

Hartland Consolidated Schools
Special meeting - Board of Education
November 13, 2006

Members present: E. McPherson-Brown, E. Jankowski, K. Kaszyca, C. Sinelli, C. Aberasturi, N. Kessel
Members absent: T. Moody
Admin. Present: L. Mayes, J. Sifferman, S. VanEpps, S. Bacon, C. Hughes, M. Otis, K. Evenson, S. Livingway, M. Cheney, G. Waldrup, S. Usher, P. Nottle, S. Pearson,
Guests: J. Denzer, C. Rutkowski, R. Kerster, D. White, R. Jellison, E. Garner, B. Bittner, D. Koprowicz, K. Koprowicz, B. Walker, R. Burke, W. Shook, K. Karwoski, M. Sherman, T. Kendall, S. Cooper, L. Hayes, A. Bourbonais, L. Kopka, R. Wieland, S. Aberasturi, C. Funk, T. Bulloch, L. Sets

President Jankowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Hartland Educational Support Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by McPherson-Brown, supported by Kessel that the agenda for the November 13, 2006 regular meeting be approved, and that public participation be allowed on all items. Mr. Aberasturi asked if discussion regarding the process for determining the Superintendent's contract could be added. President Jankowski noted that as the superintendent's contract is an action item and discussion always precedes the vote, would this satisfy Mr. Aberasturi's need for discussion of the process? Mr. Aberasturi indicated that it would. Motion carried 6-0. 11/13 AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by McPherson-Brown, supported by Kaszyca that the minutes of the October 23, 2006 special meeting be approved. Motion carried 6-0. 10/23 MINUTES APPROVED

There was no response to the Call to the Public. CALL TO PUBLIC

Superintendent Sifferman noted that Sue Merrill had been named Michigan's Earth Science Teacher of the Year. She then introduced Steve Livingway, Principal at Hartland Middle School. Mr. Livingway outlined the accomplishments of the students at the middle school. He then introduced Christine Rutkowski, who discussed the process and advantages of a "layered curriculum", showing the Board examples of a recent project completed by her students using this format to study current events in the Middle East. Mr. Livingway then introduced Rob Jellison, faculty advisor for the "Be the Change" club, which came out of the Challenge Day events. Mr. Jellison had a former and a current member of the club, Paige Carrier and Jordan White, respectively, discuss the purpose of the club and why they wanted to be involved. SUPT. REPORT

Mrs. Sifferman then introduced George Waldrup and Chuck Caverly. Mr. Waldrup noted that, for the 3rd straight year, the district's bus fleet had a 100% pass rate in its annual inspection by the Michigan State Police. Mr. Waldrup presented Mr. Caverly with a certificate from the state. Mrs. Sifferman and the Board of Education thanked Mr. Caverly for his dedicated and skillful service and congratulated him on another perfect inspection. Mrs. Sifferman thanked the community on the passage of the Renovation Bond and noted that the district would now begin the process of implementing the bond. She also noted that the DVD commissioned for play on the district's web site was completed and presented it to the Board for viewing.

Ms. Sinelli thanked Mrs. Sifferman & Mr. Bacon for all of their hard work on the Renovation Bond and thanked the parents & staff for their support. She also thanked Ms. Nottle for the wonderful Round School Bazaar and noted that the Policy Committee had met with Dick Halick from NEOLA and Mrs. Sifferman and Mr. VanEpps for two days to begin formulating the rough draft for the district's policy manual. Mr. Kaszyca and Ms. McPherson-Brown congratulated the administration on the passage of the Bond. Ms. Kessel thanked Mr. Hughes for successful conferences and noted that the policy manual review was a fascinating process. Ms. Jankowski thanked Mrs. Sifferman & Mr. Bacon for their outstanding leadership and thanked the district's staff and administration for all that they do.

BOARD REPORTS

Motion by Kessel, supported by McPherson-Brown that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, approves the financial report as of October 31, 2006 and the payment of invoices totaling \$2,044,493.28 and payroll obligations totaling \$1,974,812.90. Motion carried 6-0.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES

Motion by Aberasturi, supported by Kessel that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, approves the addition of the "On Fire" program to the reproductive health curriculum. Motion carried 6-0.

ON FIRE PROGRAM APPROVED

Motion by Kaszyca, supported by McPherson-Brown that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, approves the extension of the Superintendent's contract through 2010 as presented. Mr. Aberasturi noted that while he had no issues with Mrs. Sifferman's performance, he wanted the specifics on the process used to formulate the superintendent's contract. Ms. Kessel noted that the process was essentially the same used in previous years, with the Personnel Committee meeting, reviewing the recent evaluation, the salary survey of local and similar districts, and determining the appropriate compensation. This information was then sent to the full Board for their review and comments, and then it was put on the agenda for action. Mr. Aberasturi didn't recall that this was what had been done in the past and was uncomfortable not having a meeting of the full Board to set the contract. Consequently, he could not support this motion though that should not be perceived as a reflection on Mrs. Sifferman's performance. A member of the audience asked for the specifics of the contract. President Jankowski noted that essentially the only changes were in language - the car allowance was rolled into the salary, which had been the practice previously but wasn't stated as such in the contract; it was noted that the Superintendent would receive the same formula increase as the teachers' union, which also had occurred previously but was not stated in the contract; and the contract was extended for another year to July 2010. Motion carried 5-1 (nay - Aberasturi).

SUPT. CONTRACT APPROVED

Motion by Kessel, supported by Kaszyca that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, approves the adjustments to the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations' contract as presented. Mr. Aberasturi asked for the specifics of the adjustments to be noted. Ms. Jankowski stated that the adjustments included a \$5,000 increase, language noting that he would receive the same increase as the teachers' union, removal of car allowance language, and an extension of the contract from two to three years. Mr. Kaszyca noted that Mr. Bacon was a valuable member of the district and hoped this would allow him to finish his career in Hartland. Motion carried 5-1 (nay-Aberasturi).

ASST. SUPT. CONTRACT APPROVED

Mr. Bacon explained the process for continuing with the 100% summer tax collection that the district implemented last year. This will come before the Board for action at the December 11, 2006 regular meeting.

SUMMER TAX
DISCUSSION

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Elsie McPherson-Brown
Secretary

Paula Waters
Recording Secretary