

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Livonia Public Schools  
15125 Farmington Road  
Regular Meeting  
April 12, 2010**

President Scheel convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia.

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| <b>Members Present</b>                                   | Colleen Burton, Robert Freeman, Steve King, Daniel Lessard, Patrice Mang, Gregory Oke, Lynda Scheel   |
| <b>Members Absent</b>                                    | None  |
| <b>Donation from Senator Glenn Anderson</b>              | Senator Glenn Anderson addressed the Board of Education regarding his donation of the book <i>Moose on the Loose</i> to each LPS elementary school.   |
| <b>Gift – Riley PTA</b>                                  | <p>It was moved by Ms. Mang and supported by Mr. Freeman that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the generous gift of \$6,000 from Riley PTA to fulfill a wish list from staff.</p> <p>Ayes: Burton, Freeman, King, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel<br/>Nays: None</p>                                  |
| <b>Gift – Big Lots to Emerson</b>                        | <p>It was moved by Ms. Burton and supported by Mr. Lessard that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the generous gift of \$2,500 from Big Lots Corporation to Emerson in honor of a new store opening in Livonia.</p> <p>Ayes: Burton, Freeman, King, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel<br/>Nays: None</p> |
| <b>Science Week – International Photo Contest Winner</b> | The Board recognized Cassidy Williams, eighth grade science student at Emerson, who won second place in an International Photography Contest for Earth Science Week. Her photo will be featured on the International Year of Planet Earth and Earth Science Week Web sites.   |
| <b>Michigan DNRE – Earth Day Poster Contest Winner</b>   | The Board recognized Bailie Escobar, third grader at Rosedale, who won first place in her grade category in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment Earth Day Poster Contest. She will be recognized at Constitution Hall on Earth Day and her poster will be hung in the art gallery at Constitution Hall.            |
| <b>Recess</b>  | It was moved by Mr. Lessard and supported by Ms. Mang that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District have a short recess to visit with guests.   |

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, King, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel  
Nays: None

The Board recessed at 7:38 p.m.

**Reconvene**

President Scheel reconvened the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

**Written  
Communication**

None

**Audience  
Communication**

**John Grzebik**, 1301 Hubbell, addressed the Board regarding: Youth Making A Difference celebration on April 13, 6:30 p.m. at Franklin High School; PTA general membership meeting at 6:30 p.m. on April 14 at Johnson; and tickets for the upcoming senior all night parties at each high school should be purchased as soon as possible.

**Response to  
Prior Audience  
Communication**

None

**Consent Agenda**

Ms. Scheel stated that Item VI.A. Bills for Payment—April 13, 2010, would be removed from the consent agenda.

It was moved by Mr. Freeman and supported by Mr. Lessard that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the following consent agenda items as recommended by the superintendent:

- IV.A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 15, 2010
- IV.B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 22, 2010
- IV.C. Minutes of the Closed Session of March 22, 2010
- IV.D. Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 31, 2010
- IV.E. Minutes of the Closed Session of March 31, 2010

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, King, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel  
Nays: None

**CLASS –  
Continuous  
Learning and  
Student Success**

Mrs. Sheila Alles, Director of Academic Services, presented a video of the second program in the CLASS series, showcasing the use of podcasts in LPS classrooms. Students and teachers at Johnson, Emerson, and Kennedy shared their use of podcasting and the positive impact it has on learning. They relayed that students and parents can visit school Web sites to view the podcasts.

**Bills for Payment  
– April 13, 2010**

It was moved by Mr. Oke and supported by Mr. Lessard that General Fund check nos. 502822 through 503500 for \$4,496,961.19 be approved for payment and general fund wire transfers of \$3,889,668.46 and payroll direct deposit of \$4,346,800.09 be approved for total expenditures of \$12,733,429.74.

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, King, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel  
Nays: None

### Leaves of Absence

It was moved by Mr. Lessard and supported by Ms. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and approve requests for **leaves of absence** for the 2010-2011 school year for **Dana Paluk** for child care leave and **Michelle Taverner** for extended child care leave, for the 2010-2011 school year.

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, King, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel  
Nays: None

### Retirements

It was moved by Mr. Oke and unanimously supported by the Board that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt resolutions of appreciation for services rendered by:

**John Boone** who has devoted 23 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Churchill High School as a teacher.

**Ann Brady** who has devoted 40.8 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Madison Elementary School, Cooper Elementary School, and Coolidge Elementary School as a teacher.

**Julie Collins** who has devoted 40 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Cooper Elementary School, Washington Elementary School, Hayes Elementary School, Nankin Mills Elementary School, Johnson Elementary School, Roosevelt Elementary School, Kennedy Elementary School, Tyler Elementary School, and Coolidge Elementary School as a teacher.

**Rebecca Copenhaver** who has devoted 21 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Jackson Center and Hoover Elementary School as a teacher.

**Mary Couillard** who has devoted 20.8 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of the Livonia Career Technical Center, Community Relations Department, and Holmes Middle School as a Special Needs Counselor, Coordinator of Career Intern Program, and Counselor.

**Philip Dimmer** who has devoted 32 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Riley Junior High School, Whittier Junior High School, Dickinson Junior High School, Franklin High School, Stevenson High School, Garfield Elementary School, McKinley Elementary School, and Churchill High School as a teacher.

**Sheila Dobbie** who has devoted 40.7 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Grant Elementary School, Eisenhower Elementary School, Taylor Elementary School, Monroe Elementary School, Hayes Elementary School, Cass Elementary School, Marshall Elementary School, and Riley Upper Elementary School as a teacher.

**Alzada Dolencic** who has devoted 13.3 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a custodian at Grant Elementary School and Cass Elementary School.

**Jeanine Dotson** who has devoted 14.7 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Churchill High School as a teacher.

**Nicolina Elliott** who has devoted 52 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Jefferson Elementary School, Division of Instruction, Monroe Elementary School, Perrinville Elementary School, Webster Elementary School, Coolidge Elementary School, Tyler Elementary School, Kennedy Elementary School, and Buchanan Elementary School as a classroom teacher, teacher of the learning disabled, and learning specialist.

**Marilyn Friebe** who has devoted 11 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Stevenson High School as a counselor.

**Ina Germain** who has devoted ten years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of McKinley Elementary School and Perrinville Early Childhood Center as a teacher.

**William Halvangis** who has devoted 24 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Churchill High School as a teacher, Program Coordinator for Student Assistance Program, and Student Activities Director.

**Susan Haverkate** who has devoted 29.1 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Franklin High School, Riley Junior High School, Emerson Junior High School, Riley Middle School, and Churchill High School as a teacher.

**Kathleen Hofmeister** who has devoted 20 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Hayes Elementary School as a teacher and E.S.A.P. Provider.

**Elizabeth Horn** who has devoted 43.4 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Bryant Junior High School, Dickinson Junior High School, and Frost Middle School as a teacher.

**Carolyn Jackson** who has devoted 43 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Harrison Elementary School, Adams Elementary School, Johnson Elementary School, and Rosedale Elementary School as a teacher.

**Ann Jenkins** who has devoted 38.9 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Monroe Elementary School, Randolph Elementary School, Ford Junior High School, Riley Middle School, Garfield Elementary School, Taylor Elementary School, and Grant Elementary School as a teacher.

**Kaaren Joslyn** who has devoted 11 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Stevenson High School as a counselor.

**Nancy Kelley** who has devoted 23 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Buchanan Elementary School, Grant Elementary School, Marshall Elementary School, and Cass Elementary School as a teacher.

**Robert King** who has devoted 35.9 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Hayes Elementary School, Garfield Elementary School, Grant Elementary School, Western Wayne Skill Center, Riley Middle School, McKinley Elementary School, and Churchill High School as a teacher.

**Bette Knedgen** who has devoted 41 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Cass Elementary School, Hull Elementary School, and Kennedy Elementary School as a teacher.

**Kathleen Lacombe** who has devoted 19.9 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students throughout the district as a school psychologist with the Student Services Department.

**Samuel Lamerato** who has devoted 40.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students throughout the district as an English, social studies, and physical education teacher.

**Debra Lanigan-LaMonica** who has devoted 21.8 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a confidential secretary to the Director of Employee Relations and Benefits, administrative assistant, and supervisor of insurance at Central Office.

**Daniel Landon** who has devoted 12 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of the Western Wayne Skill Center and Franklin High School as a special education teacher.

**Richard Lenz** who has devoted 23 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Stevenson High School, Emerson Middle School, Randolph Elementary School, Grant Elementary School, Roosevelt Elementary School, Cooper Elementary School, Taylor Elementary School, Nankin Mills Elementary School, and Riley Upper Elementary School as a teacher.

**William Martin, Jr.** who has devoted 35 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Harrison Elementary School, Stark Elementary School, and Western Wayne Skill Center as a special education teacher.

**John McGreevy** who has devoted 19.3 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Dickinson Junior High School, Whittier Junior High School, Stevenson High School, Franklin High School, and Churchill High School as a teacher and counselor.

**Patricia Niemi** who has devoted 34.9 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Holmes Junior High School, Lowell Junior High School, Frost Junior High School, Stevenson High School, Riley Middle School, and Holmes Middle School as a teacher.

**Diane Plungis** who has devoted 26.4 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Frost Junior High School, Ford Junior High School, Dickinson Junior High School, Nankin Mills Elementary School, Hoover Elementary School, and Riley Upper Elementary School as a teacher.

**Nora Post** who has devoted 22 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Garfield Elementary School and Johnson Elementary School as a teacher.

**Suzanne Rompel** who has devoted 17.3 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of the ALPHA Program, Emerson Junior High School, and Churchill High School as a teacher.

**Sue Schafer** who has devoted 22 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Tyler Elementary School and Coolidge Elementary School as a teacher.

**Judy Shellenbarger** who has devoted 20 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Nankin Mills Elementary School and Cooper Upper Elementary School as a teacher.

**Susan Shovlin** who has devoted 21 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Grant Elementary School, Taylor Elementary School, and Kennedy Elementary School as a learning specialist.

**Kenneth Thompson** who has devoted 46 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students throughout the district as a speech correctionist, learning specialist, and teacher of speech and language impaired with the Student Services Department.

**Norbert Topolewski** who has devoted 44 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Emerson Junior High School and Franklin High School as a teacher and employment specialist for vocational counseling and placement.

**Dianne Umansky** who has devoted 20 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students throughout the district as a school psychologist with the Student Services Department.

**Laura Wallace** who has devoted 16 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Emerson Middle School, Administration Building, and Holmes Middle School as Acting Director of Personnel and Assistant Principal.

**Mary Wilkinson** who has devoted 18 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Coolidge Elementary School and Hayes Elementary School as a teacher and learning specialist.

**Franklin Wiseman, Jr.** who has devoted 32 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Harrison Elementary School, Webster Elementary School and Western Wayne Skill Center as a teacher.

**Elaine Woods** who has devoted 21 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Tyler Elementary School and Roosevelt Elementary School as a media specialist.

#### Removal from Recall

It was moved by Mr. King and supported by Mr. Oke that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District **remove Danielle Zucchet from any form of a recall list** thereby eliminating her from any rights to future employment.

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, King, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel  
Nays: None

#### Approval of Teachers

It was moved by Ms. Burton and supported by Mr. Lessard that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools accept the recommendation of the superintendent and offer employment for the 2009-2010 school year to the following teachers: **Courtney Ignash and Nancy VanDenBerg.**

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, King, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel  
Nays: None

**Regular Meeting**

**-7-**

**4/12/10**

**Resolution –  
Regional  
Enhancement  
Millage**

It was moved by Ms. Mang and supported by Mr. Lessard that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution in support of the inclusion of a proposed Wayne County regional enhancement millage for 1.90 mills for a period of five years, 2010-2014, inclusive, on the ballot for the state primary election to be held on August 3, 2010.

Ayes: None

Nays: Burton, Freeman, King, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel

**Motion failed**

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Mr. Lessard and supported by Ms. Mang that the Regular Meeting of April 12, 2010 be adjourned.

Ayes: Burton, Freeman, King, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel

Nays: None

President Scheel adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

**Off/Supt/jw**