

Hartland Consolidated Schools  
Regular meeting - Board of Education  
November 12, 2012

Members present: K. Kaszyca, C. Aberasturi, T. Dumond, C. Kenrick, M. Hutchinson, C. Sinelli B. Gatewood  
Members absent: None  
Admin. Present: J. Sifferman, L. Mayes, S. VanEpps, S. Bacon, C. Hughes, S. Pearson, M. Otis, L. Smither, D. Minsker, L. Pumford, M. Cheney, B. Cain, K. Evenson, B. Mainka, G. Waldrup  
Guests: N. Spranger, M. Parker, D. Golla, K. Erickson, J. Brennan, J. Gaines, M. Brish, A. Daavetila, B. Pietila, M. Shepard, M. Miller, L. Laier, E. Bell, M. Schmidt, T. Cole, J. Mantyla, C. Costa, E. O'Hara, T. Oger, S. Ganzak, C. Ely, T. Devine, B. Pellatt, R. Zoia, B. Czubko, P. Gavitt, A. Evenson, J. Orrico, J. Hartnik, B. Eggers, K. Geer, M. Legato

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 Kenrick, supported by Hutchinson that the agenda for the November 12, 2012 regular meeting be approved, and that public participation be allowed on all items except Item IV – Closed Session. Motion carried 7-0. 11/12 AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Aberasturi, supported by Dumond that the minutes of the October 8, 2012 regular meeting be approved. Motion carried 7-0. 10/8 MINUTES APPROVED

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

Superintendent Sifferman introduced Jeff Dolowy and Andrea Link from Plante & Moran, who presented the district's final audit for 2011/2012. Mr. Dolowy noted that again this year the district received an "unqualified opinion", which is the highest level of assurance. He also noted that the district was actually able to build its fund balance despite the failing economy and various hits to public education. He attributed this to the district making the necessary difficult decisions including privatizing, as well as the salary formula the district has employed for several years tying compensation to the foundation allowance received from the state. Ms. Sifferman thanked Mr. Dolowy and Ms. Link as well as Scott Bacon, Linda Mitchell and the district's business office for all of their hard work toward this successful audit report. SUPT. REPORT  
2011/12 AUDIT REPORT

Mrs. Sifferman reviewed the November "Did You Know" article, which highlights programs and events occurring in the various district buildings and departments. Kirk Evenson noted that the annual Legacy Thanksgiving Dinner is Monday, November 19, at 11:30 and he hoped Board members would be able to attend.

Mr. Kaszyca congratulated Mr. Gatewood on his victory in the recent Board election. Ms. Hutchinson gave an LRN report, noting the governor had recently signed bills concerning the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, the display of American flags in public school classrooms, and a bill regarding concussion awareness and increased vigilance with student athletes. Mr. Gatewood noted that HP4K would be conducting a training at Farms Intermediate on Thursday to help teachers and administrators identify and foster the education of exceptional/gifted students. BOARD REPORTS

Motion by Kenrick, supported by Gatewood That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, approves PAYMENT OF INVOICES

the financial report as of October 31, 2012, and the payment of invoices totaling \$4,175,142.98 and payroll obligations totaling \$2,470,368.58. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Hutchinson, supported by Gatewood that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Building & Site Committee, authorizes the solar power easement agreement with the Detroit Edison Company as presented. Ray Zoia, DTE, and Brian Czubko, Nova Consultants, explained the planned project, noting that it involved the installation of a 500 kw array, which would provide power to approximately 100 homes. Hartland is the third school district to participate and the first to install the array on the ground (as opposed to on the roof) , which allows for an educational component. A small area of the array has been designated “educational” and students can actually go in this area. An educational kiosk will also be installed at Hartland High School. The site will use approximately three acres (500’ x 250’). Mr. Zoia noted that DTE would be responsible for the upkeep and landscaping and they would install some screening to make the site more visually appealing. Mr. Dumond was concerned about the appearance and what it would look like from the highway. He noted it was important that Hartland remains “Hartland”. Mr. Zoia noted that the township has similar concerns. Mr. Aberasturi proposed having Board representation at the township meeting so they could work together. The Board concurred and the district will contact Larry Fox to arrange this as the project moves to the township for approval. Motion carried 7-0.

DTE SOLAR  
PROJECT  
APPROVED

The Board discussed the most recent set of updates and revisions to the district’s Policy Manual. The administration addressed questions concerning changes to the student cell phone/electronic device policy, background check criteria, and non-discrimination policy. These revisions will come before the Board for action at the November 26 meeting.

DISCUSSION:  
POLICIES

Motion by Sinelli, supported by Dumond that the Board of Education enters into closed session to discuss attorney documents concerning current litigation. Roll call vote: Hutchinson-yea, Gatewood-yea, Aberasturi-yea, Kaszyca-yea, Dumond-yea, Sinelli-yea, Kenrick-yea. Motion carried 7-0.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session at 7:30 p.m.

The Board returned to open session and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Sinelli  
Secretary

Paula Waters  
Recording Secretary