

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Special Meeting
August 1, 2011**

President Scheel convened the meeting at 7:55 p.m. in the Board Room, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia.

Members Present Colleen Burton, Robert Freeman, Mark Johnson, Patrice Mang, Gregory Oke, Randy Roulier, Lynda Scheel

Members Absent None

Audience Communications None

First Reading of Board Policies: It was reported by Mr. Oke, Chair of the Policy Committee, that the Policy Committee reviewed the language for the policies shown below. The proposed language was provided to the Board for their review and possible adoption at the next regular Board meeting.

Board Policy JCEC – Bullying Prevention The Board requested the insertion of the words “*to an adult*” into Board Policy JCEC, as noted in red below.

BOARD POLICY

JCEC

STUDENTS

AUGUST 15, 2011

BULLYING PREVENTION

The Board of Education believes that a safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. It is the (policy) of the District to provide a safe educational environment for all of its students.

This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, in a school vehicle, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school’s control, or where an employee is engaged in school business. Misconduct occurring outside of school may also be disciplined if it interferes with the school environment.

"Bullying" is defined as a person willfully and repeatedly exercising power or control over another with hostile or malicious intent (i.e., repeated oppression, physical or psychological, of a less powerful individual by a more powerful individual or group) that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or a mental, physical, or sensory disability or impairment; or by any other distinguishing characteristic.

"Bullying" is conduct that meets the following criteria:

- A. is directed at one (1) or more students;
- B. substantially interferes with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more students;
- C. adversely affects the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the school district's educational programs or activities by placing the student in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing emotional distress; and,
- D. is based on a student's actual or perceived distinguishing characteristic (see above), or is based on an association with another person who has or is perceived to have any of these characteristics.

Bullying can be physical, verbal, psychological, written or a combination of all four.

Some examples of bullying are:

- A. Physical – hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, pulling; taking and/or damaging personal belongings or extorting money, blocking or impeding student movement, unwelcome physical contact.
- B. Verbal – taunting, malicious teasing, insulting, name calling, making threats.
- C. Psychological – spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships, coercion, or engaging in social exclusion/shunning, extortion, or intimidation.
- D. Written - graphic or electronically transmitted.

Any student who believes s/he has been or is the victim of bullying, hazing, or other aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to an adult. Every student, whether victim or not, should and every staff member must, report any situation that they believe to be bullying toward a student.

The Administration will develop procedures to implement this policy which are consistent with other portions of the BOE policies for student discipline, discrimination and harassment.

Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of bullying behavior is prohibited. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as bullying behavior. Making intentionally false reports about bullying behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

This policy is not intended to and should not be interpreted to interfere with legitimate free speech rights of any individual. However, the District reserves the right and responsibility to maintain a safe environment for students, conducive to learning and other legitimate objectives of the school program.

Confidentiality

To the extent appropriate and/or legally permitted, confidentiality will be maintained during the investigation process. However, a proper investigation will, in some circumstances, require the disclosure of names and allegations.

All meetings of the Board of Education shall be open to the public. A person shall not be required as a condition of attendance at a meeting to register or otherwise provide his/her name or other information to fulfill a condition precedent to attendance. Any person shall be permitted to address the Board under the agenda item, "Audience Communications," and when addressing the Board, he/she shall be requested to state his/her name and address for the record.

In order to permit a fair allotment of time to participants, the Board shall have the option of limiting the time a person may address the Board to twice during any one meeting for no more than five minutes each time.

In cases where individuals or groups desire to be listed on the printed agenda of the meeting for purpose of addressing the Board, a written statement of such intention must be received by the president of the Board or by the superintendent's office not later than five days prior to the date of the meeting.

The Board will allow taping, videotaping, and photographing in an area designated by the Board and in such a manner as to not disrupt the dignity and function of the Board meeting. Taping, videotaping, and photographing of individuals or groups that are being recognized will be allowed outside the designated area during the communications portion of the meeting. If the meeting is being disrupted, the Board may direct all taping, videotaping, or photography to cease.

Persons may be excluded from attendance at open meetings only for a breach of the peace committed at the meeting.

Disorderly Conduct at Meetings

If a person conducts himself/herself in a disorderly manner at a Board of Education meeting or a school district meeting and, after notice from the officer presiding, persists therein, the officer presiding may order the disorderly person to withdraw from the meeting, and on the person's refusal may order a law enforcement officer or other person to take the disorderly person into custody until the meeting is adjourned.

A person who refuses to withdraw from the meeting on being so ordered, or a person who willfully disturbs a school district meeting by rude and indecent behavior, by profane or indecent discourse, or in other ways makes a disturbance, is guilty of a crime punishable by a fine or by imprisonment.

LEGAL REF.: MCLA, 15.263; 380.1808; Op. Atty. Gen. No. 4738 (Legal References Updated 3/12/07)

**Board Policy
BCBJ/KBCC -
Board Meeting
News Coverage**

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD

BCBJ/KBCC

**BOARD OPERATIONS
BOARD MEETING NEWS COVERAGE**

AUGUST 15, 2011

The Board of Education believes that one of the paramount responsibilities of a local school board in a democracy is to keep the public informed of its actions. Consequently, news media representatives shall be welcome to attend all regular and special meetings of the Board of Education.

In order that the Board may transact its business with dispatch, questions from the press will not be entertained while meetings are in progress. However, the Board president or a designee will be available after each meeting to answer reporters' questions and to clarify points of discussion and action.

Members of the broadcast media who wish to videotape a Board meeting or portions of a Board meeting are requested to so notify the superintendent in advance so that adequate provisions may be

made for electrical service, space, etc.

~~Taping and videotaping shall be conducted in such a manner as to not disrupt the dignity and function of the Board meeting. If the meeting is being disrupted, the Board may direct that all taping or videotaping cease.~~

The Board will allow taping, videotaping, and photographing in an area designated by the Board and in such a manner as to not disrupt the dignity and function of the Board meeting. Taping, videotaping, and photographing of individuals or groups that are being recognized will be allowed outside the designated area during the communications portion of the meeting. If the meeting is being disrupted, the Board may direct all taping, videotaping, or photography to cease.

In the event that representatives of the news media are unable to attend a meeting of the Board, they shall be provided a summary of important Board actions if requested.

Board Policy BBABA – Duties of the President

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD

BBABA

BOARD OPERATIONS DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT

AUGUST 15, 2011

The president shall preside at all regular meetings, special meetings, closed sessions, and study sessions; shall plan cooperatively with the superintendent the agendas for such meetings; shall represent and speak for the Board when requested to do so and only on action which the Board has already taken; shall sign documents as required by law and correspondence as authorized by the Board; shall appoint Board members as committee chairpersons and members as soon as feasible following the ~~organizational~~ meeting of the election of officers; shall make other committee appointments; shall perform such other duties as authorized by the Board.

LEGAL REF.: MCLA, 380.1201(5) (Legal References Updated 3/12/07)

Board Policy BBC – Board Committees

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD

BBC

BOARD OPERATIONS BOARD COMMITTEES

AUGUST 15, 2011

The Board of Education shall operate as a committee-of-the-whole. The Board exercises its powers and duties only in a properly called meeting in accordance with state laws.

Standing Committees

The standing committees of the Board shall include: Building and Site, Curriculum, Finance, Legislative, Personnel, and Policy. Additional ad hoc committees may be formed or liaisons designated as deemed necessary by the Board. Committee meetings will be conducted in accordance with the current state law. Board members serving on such committees shall function as liaison persons between the Board of Education and the staff and will make recommendations or advise the Board as a whole relative to their areas of study.

The president shall appoint, as soon as possible following the ~~July organizational meeting~~ meeting of the election of officers, chairpersons and members of Board committees. Board members may also be delegated other special or specific duties or assignments by the Board when deemed necessary.

Opportunity will be provided for interested parties to address a committee.

CROSS REF.: ABB—Board Powers and Duties

LEGAL REF.: MCLA, 15.261, *et seq.* (Legal References Updated 3/12/07)

**Board Policy
BCAA – Annual
Organizational
Meeting**

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD

BCAA

**BOARD OPERATIONS
ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

AUGUST 15, 2011

The members of the Board of Education shall meet annually ~~on or before the second Monday of in July following the annual school election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May~~ for the purpose of organizing the Board ~~by electing a president, vice president, and secretary from among its members,~~ **with the exception of electing officers.** The Board shall adopt a regular monthly meeting schedule by a vote of a majority of the members at the organizational meeting. The secretary shall cause to be posted at the main office of the Board of Education a notice of the schedule of meetings within ten days after the organizational meeting. The notice, and all public notices of meetings, shall include the name, address and telephone of the Board office and the date, time and place of meetings.

CROSS REF.: BBA-BBAA

**Appointment of
Elementary
Principal**

It was moved by Mr. Oke and supported by Ms. Mang that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and appoint Bridget Regan as an elementary principal at Cass Elementary School beginning with the 2011-2012 school year.

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, Johnson, Mang, Oke, Roulier, Scheel
Nays: None

**Appointment of
Secondary
Assistant Principal**

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mr. Freeman that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and appoint Anthony Abbate as a secondary assistant principal beginning with the 2011-2012 school year.

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, Johnson, Mang, Oke, Roulier, Scheel
Nays: None

**Appointment of
Secondary
Assistant Principal**

It was moved by Mr. Freeman and supported by Mr. Roulier that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and appoint Kevin Etue as a secondary assistant principal beginning with the 2011-2012 school year.

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, Johnson, Mang, Oke, Roulier, Scheel
Nays: None

**Recess to Closed
Session for Supt.
Evaluation**

It was moved by Ms. Burton and supported by Mr. Oke that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District recess to closed session for the purpose of: **Superintendent's Evaluation.**

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, Johnson, Mang, Oke, Roulier, Scheel
Nays: None

Board members recessed to closed session at 8:26 p.m.

Reconvene

President Scheel reconvened the meeting at 10:32 p.m.

Adjournment

It was moved by Ms. Mang and supported by Mr. Oke that the Special Meeting of **August 1, 2011** be adjourned.

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, Johnson, Mang, Oke, Roulier, Scheel
Nays: None

President Scheel adjourned the meeting at 10:32 p.m.

Off/Supt/jw