

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Regular Meeting
May 7, 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
- Gift to Randolph Elementary School** It was moved by Ms. Laura and supported by Ms. McDonnell that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the generous donation of \$16,541.24 from Randolph Elementary PTA.
- Ayes: Burton, Johnson, Laura, Mang, McDonnell, Oke, Roulier
Nays: None
- Golden Apple Award – Liz Allison, Parapro at Emerson** Trustee Johnson presented the Golden Apple Award to Liz Allison, paraprofessional at Emerson Middle School. Ms. Allison was nominated by many district employees for consistently reaching out to students at Emerson and going above and beyond to help them succeed.
- Recess** It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Ms. Burton that the Board take a brief recess to visit with guests. The Board recessed at 7:18 p.m.
- Ayes: Burton, Johnson, Laura, Mang, McDonnell, Oke, Roulier
Nays: None
- The Board reconvened at 7:27 p.m.
- Written Communication** None
- Audience Communication** **John Grzebik**, 11301 Hubbell, relayed to the Board that the Youth Making A Difference event went very well. He also shared his feelings regarding the change in state laws related to board elections.
Ron and Patty Riggio, 37204 Bretton, addressed the Board regarding the transition program for special education students.

Response to Prior Audience Communication

President Mang shared that Board trustee Colleen Burton sent a written communication in response to the question about studies regarding all-day kindergarten.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Oke and supported by Ms. Burton 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 April 16, 2012
- VI.A. Bills for Payment – May 8, 2012
- VI.B. Approval of Bid Results for Frost Carpet Replacement
Accept the low bid to purchase and have installed carpeting for Frost Middle School from SCI Flooring in Southfield, Michigan, for a total cost of \$25,273.98.

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

Full Day Kindergarten Program – Video Presentation

Mrs. Andrea Oquist, director of elementary programs, provided a presentation of the curricular offerings and learning opportunities that will be provided to students in our full day kindergarten program, which will be implemented in the 2012-2013 school year.

Approval of Section 105 Schools of Choice for Franklin IB Program

It was moved by Mr. Oke and supported by Ms. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the acceptance of non-resident students, through the state's *Section 105 Schools of Choice* program, to attend the Franklin eleventh and twelfth grade International Baccalaureate Program under the following conditions: Students must meet the entrance criteria established for the program; up to ten students in the ninth grade, up to one student in the tenth grade, and up to ten students in the eleventh grade can enroll through *Schools of Choice* for the 2012-13 school year. In subsequent years, the number of non-resident students accepted in the program will be established such that the number of Livonia Public Schools' students and non-resident students accepted in the program is not more than 23 students per grade level. School district administration will follow all state rules as it relates to allowing non-residents to attend this program under *Schools of Choice*.

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

Recommend Conditional Reinstatement of Expelled Student

It was moved by Ms. Laura and supported by Ms. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the administration's recommendation to conditionally reinstate a former sixth grade student who was expelled from Riley Upper Elementary School in May 2011. This conditional reinstatement is for the 2012-13 school year.

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

Approval of Auditor for 2012-2014 Fiscal School Years

It was moved by Mr. Roulier and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District appoint the firm of Plante Moran to audit and prepare the financial report for Livonia Public Schools School District for the 2012-2014 fiscal school years.

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

Granting of Tenure Status to Specified Teachers

It was moved by Mr. Oke and supported by Ms. Laura that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and grant tenure status to the following teachers effective on the respective dates:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
John Bonner	August 27, 2012
Marion Killebrew-Sexton	August 27, 2012
Carol Klun	September 3, 2012
Joan Livingston	August 31, 2012
Anastasia McKorwin	August 27, 2012
John Michalik	August 27, 2012
Sarah Temkow	August 31, 2012

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

Retirements

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

Margaret Boyce did retire from the district on April 30, 2012, and has devoted 17.9 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a custodian, assistant night leader, building supervisor, and assistant building supervisor at Jackson Early Childhood Center, Dickinson Center, Bryant Center, Hoover Elementary School, Coolidge Elementary School, and Riley Upper Elementary School.

Diane Burk will retire from the district on June 30, 2012, and has devoted 40.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Whittier Junior High School, Bentley High School, Churchill High School, Riley Middle School, Stevenson High School, and Franklin High School as an assistant principal and teacher.

Catherine Clement will retire from the district on June 30, 2012, and has devoted 15.9 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a clerk and a secretary at Churchill High School and Stevenson High School.

Betsy Conway will retire from the district on June 30, 2012, and has devoted 44 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Monroe Elementary School, Coolidge Elementary School, Emerson Middle School, Tyler Elementary School, and Hayes Elementary School as a teacher.

Christina Ferris will retire from the district on June 14, 2012, and has devoted 22.8 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a vocational technician at the Livonia Career Technical Center.

Djusta Ivezaj did retire from the district on April 30, 2012, and has devoted 11.9 years of dedicated, loyal, and

outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a custodian at Franklin High School, Hayes Elementary School, Stevenson High School, Western Wayne Skill Center, Rosedale Elementary School, Washington Elementary School, Randolph Elementary School, Webster Elementary School, Buchanan Elementary School, Building Services Department, and Riley Upper Elementary School.

Michael Jakubiec did retire from the district on April 30, 2012, and has devoted 8.6 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a bus driver with the Transportation Department.

Margaret Latva will retire from the district on June 30, 2012, and has devoted 42 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Whittier Junior High School, Stevenson High School, Churchill High School, Emerson Middle School, and Franklin High School as a teacher.

Patricia Shemetulskis will retire from the district on June 30, 2012, and has devoted 26.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a secretary with the Student Services Department.

Eleanor Stellberger did retire from the district on April 30, 2012, and has devoted 16.9 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a custodian, assistant building supervisor, and building supervisor at Johnson Elementary School, Washington Elementary School, Dickinson Center, Livonia Career Technical Center, Churchill High School, Stevenson High School, Randolph Elementary School, Franklin High School, Cleveland Elementary School, Coolidge Elementary School, Webster Elementary School, and Johnson Upper Elementary School.

Judy VanTuyl will retire from the district on June 30, 2012, and has devoted 19.6 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Cooper-at-Whittier Elementary School, Taylor Elementary School, and Riley Upper Elementary School as a teacher.

Resignation

The Board was informed of the resignation of Katrina Wrzesinski, effective June 30, 2012.

Leave of Absence

It was moved by Ms. Burton 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 request for a personal leave of absence for Jennifer Prouty, effective August 28, 2012.

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

Second Reading of Board Policy IHAA – Final Examinations

It was moved by Ms. Laura and supported by Ms. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and adopt revised Board Policy language for Board Policy IHAA – Final Examinations:

BOARD POLICY INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM FINAL EXAMINATIONS

IHAA
MAY 7, 2012

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 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.

The criteria used by the teachers to determine that a student shall be required to take an otherwise optional final examination.

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

Nays: None

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

It was moved by Ms. McDonnell and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and adopt revised Board Policy language for Board Policy JCEC – Bullying Prevention:

**BOARD POLICY
STUDENTS
BULLYING PREVENTION**

**JCEC
MAY 7, 2012**

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.

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

First Reading of Board Policy ABCC – Board Member Term of Office

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

**BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
BOARD MEMBER TERM OF OFFICE**

**ABCC
MARCH 21, 2011**

Members of the Board of Education shall be elected to serve for a term of four years on a rotation basis. The terms shall commence on January 1 following the bi-annual school election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even years and continue until their successors are elected/appointed and qualified.

First Reading of Board Policy ABCD – Board Member Method of Election

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

**BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
BOARD MEMBER METHOD OF ELECTION**

**ABCD
June 20, 1988**

The school district shall conduct the annual election of School Board members every other year in even years and special elections as deemed necessary by the Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of law and by resolutions adopted by the Board.

The Board shall cooperate with the City of Livonia and the City of Westland officials in conducting all elections.

When necessary, school election precincts shall be revised to conform to the City of Livonia and City of Westland precinct revisions.

Buildings and facilities of the school district shall be made available to the City of Livonia and to the City of Westland at such times as the cities shall conduct elections.

~~The appointment of Inspectors of Election shall be made by the Board, and the remuneration paid for these services shall be approved by the Board.~~

Resolution for State Recommendations for School Funding

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mr. Roulier that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt the following resolution to support State School Funding and cost saving measures for the purpose of K-12 education.

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT STATE SCHOOL FUNDING
AND COST SAVING MEASURES
FOR THE PURPOSE OF K-12 EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, it is recognized that school districts across the state have faced severe funding restrictions for a decade, and

WHEREAS, it has been necessary for school districts to reduce their budgets as a result of Michigan's economic decline, and

WHEREAS, the Livonia Public Schools School District has reduced its budget by over \$40 million and eliminated over 400 jobs during that time, and

WHEREAS, the Livonia Public Schools School District has implemented employee wage and benefit concessions; numerous shared services with other governmental entities; and many other revenue enhancements and cost savings initiatives, and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the State Legislature has had to make tough decisions to meet its budget responsibilities, and

WHEREAS, it is known that since the passage of Proposal A in 1994, school funding is primarily a State budget responsibility, and

WHEREAS, it is also recognized that public education is a priority for the citizens of Michigan and the cornerstone to economic development and needs to be a State budget priority, and

WHEREAS, the Livonia Public Schools School District also supports responsible added cost saving measures, both at the state level and locally, and

WHEREAS, these measures alone will not maintain a quality educational program for students across the State of Michigan, and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan must also provide the necessary resources in order to preserve this fundamental responsibility and priority, and

WHEREAS, only through this balanced approach can school districts continue to provide quality educational service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District implores the State Legislature to provide a School Aid Bill that will provide at least partial restoration of prior year funding reductions and mandated retirement costs that are no higher than the previous year.

Secretary, Board of Education
Livonia Public Schools School District

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

Nays: None

Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Oke and supported by Mr. Roulier that the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2012 be adjourned.

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

Nays: None

President Mang adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Off/Supt/jw