

Hartland Consolidated Schools
Regular meeting - Board of Education
January 11, 2010

Members present: K. Kaszyca, M. Hutchinson, C. Sinelli, T. Dumond, E. McPherson-Brown, C. Aberasturi (arrived 6:50 p.m.)
Members absent: None
Admin. Present: J. Sifferman, S. Bacon, S. VanEpps, L. Mayes, G. Waldrup, M. Otis, C. Hughes, K. Simpson, M. Cheney, D. Minsker, S. Pearson, K. Resseque
Guests: B. Perkins, A. Storm, S. Corcoran, B. Frasier, S. Szczechowicz, S. Bustraan, D. Corcoran, K. Corcoran, J. Hill, J. Henry, L. Pumford, C. Hall

President Kaszyca called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Hartland Educational Support Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Sinelli, supported by Hutchinson that the agenda for the January 11, 2010 regular meeting be approved with the following change: that the Superintendent's Report be moved to before the Board candidate interviews, and that policy be set aside allowing Item II.C. to be treated as an action item, and that public participation be allowed on all items except II.B. Student Expulsion and IV. Closed Session. Motion carried 5-0. 1/11 AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Sinelli, supported by McPherson-Brown that the minutes of the December 21, 2009 regular meeting be approved. Motion carried 5-0 12/21 MINUTES APPROVED

Ms. Sinelli nominated Charlie Aberasturi for the position of Vice President, seconded by Ms. McPherson-Brown. There were no additional nominations. Motion carried 5-0. ABERASTURI-VP

Superintendent Sifferman introduced Keenan Simpson, Principal of Farms Intermediate School. Mr. Simpson introduced Farms teacher Carol Hall who gave a presentation on co-teaching and specifically Differentiated Instruction and how this is being used in Farms' classrooms to help students learn at every level. Mr. Kaszyca asked if the specific lesson plans were shared among teachers after being created. Ms. Hall noted that each lesson plan was put onto the shared drive so all of the teachers could access them. (Mr. Aberasturi arrived here - 6:50 p.m.) SUPT. REPORT

Ms. Sifferman wished everyone a happy new year and noted that a recent newspaper article highlighted a grant recently awarded to LESA from which Hartland would gain benefit. The grant focuses on green energy education and the equipment will be located at Hartland High School with the opportunity for CTE classes in the coming year. Principal Hughes will talk more about the program during discussion of the High School Curriculum Guide.

The Board began interviewing candidates for Nora Kessel's Board seat, vacated as of December 31, 2009. Five candidates were interviewed in the order in which their resumes were received: Robert Perkins, Scott Szczechowicz, Andrew Storm, Robert Frasier, and Sean Corcoran. At the January 25, 2010 special meeting the Board will take action to appoint a replacement for Ms. Kessel. BOARD CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

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

Ms. Hutchinson noted that last week she participated in Ore Creek's Challenge Day and that it was an amazing experience. She commended Mr. Livingway and Ms. Otto for all the work they do for this program and parent Marcia Petersen for all of her fundraising efforts. Ms. Sinelli wanted to thank the high school DECA program and marketing team for giving her son a strong foundation to take with him to college. Mr. Aberasturi noted that he just attended his first Hartland ski event.

BOARD REPORTS

Motion by McPherson-Brown, supported by Dumond that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, approves the financial report as of December 31, 2009 and the payment of invoices totaling \$1,700,104.56 and payroll obligations totaling \$2,152,175.58. Motion carried 6-0.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES

Motion by Aberasturi, supported by McPherson-Brown that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, after hearing the charges and evidence presented at the hearing, the statements of Ms. Lashbrook, the student's mother, and the student, expels student from Hartland Consolidated Schools for the remainder of the 2009/2010 school year. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Kaszyca thanked Mr. VanEpps for providing the information.

STUDENT EXPULSION

Motion by Hutchinson, supported by McPherson-Brown that the Board of Education, pursuant to the Senior Center Bylaws, approves the proposed representatives to the Senior Center Advisory Board for 2010 - 2012 as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

SC ADVISORY BOARD

Principal Hughes fielded questions regarding the proposed curriculum guide for 2010/11 and highlighted one new offering - the Green Alternative Energy Technology course. This is the product of the grant Superintendent Sifferman referred to in her report. He noted that the first semester it would be an introductory course that would hopefully grow into a two-hour CTE course with three teachers - autos, CAD and construction technology - doing six-week rotations. Mr. Kaszyca asked what the impact was of the new 18-year-old drop-out legislation. Ms. Sifferman noted that this was part of a larger legislation package signed by the governor primarily for the purpose of the Race to the Top program. She didn't believe it would have much affect on Hartland Schools, but superintendents are still waiting for notification regarding all of the recently passed legislation. This will come before the Board for action at the January 25 meeting.

DISCUSSION: HHS CURR. GUIDE

Mr. Bacon initiated the discussion regarding the extension of the district's contract with Grand Rapids Building Services (GRBS). He noted that we are currently in the 4th year of our five-year contract and GRBS has offered a three-year extension with no price increase. Mr. Bacon noted that Hartland currently has one of the lowest rates per square foot around; we have cultivated a good working relationship with GRBS and have "worked out most of the bugs". He noted that were we to bid this out there is no guarantee we would get a lower rate, plus we would have start-up costs as well as breaking in new people and systems. Mr. Bacon also noted that there is no guarantee that the price freeze would still be available if the district bid the contract. The Board asked what the feedback has been like from the buildings. Ms. Sifferman as well as Mr. Simpson and Mr. Minsker indicated that they have established good working relationships with their GRBS building staff as well as the supervisory team and appreciate their quick response to issues. This will come before the Board for action at the January 25 meeting.

GRBS CONTRACT EXTENSION

Motion by Abersturi, supported by McPherson-Brown that the Board of Education enters into closed session to discuss contract negotiations. Hutchinson-yea, Sinelli-yea, McPherson-Brown-yea, Aberasturi-yea, Dumond-yea, Kaszyca-yea. Motion carried 6-0. CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session at 8:40 p.m.

The Board resumed open session at 9:50 p.m. OPEN SESSION

The Board gave feedback on the candidate interviews. A motion will be made at the January 25 meeting to appoint one of the applicants. CANDIDATE DISCUSSION

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Elsie McPherson-Brown
Secretary

Paula Waters
Recording Secretary