

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Regular Meeting
April 16, 2012**

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

Members Present Colleen Burton, Mark Johnson, Dianne Laura, Patrice Mang, Eileen McDonnell, Gregory Oke, Randy Roulier

Members Absent None

Public Hearing for Proposed Bullying Prevention Policy Andrea Oquist, director of elementary programs, shared that the district's Board Policy related to bullying prevention was updated in accordance with Matt's Safe School Law, which was passed in December 2011. Mrs. Oquist asked if there was any input from the public regarding the proposed policy. There were no comments from the public.

Gifts to Franklin, Cleveland, and Livonia Career Technical Center It was moved by Ms. Burton and supported by Ms. Laura that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the following generous gifts, with a total value of \$2,414.00, from the Michigan branch of DCP Solutions, in collaboration with Ergotron's Educational Program:

- a TeachWell Mobile Digital Workspace (valued at \$816.00) to Franklin High School for use by multiple teachers,
- a Table Management Module (valued at \$1,099.00) to Cleveland Elementary for use with their Title 1 iPads, and
- a WorkFit-A keyboard/monitor mount (valued at \$499.00) to Livonia Career Technical Center for use in the CAD classroom.

Ayes: Burton, Johnson, Laura, Mang, McDonnell, Oke, Roulier
Nays: None

Golden Apple Award – Kim Marlowe, Randolph Teacher Trustee Burton presented the Golden Apple Award to Kimberly Marlowe, teacher at Randolph Elementary School. Mrs. Marlowe was nominated by Randolph Principal Danielle Daniels, for consistently going well above and beyond her teaching responsibilities for Randolph staff and students.

Recess It was moved by Ms. McDonnell and supported by Mr. Oke that the Board take a brief recess to visit with guests. The Board recessed at 7:11 p.m.

Ayes: Burton, Johnson, Laura, Mang, McDonnell, Oke, Roulier
Nays: None

The Board reconvened at 7:18 p.m.

**Written
Communication**

None

**Audience
Communication**

Loyd Romick, 33437 Michelle, addressed the Board regarding the land sale to St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church and the statements made by Trustee Burton regarding all-day kindergarten.

**Response to
Prior Audience
Communication**

President Mang shared information with the community in response to the questions brought before the Board about the sale of property to St. Mary Church. She stated that after careful review and consultation with our Clark Hill attorneys, it is the opinion of the majority of the Board of Education that the criteria for an independent appraisal as it relates to the sale of the property to St. Mary has been met.

**Consent
Agenda**

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

V.A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 19, 2012

V.B Minutes of the Special Meeting of April 2, 2012

VII.A. Bills for Payment – April 17, 2012

Ayes: Burton, Johnson, Laura, Mang, McDonnell, Oke, Roulier
Nays: None

**District School
Improvement
Team Shared
Vision Goals**

Mrs. McDowell, administrator of communications, provided a presentation of the latest work of the District School Improvement Team towards our Shared Vision, highlighting the results of the student climate and staff collaboration surveys that were collected across the district.

**Approval of
Lease for
Himawari
Preschool**

It was moved by Ms. McDonnell and supported by Ms. Laura that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the lease agreement with Himawari Preschool for a portion of McKinley and Taylor schools, effective May 1, 2012 through July 30, 2013, for the total amount of \$47,951.65.

Ayes: Burton, Johnson, Laura, Mang, McDonnell, Oke, Roulier
Nays: None

**Approval of
Lease for**

It was moved by Mr. Oke and supported by Mr. Roulier that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the lease

Hinoki School

agreement and first lease amendment (to extend the lease an additional year) with Hinoki Public School Academy for a portion of McKinley and Taylor schools, effective May 1, 2012 through July 30, 2014, for the total amount of \$165,045.83.

Ayes: Burton, Johnson, Laura, Mang, McDonnell, Oke, Roulier
Nays: None

**Leaves of
Absence**

It was moved by Mr. Oke and supported by Ms. McDonnell that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and approve the requests for the following leaves of absence, effective for the 2012-2013 school year:

Jennifer Grills, personal leave

Deanna Lee, extension of child care leave

Christina McInally, personal leave

Ayes: Burton, Johnson, Laura, Mang, McDonnell, Oke, Roulier
Nays: None

**Sympathy
Resolution**

It was moved by Ms. Laura and unanimously supported by the Board that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt the sympathy resolution below for the family of Donna Kasprzyński.

SYMPATHY RESOLUTION**Donna Kasprzyński**

WHEREAS, The Board of Education was saddened to hear of the untimely death of Donna Kasprzyński; and,

WHEREAS, She was employed by the Livonia Public Schools School District as a bus driver with the Transportation Department from January 1974 to March 2012; and

WHEREAS, She consistently demonstrated her outstanding dedication to students, parents, and staff; and,

WHEREAS, Donna Kasprzyński will be profoundly missed by her colleagues and the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District offers its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Donna Kasprzyński.

**First Reading
of Board Policy
IHAA – Final
Examinations**

It was reported that the Policy Committee reviewed the proposed new language for Board Policy IHAA – Final Examinations. The suggested changes to this policy were provided to the Board for their review and possible adoption at the next regular Board meeting.

**BOARD POLICY
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM
FINAL EXAMINATIONS**

**IHAA
MARCH 1, 1990**

Time shall be allocated for final examinations in all senior high schools at the end of each semester. Students are expected to be in attendance during these periods.

Final examinations may not be considered more than ~~25~~ **20** percent of the semester grade. Every student shall be permitted to see his/her corrected examination, including the examination questions, within a reasonable time after semester grades are recorded.

It is recognized that final examinations may not be required of every student in every class situation. Procedures and regulations shall be developed which clearly define:

1. When and/or which final examinations will be optional.
2. Provisions which specify when students shall be advised of the examinations to be given.
3. The criteria used by the teachers to determine that a student shall be required to take an otherwise optional final examination.

**First Reading
of Board Policy
JCEC –
Bullying
Prevention**

It was reported that the Policy Committee reviewed the proposed new language for Board Policy JCEC – Bullying Prevention. The suggested changes to this policy were provided to the Board for their review and possible adoption at the next regular Board meeting.

**BOARD POLICY
STUDENTS
BULLYING PREVENTION**

**JCEC
~~AUGUST 15, 2011~~**

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. All forms of bullying toward a student, whether by students, staff, or third parties, including Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors or volunteers, is strictly prohibited.

This policy equally protects all students from bullying behavior regardless of the subject matter or motivation for such impermissible behavior. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at any school sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function whether or not it is held on school premises, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, or where an employee is engaged in school business. This policy also applies to conduct using a telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider that occurs off school premises if the telecommunications access device or the telecommunications service provider is owned by or under the control of the District. Misconduct occurring outside of school may also be disciplined if it interferes with the school environment.

"Bullying" is any written, verbal, psychological, physical act or electronic communication that is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm 1 or more students either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- a. Substantially interfering with education opportunities, benefits, or programs of 1 or more students.
- b. Adversely affecting the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the District's educational programs or activities by placing the student in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing emotional distress;
- c. Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health; or
- d. Causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying includes 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 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, whether victim or not, who believes s/he has been or is the victim of bullying, or who is aware of another student who has been or is the victim of bullying, should, and every staff member must, report the situation to the building principal or his/her designee. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent or his/her designee. The student may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator.

The building principal (or his/her designee) shall investigate, as promptly as the circumstances permit, and document all complaints about bullying (as defined in this policy) and other behavior which may violate this policy. If the investigation finds an instance of bullying has occurred, it will result in appropriate consequences.

The individual responsible for conducting the investigation shall notify the parents/legal guardians of the victim, as well as of the perpetrator, of the verified incident(s) of bullying as well as the results of the investigation to the extent consistent with student confidentiality requirements. A record of this contact, or attempt to notify, shall be noted.

The individual responsible for conducting the investigation shall document all reported incidents which are prohibited and report all verified incidents of bullying or other behavior which violates this policy, as well as any remedial action taken, to the Superintendent or his/her designee. The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall submit a compiled report to the Board on an annual basis.

The Superintendent is responsible for implementation of this policy.

Retaliation, or making a false accusation against a target of bullying, a witness, another person with reliable information about an act of bullying, or any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of bullying is prohibited. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation or false accusations 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. This policy is published in the student handbook annually, which is accessible on the school and district websites.

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.

Adjournment

It was moved by Ms. McDonnell and supported by Mr. Roulier that the Regular Meeting of April 16, 2012 be adjourned.

Ayes: Burton, Johnson, Laura, Mang, McDonnell, Oke, Roulier

Nays: None

President Mang adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Off/Supt/jw