

**VICKSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**August 13, 2012**  
**7:00 pm – VAB**  
**MINUTES**

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**Members Present:** Wil Emmert, Rudy Callen, Tom Danielson, Tina Forsyth, Carol Lohman, Virgil Knowles, David Schriemer

**Administrators Present:** Charles Glaes, Stephen Goss, Keevin O'Neill, Tonya Nash, Adam Brush

**Guests Present:** None

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Important Dates: Supt. Glaes referred to important dates included in the packet.
- B. Update on BK/Kindergarten Enrollments: Supt. Glaes stated that projected numbers in several grades are quite high. We are closely monitoring the situation and may need to add a split classroom in a couple of buildings.
- C. Status of Open Positions: Most positions have been filled. HS Principal Keevin O'Neill described how well the HUMANeX Program worked for his building.

II. REPORTS AND PUBLIC INQUIRY

A. Financial Report - Steve Goss

- 1. Budget Progress Report for Month Ending July 31, 2012: Asst. Supt. Goss reviewed the budget progress report for June, 2012 showing total revenues of \$44,543; total expenditures of \$559,881; and deficiency of revenues over expenditures of - \$515,338.

B. Instructional Report - Charles Glaes:

- 1. Open of the 2012-13 School Year: Supt. Glaes reviewed plans for the opening of the school year as listed below.
  - a. August 27 - New Teacher Orientation
  - b. August 28 - VEA Opener
  - c. August 29 - Building Preservice Day
  - d. August 30 - Building Preservice 1/2 Day
  - e. August 31- September 3 - District Closed
  - f. September 4 - First Day of School
- 2. Award School/Focus School: Annually, public school students in grades 3 through 9 take the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test, and 11<sup>th</sup> graders take the Michigan Merit Exam (MME). The state of Michigan uses the scores from these tests to assign school building report card grades and calculate Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), a measure of year-to-year student achievement on the MEAP or the MME.

This year the State "raised the bar" by approving new higher cut scores, which are used to separate test takers into various proficiency categories. Despite the

resulting drop in student scores across the state, Vicksburg Community Schools' scores remained high in most areas compared with other schools. In addition, each building made AYP, and each elementary maintained state report card grades of B, while the Middle and High School rate C grades.

Combined grades 3-8 passing rates on the fall 2011 MEAP also show that Vicksburg Schools compare very favorably with area school districts in most areas scoring 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 35 area school districts in both Math and Reading.

At the same time, Vicksburg Elementary Writing scores fell on the state's new writing test and cut scores. In response, Vicksburg has adopted new elementary spelling and writing curriculums, and has scheduled intensive staff training in those areas, while continuing staff training in differentiating elementary math instruction.

Most recently, the state announced a new school Top to Bottom School Ranking system based on MEAP and MME results. The system uses complex statistical calculations of overall achievement levels on each test, improvement in achievement over time, and the achievement gap between the top 30% of students versus the bottom 30% of students to rank each school.

The new ranking system shows Vicksburg Schools' scores ratings in terms of percentile, meaning that school scored equal to or better than that percentage of schools in the state, as follows:

Indian Lake Elementary – 72  
Sunset Lake Elementary – 61  
Tobey Elementary – 92  
Vicksburg Middle School – 67  
Vicksburg High School – 76

In addition, the state used the system to identify Tobey Elementary as a Reward School, and Sunset Lake Elementary as a Focus School. Reward Schools are those scoring in the top 5% or showing the greatest improvement, while Focus Schools are making student achievement progress generally, but must concentrate school improvement efforts on closing achievement gaps in order to help all children reach their learning potential. Focus Schools, including Sunset, will receive resources and attention in their efforts.

Vicksburg Community Schools maintains high standards for our schools and a history of high achievement. We will be examining our curriculum to respond to the state's higher achievement expectations. We will also focus our professional development efforts on enhancing our abilities to continually improve learning outcomes for all students.

C. Audience: No one wished to address the Board on a non-agenda item.

### III. BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

A. Approval of the Following Minutes:

1. July 9, 2012 Regular Meeting: A motion was made by Emmert and supported by Danielson for approval of the July 9, 2012 regular meeting minutes meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of the Following General Fund Invoices - ROLL CALL VOTE:

1. July 11, 2012 = \$213,370.40: A motion was made by Lohman and supported by Forsyth to approve payment of July 11, 2012 invoices totaling \$213,370.40.  
Ayes: Emmert, Callen, Schriemer, Danielson, Forsyth, Lohman, Knowles  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None  
Motion carried unanimously.
2. July 25, 2012 = \$62,950.40: A motion was made by Emmert and supported by Danielson to approve payment of July 25, 2012 invoices totaling \$62,950.40.  
Ayes: Emmert, Callen, Schriemer, Danielson, Forsyth, Lohman, Knowles  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None  
Motion carried unanimously.
3. July 31, 2012 = \$229,333.48: A motion was made by Forsyth and supported by Danielson to approve payment of July 31, 2012 invoices totaling \$229,333.48.  
Ayes: Emmert, Callen, Schriemer, Danielson, Forsyth, Lohman, Knowles  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None  
Motion carried unanimously.

C. 2nd Reading - Approval of the Following ByLaw Revisions - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion was made by Lohman and supported by Forsyth for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Approval of the following ByLaw Revisions:

Ayes: Emmert, Callen, Schriemer, Danielson, Forsyth, Lohman, Knowles  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None  
Motion carried unanimously.

1. 0121 - Authority
2. 0123 - Board Powers
3. 0151 - Organizational Meeting

D. 1st Reading - Approval of Revision to Policy 3142 Probationary Teachers - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion was made by Danielson and supported by Forsyth for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Approval of Revision to Policy 3142 Probationary Teachers.

Ayes: Emmert, Callen, Schriemer, Danielson, Forsyth, Lohman, Knowles  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Approval of the Following Teacher Contracts Upon Results of State and Federal Record and Unprofessional Conduct Checks: A motion was made by Emmert and supported by Schriemer for approval of the following teacher contracts upon results of state and federal record and unprofessional conduct checks:

Motion carried unanimously.

1. Sarah King - Sunset Lake Kindergarten - BA Step 1
2. Gayle Perkins - Middle School 0.5 Science/0.5 English - BA+20 Step 3
3. Emily Proctor - Middle School 0.5 Math - BA Step 1
4. Leslie (Linton) Trayers - Sunset Lake Begindergarten - BA Step 2
5. Zachary Wierenga - HS/Sunset Special Education - MA Step 3
6. Amber Zigterman - High School 0.33 Spanish - BA Step 2

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Knowles adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.

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President Virgil Knowles

Date: September 13, 2012

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Secretary Karen Hill