

Hartland Consolidated Schools
Regular meeting - Board of Education
September 8, 2014

Members present: T. Dumond, K. Kaszyca, C. Aberasturi, B. Gatewood
Members absent: C. Kenrick, C. Sinelli, M. Hutchinson
Admin. Present: J. Sifferman, S. Bacon, S. VanEpps, L. Smither, M. Otis, C. Hughes, M. Cheney,
L. Pumford, B. Cain, B. Mainka, D. Minsker, G. Waldrup, K. Evenson, S.
Pearson, D. Selix, S. Livingway
Guests: M. Hemeyer, C. Costa, H. Aittara, K. Evans

President Dumond 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 Kaszyca, supported by Gatewood that the agenda for the September 8, 2014 regular meeting be approved, and that public participation be allowed on all items. Motion carried 4-0. 9/8/14 AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Aberasturi, supported by Kaszyca that the minutes of the August 28, 2014 special meeting be approved. Motion carried 4-0. 8/28/14 MINUTES APPROVED

Superintendent Sifferman began the public hearing on the debt levy increase at 6:35 p.m. She introduced Paul Stauder of Stauder Barch, the district's financial advisors, and Jeff Soles of Thrun Law Firm, the district's bond attorney. Mr. Stauder presented an overview of PA 437 of 2012, which changed the rules pertaining to the School Bond Loan Fund and the timetable for paying back these loans. He also presented projections on what the estimated debt levy millage would be going forward. The district had assessed 7.6 mills since December 2000. The change in law will require the millage rate to be set each year based on taxable values. For December 2014 the rate is set at 8.29 mills. This will be assessed in residents' winter taxes. Mr. Gatewood asked if the district needed to set a policy regarding the debt levy. Mr. Soles noted that each year when the Board adopts the budget and General Appropriations Act, the debt levy millage is included in the document, so there is no need for specific policy or Board action on the millage rate. There were no questions or comments from the public. Mr. Bacon noted that the presentation would be posted on the district web site. The hearing concluded at 7:00 p.m. DEBT LEVY PUBLIC HEARING

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

Ms. Sifferman noted that the first week of school and first "Early Release Friday" both went well. She updated the Board on various activities and events going on at the Hartland Senior Center, including an open house on September 17. SUPT. REPORT

She then introduced Lisa Archey, Director of Student Nutrition, to begin the annual breakfast hearing. Ms. Archey noted that currently the district serves breakfast at Round Elementary and Legacy High School as required by their Free & Reduced Lunch percentage. Breakfast is also available at Hartland High School and Farms Intermediate School because there is already staff in place and response has been good. Mr. Gatewood asked what the cost was at Farms for the program. Ms. Archey didn't have the figures immediately available but did note that the district is not losing money on the program and the food served at breakfast can be offered on the lunch ala carte menu as well, so there is little to no waste. The cost for breakfast is \$1.75 for elementary and \$2.25 – secondary. Mr. Gatewood asked what the response has been to the new food ANNUAL BREAKFAST HEARING

guidelines – are the students eating the food? Lisa noted that response is improving; she also noted that the Little Caesar Pizza program, with Little Caesar’s creating a multigrain pizza just for Hartland Schools, is catching on, as are the new prepackaged premium salads. Ms. Sifferman noted that she had visited the lunchroom earlier in the day and was impressed with the offerings. It was determined that the breakfast program would not be expanded.

HEARING
(CON’T)

Ms. Sifferman introduced Scott VanEpps to talk about preliminary enrollment numbers for the new year. Mr. VanEpps noted that currently we have enrolled approximately 200 new Schools of Choice students for 2014/15 and overall enrollment appears to be up by 25-35 students. He stressed that these figures are very preliminary. Ms. Sifferman noted this shows the importance of Schools of Choice for the district. The statewide student count day is October 2.

SUPT. REPORT:
ENROLLMENT

Mr. Gatewood noted that both hearings today were frustrating for him as they focused on issues he believes have been thrust on taxpayers without any recourse. However he appreciates the Board and administration’s due diligence in investigating all options. Mr. Aberasturi noted that Mr. Gatewood has adjusted much better to these situations than he did his first few years on the Board. Mr. Dumond wanted to recognize the impressive job Mr. Waldrup and his maintenance staff have done with our facilities and athletic fields for the start of the new year. Mr. Kaszyca commended the high school administration and staff on the smooth transition within the music department.

BOARD REPORTS

Motion by Aberasturi, supported by Kaszyca that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, approves the financial report as of August 31, 2014, and the payment of invoices totaling \$630,306.21 and payroll obligations totaling \$3,023,598.80. Motion carried 4-0.

PAYMENT OF
INVOICES

Mr. Dumond noted that the next meeting was scheduled for October 20 at 6:30 p.m. and reminded the Board that the first round of district tours was this Thursday, September 11.

FUTURE MTGS.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hutchinson
Secretary

Paula Waters
Recording Secretary