



Lapeer Community Schools Board Action Briefs

William Laidlaw President
 Peggy Bush Vice President
 John Nugent Secretary
 Denise Becker Trustee
 Michael Keller Trustee
 Michael Nolan Trustee
 Gary Oyster Trustee
 Debbie Thompson Superintendent

Board of Education Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Seaton Campus of Elba-Seaton Elementary School

Principal Cindi Niblack welcomed Board members, administrators, and guests to Seaton Elementary School. Mrs. Niblack introduced Karen Milito, Art Teacher, and students who read learning statements and presented Board members with invitations to their ice cream social and art night.

Cindie DeWolf, from the American Heart Association, recognized the elementary PE teachers for their efforts in raising money for the American Heart Association through the "Jump Rope for Heart" and "Hoops for Heart" events this year.

Karen Allmen and Elizabeth Kopchick, Hadley Elementary teachers who were awarded an Innovative Technology Grant in the fall of 2007, presented information on the classroom digital camera set which was purchased with the grant money.

Elementary teachers Gail Vettraino, Karen Allmen, Elizabeth Kopchick, Deanne Schlusler, Rose Rinke and Emily Miles participated in a year-long professional development opportunity called Lab Classroom. They shared a video of their experience with Board of Education.

Kim Seifferly presented the following textbooks for consideration for adoption: *Calculus Concepts and Applications*; *Precalculus with Limits: A Graphing Approach*; *Biology*; *Signing Illustrated*; and *Century 21 Accounting-Multicolumn Journal*.

Superintendent Debbie Thompson made a recommendation to the Board of Education that students attending Rolland-Warner and Zemmer Middle Schools beginning in the fall of 2010 be based on a north-south geographic plan. The Board of Education will discuss this recommendation at its next work session on May 21 and may vote on the plan at the June 4 regular meeting.

The Board approved the following: an Out of State Field Trip for Lapeer East/West Physics and Calculus Students to Cedar Point on May 27, 2009; set a special meeting for 6:30 PM on May 21, 2009; and released a kindergarten student to Davison Schools for the 2009-2010 school year.

Each year local districts must express support or disapproval of the Lapeer County Intermediate School Districts' General Fund Operating Budget. The Board did not approve the ISD General Fund Operating Budget stating that the ISD should utilize a portion of its fund balance to assist local districts with certain technology expenses (i.e. allocate additional technology expenditures during the 2009-2010 fiscal year for the payment of local district expenses).

Each year local districts also must appoint a representative from the Board to attend the ISD Annual Meeting which is being held this year on May 20. Gary Oyster was appointed as representative and Peggy Bush was appointed as an alternate.

Release requests were denied for three students requesting to be released to the Genesee Intermediate Schools and one wanting to be released to Davison Schools.

The Board approved the contract for the Superintendent through the 2011-2012 school year. At the request of Debbie Thompson, the Board of Education voted to reduce her total compensation by 2.5% for the 2009-2010 school year. Additional members of the Central Office Leadership Team (COLT) also agreed to such a compensation reduction for the coming school year.

A resolution regarding the layoff of 13 teachers and the elimination of the Executive Director of Operations and Support Services position was approved.

The Board voted to close the Hadley Campus of Hadley-Murphy Elementary School at the end of the current school year. Students who would have attended the Hadley campus will be moved to the Murphy campus in the fall. Students scheduled to attend Murphy in the fifth and sixth grades in 2009-2010 will attend classes in a separate wing of the new Rolland-Warner Middle School building.

Board members thanked Mrs. Niblack for hosting the meeting and commented on various activities taking place throughout the district.

Superintendent Debbie Thompson shared the State of Michigan Bulletin 1014 which is a compilation of audited reports and pupil accounting for districts across the State. It shows that out of the 772 school districts in Michigan, which includes all K-12 districts and Charter schools, our district ranks as follows:

- 219th in per student spending on instruction;
- 596th in per student general fund revenue;
- 641st in per student spending for administration and business;
- 708th in per student spending for operations and maintenance.

LCS spends less on administration, business, operations, and maintenance and more on student instruction than most other districts in the State.

Further, as reported earlier in the meeting by Mike Nolan, Chair of the Personnel Committee, the District has reduced its central administration team from 29 members in 2000 to 22 this school year. Next school year, with the elimination of the Executive Director of Operations position, this number will drop to 21 or a 28% percent reduction since 2000. During the same a time period student population decreased 13%. Duties and responsibilities of that position will be added to those of existing central office administrators.