

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Regular Meeting
February 7, 2011**

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

- Members Present** Colleen Burton, Robert Freeman, Mark Johnson, Daniel Lessard, Patrice Mang, Gregory Oke, Lynda Scheel
- Members Absent** None
- Gift – Johnson Elementary PTA** It was moved by Mr. Lessard and supported by Ms. Mang that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the generous gift of \$5,358.22 from Johnson Upper Elementary PTA.
- Ayes: Burton, Freeman, Johnson, Lessard, Mang, Oke, Scheel
Nays: None
- Team Effort Award to Maintenance Employees** Trustee Johnson presented maintenance employees with a Team Effort Award certificate and commended them for the outstanding job they do. Energy Supervisor Joe Harvey had nominated maintenance employees (Ray Irvine, Jim Chartrand, Dave Gilbert, Jim Herrod, Wayne Roberts, Bob Shelata, and Rich Worosz) for the Team Effort Award, in appreciation for their personal commitment to the LPS energy conservation program.
- Principals' Week Resolution** It was moved by Ms. Mang and supported by Mr. Lessard that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt the resolution below, establishing the week of February 14-18, 2011, as Principals' Week in Livonia Public Schools.

**PRINCIPALS' WEEK
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Principals' Week is dedicated to recognizing the significant contributions of Michigan's school principals and the dedication they have for providing quality educational experiences and guidance to their students; and,

WHEREAS, together, teachers and principals strive to create a conducive environment for students to learn and strive to encourage students to continue to learn as it is a lifelong process; and,

WHEREAS, energetic and inspiring school leadership is essential if schools, teachers, and support staff are to implement college and career-ready standards and rigorous assessments; and,

WHEREAS, principals act as liaisons between the school and the community to ensure that the undertakings and achievements of schools are recognized; and,

WHEREAS, principals work to provide a positive support system to empower their students and to give them the right tools they need to succeed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the trustees of the Livonia Public Schools' Board of Education join the Governor of the State of Michigan in declaring the week of February 14-18, 2011, as **MICHIGAN SCHOOL PRINCIPALS' WEEK** and encourage all citizens to recognize and support the efforts of school principals in our community.

Lynda Scheel, President
Livonia Board of Education

Trustee Mang, on behalf of the Board of Education, thanked principals for their leadership as she presented the Board resolution to Richard Steele, past LEADS president. Mr. Steele accepted the resolution on behalf of all principals in the district, and thanked the Board of Education and Dr. Liepa for their continued support.

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

**Board
Appreciation
Month**

Ms. McDowell, Administrator of Communications, recognized Board members for their commitment to Livonia Public Schools and presented them with certificates of appreciation.

Recess

It was moved by Mr. Lessard and supported by Mr. Oke that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District recess the meeting at 7:25 p.m. to visit with guests.

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

Reconvene

President Scheel reconvened the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

**Remove Item
from Agenda**

It was moved by Mr. Freeman and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District remove **Item VI.B. – Approval of Purchase Agreement with St. Mary Church** from the agenda.

Ayes: Freeman, Johnson, Lessard, Mang, Oke
Nays: Burton, Scheel

**Written
Communication**

Mr. Freeman shared that he received correspondence from AAA regarding the possibility of holding driving classes at Livonia Public Schools and will pass the information along to Lisa Abbey, Director of Business Services.

**Audience
Communication**

Margaret Yon, 30562 Brookview, and **Ray Riza**, 30537 Brookview, addressed the Board regarding the possible sale of property to St. Mary Church.

**Response to
Prior Audience
Communication**

None

**Consent
Agenda**

It was moved by Mr. Freeman 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 January 18, 2011
- IV.B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 24, 2011
- IV.C. Minutes of the Closed Session of January 24, 2011
- VI.A. Bills for Payment—February 8, 2011

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

**DSIT Update on
Shared Vision**

Donna McDowell gave a presentation to update the Board on the important work of the District School Improvement Team. She shared the highlights of the progress Livonia Public Schools is making towards our Shared Vision.

**Recall of
Teachers**

It was moved by Mr. Oke and supported by Mr. Freeman that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and recall the following teachers to district employment for the 2010-2011 school year: **Christopher Bohn, Patrick Daugherty, Christa Hinderliter, and Candice McLeod.**

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

**Leave of
Absence**

It was moved by Ms. Burton and supported by Mr. Freeman that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and approve the request for personal leave of absence for **Candice McLeod**, effective January 31, 2011.

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

Resignation

Mrs. Dorothy Chomicz, director of human resources, informed the Board that, as authorized in the Board of Education motion of June 7, 2010, a resignation has been accepted for **Leah Clark**, effective February 1, 2011.

Retirement

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

Marion Broyles, who did retire from the district on December 10, 2010, and has devoted 12 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a custodian at Randolph Elementary School, Kennedy Elementary School, Franklin High School, and Cooper Upper Elementary School.

**Resolution
Regarding CEPI
Requirements**

It was moved by Mr. Freeman and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt the resolution below in reference to Livonia Public Schools' position regarding the CEPI (Center for Education Performance and Information) data collection requirements.

Board Resolution

Whereas, Livonia Public Schools School District has been fully complying with the requirements of the State's Center for Education Performance and Information (CEPI) data documentation requirements over the last several years without receiving reimbursement from State government for the necessary costs of the associated activities and services; and

Whereas, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled in an opinion issued on July 14, 2010 (<http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/Clerk/Opinions-09-2010-term.html>) that CEPI cannot mandate compliance by Michigan school districts with its database requirements without the Legislature appropriating and disbursing funding to reimburse schools for all of the costs of the associated activities and services as required under §29 of the Headlee Amendment to the Michigan Constitution, and

Whereas, the Michigan Legislature adopted a supplemental appropriation that the Governor signed into law on or about December 03, 2010, 2010 PA 217, that purports to fund the costs of CEPI activities and services provided by school districts in Michigan for the 2011 fiscal year end and uses as the revenue necessary to meet its funding obligation under §29 of the Headlee Amendment monies previously appropriated for school districts for unrestricted operating purposes, rather than using the State's general fund or other available State revenues , and

Whereas, through said 2010 PA 217 the Legislature has appropriated approximately \$25.6 million for the costs of CEPI activities and services provided by schools districts state-wide which is substantially below the costs that the State would incur if it were to provide those activities and services using its own resources rather than those of school districts, and

Whereas, the cost of compliance with CEPI requirements are substantial and the lack of reimbursement for those costs imposes a real financial hardship on this school district.

Resolved that Livonia Public Schools School District shall provide CEPI required activities and services for the present time, under protest, subject to a court of competent jurisdiction deciding whether the Legislature is reimbursing it and other school districts in the State, pursuant to 2010 PA 217, in accordance with the requirements of §29 of the Headlee Amendment to the Michigan Constitution, and

Resolved Further that the School District may not comply with collecting, maintaining, and reporting any new or additional CEPI database requirements first imposed by CEPI after December 03, 2010, absent an appropriation to properly fund the costs of same, and

Resolved Further that compliance with CEPI requirements will cease for later fiscal years if an appropriation is not made by the Legislature in advance of the commencement of the fiscal year to categorically fund the costs incurred by the School District for those years in accordance with §29 of the Headlee Amendment, and

Resolved Further that the CEPI Department, Governor, our legislators, and Michigan State Superintendent of Schools be provided notice of this resolution.

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

Nays: None

**First Reading
of Board
Policies:**

It was reported that the Policy Committee has reviewed revised language for the policies listed below. The suggested changes to the policies were provided to the Board for their review and possible adoption at the next regular Board meeting:

**ABCC – Board
Member Term
of Office**

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

**ABCC
~~DECEMBER 6, 2004~~**

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 ~~July 1~~ **January 1** following the annual school election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in ~~May~~ **November** and continue until their successors are elected/appointed and qualified.

**BBA – Method
of Electing
Board Officers**

**BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
BOARD OPERATIONS
METHOD OF ELECTING BOARD OFFICERS**

**BBA
~~June 20, 1988~~**

All officers shall be elected annually on or before the second Monday in ~~July~~ **January** by the Board of Education and shall serve for one year.

**EBA –
Disposition of
Real Property**

**BOARD POLICY
DISPOSITION OF REAL PROPERTY**

**EBA
~~JUNE 1996~~**

The Board of Education believes that it is a fundamental interest of the Livonia Public Schools School District to preserve, maintain, and retain ownership of its lands and buildings. The primary covenant of this policy is that the sale and permanent dispossession of the real property of this district is disfavored. The Board will strictly scrutinize any unsolicited requests for the sale and permanent dispossession of its real property to determine whether there is a compelling interest for the district to sell or dispossess assets which substantially outweigh the Board's primary policy disfavoring such action.

In the event the Board of Education decides to exercise its property powers to sell real estate, the Board must authorize the conditions for sale. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all offers at its sole discretion. No property will be offered for sale until an independent appraisal is completed. Employees of the school district and members of the Board of Education shall be prohibited from purchasing directly or indirectly any real estate offered by the district.

The Board may authorize the administration to use qualified consultants who have expertise in land development matters on an hourly basis. The compensation paid to consultants can never be based upon percentage or commission formulas unless approved by the Board in which case the Board would seek a payment formula which allowed the district to opt for the lesser of either a fixed payment schedule or a percentage on a commission formula.

Proceeds derived from the sale of real estate will be held in trust in a special capital project fund account **identified separately from any other capital project funds** which shall be used for purchasing other real estate for the district and/or for renovating, replacing, or developing real estate, **facilities, or capital equipment** as authorized by the Board of Education

**Resignation of
Dan Lessard**

Trustee Dan Lessard announced that he will resign from the Board of Education, effective February 11, 2011, due to his impending move out of the district. He shared that it was an honor and pleasure to serve the community for nearly 15 years.

Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Lessard and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2011 be adjourned.

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

Nays: None

President Scheel adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Off/Supt/jw