

Van Buren Board of Education
Minutes of the Board of Education
Belleville High School Commons

REGULAR MEETING
October 12, 2015

President Mikulski called the Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present: Brent Mikulski, Martha Toth, Kevin English, Sherry Frazier, Alison Bennett, and Kelly Owen. Kathy Kovach was excused. Also in attendance were Superintendent Michael Van Tassel, Shonta Langford-Green, Director of Human Resources, Shareen Barker, Director of Finance, and Jeff Moore, Director of Instruction, and James Williams, Director of Plant Operations.

Motion by Martha Toth, supported by Kelly Owen, that the Board approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Questions and comments from the audience regarding Agenda Items – None

Motion by Martha Toth, supported by Kelly Owen, to approve the consent agenda: Minutes from the September 14, 2015, Regular Meeting; Minutes from the September 14, 2015, Executive Session; Minutes from the September 21, 2015, Work Study Meeting; Minutes from the September 21, 2015, Executive Session; September Check Register; Requested Changes in Support Staff: Requesting Termination: Nicholas Loechli, McBride, effective 9/25/2015, Resigned; Kathleen McQuaid, Transportation, effective 10/5/2015, Termination; Kathy Jones, Transportation, effective 10/12/2015, Retired; Linda Cobb, Owen, effective 10/6/2015, Termination; Requested for Employment: Kurt Long, Custodial/Maintenance, Afternoon Custodian, 9/30/2015; Requested Changes in Instructional Staff: Requesting Termination: Jessica Harmon, BHS, effective 9/25/2015, Resigned, recruited by another District; Requested for Employment: Tanya White, Tyler/Owen, Instructional Coach, 10/5/2015; Melanie O'Neil, BHS/McBride, French, 10/5/2015; Shawn Johnson, BHS, Math, 10/5/2015; Andrew Pitzer, BHS, Social Studies (NT), 10/5/2015; Melanie Matthews, Edgemont, Instructional Coach, 10/12/2015; Tracy Causey-Bryant, Savage Instructional Coach, 10/19/2015; Band Program Field Trip to Florida for Bowl game performance. There was discussion. Ms. Frazier voted no on the motion for approval of the consent agenda. All other members voted yes. The motion passed.

Superintendent's Report:

- Fall Count is down approximately 150 students – The losses are in Kindergarten and there was a larger Senior class last year than this year. Losses are accounted for in those two areas. This reduction would mean an additional loss of \$185,000 to the budget for 25 students lost.
- There will be a District wide Professional Development Day on Friday. Director of Instruction Jeff Moore passed out agenda to board members. Superintendent Van Tassel invited any board member with questions on the Professional Development to please contact Mr. Moore
- State changeover from ACT to SAT. Ninth through Eleventh graders are all taking the PSAT on Wednesday and the State is paying for this. Allows parents and students to see what the test is like. Passed out handouts.
- Michigan Flags are being flown at every school under the U S Flags.

John Leroy Principal of McBride Middle School Assistant Principal Rod Fisher and Laura Maher, Academic Service Administrator made a presentation to the Board on Instructional Changes for 2015 – 2016 at McBride Middle School. This was information only.

Shonta Langford-Green, Director of Human Resources, presented a recommendation for the ratification of the Van Buren Public Schools Food Service Association contract economic reopener. Motion by Martha Toth, supported by Kevin English, that the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education ratify the Van Buren Food Service Association contract economic re-opener for the 2015 – 2016 school year as presented. There was discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Shareen Barker, Director of Finance presented a recommendation for purchase of special education buses. This purchase is part of the consortium bid. Motion by Kelly Owen, supported by Alison Bennett, that the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education approve the purchase of two (2) buses from Hoekstra MSBO/MAPT Bus Purchase Program in the amount of \$171,647 as presented. There was discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Van Tassel stated that there were Policy Updates for the Board and they were being presented for a second reading and adoption at tonight's meeting. The Policies to be revised were 1240, 1420, 3220, 3120, 4120, 5320, 2260.01, 5112, 5114, 5460, and 8390. Motion by Martha Toth, supported by Alison Bennett, that the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education approve and adopt the Board Policy revisions as presented. There was discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Shareen Barker, Director of Finance, presented a recommendation to approve the resolution on the Energy Choice Program. She noted that there is current legislation that would limit the District's options as to energy choices, and this program has saved the District hundreds of thousands of dollars since its inception. Motion by Kelly Owen, supported by Martha Toth, that the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education approve the Energy Choice Resolution as presented. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Questions and Comments from the Audience (Non-Agenda Items): None

Other Items from the Board: Work study on October 19. Alison Bennett: Dedication of the Owen Nature Path; Kevin English: Kristy Pagan's Education Forum on Tuesday; Brent Mikulski: Work Study discussion will focus mostly on Teacher Evaluation Tool, Problem Solving Protocol (rolling out data analysis program) throughout the district, and lastly, Alternatives to Suspension Program.

Motion by Kelly Owen, supported by Kevin English, that the Regular Board Meeting be adjourned at 8:00 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Kevin English
Secretary, Board of Education

Pam Johnson,
Recording Secretary