

MANCELONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education
Minutes of Regular Meeting
August 11, 2009

Present: Cook, Derrer, Harden, Musselman, Nothstine, Ross, Thompson
Absent: none
Central Office Staff: DiRosa, Moeke, Meeder
Administration: Naumcheff, Culver, Clark

President Ross called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Middle School Media Center

Approval of Agenda

Musselman/Cook approve the agenda as presented

YES: 7
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Citizens Comments- no comments were made

Consent Agenda

Cook/Thompson to approve the consent agenda items: A) Minutes of the organizational and regular meeting held on July 14, 2009; B) Monthly Finance- approve accounts payable checks for the dates and amounts of: GENERAL FUND: 7/21/09- \$163,596.35; 8/4/09- \$58,145.40; SINKING FUND: 7/21/09- \$8,279.30; 8/4/09- \$14,894.57

YES: 7
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Correspondence- Superintendent DiRosa stated there was no correspondence to bring to the Board

Principals'/Superintendent's Reports

Middle School Principal Chad Culver discussed the new student handbook for middle school, pointing out the areas where revisions were made. One new addition to the handbook is the section of frequently asked questions, where detailed answers are given. He also spoke to some significant changes to the class schedule, most notably the addition of Spanish for all students, music only for fifth grade students (no band will be offered), Read 180 classes will be offered for the entire school day and our special education teachers will be doing co-teaching.

Elementary School Principal Trent Naumcheff began by giving kudos to the cleaning crew that did a great job cleaning up the vandalism damage. As for the student handbook, one change that all buildings are making regards the attendance policy, which was developed in cooperation with Antrim County Sheriff Deputy Dauntner. Two other items, pertaining to busing and recesses, were updated. Secretaries are in the process of condensing some of the multiple forms parents need to sign, hopefully getting them on one sheet. Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten Roundup will be on the 18th, the district Meet the Teacher Night will be on September 3. Class lists will be posted soon. Both Mr. Naumcheff and Mr. DiRosa will be attending the initial conference for our participation in MiBLSi in two weeks. Building staff will have Professional Development on September 2 and 3.

High School Principal Joe Clark, too, thanked the team for the cleanup in his building, noting that it looks terrific. Changes to the student handbook were noted, with one of the biggest being the attendance policy. Mr. Clark, too, pointed out that the policy will be consistent in all three buildings. Other changes noted included the Earth Science requirement, home-schooled students attending our high school events, electronic devices, open campus lunch, smoking on school grounds, throwing snowballs, consent for police interrogation of students. Mr. Clark said the high school and middle school will be sharing Kurt Dingman

(physical education/health), Diane Miller-Hess (computers) and Jeri Dorr (Spanish). The high school, too, has some co-taught classes scheduled.

Since it was ineffective, Saturday School will not be offered this year. It did not change the problem and cost the district time and money. Mr. Clark said our high school has struggled with attendance since he has been here. Many things have been tried and when a student's attendance was reflected in their grades, we paid for it in our drop out rate.

Mr. Clark shared some exciting news. For two prior years we did not make AYP but recently we received the news that we made AYP for the past year and received a grade of B. Our Career Tech numbers are up a little for this year. We should have a full bus going to Traverse City each school day.

Superintendent DiRosa began by thanking Ed McCarty, Brad Lanning and Bryce Kennedy for all their help with the investigation of the recent vandalism. He said the DM Burr team has made great progress in cleaning up the two buildings. We should be up and in fine shape for the start of school. Costs are coming in and he anticipates they could run as high \$50-80,000 or higher. Mr. DiRosa invited board members to the luncheon on September 2. Our Meet the Teacher Night is scheduled for September 3; at 6 p.m. at the elementary, 6:30 at the middle school and 7:00 at the high school.

Citizens Comments on Action Items- no comments were made

Committee appointments- President Ross distributed his list with committee appointments:

Finance- Cathy Harden, Kim Musselman, Burt Thompson, Mr. DiRosa

Personnel/Negotiations- Amy Derrer, Tom Ross, Burt Thompson, Mr. DiRosa

Forestry- Bill Nothstine, Mr. DiRosa

Communications- one board member (rotated alphabetically), Mr. DiRosa

Policy- Jerry Cook, Cathy Harden, Bill Nothstine, Mr. DiRosa

Musselman/Cook to approve list of committee members, as presented

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion carried.

Amy Derrer asked about a board goals meeting. President Ross said he thought it was a good thing to do. Superintendent DiRosa will get a date scheduled with Michael Washburn that coincides with a regular board meeting. The goal setting session will begin at 3:30 p.m.

Action Items

Cook/Harden approve Middle School and High School master schedules as presented, including changes necessary for staffing

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion carried.

Derrer/Cook approve handbooks for Elementary, Middle School and High School, as presented

Bill Nothstine asked if athletics were to be included. Mr. DiRosa said there haven't been any changes made to existing coaches' rules.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion carried.

Cook/Musselman to sell Bus #91A and Bus #93 to Kalamazoo Metal Recyclers, LLC

Superintendent DiRosa said the buses put up for bid are the two oldest buses in our fleet. He said we received four bids, with Kalamazoo Metal Recyclers being the highest bidder.

YES: 7
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Harden/Thompson add Northwestern Bank to District School Depositories

Superintendent DiRosa stated Shelly Meeder researched and found Northwestern had the highest interest rate for CDs. Shelly Meeder said our attorney told her in order to maintain FDIC coverage we would have to split our large CD, to remain under the \$250,000 threshold. She added that Northwestern was the low bidder on an interest rate for our recent bus purchase.

YES: 7
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Items for Future Consideration- Amy Derrer announced the Stuff the Bus project, something Communities in Schools staff has been working on. The hope is to have a bus available during Meet the Teacher Night, filled with school supplies. Teachers will then identify those students needing the supplies. Superintendent DiRosa said he recently received NEOLA policies. The first reading for the proposed new/revised/replacement policies will be on the September agenda.

Derrer/Cook to adjourn at 5:25 p.m.

YES: 7
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Moeke, Recording Secretary

Kim Musselman, Secretary