

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION
 REDFORD UNION SCHOOLS, DISTRICT NO. 1
 May 11, 2020

Regular Meeting
5/11/2020

A Regular meeting of the Redford Union Board of Education was held on May 11, 2020, electronically due to Governor Whitmer’s Executive Order 2020-2021 that prohibited all public gatherings of any number of people until May 15, 2020. It required the Redford Union School Board to meet electronically.

Call to Order

President Gubachy called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Present: Caloia (Late 6:45 PM), Gray, Gubachy, Kick, Osowski, and Pridemore
 Absent: Robinson

Roll Call

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Pledge of
Allegiance

None.

Call to the
Audience on
Agenda Items

President Gubachy welcomed everyone for joining the meeting and she wished everyone and their families well.

President’s
Remarks

Superintendent Shivers acknowledged everyone and then she turned it over to Jasen Witt, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources /Labor Relations.

Superintendent’s
Remark

Assistant Superintendent Witt asked for 30 seconds of silence in recognition of Ms. Wendy Perry, teacher at Redford Union High School who passed away in early April. Her passing was unrelated to Covid-19. The moment of silence was also to give recognition to Redford Union families, staff and community members that have been impacted by the Covid-19.

Superintendent Shivers showed a local news article of David Thompson, teacher at Hilbert Middle School and his wife who both nearly passed away from Covid-19. In the article the couple shared their experience battling the virus.

Superintendent Shivers mentioned that the past week was National Teacher Appreciation Week. A video of staff, students and parents was put together for the teachers in honor of Teacher Appreciation. The video was shown and can be found on the District's Facebook page.

Happy belated Mother's Day to all the Redford Union mothers.

It was moved by Member Osowski, seconded by Member Gray, to adopt the agenda of May 11, 2020, Regular Board Meeting as presented.

Adoption of
Agenda as
Presented
Carried

ROLL CALL:

S. Caloia: ABS, R. Gray: Yes, L. Gubachy: Yes, H. Kick: Yes, J. Osowski: Yes,

E. Pridemore: Yes, J. Robinson: ABS

Yes: 5 No: 0 Motion: Carried

None.

Communication
Received by the
Board Secretary

Schools of Choice 2020-2021:

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Greg McIntyre turned it over to Superintendent Shivers.

Assistant
Superintendent of
Business Services
Communication
Greg McIntyre turn
the microphone
over to
Superintendent
Shivers to discuss
Schools of Choice

Superintendent Shivers stated that she received a Memo from Assistant Superintendent McIntyre regarding Schools of Choice Recommendation. That memo was in the Board's packet. The recommendations were to keep K through 6, and a limited number of students: 25 for Grade 7, 25 for Grade 8, 25 for Virtual Online, and 10 for Early College.

Board questions were held until they reached the School of Choice Action Item.

August 2020 Operating Millage:

Superintendent Shivers stated that the District is still going forward with the August 2020 Operating Millage. They wanted to give the Board the opportunity to discuss the pros and cons. One of the pros is that if it does not pass in August, they would still have the opportunity to put it on the November ballot without having to change the language. Another pro for the August Millage is that the Operating Millage is separate from the Wayne County Millage which will be on the November Ballot. She also mentioned that with the pandemic, one of the cons could be low voter turnout. Also, if we are still in the middle of a pandemic, it would limit the District's ability to have face-to-face conversations and navigations with the community.

2020-2021,
August 2020
Operating Millage

Regular Board Meeting: 5/11/2020

She also noted to have the current economy looking like it looks, how the economy could look in the near future, the mixed feelings, sensitivity of being in the middle of a pandemic, and moving forward with having an Operating Millage. But she also asked the Board to keep in mind that if they decide to have the Operating Millage in May 2021 that the ballot language would have to change.

There was no Action Item this information was meant for discussion unless the Board would like to amend the Agenda.

Member Caloia suggested getting a list of the absentee voters and do a mailing of postcards send to the homes to explain the Operating Millage Ballot.

Superintendent Shivers said that mailing would be part of the approach. Also, face-to-face canvassing, Townhall Meetings what ever they could do to get the information into the homes.

Vice-President Pridemore agreed with the August date. She also mentioned that the entire leadership of the Township were up for reelection and she thinks it would be a decent turn out.

Member Gray agreed with the August date.

Secretary Kick agreed with the August date.

Member Gray agreed with the August date.

2020-2021 District Budget:

Superintendent Shivers provided an update on the 2020-2021 District Budget. She said that they were working on the Budget prior to the school closures and everything that they thought they knew prior to March 12, 2020 is no longer the information that they are working with or dealing with. There was a joint memo that went out on April 30th and the Board should have received it. The memo was from all of the State Associations: MSBO, MASA and MASB titled Budgeting in Uncertain Times. She asked that any Board member that have not seen that memo to let her know and she would forward it to them. She shared one of the most provocative statements that was in the memo. It stated that general funds school aid funds could be below budgeted estimates by \$1 to \$3 billion this fiscal year and between \$1 to \$4 billion next fiscal year. For illustration purposes only if all else is equal a \$1 billion decline in revenue in a school aid fund translates into a cut of approximately \$685 per student. She said right now they are estimating for Michigan to be \$2.6 billion. The memo urge district to try and put together an aggressive and conservation budget. She has asked Assistant Superintendent McIntyre and Assistant Superintendent Witt to begin developing budget scenarios based on somewhere between \$600 - \$850 per pupil cut for next school year. There will be uncertain and unpredictable fluctuations in the enrollment. They are concern about the timeline of which the State will finalize the budget. It may not be until the Fall. The district has received some relief in about \$900,000 but there are

2020-2021 District Budget

restrictions for what the funds can be used for and they are still navigating through those restrictions.

A Timeline was shown.

1. ALT/Finance Zoom meeting schedule for Thursday, May 14, 2020 to start talking about some of specifics around some of the challenges and there is nothing off the table.
2. Assistant Superintendent Witt will reach out to Union Leadership the week of May 18, 2020 to discuss findings and information (date and time to be determined).
3. The week of May 18, 2020 get some information/input based on budget scenarios from internal stakeholders (all staff) through a Survey.
4. A survey to External stakeholders (parents and community members) on May 25, 2020
5. First week of June 2020 the ALT/Finance Committee will meet again via Zoom (date and time to be determined) to look at budget scenarios, reports from both surveys and help prepare and finalize some budget scenarios to take to the Board on June 8, 2020 Board meeting via Zoom for a first reading and discussion.

Superintendent Shivers asked the Board to consider having a June 15, 2020 Special Public Budget Hearing at 6:30 PM via Zoom to hopefully approve the budget. If at that point the Board is not prepared to approve the Budget, there will still be two weeks for the Administration to make revision and bring it back to the Board. Bylaw the Budget must be balanced and submitted by June 30, 2020.

She mentioned that the past Friday she was on a Zoom call with the Governor and about 10 other Superintendents and the Governor spoke about the Budget. The Governor spoke about a bipartisan group of Governors that are working together to get additional funding to help schools with the budget shortfalls. Specifically, the \$2.6 billion shortfall in the State of Michigan. The Tri-county superintendents will be working with a lobbyist as well as State Representatives, Senators, Congress to try and put together some ways to look at budgeting at the State level and make some changes.

Superintendent will keep the Board abreasted as they move forward.

None.

Assistant
Superintendent of
Human Resources/
Labor Relations
Communication

Administrative Committee Reports:

Building / Facilities Committee: None.

Personnel / Policy Committee: None.

Finance Committee: None.

Curriculum / Achievement Committee: None.

Administrative
Committee Reports

It was moved by Member Kick, seconded by Member Osowski, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Consent Agenda
Approved as
Presented

Waive the reading and approve April 13, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes of the Redford Union Board of Education, as presented.

Regular Meeting
minutes of April 13,
2020 as presented

Approve check register list from March 2, 2020 – March 27, 2020, in the amount of \$1,712,204.35.

Check Register List
March 2 -27, 2020

Approve check register list from March 30, 2020 – May 1, 2020, in the amount of \$986,028.56.

Check Register List
March 30, 2020-
May 1, 2020

Approve electronic transfers for the month of March 2020, in the amount of \$1,712,204.35.

Electronic Transfers
March 2020

Approve electronic transfers for the month of April 2020, in the amount of \$1,358,870.98

Electronic Transfers
April 2020

Human Resources Recommendations:

Human Resources
Recommendations

Approve NEW HIRE: CERTIFIED request as listed below:

1. Tamara Mitchell/Teacher/3rd grade/Beech/ Effective 3/12/20

Tamara Mitchell

Approve NEW HIRE; NON-CERTIFIED request as listed below:

1. Eric Evans/Behavioral Specialist/Stuckey/Effective 3/23/20

Eric Evans

Approve SEPARATIONS requests as listed below:

1. Chris Abair/Teacher/RUHS/Resigned/Effective 3/27/20
2. Wendy Perry/Teacher/RUHS/Deceased 4/5/20

Chris Abair
Wendy Perry

ROLL CALL:

S. Caloia: Yes, R. Gray: Yes, L. Gubachy: Yes, H. Kick: Yes, J. Osowski: Yes,

E. Pridemore: Yes, J. Robinson: ABS

Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion: Carried

Superintendent Shivers stated that the second week of the school closure they asked for the students to write letters to Redford Township First Responders and heroes in the fire department, military, doctors, nurses, etc. The letters are being compiled into a virtual book and will be sent to the First Responders in the District's area. She said she was excited about the work that the students had done.

Academic Highlights

Action Items

2020-2021 Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency ("Wayne RESA") General Fund Operating Budget Resolution:
It was moved by Member Pridemore, seconded by Member Gray that the Board of Education adopt the resolution as presented supporting the proposed 2020-2021 Wayne RESA General Fund Operating Budget.

2020-2021 Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency ("Wayne RESA") General Fund Operating Budget Resolution

Member Caloia said that with uncertain budget issues that there is no reason WRESA should be asking for raises. With uncertain times, our District may be losing thousands of dollars. She wanted to make sure that was pointed out to the Board.

Vice-president Pridemore noted that the WRESA Budget information gave an explanation of the increase which were part of their current bargaining agreement.

Member Caloia stated that years ago Redford Union Schools Administrators and staff took pay cuts to save the District and that WRESA should be leading by example.

ROLL CALL:

S. Caloia: No, R. Gray: Yes, L. Gubachy: Yes, H. Kick: No, J. Osowski: Yes,

E. Pridemore: No, J. Robinson: ABS

Yes: 3 No: 3 Motion: Failed

Approval regarding the enrollment of Non-Resident Students:

It was moved by Member Caloia, seconded by Member Osowski that the Board of Education hereby authorizes, the Superintendent or her designees, the authority to enroll an unlimited number of students per school year, with such students being only those students who are eligible for grades K through 6, and a limited number of students: 25 for Grade 7, 25 for Grade 8, 25 for Virtual Online, and 10 for Early College. Pursuant to both Section 105 and Section 105c of the State Aid Act and in accordance with all other relevant statutory provisions.

Approval regarding the enrollment of Non-Resident Students

There were questions and answers.

ROLL CALL:

S. Caloia: Yes, R. Gray: Yes, L. Gubachy: Yes, H. Kick: Yes, J. Osowski: Yes,

E. Pridemore: Yes, J. Robinson: ABS

Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion: Carried

Regular Board Meeting: 5/11/2020

None.

Items Removed
from the Consent
Agenda

Superintendent Shivers mention that they are planning something for the seniors. The high school administrators and some community members are coming up with some great things to honor the seniors.

Superintendent's
Communication

The week of May 11, 2020 a Home Learning Survey will go out to parents to gather information about how the district is doing with remote learning. And to see if the parents need anything or additional help.

This past week Redford Union Leaders and South Redford Leaders had a joint Zoom meeting to discuss re-entry. Together they are trying to see what the Township would look like in the Fall such as PPE, transportation, and food. Rather the students are in school face-to-face or not. They are looking at it not as a District issue but a Township issue. Making preliminary plans for the Fall.

None.

Call to the Audience
On Non-Agenda
Items

None.

Board of Education
Communication/
Discussion

Future Meeting Dates:

Future Meeting
Dates

- A. Monday, June 8, 2020 – Special (Facilities Committee) Meeting – 5:30 PM
Board of Education Administrative Offices, 17715 Brady Street, Redford, MI 48240
- B. Monday, June 8, 2020 – Regular Meeting – 6:30 PM
Board of Education Administrative Offices, 17715 Brady Street, Redford, MI 48240
- C. Monday, June 15, 2020 – Special Budget Meeting – 6:30 PM
Board of Education Administrative Offices, 17715 Brady Street, Redford, MI 48240

The future meetings locations are pending the Governor's stay-home order.

It was moved by Member Osowski, seconded by Member Caloia, to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 PM.

Adjournment

ROLL CALL:

S. Caloia: Yes, R. Gray: Yes, L. Gubachy: Yes, H. Kick: Yes, J. Osowski: Yes,

E. Pridemore: Yes, J. Robinson: ABS

Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion: Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Harry J. Kick, III". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Harry J. Kick, III
Secretary
Redford Union Schools
Board of Education