DRAFT

ROMEO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2019 - 6:00 P.M.

Called to Order

6:00 p.m. Called to order by President, Gus Demas, at Hevel Elementary School. 5 members present. 2 members absent with notice (Antoine & Barrows).

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by the Board

Approved

Agenda for October 21, 2019, Regular Meeting. Young moved, Banach supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried. Agenda Approved.

Celebrations and Successes

Superintendent Todd Robinson shared the following district celebrations/successes:

- Superintendent Robinson mentioned that October is fire safety month and shared pictures of the Washington Fire Dept. visits to the elementary schools to teach fire safety. He also shared pictures of some Fun Run events that took place at the elementary buildings.
- Photos were shared of the Positive You assemblies that took place at the middle schools. Superintendent Robinson mentioned the positive message and impact that founder Kenny Spear is having on the students. He also shared pictures of students with new Positive You team member Greg Jones – a former MSU football player & Super Bowl Champion.
- Photos were shared of students with newly delivered sousaphones. He explained that the sousaphones they had been using were 30-40 years old. He thanked the board for helping to make the new instruments possible. He also reminded the board that the marching band uniforms are in process and mentioned that the bidding process takes time but the new uniforms will be here by next football season.
- Superintendent Robinson shared athlete photos and athletic information on the following: Sarah Himmelsbaugh represented Romeo at the Girls Golf State finals, the varsity football team advanced to the playoffs for the 16th consecutive year, boys soccer defeated Utica to advance to the district semi-finals and Romeo Cross Country boys and girls are MAC Red Champs! He mentioned that the football game at Chippewa Valley was the best he has seen in a while and that we received some great compliments on social media from people who work for Chippewa Valley regarding our students, parents and fans which was a pleasure to hear.

Presentations

Jessica Rolfe, from Yeo & Yeo CPA's & Business Consultants, presented the annual Financial Audit. She shared audit results, and indicated an unmodified opinion which she stated indicates a clean report. She shared revenues, expenditures, changes in fund balance, enrollment trends and future challenges. She stated that fund balance increased by almost $800,000 which was great because we had budgeted for a loss. She mentioned that revenues and expenditures were very consistent with last year and that we are maintaining a healthy fund balance. There were no findings for financial statements or federal awards and there was 1 management recommendation which pertained to athletic ticket reconciliations & tightening controls on those.

Informational Updates/New Business	**Communications –** Superintendent Robinson shared invitations with the Board Members for Veteran's Day events that were taking place at Hevel and Amanda Moore Elementary. Board Secretary, Jill Rilley, mentioned a Macomb Reads Festival that is taking place at the MISD. She mentioned that it is free and should be a fun-filled family festival. **Committee Reports** – Jill Rilley shared information from the facilities meeting. She shared construction updates and mentioned that the auditorium construction is on schedule, heating & cooling adjustments are still being worked on, an ice machine was purchased for Athletics, furniture purchases have been completed including outdoor seating and the security system is in progress. They are working on quieting vents in 3 science classrooms and bids on signage should be in Nov. 11th. She also mentioned bids for the middle school are in. She indicated that asbestos abatement will be taking place outside of school hours and that all precautions will be taking place. She mentioned carpeting, case work and electrical bids were in and explained the rationale in cases where the lowest bid was not accepted. She explained that some modifications had to be made to the pool renovations due to engineering calculations and that the work on the path between Hevel and Powell continues. Superintendent Robinson reminded everyone of upcoming meetings – the policy meeting on the 11th at 5:00 p.m. at Hevel and the 2 meetings on November 18th - curriculum at 4:30 and facilities at 5:30 at the Administration Building. **REA Contractual Compensation Update** – Superintendent Robinson shared a letter that was sent to all professional staff that are affiliated with the REA. He explained that due to the state aid status report that was released, the additional compensation increase that was agreed upon per the board approved contract was granted and that payroll will be working on getting monies adjusted **District School Safety Initiative Update** – Superintendent Robinson indicated that we continue to focus on safety areas. In the coming 6 weeks, our staff will be participating in 'Stop the Bleed' training which we received grant funding for and are still pursuing support for. Mr. Robinson shared the staff training schedule with the board and also shared information on 'Avert' Training. Last year the district was having conversations on active shooter training after some horrific incidents that occurred. Our School Safety Team has been working with the county in determining the best course of action for us to align with our responders. Premier Safety Group offers the 'Avert' training which a core team will be participating in and we will have some dialogue on how we see it fitting in with our district with the hopes of training the rest of our staff.
Public Comment	None
Approved	**Consent Action Items.** Conner moved, Banach Supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried. • General Fund Bills (check register) • Financial Reports (summary, revenue & expense reports) • Wire Transfer Reports • Purchasing Card Expenditures • Minutes from Regular Meeting held on October 7, 2019.
Approved	**Resolutions** • **Business Services Resolution #86 – Approval of Annual Financial Audit.** Banach moved, Conner supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried. • **Business Services Resolution #87 – Winter Tax Levy.** Banach moved, Conner supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

- **HR Resolution #88 – Personnel Update.**
  Banach moved, Conner supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

- **Facilities Resolution #89 – Awarding of Middle School 2016 Bond Construction Contracts.**
  Young moved, Banach supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Board Discussion/ For the Good of the District

Board Member Jill Rilley mentioned that on the subject of the Safety discussions, we should not lose sight of the fact that data shows the relationships that teachers and staff have with kids goes furthest to make a safe school environment and wants to commend our teachers on the work that they are doing and their focus of building relationships with kids. She stated that the safety classes are absolutely necessary and she is thankful to the board for supporting those but she wants to give the staff a pat on the back for the relationship piece as well.

Board Member Chris Young also mentioned that it is important to have more emphasis on mental health and allow our students to be able to have discussions with their teachers or principal – things such as whether they feel safe at home and to let them know that our staff is here to help.

Board Member Anita Banach reminded everyone of the important election that is coming up. She mentioned that absentee ballots make it easy to vote. She mentioned seeing the pictures of new band equipment and the conversations about updates to the pool (things that have been pushed off for so long) is thanks to the sinking fund and the support of the community which is so important. She also mentioned that teachers & staff took hits for many years & that they are finally able to make a commitment to the staff as well. She mentioned that less than 20% of people will cast a ballot and no matter which way you are going to vote, you should exercise the right to vote.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

6:35 p.m. Young moved, Banach supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Approved by: Jill Rilley, Secretary_____