

MANCELONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education
Minutes of Regular Meeting
December 8, 2009

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

Vice-President Derrer 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: 5
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Citizens Comments- Margaret VanOver announced that photos of some of our Choose Success students are displayed on the Christmas tree in Alden

Consent Agenda

Cook/Musselman to approve the consent agenda items: A) Minutes of the regular meeting held on November 10, 2009; B) Monthly Finance- approve accounts payable checks for the dates and amounts of: GENERAL FUND: 11/10/09- \$69,590.05; 11/24/09- \$218,863.93; SINKING FUND: 11/10/09- \$473.46; 11/24/09- \$1,482.76

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 December 7. He said he will share a summary of the meeting during his report.

MiBLSi Report- elementary teachers Lori Irwin and Jan Korr gave an update on the Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MiBLSi). The program focuses on two components, behavior and literacy. The two are linked; the less time spent on behaviors, the more time can be spent on reading, and learning goes up. All students will be assessed three times a year, using grade-appropriate benchmarks. If a problem is found, interventions will be put in place and the student will be monitored.

After attending a workshop in Ludington, staff returned with a new logo for the elementary building; **Mancelona P-** Positive attitude, **R-** Respect everyone, **I-** I follow directions, **D-** Do my best and **E-** Everybody is safe. Using the logo, a matrix has been developed, listing what a positive attitude/respect looks like in each area throughout the building. All students will learn and have an understanding of each expectation. Tickets will be given to students that are doing well.

Principals'/Reports

Elementary School Principal Trent Naumcheff pointed out that rather than assuming all kids know the behavioral expectations, with the matrix every student will be taught the same way, accentuating the positives. Praise will be given, something a lot of the students don't hear. Mr. Naumcheff shared some results from the survey available during the recent Parent/Teacher Conference. 'High academic expectations' received the highest rating by those parents participating in the survey. Results also indicated parents feel student behavior is a high priority.

High School Principal Joe Clark said he was excited to learn about the Mancelona Pride logo the elementary building has adopted. He thought it is something that could be used throughout the district, including the high school. Mr. Clark thanked Choose Success for the opportunity for students to see the movie, *New Moon*. It was a huge success, with a large number of students participating.

Mr. Clark announced that five of our high school students have been named Student of the Quarter at the Career Technology Center. They are: Cody Aldrich- Web Programming and Design; Tyler Meadows- Auto Body Repair; Kayla Osborne- Allied Health; Christina Robbins- Early Childhood Education; Kyle Susinko- Power Equipment Technology.

December 7 was the end of the second marking period. The MS-HS Band and Choir Holiday Concert is scheduled for December 17. Our freshman and sophomore students will begin a sexual education segment soon. Janna Deering will be the instructor, covering materials in *All Walks of Life*. Opt-out letters were sent home and a couple students have opted out.

Middle School Principal Chad Culver reported things are going well at the middle school. The Mancelona MetalMen, our robotics team, competed at Lakes Superior State University on November 14. The team brought a trophy back from the competition. DARE graduation is scheduled for December 16 in the 5/6 gymnasium.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent DiRosa began by thanking teachers for being at the elementary winter concert. He commented it was a great program. The Finance Committee met last evening. The 18 mill renewal was discussed. Consensus was to go for a three year renewal rather than every year, as it has been in the past. This will be included on the agenda at the next board meeting.

Work has started on the 2010-2011 budget. During this process those involved will be mindful of being good stewards of our taxpayer's money, having the highest expectations for students and providing the highest quality of education at all times. Being told to look for a \$400 to \$800 cut per pupil next year in State foundation monies, Mr. DiRosa said a four hundred dollar cut, along with other costs increasing, could equate to cutting one million dollars next year.

Citizens Comments on Action Items- no comments were made

Action Items

Harden/Cook invoke for 2010 the Board's previously adopted ongoing resolution imposing a summer tax levy of all annual school property taxes, including debt service

Superintendent DiRosa explained the resolution allows the district to collect summer taxes. Our attorney inserted language in it that will allow the district to collect the taxes in ensuing years without adopting a resolution each year. Further resolutions regarding summer tax collection will only be necessary at the time the board decides to discontinue the collections.

YES: 5
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Musselman/Harden approve technology proposal, with purchases to be made with ARRA Funds

Mr. DiRosa explained the technology proposal will expend eighty thousand dollars from this year's American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds, which total \$170,000. Action regarding the remaining ninety thousand dollars (for core curriculum materials and training) will be brought to the board at a later date. Jerry Cook asked if any of the items listed were replacements for the vandalism at the high school this past summer. Mr. DiRosa answered no. Bill Nothstine inquired about the computers that were used in the CAD program (which has been dropped at the high school). Bryce Kennedy said we still have the software and the computers were repurposed for teachers and classrooms. Superintendent DiRosa added spending the stimulus monies is very limited, allowable only under Special Education and Title I.

YES: 5
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Harden/Derrer authorize the Superintendent and Business Manager to investigate best purchase and make purchase of a school van

Superintendent DiRosa said the district currently has two vans. The van used by Food Service is in really rough shape. We need to look to replacing the vehicle. The second van is used during the summer for driver education and during the remainder of the year by staff members attending meetings or conferences. The driver education van could be sold to Food Service and a replacement van purchased. The Drivers Education program makes \$2,000-2,500 more than it spends. Those monies, along with the sale of the van to Food Service could be transferred to General Fund, allowing the purchase of a replacement van. Shelly Meeder said if the driver education van is not sold to Food Service, new tires will have to be purchased for the van currently used by Food Service, costing more than the van's current value. Amy Derrer said keeping the Drivers Education program in district is important. Mr. DiRosa added that staff use of the van saves mileage costs.

YES: 5
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Items for Future Consideration- Bill Nothstine asked what process is planned to gather input regarding ways to save money. Superintendent DiRosa replied that he will use the same model as was used last year. On January 7, 2010 he will be meeting with the Executive Committee, where the process will begin. Mr. Nothstine stated when laying off teachers a district is closing the school by that much. He asked that any/all possibilities be considered before that happens. Mr. DiRosa stated all cost saving measures are being explored. The goal is to maintain a quality education for students.

Cook/Musselman to adjourn at 5:12 p.m.

YES: 5
NO: 0
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Moeke, Recording Secretary

Kim Musselman, Secretary