

**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE FARMINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Lewis Schulman Administrative Center  
32500 Shiawassee Street  
Farmington, Michigan  
January 24, 2012**

President Clay called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

**ROLL CALL: Present:** Sheilah P. Clay, president  
Karen L. Bolsen, vice president  
Priscilla L. Brouillette, secretary  
Frank L. Reid, treasurer  
George E. Gurrola, trustee  
Murray J. Kahn, trustee  
Howard I. Wallach, trustee

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Superintendent Zurvalec; Assistant Superintendents Cost, Harmala, and Ruhland; Executive Directors Manier, Reynolds, and Wilson; members of the staff; students; members of the community; the press; and Executive Assistant Higgins

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Corey Goines and Jasmine Owens, Farmington Central High Schools seniors, and Daniel Walker, Farmington Central alumnus, led the pledge.
2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.** It was moved by Bolsen and supported by Reid that the Board of Education approve the January 24, 2012 regular meeting agenda, as presented.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS.** President Clay explained the procedure for making public comments and made announcements/comments regarding: the earlier premeeting of the Community Relations Committee, Harrison High School's production of "Bye, Bye Birdie," and the next regular meeting on February 7, 2012.

Board members also commented on their 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester building visits to Power and Warner upper elementary schools earlier in the morning where students were engaged in the reading and writing process. They also commented on the use of technology in the classrooms (Smart Boards, iPads, etc.)

4. **CORRESPONDENCE.** Mrs. Brouillette summarized the following correspondence received by the Board of Education: Steven Dearing emailed regarding educational opportunities; Linda Stulberg emailed regarding the sale of Eagle Elementary School; Miriam Breslauer emailed regarding North Farmington High School; and Shawn Fitzpatrick emailed regarding Harrison High School.
5. **REPORT FROM THE STUDENT ROUND TABLE PRESIDENT.** Kayla Wimbush, Round Table president and North Farmington senior, reported on the Round Table's meeting earlier in the day. The meeting focused on the March 1 Pledge for Success Program, "Your Success Starts Today," which was designed for eighth grade students and their parents. She noted that each meeting begins with a word and quote of the month. This month was the word "procrastination."
6. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Karen Bolsen reported on Governor Snyder's State-of-the-State address noting some of the accomplishments with regard to education - a one percent (1%) increase in student college readiness, creation of the Michigan Office of Great Start, teacher tenure reform, increase choice for parents and students, and the local government/school district Fiscal Accountability Act. Mrs. Bolsen also commented on proposed legislation concerning dual enrollment, cyber schools, and the Michigan Education Achievement Authority. With regard to the school aid budget and plans for the 2012/13 school year, Mrs. Bolsen stated that there will be fewer dollars available to districts than in the current school year.
7. **EVIDENCE OF EXCELLENCE: RECOGNITIONS**

- **High School Student Athletes.** Athletic Director Linda Fox presented the high school student athletes/teams who achieved All-State or All-State Academic status in football, golf, soccer, swimming, and volleyball for the fall season.

Also presenting certificates were Coach Dennis Bandy (Harrison High Girls Swimming) and Coach Bruce Sutton (North Farmington/Harrison High Schools Girls Golf).

- **Board of Education.** The month of January is dedicated to recognizing members of boards of education throughout the country. The recurring theme, *School Boards Lead Strong*, reflects the efforts of those men and women who help to shape the direction of Michigan public education.

Recognition of the Farmington Board of Education continued with a song performed by Farmington Central High school student, Corey Goines, and a poem from the students of Farmington Central High School. Tammy Luty, Farmington PTA Council president, acknowledged Board members for their service and presented them with a gift certificate to a local café.

8. **FARMINGTON FORWARD REPORT: HIGH SCHOOL POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION AND SUPPORT (PBIS) UPDATE.** Todd Symington, PBIS coordinator, indicated that this presentation was a mid-year update and that an end-of-the-year report was scheduled to be presented to the Board in April. He explained that PBIS is a system of teaching students expected behaviors and then providing positive reinforcement when those behaviors are displayed. PBIS also includes a Response to Instruction (RTI) component with which to measure results; it is federally and state mandated. He noted that each school had been encouraged to design a system that meets the needs of their individual school culture.

Joe Greene, principal – North Farmington High School; Julie Kaminski, principal – Farmington High School; and Allyson Robinson, assistant principal – Harrison High School shared how PBIS/RTI is implemented in each of their schools and identified plans for the future. Alternatives to suspension were also discussed in order to minimize loss of instructional time for students. There was discussion.

9. **REVIEW OF PARENT/COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS.** Diane Bauman, director of school/community relations services, and William Saint Amour, executive director of Cobalt Community Research, presented an abridged version of the parent/community survey results that were shared during the earlier premeeting of the Community Relations Committee which took place at 6:00 pm.

The goals of the survey are to guide decisions on where to place limited resources; establish service delivery baseline; understand drivers of District satisfaction; compare broad, organizational measure with indices of school performance; better understand school choice; and strengthen outreach and communication. In 1995, the District committed to conducting a parent/community satisfaction survey process every five years in its ongoing efforts to increase customer satisfaction and engagement.

There were brief comments by the Board regarding next steps.

10. **RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF 2011/12 REVISED GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION (2011/12 BUDGET AMENDMENTS).** It was moved by Reid and supported by Brouillette that the Board of Education approve the 2011/12 Revised General Appropriations Resolution, as presented, and waive the reading of the resolution.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

11. **REVIEW OF BIDS**

- **District Bus Purchase.** Bill Tousley, supervisor of transportation, reviewed the bid to purchase five (5) regular education transit buses; two (2) special education buses with four (4) wheelchair locations and 21 passengers; and (1) special education minitour with two (2) wheelchair locations and 12 passengers. Mr. Tousley also reviewed the District's bus replacement cycle plan and responded to questions which had been received from the Board prior to the meeting with regard to the recommendation.

There was much discussion and questions by the Board to which Mr. Tousley responded regarding the District's bus replacement cycle, cost/brand of buses, age

span/life of buses, and pricing under the Michigan School Business Officials School Bus Bid Program.

- **Desktop Computer Replacement.** Michael Johnston, director of information technology, provided the rationale for the request to solicit bids for the purchase of integrated desktop computers for all staff members. He explained the District's policy regarding the replacement of desktop computers.

Mr. Johnston responded to comments/questions from the Board regarding the platform/operating system currently running in the District, wireless access in all K-12 schools, "bring your own device" to school pilot, desktops vs. laptops, purchasing vs. leasing, wear-and-tear and cost of ownership, computers for substitute staff, timeframe to switch to another platform (e.g., Apple).

**12. PREVIEW OF FEBRUARY 7, 2012 STUDY SESSION/REGULAR MEETING.** Superintendent Zurvalec reviewed the following items which are planned for the February 7, 2012 study session/regular meeting:

- A. Evidence of Excellence: Observance of Principals Week
- B. Farmington Forward Report: Upper Elementary (5/6) School Update
- C. Project Lead the Way STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Education Program Update
- D. Reviews
  - 1. Proposed Lease of William Grace Property
  - 2. Task Team Recommendations Regarding Highmeadow Common Campus Capacity
- E. Recommendations for Award of Bid
  - 1. District Bus Purchase
  - 2. Replacement of Desktop Computers
- F. Review and Recommendation for Approval of Board of Education Goals
- G. Recommendation for Approval of Board of Education/Superintendent Commitments

**13. PUBLIC COMMENTS.** The following individuals addressed the Board:

- Irving Ginsberg, Farmington Hills (class size, school closures, facilities study recommendations, International Baccalaureate Program, and AdvancEd accreditation)
- Angie Smith, Farmington Hills (Linda Stulberg read comments on behalf of Mrs. Smith regarding the recent bullying survey administered to students)
- Linda Stulberg, Farmington Hills (parent/community survey, school closures)
- Sue Burstein-Kahn, Farmington Hills (sale of Eagle Elementary School, legal fees associated with the sale of Eagle Elementary, volunteer service, bus and computer purchases)
- Phillip Mentz, Farmington Hills (school buses, parent/community survey results)

14. **EXPENDITURES.** It was moved by Reid and supported by Wallach that the Board of Education approve the expenditures as outlined in the printout dated January 24, 2012 as follows:

General Fund	\$28,942,628
Special Education Fund	606,641
Debt Fund	14,641
Capital Projects – Technology & Other Projects	164,172
Capital Projects – Maintenance/Bus Purchases	128,616
Nutrition Services Fund	344,455
Athletic Fund	114,514
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,315,667</b>

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Bolsen, Gurrola, Kahn, Reid, Wallach, Brouillette, Clay  
**Nays:** None

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

15. **GIFTS TO SCHOOLS.** It was moved by Reid and supported by Wallach that the Board accept the following gifts with thanks:

Donation	Amount
1. Hillside Donors	\$5,821.00
2. Mr. & Mrs. Honkala	550.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,371.00</b>
This Period	\$6,371.00
Previous Balance	805.00
<b>2011/12 Year-to-Date</b>	<b>\$7,176.00</b>

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

16. **REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES**

- **Community Relations Committee.** Karen Bolsen, chair, summarized the premeeting of the Community Relations Committee to receive the results of the parent/community survey administered in November 2011. An abbreviated version of the presentation was also given earlier during the regular meeting.
- **Superintendent’s Evaluation Committee.** Karen Bolsen, chair, presented a draft of the Board of Education/Superintendent Commitments which were crafted by the committee on January 10. Revisions to the commitments were suggested. The final document will be recommended to the Board for adoption on February 7.

**17. REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

- Mrs. Brouillette, representative to the Multicultural Multiracial Community Council, reported on the Martin Luther King Day celebration at the Farmington Hills Library and on Superintendent Zurvalec's remarks on behalf of the District.
- Mr. Wallach, representative to the Farmington African American Network (FAAPN), announced the next meeting on February 10 at Harrison High highlighting Black History month.

**18. CONSENT AGENDA.** It was moved by Bolsen and supported by Brouillette that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda dated January 24, 2012:

- A. Approval of Minutes
  1. December 6, 2011 Building & Site/Safety Committee Meeting
  2. December 6, 2011 Policy Committee Meeting
  3. December 6, 2011 Study Session/Regular Meeting
  4. December 16, 2011 Board Workshop (Goal Setting, Part 3)
  5. January 10, 2012 Superintendent's Evaluation Committee Meeting
  6. January 10, 2012 Special Meeting/Closed Session (Section 8(h) – Attorney-Client Privilege and Section 8(e) – Pending Litigation of the Open Meetings Act)
  7. January 10, 2012 Community Relations Committee Meeting
  8. January 10, 2012 Study Session
  9. January 17, 2012 Board Workshop (Goal Setting, Conclusion)
- B. Headstart Director's Monthly Report (December 2011)
- C. Federal Relations Network (FRN) Conference Attendance – February 2012
- D. Personnel Items

President Clay called for a voice vote. Prior to the vote, Dr. Kahn questioned the contents of closed session minutes to which President Clay responded.

**Voice Vote:** Ayes: Gurrola, Wallach, Bolsen, Brouillette, Reid, Clay  
Nays: None  
Abstain: Kahn

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Mrs. Brouillette referenced the Headstart report commenting on student enrollment, waiting list, and partnerships with various community organizations.

**19. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.** None.

**20. NEW BUSINESS.** None.

21. **GOOD AND WELFARE.** Mrs. Brouillette reported on her attendance of the Student Art Gallery open house which was hosted by the Superintendent's office in the Board Room on Monday.
22. **ADJOURNMENT.** It was moved by Reid and supported by Wallach that the Board of Education adjourn the January 24, 2012 meeting at 10:18 pm.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

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Priscilla L. Brouillette  
Farmington Board of Education  
Secretary