

Wayne-Westland Community Schools
Westland, Michigan 48185
December 8, 2008
Regular Board Meeting/7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: President Pitsenbarger, Vice President Monit, Secretary Schofield, Treasurer Becher and Trustees Gabriel, Turner and Walker.

President Pitsenbarger read the following statement:

As a point of information, please be reminded that on Friday, October 17, 2008 the District and the Wayne-Westland Education Association entered into an agreement with the assistance of Administrative Law Judge Doyle O'Connor, not to make any further public comments about negotiations until the fact finder issues his report, which we expect to receive sometime in early January 2009. The District and the Association will continue to bargain in good faith toward a new contract.

Based on this agreement, the Board can not accept public comments about negotiations until both parties have received the fact finder's report and has had a reasonable and adequate opportunity to bargain with the Association about the implications of that report. Such comments will be ruled out of order.

The District and the Union both believe this restriction will permit all concerned to get back to business as usual. Most importantly, the District and the Association both believe this is in the best interest of our students. We trust you will respect and abide by this restriction.

RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS – Baracy

- a. Recognition: Wayne Memorial High School JROTC Zebra Battalion Raider Team National Raider Competition – 2nd Place
- b. Recognition: Wayne Memorial High School JROTC Cadet First Aid Response

CITIZENS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes: November 10, 2008

HUMAN RESOURCE ITEMS

- a. Placement/Non-Instructional Personnel
- b. Resignation/Non-Instructional Personnel
- c. Placement/Hourly Instructional Personnel
- d. Resignation/Instructional Hourly Personnel
- e. Non-Affiliated New Hires/Terminations (informational)

BUSINESS SERVICES ITEMS

- a. Recommendation to Purchase K-5 Reading Series Practice Books
- b. Payment of Invoices
- c. Investment Report

DONATIONS

- a. Mr. Tim Moran: 10 Manufacturers Service Manuals
- b. Patrick & Denise Hartman: 1993 Mitsubishi Galant
- c. Mr. Jody Shaw: Lennox Up Flow 80+ Furnace
- d. Dr. Gregory J. Baracy: 27" Phillips Color TV w/Remote and DVD Mounting
- e. Mr. Gary Bufalini: Craftsman Self-Propelled Lawn Mower
- f. Ms. Monique Fields: Baby Supplies for Early On Baby Group

- g. Individual Donors for the Family Resource Center's Thanksgiving Assistance Fund

ACTION ITEMS (Unanimous votes unless otherwise noted):

- a. Appointment of Scott F. Burek as Principal of Stevenson Middle School
- b. Approval of Contract(s)/Instructional Personnel

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Baracy

Dr. Baracy made the following comments:

Congratulated the 406 students who were recognized at the Academic Letter Ceremony that was held on November 24th; thanked all of the parents, grandparents, and guardians for attending this event and showing their support; invited the listening audience to attend the Wayne Memorial 2008 Winter Fine Arts Festival that begins December 10, 2008; noted that there are many seasonal events that are taking place at all of the schools; and extended his well wishes to everyone in the community for a healthy and prosperous holiday season and New Year.

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS – Pitsenbarger

Human Resources: Trustee Walker reported that the committee met on November 17, 2008. The agenda items discussed were as follows: Update on Fact Finding; Negotiations Update and Strategies; Stevenson Middle School Principalship Status and Other Personnel Issues.

CITIZENS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: GENERAL

Public discussion began at 7:30 p.m. and ended at 8:10 p.m.

T. Hicks: Questioned the Board as to why some students receive a Certificate of Completion and others are issued a diploma; asked why Resource Room paraprofessionals have been cut from the middle schools; and inquired as to why middle schools and high schools share counselors.

Mr. John Mills, Senior Executive Director of Special Education, explained that Resource Room paraprofessionals are solely elementary positions and noted that Certificates of Completion and diplomas have been issued for over 30 years;

Dr. Baracy explained that the number of counselors in middle schools and high schools is determined by the allocation based on the number of students.

M. Blackwell: Asked why employees were videotaping when the teachers were picketing and stated that the recall is "nothing personal".

V. Orr: Speaking tonight as a member of the community, stated that she is a graduate of Wayne Memorial High School and now the principal; feels the comments being made this evening are not accurate; she is very disheartened by the negative comments; and invited parents to visit the schools and observe the computers, technology, and upgraded classrooms.

C. Miller: Questioned the condition of textbooks.

C. Gordon: A former John Glenn teacher and coach who retired in 2004 after teaching for 32 years and lived in the district for 29 years; stated that it is very unfortunate that there is so much misinformation regarding the Bond money used for renovations; stated that he was fortunate to be a part of the Bond Committee and the community wanted to do more than what the district could do; stated that the Bond money was not misspent, the entire district has been upgraded, every classroom in every building has been upgraded; noted that the members that served on the committees were committed to giving the kids the best that we could give them; and admires Dr. Baracy and the Board for having this vision for the district because our kids deserve the best!

G. Verdun: A mother, grandmother, and educator who wanted to thank the Board, the administration, and the teachers for the wonderful education that her children and now grandchild is getting in the District; she has visited other districts where library books are more than 10 years old, the computers are so out

of date that they are not usable; can see that the Bond and the Sinking Fund has made us a “state-of-the-art” school district where students have the opportunity to learn.

B. Smith: Asked Dr. Baracy to explain difference between the Sinking Fund and the Bond money.

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS, BOARD OF EDUCATION – Pitsenbarger

C. Schofield: Responded to a *Letter to the Editor* in the Observer regarding secondary testing and drop out rates and wished everyone a Happy Holiday!

B. Gabriel: Commended the JROTC and Scott Burek on their accomplishments; stated that he always took for granted and expected that every school should have a healthy learning environment; noted how much all of the buildings have changed for the good since the 1980's; we should all be proud of our buildings; and thanked all of the citizens who donated small and large items to the schools and stated that it is very important to recognize those people.

E. Turner: Congratulated Haley and Destinee for leading us in the Pledge this evening; stated that the Wayne Memorial High School JROTC Zebra Battallion is the greatest; and asked everyone to give a great round of applause to Sgt. LaHaine for molding our students for the future; and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

S. Walker: Enjoyed “Thoroughly Modern Millie”, congratulated the Wayne Memorial JROTC; was impressed by the number of students who earned their Academic Letters; and wished everyone a Merry Christmas!

S. Becher: Displayed 138 pages of foreclosures (21,474 total) that are in Wayne County alone for people who are behind on their taxes, which does not include bank foreclosures; noted that the reason students are leaving the District is not because they are unhappy here, but because their parents are losing their jobs and their homes.

S. Monit: Offered his congratulations to Mr. Burek on being appointed Stevenson Middle School Principal – he likes to see that we promote from within; thoroughly enjoyed the Academic Awards ceremony and noted that it was the largest by far – our students are doing great; he is happy to see that the JROTC stayed for the whole meeting; it speaks to their great character and being a part of this program; thanked all of the citizens who spoke this evening; stated that he was involved with the original Bond Committee; noted that the buildings were in great disarray prior to the Bond; when the committee was deciding what work would be done, their first thought was making this a great learning environment; and wished everyone a Happy Holiday and a safe and a peaceful holiday season.

M. Pitsenbarger: Congratulated the JROTC from Wayne Memorial and announced that she loves watching them in the parade and wanted to let them know how much they are appreciated; remembers when the custodial staff needed to use duct tape to hold the carpet in place; she loves this school district and has seen it grow in leaps and bounds; and wished everyone a Happy Holiday and a bright new year!

ADJOURNMENT: Approximately 8:30 p.m.

Note: Official Board of Education meeting minutes are on file in the Superintendent's Office at 36745 Marquette, Westland. Additionally, Board of Education meetings are shown on Cable Channel 19 (Westland Comcast) and Channel 15 (Westland-WOW), Channel 19 (Wayne), Channel 18 (Canton -2nd & 4th Mondays @ 10:00 p.m.) and Channel 20 (Inkster – Fridays from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.).