

Held Date:

March 13, 2008

The Van Buren Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, March 13, 2008, at 7:00 P.M. in the community room with the following roll call:

Mr. Jeff Salisbury	Present
Mr. Ken Rowles	Present
Mr. Matt Conkle	Present
Mrs. Karen Flanagan	Present
Mr. Chris McKinley	Present

The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Mr. Ken Rowles.

(08-020) ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Rowles and seconded by Mr. Conkle to approve the adjustments to the agenda.

Vote: Mr. Rowles, yes; Mr. Conkle, yes; Mrs. Flanagan, yes; Mr. McKinley, yes; Mr. Salisbury, yes. The President declared the motion carried.

(08-021) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Conkle and seconded by Mr. Rowles to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2008, meeting as written.

Vote: Mr. Conkle, yes; Mr. Rowles, yes; Mrs. Flanagan, yes; Mr. McKinley, yes; Mr. Salisbury, yes. The President declared the motion carried.

Mr. Steve Zerby asked the Board if there were any unsettled questions that the group could answer before the decision to approve girls golf as a varsity sport is made.

Comments were made concerning the head girls basketball coaching position. Roger Clark expressed the need to hire a girls basketball coach as soon as possible so that the team can participate in weight training, camps, and summer league. Dawn Ramsey spoke in support of Bob Doxsey as the new head girls basketball coach. She presented letters of support and signatures of approximately one hundred parents, students, and community members. Superintendent Tim Myers spoke to the group about the process the school has to follow. Per the negotiated agreement the job has to be posted for ten days. By law the Board must hire any qualified certificated person on staff first, then any qualified certificated person not on staff, then if none can be found, the Board can consider a qualified non-certificated person for this position. Questions were asked about open gym and summer programs. Mrs. Ramsey volunteered to organize a parent group to run those programs until a new head coach is hired.

Mr. Dick Lehman, Elementary Principal, reported that the Short Cycle Assessment training for the 2nd and 3rd grades is continuing. The training for grades 1, 4, and 5 has started this year and will continue for the next several years. Elementary teacher Beppie Walerius was one of several across the United States chosen as a Space Foundation Teacher Liaison. She will be recognized in April in Colorado at the National Space Symposium which is the largest gathering of space professionals in the world. She will attend science workshops conducted by NASA at the Goddard Space Flight Center and will bring the latest information and space technology back to her classroom. Other activities coming up include second grade math night, spring pictures, tornado drills, a family literacy night, a star lab assembly, collaboration day, and the last VBEPA movie night.

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Mr. Jay Clark, Middle School Principal, reported that the Pennies for Patients drive has raised nearly \$1,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The middle school is instituting a sixth grade orientation/transition program that focuses on relationships, and builds during all three years of middle school. This program will pair eighth grade peer mentors with incoming sixth graders while also training seventh graders in leadership. Upcoming events include an activity day, solo and ensemble contest, and achievement testing.

Mr. Mike Brand, High School Principal, reported that our sophomore students and a few individuals from the junior class will be participating in the Ohio Graduation Testing (OGT). The OGT will consist of five different tests which include reading, math, writing, science, and social studies. The National Honor Society will hold a bloodmobile visit in conjunction with the Red Cross. Upcoming events include boys and girls basketball banquets, District III OMEA contest for band and choir, and a dodge ball tournament.

Mr. Tim Myers, Superintendent, reported on the annual Tax Incentive Review Council meeting. This will probably be the last review of the tax abatements with Lowes and Whirlpool as these abatements are on tangible personal property which will no longer be collected by the state next year. The CR 99 TIF is projected to conclude in 2011 or 2012 which will be 12 years earlier than the original agreement stipulated. Other items discussed were maintenance projects, increased costs to the ESC next year due to state wide budget cuts, strategic planning, and a possible presentation at the 2008 Capitol Conference on our paperless board meetings.

(08-022) TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT, RECONCILIATION, INVESTMENTS, AND OTHER BUSINESS APPROVED

It was moved by Mrs. Flanagan and seconded by Mr. Conkle to approve the Treasurer's financial report, reconciliation, investments, and other business as follows:

1.	02/29/08	Huntington Bank	\$6,896,067.69	3.817%
	02/29/08	Huntington Bank - Bldg. Fund	\$6,667.57	3.823%

2. Approve the following advance draws from the Hancock County Auditor on first half real estate tax collections:

February 8, 2008	\$247,000
February 15, 2008	\$331,000
February 22, 2008	\$735,000
February 29, 2008	\$363,000

3. Accept the millage rates set by the Hancock County Budget Commission for the 2008 tax year and the 2009 calendar year as follows:

<u>Millage Fund</u>	<u>Inside</u>	<u>Outside</u>	<u>Total Mills</u>
General	5.30	26.00	31.30
Permanent Improvement		1.50	1.50
Bond Retirement		3.36	3.36
	5.30	30.86	36.16

Vote: Mrs. Flanagan, yes; Mr. Conkle, yes; Mr. McKinley, yes; Mr. Rowles, yes; Mr. Salisbury, yes. The President declared the motion carried.

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(08-023) CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

It was moved by Mr. Rowles and seconded by Mrs. Flanagan to approve the following consent agenda as follows:

1. Employ personnel for the 2007-2008 school year as follows:

Baseball, JV Coach	Andy Fields
Substitute Custodian	Jan Baker
Substitute Monitor	(effective 02-21-08) Paulette Coldren
Track, Assistant Varsity Coach	Lyn Loewen
Weight Training, Spring 2008	Dave Long

2. Employ personnel for the 2008-2009 school year as follows:

Substitute Custodian	Jan Baker
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3. Approve the following volunteers for the 2007-2008 school year pending completion of sports medicine training:

Softball	Brooke Schroeder
Softball	Brandy Fields
Track	Mariel Nash

4. Accept the resignation of Rick Longbrake as Girls Varsity Basketball Coach effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year.

Vote: Mr. Rowles, yes; Mrs. Flanagan, yes; Mr. Conkle, yes; Mr. McKinley, yes; Mr. Salisbury, yes. The President declared the motion carried.

The Board discussed adding girls golf as a varsity sport for the 2008-2009 school year. Board member Matt Conkle commented on the recent athletic council meeting in which no recommendation was made concerning this issue. With the understanding that the girls golf team would not be excused from school for regular season contests and that the girls program would receive comparable funding as the boys program from the athletic department, the Superintendent would recommend girls golf as a varsity sport for the 2008-2009 school year.

(08-024) APPROVE GIRLS GOLF AS A VARSITY SPORT

It was moved by Mr. Salisbury and seconded by Mr. Rowles to add girls golf as a varsity sport beginning the 2008-2009 school year.

Vote: Mr. Salisbury, yes; Mr. Rowles, yes; Mr. Conkle, yes; Mrs. Flanagan, yes; Mr. McKinley, yes. The President declared the motion carried.

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(08-025) APPROVE BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

It was moved by Mr. Rowles and seconded by Mr. Salisbury to approve Karen Flanagan's request to participate in the school district's health insurance plan in accordance with board policy and state law. The board member is responsible for 100% of the cost and payment must be made to the treasurer by the 20th of each month.

Vote: Mr. Rowles, yes; Mr. Salisbury, yes; Mr. Conkle, yes; Mrs. Flanagan, abstain; Mr. McKinley, yes. The President declared the motion carried.

Board President Jeff Salisbury requested that each board member present three goals for the Board of Education at the next meeting.

(08-026) EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Conkle and seconded by Mrs. Flanagan to discuss the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of an employee or the investigation of charges or complaints against an employee, official, licensee or student, unless the employee, official, licensee or student requests a public hearing; and preparing for negotiations. Action may be taken upon return to regular session.

Vote: Mr. Conkle, yes; Mrs. Flanagan, yes; Mr. McKinley, yes; Mr. Rowles, yes; Mr. Salisbury, yes. The President declared the motion carried.

The meeting was opened to the public at 10:46 P.M.

(08-027) ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Rowles and seconded by Mr. Conkle to adjourn at 10:47 P.M.

Vote: Mr. Rowles, yes; Mr. Conkle, yes; Mrs. Flanagan, yes; Mr. McKinley, yes; Mr. Salisbury, yes. The President declared the motion carried.

Date _____

Board President _____

Treasurer _____