

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION
 REDFORD UNION SCHOOLS, DISTRICT NO. 1
 October 8, 2007

A regular meeting of the Redford Union Board of Education was held October 8, 2007, in the auditorium at Redford Union High School, 17711 Kinloch, Redford Township, Michigan, 48240. President Pytel called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Brenner, Caloia, Calvert, Gubachy, Isabell, Pytel, Wujcik

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President Pytel spoke to:

- The count day on September 26, 2007 was not good news for the district. Mr. Tsvetanoff will be following up on this in the Financial section of the meeting.
- Current school funding in the state of Michigan and the inequity among districts.

Superintendent Rhodes spoke to:

- Andy Dillion will be holding a town meeting regarding the Michigan budget crisis at the VFW hall in Redford on Thursday, October 11th at 7 p.m.
- New Student Code of Conduct that will be distributed at the parent/teacher conferences.
- A new auto shop teacher has been hired and is excited to begin the process of getting the Redford Union High School auto shop certified.
- The district is researching two alternative electronic funding systems for use by parents. These systems will allow parents to pay for activities fees and child care. These are methods of payment either by phone or on the internet.
- The first grade literacy night was already held at MacGowan and the Kindergarten literacy night will be this Thursday, October 11th. All those with kindergarteners are invited to attend.

MOVED by Isabell, seconded by Caloia, to approve the October 8, 2007 agenda as presented. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

- Lemar England, 18460 Wakenden, opposes school uniforms, dress code should be enforced.
- Dana Sauard, 15096 Inkster, read from daughter's high school student planner. Current dress code not being enforced, current dress code needs to be reworked. Opposes school uniforms.

Regular Board Meeting: 10/8/07

Regular Meeting
10/8/07

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. President Remarks

V. Superintendent Remarks

VI. Adoption of Agenda

VII. Call to the Audience:
Public Participation Regarding

Agenda
Items

- Mary O'Connor, 15531 MacArthur, appropriate clothing in school is less of a distraction and supports school uniforms.
- Lisa Santti, 17706 Centralia, currently works at Hilbert and questions if there is a dress code for teachers. Opposes school uniforms.

MOVED by Isabell, seconded by Calvert, to waive and approve the September 10, 2007 regular meeting minutes and the September 17, 2007 special meeting minutes of the Redford Union Board of Education, as presented. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Nothing at this time.

Nothing at this time

MOVED by Isabell, seconded by Caloia, to approve the Fiscal and Budgetary Services consent agenda item as presented. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Recommend payment of 53926 through 54203 with the exception of check numbers, 53936, 53961, 53984, 53992, 54010, 54015, 54099, 54109, 54120, 54130, 54146, 54160, 54161, 54162, and 54163, which were voided.

MOVED by Isabell, seconded by Gubachy, to approve the Business and Operational Services consent agenda item as amended of electronic transfers for the month of September 2007. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Approval of electronic transfers for the month of September 2007.

MOVED by Isabell, seconded by Gubachy, to approve the human resource services consent agenda items as presented. Ayes: All. Motion carried

Approval of new hires for the following, effective dates as shown:

- Kelly Bylski, Educational Assistant/EDT/Keeler Center/10-1-07
- Kali Cates, Educational Assistant/EDT/Keeler Center/10-1-07

Approval of reinstatement for the following, effective date as shown:

- Dawn Lehr, Educational Assistant/EDT/Keeler Center/9-4-07

Approval of health Leave for the following, effective dates as shown:

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VIII. Review and
Approval of
Minutes

IX. Communication

X. Action Items

A.
Special Consideration
of An Action Item

B. Consent Agenda: &
Budgetary Services

1. Fiscal and
Budgetary
Services

a. Disposition of
Checks

2. Business and
Operational
Services

a. Electronic
Transfers
September 07

3. Human
Resources

a. Approval of
New Hires

K. Bylski
K. Cates

b. Approval of
Reinstatement

D. Lehr

c. Approval of Health

- Arthur Walls, Custodian/Pearson/9-26-07
- Cindy Kessel, Educational Assistant/ADT/Kaselemis Center/9-12-07
- Mike McCracken, General Maintenance/Transportation Service Center/9-3-07

Approval of family medical leave for the following effective date as shown:

- Suzanne Ciampa, Educational Assistant/Beck HI/10-3-07

Approval of layoff recalls for the following effective dates as shown:

- Marcia White, Part-time Driver, 9-17-07

Approval of extended leave request for the following effective dates as shown:

- Terri Buechs, Out of Town, 2-11-5-08
- Jennipher Reader, Out of Town, 11/21/07
- Wendy Russell, Out of Town, 2-14-15-08

A power point presentation titled "Shift Happens" was presented to the Board of Education and audience that addressed the challenges that students face in the future.

Freshman Focus will be presented at the next board meeting.

Caloia spoke about comparable districts to Redford Union. Caloia contacted the Inkster District about their institution of uniforms for the 2007-2008 school year. Inkster is similar to Redford Union socially and economically and double the amount of students on free or reduced lunch. Caloia stated that she had come into the high school at lunch time to see if there has been any change in student dress since the discussion of school uniforms and from her observations it appears there has been no change. It is too hard to enforce the numerous dress code violations by administrators.

Brenner informed the board and audience that starting the week of 10-15-07 information regarding the Kroger gift card fund raiser will be distributed to parents and is open to anyone in the community that shops at Krogers. The first one hundred applicants to purchase the \$5 gift cards will receive a \$1 cash rebate.

MOVED by Brenner, seconded by Pytel that the provisions of the Board of Education bylaw 1550 requiring that there be two readings of a bylaw or policy before adoption be set aside temporarily for this meeting so the adoption of a bylaw allowing a student representative to sit on the Board be introduced and voted on. Ayes: All. Motion carried

Brenner introduced a copy of a new Board bylaw, included in the board packet, with language relating to the seating of a non-voting student Regular Board Meeting: 10/8/07

Leave

A. Walls

C. Kessel

M. McCracken

d. Approval of Family Medical Leave

S. Ciampa

e. Approval of Recalls

M. White

f. Approval of Extended Leave

T. Buechs

J. Reader

W. Russell

4. Educational Services

a. Shift Happens presentation

b. Freshman Focus presentation

XI. Board of Education Communication/Discussion

A. Dress Code/Uniforms

B. Kroger Fund Raising Opportunity

C. Student Rep at the Board of Education

representative on the Redford Union Board of Education.

MOVED by Brenner, seconded by Isabell, to adopt a new bylaw to be numbered 1031 that allows this Board to appoint a student representative to the Board. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

MOVED by Brenner, seconded by Pytel, that the new bylaw 1031 as just adopted by the Board have immediate effect and that the student representative, Derek Kincer, be seated immediately. Ayes: All. Motion: carried.

The Superintendent comments that we look forward to Derek's contribution to the Board of Education.

XII. Superintendent's Communication

The Director of Finance reported that with the current student counts in the district had budgeted for a loss of 200 students as opposed to the 300 students recorded at count day. This decline will result in a \$700,000 difference in the planned budget for the 2007-2008 school year and effect the deficit reduction plan in place. At the present time the district does not know what the student allowance will be.

XIII. Director of Finance Communications

- Dave Battistelli, 20005 Lennane, Redford, teacher at the high school and member of the community. Not shocked regarding student decline in the district. Battistelli stated that he wore flip flops to class to today as the temperature in the room was 96 degrees. Believes the current dress code should be enforced.
- Jessica Natho, 27020 Bennett, Redford, student stated mother asked principal if students were allowed to wear flip flops and the principal stated yes. The student mentioned the parents dress when picking up students at Bulman.
- Sam Reams, 20548 Denby, Redford, upset with the statement "too hard to enforce the rules." Believes the current dress code should be enforced. Supports a contract for the teaching staff.
- Steve Losey, 206 Chestnet Way, Linden, on October 15th at 5 p.m. he will be available in the high school media center to answer any questions regarding the teachers contract.
- Steven Cook, 1216 Kendale Blvd, East Lansing, Vice-President of the MEA. Here to represent 250 Redford Union teachers. Stated over the years teachers have given up salary increases to protect employer paid health insurance. Urged the board to accept the compromise of good faith bargaining. Cook respects that the Board has the responsibility to balance the books. Cook feels that the bad faith exhibited by the Board is having a direct effect on the teaching and learning environment of Redford Union Schools.
- Linda Kick, 19480 Negaunee, Redford, supports the teachers of Redford Union and asked the Board to resolve the teacher contract.
- Andy Christopherson, 12821 Nathaline, Redford, spoke regarding what drives most teachers and statistics regarding the teaching

XIV. Call to the Audience
D. Battistelli

J. Natho

S. Reams

S. Losey

S. Cook

L. Kick

A. Christopherson

profession. When Christopherson began to speak negatively regarding Ed Callaghan, HR Director, he was invited to address the board in private, that public attack would not be allowed.

- Debbie Miracle, 17422 Delaware, Redford, believes students should be asked their opinion regarding the dress code. Asked Caloia what is her issue regarding flip flops and disagrees with a school uniform policy.
- Steven Beaulieu, 7350 Pullman, W. Bloomfield, wants to ask the Board if there is any image building plan for the district and be proactive.
- Sherri Belobradich, 15446 Kinloch, Redford, invites the Board to the next soccer game on Friday evening (10/19). Strong believer in sports as part of high school curriculum, questions the behavior of the current coaches.
- Nate Mulvihill, 19311 Garfield, Redford, parent of students at Hilbert and Redford High Schools. Due to a hall sweep he was required to come to school to speak with the assistant principal regarding the tardy policy. Once parent had the discussion with the principal he understood the reasoning. He suggests that a sweep for unacceptable dress code violations be instituted. Enforce the current dress code.
- Keene Weekley, 18478 Fox, Redford, wants to state that flip flops are footwear and no where in the current dress code are they restricted. Weekley believes we need to spend less time on flip flops and dress code and more time on the teachers contract.

D. Miracle

S. Beaulieu

S. Belobradich

N. Mulvihill

K. Weekley

MOVED by Isabell, seconded by Calvert to move to a closed session at 8:49 p.m.

XV. Adjourned to a closed session

MOVED by Gubachy, seconded by Calvert to return to open session at 9:14 p.m. Ayes all. Motion carried.

XIII. Return to open session

MOVED by Gubachy, seconded by Wujick to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Ayes all. Motion carried

XIV. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Gubachy, Secretary
Redford Union Board of Education