To be approved at the Board of Education meeting March 8, 2011.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 8, 2011 REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING.

The Shaker Heights Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at Boulevard Elementary School, 14900 Drexmore, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120.

Members present: Mrs. Jennifer P. Mearns, Mr. Peter A. Robertson, Ms. Annette Tucker Sutherland, and Mr. Norman A. Bliss.

President Norman A. Bliss presided.

At this time Mr. Robertson moved, seconded by Ms. Sutherland that the Board recess to executive session to discuss collective bargaining and personnel items at 6:31 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mrs. Mearns, Mr. Robertson, Ms. Sutherland, Mr. Bliss.

The motion carried.

11-02-20

Ms. Freda J. Levenson joined the beginning of the executive session at 6:32 p.m.

President Bliss declared the end of the executive session at 7:49 p.m. The Board of Education reconvened the public session at 8:00 p.m.

At this time President Bliss welcomed everyone in attendance. Mr. Bliss commented on public participation at Board meetings. When members of the public are called upon to address the Board, they should state their name and address, limit comments to two to three minutes, and remember that this is not a meeting designed for lengthy dialogue. President Bliss invited the audience to ask questions or make comments pertaining to agenda items. There being none, the meeting continued.

Upon the presentation of the Minutes of the January 11, 2011 Organizational meeting and the Minutes of the January 11, 2011 regular meeting, Ms. Sutherland moved, seconded by Ms. Levenson to approve the minutes as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Levenson, Mrs. Mearns, Mr. Robertson, Ms. Sutherland, Mr. Bliss.

The motion carried.

11-02-21

# SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Mark Freeman, Ms. Levenson moved, seconded by Mrs. Mearns that the following personnel items be approved:

**PERSONNEL**

**Certified**

**Change in Assignment for the 2010-2011 School Year**

McGhee, Dominic – (Intervention Specialist Teacher/Middle School) – From Teacher Aide/Middle School, to Teacher/Middle School, Class B.A., step a of the Teachers’ Salary Schedule – Effective January 14, 2011

**Temporary Employees: Lunch Room Supervisors, Substitute Tutors, Home Instructors, Substitute Teachers, Substitute Nurses, Substitute Library Aides, Tutoring Center Tutors for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Brittain, Donna

Buzzelli, Nicole

Cahn, Amy

Hayhurst, Mark

Houk, Janet

Kenny, Trisha

Leach, Jennifer

Leonard, Adrienne

Lyzen, Amber

Martin, Belvia

Meinhard, Janet

Ouelette, Anne

Siebert, Alan

Sinclair, Jennifer

Sledge, Andrea

Talbott-Miller, Debra

Welsch, Jennifer

**Change of Rate for Individual Substitute Teacher for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Fleming, Kyle – (Social Studies/High School) – Class B.A. – Effective March 6, 2011

Hayhurst, Mark – (Physical Education/Mercer) – Class B.A. – Effective January 31, 2011

Talbott-Miller, Debra – (Library Media/High School) – Class M.A. – Effective February 7, 2011

**Curriculum Writing and Instructional Planning for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Authorization is requested for staff members to participate in curriculum writing and instructional planning. These activities will not exceed 10 units per individual. A unit refers to approximately one-half day of service at $65.

Technology

Gillette, Bradley

McCauley, Tina (3)

**Supplemental Contracts for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Woodbury Special Supplementals

Gaines, Lynne – Drama Club – .05 x 24

Gaines, Lynne – Jump Rope Club – .05 x 24

McDonough, Lise – Strings Club – 0.1 x 46

Middle School

Davis, Amy – Department Co-Chairperson/Special Education – 6.0 x 1

High School

Cox, Travis – Preseason Wrestling Asst. Coach – 2.5 x 1

Larsen, Michael – Preseason Swimming Asst. Coach (Women) – 2.5 x 1

Larsen, Michael – Swimming Asst. Coach (Women) – 6.5 x 1

Schwartz, John – Wrestling Asst. Coach – 6.5 x 1

**Special Supplementals for the 2010-2011 School Year**

**Districtwide/Second Semester – Mentors**

Canady, Regina

DeMauro, Karen

Fleming, Kathleen

Karim, Randa (1st and 2nd)

Kunchik, Kelly

Landi, Susan

Richards, Tim

Roy, Piyali

Steggert, Stacey

Vazquez, Tito

Warshay, Alisa

Wilkes, Jessica

**Leave of Absence for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Daberko, Laura – (Library Media/High School) – Effective January 24, 2011 through June 10, 2011 (caregiver)

**Resignation**

Pensky, Dorothy – (Library/Media/Mercer School) – Effective at the end of the day January 21, 2011 – 2 years, 5 months of service

**Classified**

**Temporary Employees: Building Monitors, Head Lunchroom Aides, Lunchroom Aides, Off-Duty Police Officers, Student Technology Aides, Student Aides, Substitute Bus Drivers, Substitute Bus Monitors, Substitute Cafeteria Workers, Substitute Custodians, Substitute Garage Mechanic, Substitute Secretarial Technicians, Substitute Security, Substitute Teacher Aides, Technology Interns, Tutoring Center Study Assistants for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Anderson, Andrea

Byrd, Anthony

Stolfer, Greg

Talbott-Miller, Debra

**Curriculum Writing and Instructional Planning for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Authorization is requested for staff members to participate in curriculum writing and instructional planning. These activities will not exceed 10 units per individual. A unit refers to approximately one-half day of service at $65.

Technology

McCord, Claudia

**Leave of Absence for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Calvert, Judy – (Security Monitor/Woodbury) – Effective January 28, 2011 through February 7, 2011 (FMLA)

**Resignation**

Johnson, Richard H. – (Security/High School) – Effective at the end of the day January 18, 2011 – 7 years of service

Myers, Wendy – (Teacher Aide/Mercer School) – Retroactive disability retirement effective February 1, 2010 – 10 years, 6 months of service (from leave of absence)

**ADDENDUM**

**Classified**

**Temporary Employees: Building Monitors, Head Lunchroom Aides, Lunchroom Aides, Off-Duty Police Officers, Student Technology Aides, Student Aides, Substitute Bus Drivers, Substitute Bus Monitors, Substitute Custodians, Substitute Secretarial Technicians, Substitute Security, Substitute Teacher Aides, Technology Interns, Tutoring Center Study Assistants for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Taylor-Papp, Elizabeth

**Extension to Leave of Absence for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Andre, Jeffrey – (Custodian/Woodbury) – Effective February 1, 2011 through August 1, 2011 (medical)

Taylor, Eleanor – (Bus Driver/Transportation) – Effective February 16, 2011 through March 7, 2011 (medical)

**Leave of Absence for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Johnson, Richard Sr. – (Security Monitor/High School) – Effective January 5, 2011 through March 25, 2011 (medical)

Young, Niccole – (Special Education Aide/Woodbury School) – Effective March 9, 2011 through March 23, 2011 (medical)

**Resignation**

Kasper, Heather – (Teacher Aide/High School) – Effective February 1, 2011 – 9 years, 4 months of service

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Levenson, Mrs. Mearns, Mr. Robertson, Ms. Sutherland, Mr. Bliss.

The motion carried.

11-02-22

**BUSINESS**

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Mark Freeman, Mrs. Mearns moved, seconded by Ms. Sutherland that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

**Ohio Schools Council Cooperative Advertising and Receiving Bids for School Bus Chassis and Bodies**

WHEREAS, the Shaker Heights City Schools Board of Education wishes to advertise and receive bids for the purchase of four (4) 71- passenger conventional integrated chassis school buses. The 2011-2012 Cooperative School Bus Purchasing Program fee is $325.00.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Shaker Heights City Schools Board of Education wishes to participate and authorizes the Ohio Schools Council to advertise and receive bids on behalf of said Board as per the specifications submitted for the cooperative purchase of four (4) 71-passenger conventional integrated chassis school buses. This Board agrees to pay $325.00 to Ohio Schools Council for school district membership as a service fee for this purpose.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Levenson, Mrs. Mearns, Mr. Robertson, Ms. Sutherland, Mr. Bliss.

The motion carried.

11-02-23

**WELCOME – MRS. COLLEEN LONGO, BOULEVARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

At this time, Superintendent Mark Freeman introduced Mrs. Colleen Longo, principal of Boulevard Elementary School. Mrs. Longo extended a warm welcome to the Board and community.

**DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS**

At this time, Superintendent Mark Freeman informed the Board of a delay in student dismissal earlier in the day due to a carjacking in the Mooreland area.

**3 SENIORS ARE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR CANDIDATES**

Shaker Heights High School seniors **Nathaniel Henry, Ilana Polster,** and **Zofia Prochoroff** have been selected as candidates for the United States Presidential Scholars Program. The program was established in 1964 by executive order of the President to recognize and honor some of the nation's most distinguished high school seniors.

Out of some 3,000 candidates, as many as 141 students are chosen annually to become Presidential Scholars and are selected on the basis of their accomplishments in many areas, including academic and artistic success, leadership, and involvement in the school and community. Students chosen as Presidential Scholars will be recognized at a ceremony sponsored by the White House in June in Washington, D.C.

**DISTRICT MEETS TARGET OF $2 MILLION IN SPENDING REDUCTIONS**

Through continued aggressive cost cutting, the District has exceeded its targeted savings of $2 million for the current school year, according to an analysis by Treasurer Bryan Christman. Most of the savings have resulted from carefully considered staff reductions, and come on top of substantial spending cuts over the past four years.

School districts in Ohio are under increased financial pressure because of the state’s economic problems. With the state facing a projected $8 billion shortfall in the next biennial budget, state aid to schools is expected to drop significantly.

Most of the savings resulted from attrition. As positions are vacated through retirement or resignation, the need to fill them is carefully weighed by the management team. In many cases, responsibilities are reallocated among employees. In addition, by outsourcing all food service operations, the District anticipates net savings of $150,000 this school year. So far this fiscal year, spending is coming in lower than even the trimmed-down budget. Details may be found at *www.shaker.org/financial*.

**LEGISLATION WOULD RESTORE LOST CALAMITY DAYS**

Bills have been introduced in the Ohio House and Senate that would help schools avoid adding makeup days to their calendars. Because of multiple severe storms, many school districts statewide have already used or exceeded the three calamity days allotted this year by the state.

The number was reduced from five under Governor Strickland as an effort to add instructional days without incurring additional cost. Governor Kasich, who took office last month, has said that he supports legislation introduced in the Senate to restore five calamity days.

This year to date, Shaker has used three calamity days.

**SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION HELD AT HIGH SCHOOL**

Seven Shaker Heights High School students, including **Kamela Abdul Razzaaq**, **Angel Coleman, Zoe Davidson, Alexis Moten**, **Michael Thomas, Jonah Weinstein,** and **Danielle White** competed in the third annual Shakespeare Competition held at the school on January 28. Michael Thomas’s first place performance of a monologue by Trinculo from *The Tempest* advances him to the Regional Shakespeare Competition, which will take place later this month at Playhouse Square. Jonah Weinstein and Zoe Davidson were named first and second runners up respectively.

Sponsored by The English Speaking Union (ESU), the competition is designed to help high school students develop their communications skills and appreciation of language and literature through the study, interpretation, and performance of Shakespeare’s monologues and sonnets. Students participate in three qualifying stages at the school, ESU regional, and national levels. The winner of the national competition will receive the ESU's Amanda Steele Scholarship for summer study at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London.

**WINNERS NAMED IN GEOGRAPHY BEES**

Two Shaker students have earned top honors in local National Geographic Bee competitions. **Andrew Mohar**, a fifth grader at Woodbury and **Sameer Apte**, an eighth grader at the Middle School, recently won their respective school geography bees. As school winners, both students have the opportunity to take the state competition qualification examination.

**Weitong Wang** was named runner up in the Woodbury contest, while **Eeyoha Aklog**, **Max Rotatori**, and **Matt Weisman** tied for third place. At the Middle School, **Ella Bal** earned the seventh grade championship title, and **Isaiah Powell-Askew** came in second at that level. School winner Sameer Apte was also named eighth grade champion, and **Narayan Sundararajan** took second place.

Sponsored by the National Geographic Society, the competition is designed to encourage teachers to include geography in their classrooms, spark interest in the subject, and increase public awareness about geography. Woodbury faculty member **Joseph Romano** and Middle School faculty member **Michael Sears** coordinate the school competitions.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| February 9 | **Middle School Winter Orchestra Concert**, 7:00 p.m. |
| February 10 | **High School Grade 9 Theatre First Nighter Preview**, 7:00 p.m. |
| February 11 & 12 | **High School Grade 9 Theatre Experience**, 8:00 p.m. |
| February 15 | **High School Orientation,** 7:00 p.m. (rescheduled from February 2) |
| February 16 | **Boulevard Incoming Kindergarten Open House,** 6:30 p.m. |
| February 23 | **Middle School Grade 7 Choir Concert**, 7:00 p.m. |
| February 24 | **Lomond Incoming Kindergarten Open House,** 7:00 p.m. |
| February 25 & 26 | **Onaway Little Theater**, 7:00 p.m. |
| February 27 | **Onaway Little Theater**, 4:00 p.m. |
| March 1 | **High School Band Contest Preview Concert**, 7:00 p.m. |
| March 1 | **Mercer Incoming Kindergarten Open House**, 7:00 p.m. |

**TREASURER’S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Bryan Christman, Treasurer, Mrs. Mearns moved, seconded by Ms. Sutherland that the monthly financial report consisting of financial statements for the month ended January 2011 (Exhibit T-1) and the Interim Investments listed below be ratified.

Mr. Christman commented on the financial statements as follows:

* **Expenditures** – We have a $1.9 million net favorable variance to budget through January.
* **Revenues** – We have a $1.9 million unfavorable variance at this time due primarily to timing.
* **Budget Reductions for Fiscal 2011** – As indicated in last week’s District News Release, we recently completed our analysis of the budget reductions implemented thus far this fiscal year. The reductions include approximately 23 positions eliminated, primarily through attrition. The position reductions include the following: Tutors-1; Custodial & Maintenance-7; Secretarial-1.5; Aides-2; and Teachers-11.35. In addition to the personnel reductions, the savings include replacement savings differential amounts in certain significant situations. Additionally, the budget savings include an anticipated net savings of $150,000 this fiscal year from outsourcing the Food Service division activities and approximately $34,000 of savings due to the reduction of certain outside contracted hours utilized in the provision of special education services. We will continue to monitor the budget activity throughout the year.
* **OfficeMax Delinquent Tangible Personal Property Status** – The saga of the delinquent OfficeMax tangible personal property tax continues. Through conversations with the County Auditor’s office, the Ohio Department of Taxation, the Board of Tax Appeals (BTA), and the Ohio Attorney General’s Office (AG), I have pieced together the following update. The Ohio Department of Taxation dismissed the OfficeMax appeal for the 2005 tax year in May 2010. The denial was based upon a lack of standing due to the fact that a timely appeal had not been filed. OfficeMax filed an appeal to the Ohio Board of Tax Appeals in July 2010. Per my discussions with the BTA and the AG, the appeal will not be heard before calendar 2012 (due to backlog and reduction in BTA staff) and most likely not final determined until late 2012. Assuming the appeal is denied by the BTA, the earliest payment could be expected is in calendar 2013. This of course assumes that OfficeMax does not pursue one last appeal available to them, to the Ohio Supreme Court. Consequently, in our internal working five-year forecast, we have pushed the collection of the expected $1.8 million receipt from this fiscal year (2011) to Fiscal 2013

Mr. Christman also reported that there is a flurry of new bill proposal activity in Columbus.



Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Levenson, Mrs. Mearns, Mr. Robertson, Ms. Sutherland, Mr. Bliss.

The motion carried.

11-02-24

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Bryan Christman, Treasurer, Mr. Robertson moved, seconded by Ms. Levenson that the Board of Education approve the following supplemental appropriation resolution:

WHEREAS, the Shaker Heights Board of Education has received grants and awards from various funding sources; and

WHEREAS, the Shaker Heights Board of Education on September 14, 2010, adopted annual appropriations for the 2010-2011 budget year, which in part this appropriation will either replace or amend;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Shaker Heights Board of Education, amend its previously adopted appropriation accounts:

**No Exhibit – To amend previous appropriation**

**Funding Agency: Ohio Department of Education**

**Funding: State of Ohio**

**Project: Alternative Schools**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FUND | **SPCC** | **FUNC.** | **OBJ.** | **OPU** | **DESC.** | **INC./DEC.**  **APPROP.** |
| 463 | 9211 | Var. | Var. | Var. |  | $4,212.00 |

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Levenson, Mrs. Mearns, Mr. Robertson, Ms. Sutherland, Mr. Bliss.

The motion carried.

11-02-25

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

APPROVING REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICIES

WHEREAS, a Board Policy Review Committee was appointed to review the District’s entire set of Board Policies and present suggested revisions as appropriate to the entire Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board Policy Review Committee has reviewed such Board Policies and has a set of revisions to be submitted for the approval of the Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education that the Board Policy Review Committee’s recommended revisions to existing Board Policies be hereby approved.

FIRST READING

(Note: In accordance with Board Policy, no action is required at this time for this the first of three required readings of these Policy amendments.)

DLBA SALARY DEDUCTIONS/TAX SHELTERED ANNUITIES

IGBA EDUCATION OF STUDENTS IN SPECIAL PROGRAMS – DELETE – Replaced by Resolution No. 09-10-117

IIAB TEXTBOOK MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT SELECTION AND ADOPTION POLICY – DELETE – Replaced by Resolution No. 11-01-07

JEE STUDENT ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING

Complete policies delineated in attached Item A.

A Board member inquired about the student attendance accounting policy which led to a brief discussion among the Board members.

**WORK SESSION**

At this time, President Bliss explained to the audience regarding the next agenda item, a work session. President Bliss then asked Mrs. Mearns to help with making a list of topics for discussion. The Board identified the following topics for discussion:

* Communication
* Technology
* Collaboration
* Finance ($2M/Yr.)
* Test – Evaluation
* Risk Management
* Marketing
* Lobbying
* Residency
* Parents as Partners
* Bold Changes

The Board discussed numerous topics including the many facets of communication and getting information out to the media, parents, and community; technology and student access to computers for school work; and possible bold changes which included cooperative services, charter schools, and tuition students. The Board decided to engage in future discussions before finalizing a list of deliverables.

At this time, President Bliss called for Board Committee reports. Ms. Sutherland gave a legislative update about the meeting with State Representative Armond Budish in January. Additionally, Ms. Sutherland updated the Board on her meeting with State Senator Nina Turner, and commented on pending legislation in the State House. (H.B. No. 30 – regarding deferring or eliminating certain requirements under the Ohio Evidence Based Model, and H.B. No. 69 – regarding State pension plan changes).

President Bliss asked for comments from the public on topics not on the agenda. There being none, President Bliss asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Levenson moved, seconded by Mrs. Mearns that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Levenson, Mrs. Mearns, Mr. Robertson, Ms. Sutherland, Mr. Bliss.

The motion carried.

11-02-26

The regular meeting of the Shaker Heights Board of Education adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

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Norman A. Bliss, President

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Bryan C. Christman, Treasurer