

Hartland Consolidated Schools
Goals Workshop/Special Meeting - Board of Education
November 23, 2009

Members present: N. Kessel, E. McPherson-Brown, K. Kaszyca, M. Hutchinson, T. Dumond, C. Sinelli, C. Aberasturi
Members absent: None
Admin. Present: J. Sifferman, S. Bacon, S. VanEpps, G. Waldrup, M. Otis, S. Livingway, B. Meadows, K. Simpson, L. Mayes, B. Cain, T. Howerton, D. Petish, A. Lashbrook. L. Pumford, D. Minsker, M. Cheney
Guests: M. Cannaert, K. Wabel, J. VanGoethem, J. Denzer, N. Spranger, R. Jellison, J. Muir, S. Gordinear, S. Wissner, K. Taylor, C. Drafta, B. Benford, R. Hay, K. Reed, R. Bell, J. Hull, S. Miller, J. Chodos, D. LaGuire-Quinn, D. Berry, S. Hinds, D. Corcoran, K. Knoeferl, J. Johnson, B. Ganster, M. Day, J. Furr, L. Haar, R. Kalohn, V. Massolia, M. Baynes, J. Bittner, T. D'Arcy, S. Cone, M. Shrier, M. Birgy, K. Norris, B. McClellan, A. Watson, A. Lunder, S. Luberto, A. MacDonald, K. Porta, D. Bayer, D. Smisek, M. Pittel

President Kaszyca called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Educational Support Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Superintendent Sifferman began the workshop by presenting a type of "position statement" indicating the district's current financial state and outlining what needs to be done to keep the district solvent while adhering to the Guiding Principles and District Vision adopted by the Board several years ago. The Board was in agreement with the position statement and asked that it be distributed to all employees and posted on the district web site. This statement as well as the Guiding Principles became the basis for the goal-setting workshop.

GOALS
WORKSHOP
2009 - 2012

The goals established by the Board during the workshop are as follows:

Finance - To remain financially solvent while maintaining and enhancing our programming.
Student Achievement - To assess student achievement & programming and determine areas for growth and improvement.
District Public Relations - Create and enhance a positive educational experience by involving all stakeholders (community, parents, students, staff).
District Culture - Continue & enhance a positive educational experience by involving all stakeholders (community, parents, students, & staff).
Facilities - Maintain and improve facilities.
Technology - Ongoing implementation of Technology Plan.

GOALS

The Board determined various actions necessary in order to achieve the goals set. The district's goals for 2009 - 2012 will be posted on the web site.

The Board broke at 5:45 p.m.

BREAK-5:45 P.M.

The Board reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

RECONVENED
6:30 P.M.

<p>Motion by Aberasturi, supported by McPherson-Brown that the agenda for the November 23, 2009 special meeting be approved, that policy be set aside allowing Item IV.A. to be treated as an action item, and that public participation be allowed on all items. Motion carried 7-0.</p>	<p>11/23 AGENDA APPROVED</p>
<p>Motion by McPherson-Brown, supported by Dumond that the minutes of the November 9, 2009 regular meeting and closed session be approved. Motion carried 7-0.</p>	<p>11/9 MINUTES APPROVED</p>
<p>There was no response to Call to the Public.</p>	<p>CALL TO PUBLIC</p>
<p>Superintendent Sifferman noted that the Transportation Sub-committee, consisting of Kevin Kaszyca, Charlie Aberasturi, Thom Dumond, George Waldrup, and Scott Bacon would be meeting Tuesday morning at 7:00 a.m. to discuss the recent meeting at LESA regarding countywide bussing.</p>	<p>SUPT. REPORT</p>
<p>Ms. Hutchinson thanked Ms. Sifferman, Mr. Bacon, Ms. Mayes, and Mr. VanEpps for taking the time to meet with her. Mr. Aberasturi noted that he attended his first Senior Center Advisory Committee meeting and believed there was general support for the proposed bond issue in February.</p>	<p>BOARD REPORTS</p>
<p>Ms. Kessel tendered her resignation from the Board effective December 31, 2009 as her family will be relocating to the Upper Peninsula. She noted she was extremely grateful for the staff, administration and Boards she served with over the past 11 years. She then presented a video showcasing the district's buildings & students. Ms. Kessel also thanked the Alternative Education program for another wonderful Thanksgiving dinner. Mr. Kaszyca thanked Ms. Kessel for her many years of dedicated service to the Hartland district.</p>	<p>KESSEL RESIGNATION</p>
<p>Motion by Kessel, supported by Aberasturi that the Board of Education, pursuant to the Revised School Code, hereby imposes a summer tax levy for July 1, 2010, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.</p>	<p>SUMMER TAX RESOLUTION</p>
<p>The Board discussed the Collaborative Communication Resolution formulated by LESA for the purpose of bringing all of the county districts together to articulate a common message and to develop local solutions for the current funding challenges. This will come before the Board for action at the December 21 meeting.</p>	<p>DISCUSSION: COLL. COMM. RESOLUTION</p>
<p>The Board then discussed the weighted grading proposal for Hartland High School A/P classes. Ms. Sifferman noted that the Curriculum Committee met with Asst. Principal Lashbrook and high school counselor Jodi Wilson to determine if our students were being penalized by college admissions or scholarships because of grade point average. They polled 22 Michigan schools and found that while all admissions offices recalculated averages to a 4.0 scale, 12 of the 22 financial aid offices used the stated GPA to award scholarships. Consequently if a student took an A/P class and received a grade lower than an "A", the resulting GPA could take them out of the running for some scholarship monies. If the A/P grades were given additional weight, i.e. a 5.0 scale, this would not necessarily occur. The counseling office also felt that more students would be inclined to take A/P classes if they didn't have to worry about the effect to their GPA. Ms. Sinelli asked what consequences this change would have for teachers and staff. Ms. Lashbrook noted that some A/P teachers may need to readjust their grading scales as some currently</p>	<p>HS - WEIGHTED GRADING</p>

“weight” their internal class grading. It would also require the counseling office to reconfigure averages back to a 4.0 scale for college admissions. Ms. Sifferman noted that the rush to bring this to the Board was because this would begin with the 2010/11 school year and some students may want to rethink their schedules for the spring semester, and the course book is generally approved in January. This will come before the Board for action at the December 21 meeting.

DISCUSSION
(CON'T)

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Elsie McPherson-Brown
Secretary

Paula Waters
Recording Secretary