

MANCELONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education
Minutes of Regular Meeting
November 10, 2009

Present: Cook, Derrer, Musselman, Nothstine, Thompson
Absent: Harden, Ross
Central Office Staff: DiRosa, Moeke, Meeder
Administration: Culver, Clark

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

Mary Rose Farrington and Roger Shomo from the Northwest MICHIGAN WORKS! Youth program presented the 2009 Northwest Michigan Worksite of the Year Award (for Antrim County) to our school for our contribution to their very successful *Earn and Learn* summer youth program. Praise was expressed for two district employees; Kristin Witt, Early Childhood Program Director and Ed McCarty, Maintenance Supervisor, for their outstanding support to the program and the economically disadvantaged youth and young adults that benefited from the summer employment.

Approval of Agenda

Musselman/Cook approve the agenda as presented

YES: 5
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Citizens Comments- none

Consent Agenda

Cook/Thompson to approve the consent agenda items: A) Minutes of the regular meeting held on October 13, 2009; B) Monthly Finance- approve accounts payable checks for the dates and amounts of: GENERAL FUND: 10/13/09- \$42,536.48; 10/14/09- \$8,953.88; 10/27/09- \$135,066.94; SINKING FUND: 10/13/09- \$1,725.05; 10/27/09- \$1,606.23; C) Accept recommendation to hire Amanda Murray for 8th grade girls basketball coach position

YES: 5
NO: 0
Motion carried.

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

Committee Reports- Superintendent DiRosa reported the finance committee met on November 9. He stated uncertainty in the amount to be cut from State funding, whether it will be the \$165 per pupil programmed in their budget or the additional \$127 the Governor recently eluded to, may put our district in the red. Consequently, he has called for a spending freeze. The district will be in the red unless the State does something about the additional \$127 per pupil cut.

Principals'/Superintendent's Reports

Middle School Principal Chad Culver said last week was a good end to the first marking period. Behavior referrals are down significantly. NWEA testing in reading began on Monday and will conclude at the end of the week. Results should be available quickly. Additional NWEA testing will be done in the spring.

Law enforcement units brought the K9 dogs in last week. No drugs were found. Mr. Culver said the positive programs from last school year; Caught Red Handed, Kudos for Kids and the Thirty Second Interventions are underway. He said he is considering the addition of Principal's Student of the Week. Another continuation from last school year will be the Professional Learning Communities staff meetings.

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Thursday afternoon and evening. On Thursday morning the teachers will attend Professional Development (Differentiation of Instruction). Subtle adjustments to the Master Schedule will be necessary to accommodate reading interventions for students. Next fall it will be necessary to make bigger adjustments to the schedule.

High School Principal Joe Clark said students finished their first marking period on a positive note. At this time last year, thirty-six percent of the students were failing at least one class. This year the number is nineteen percent. Last year nineteen percent of the students were failing more than one class. At this time, seven percent of the students are failing more than one

class. Mr. Clark attributes much of the improvement to the Choose Success program. Twelve students recently attended a Sportsmanship-Leadership Conference. The purpose of the conference was to show students how to become effective leaders and build relationships/bridges between school districts.

The K9 units also visited the high school last week. No drugs were found. Twenty-six students stayed after a recent dance and watched the movie, *Stay Alive*, on PBS. Students in Julie Messingschlager's class are currently reading the short story, *Button, Button*. With help from Choose Success, nearly eighty students will be able to see the movie version of the book, *The Box*, on November 13. Students will have an opportunity to see the movie, *New Moon*, on November 20.

On Thursday morning, teachers will meet with Pam Ciganick, a Literary Consultant with our ISD. Ms. Ciganick will discuss instructional strategies and writing. She will also give staff a timed practice ACT writing test. Parent/Teacher conferences will convene in the afternoon.

Elementary School Principal Trent Naumcheff was in presence at the Parent/Teacher conferences in his building and did not attend the meeting.

Superintendent DiRosa said all teachers were given an overview on N1H1 November 5. After the presentation by the health department, business manager, Shelly Meeder, gave a snapshot of where the district is at financially this year. Even though we do not know the current State budget we need to start on next year's budget. Dates Mr. DiRosa shared for upcoming events included November 12- no school (professional development and parent/teacher conferences), November 13- Star Student of the Month at the elementary, November 23- Thanksgiving Lunch at the elementary (students invite one special guest to join them), November 25- no school (professional development in the morning for staff), December 7- elementary Holiday Concert.

Mr. DiRosa spoke about the Broadband Cooperative, pointing out that it would be a real positive step for the district, if broadband came through our area. Burt Thompson added he felt broadband was a good thing to support, pointing out that it could make the Dura building more attractive to a potential purchaser. It would also be a huge benefit to the school should Project Interconnect ever go down.

Mr. DiRosa stated supporting the 2009-2010 Michigan School Readiness resolution will allow us to continue in the program, the same as last year. The \$217,000 will provide for 64 students to participate in the Readiness 4 program in the elementary building. The program was tentatively on the chopping block earlier in the State's budget talks but was recently restored.

Citizens Comments on Action Items- no comments were made

Action Items

Derrer/Musselman express support for the Northern Michigan Broadband Cooperative

YES: 5
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Musselman/Cook approve Resolution to participate in 2009-2010 Michigan Great Start Readiness Program

YES: 5
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Items for Future Consideration- no items were brought forth

Derrer/Cook to adjourn at 5:05 p.m.

YES: 5
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,