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Mr. Young thought the equipment could have had a little more design and personality and mentioned that perhaps in the future we could think of more creativeness that defines us as Romeo.

- **Facilities Resolution #10 – Croswell Site Improvements Phase I**  
Young moved. Antoine supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried.
- **Business Services Resolution #11 – Schools of Choice 2024-25**  
Banach moved. Conner supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Mrs. Rice stated that she supports Schools of Choice but does not agree with allowing SOC parents to dictate where they want to attend. She feels they should have to attend a school with a lesser number of enrollees. Mrs. Banach mentioned that this is what happens and that SOC students are not what is causing the large class sizes.

- **Business Services Resolution #12 – CTE Machine Tools Equipment Purchase**  
Rice moved. Antoine supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Mr. Young thanked those that wrote the grant.

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

Mrs. Eichhorst asked when the data will be available to review from the Climate Survey. Dr. Robinson stated that they will be reviewing it internally in February and that it will be on the agenda for the March workshop.

**Public  
Comment**

Derek Lies expressed concern with class sizes and the School of Choice policy. He stated our schools are bursting at the seams and there is no way a teacher can teach effectively with classes of 30 or more students.

Carrie Gizoni asked if students have to apply for Schools of Choice every year. She stated that she chose not to live in another district that had that rule because her children could be separated in different schools. Romeo is growing and she feels that this is something they should consider.

**Adjournment** 7:15 p.m. Antoine moved. Eichhorst supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Approved by: Mike Antoine, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_