

South Redford School District  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, October 12, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the South Redford Board of Education was held on Monday, October 12, 2009 in the Media Center at Fisher Elementary School. The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:00 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the President asked the Secretary to call the roll.

**THE BOARD**

Present:

Laurie Hicks, President  
Tom Dowdy, Vice President  
Cheryl Flesher, Treasurer  
Bruce Mazurowski, Secretary

Gregory Morgan, Trustee  
Stephen Baker, Trustee  
Elizabeth Kangas, Trustee

**THE ADMINISTRATION**

Linda S. Hicks, Superintendent  
Susan Wright-Barnes, Director of Finance

Kris Harmon, Curriculum Director  
Judy Considine, Communications Coordinator

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MISSION STATEMENT**

Working together with the administrative team and the community, we will provide an environment that will maximize the personal growth and academic achievement of all students.

The President asked if there were any corrections or changes to the Agenda of the meeting of October 12, 2009. Since there were none, the agenda was approved as printed.

**RECOGNITION OF PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS**

Dr. Linda Hicks reported on the following people and programs throughout the District.

- Vandenberg Elementary School has received the Michigan Sea Grant. 4<sup>th</sup> graders from Mr. Robertson's and Mrs. Black's class will be participating in the Great Lakes Education Program on Friday, October 16, 2009. They will visit the Elizabeth Park Marina and the Lake Erie Metropark Marina.
- The District Preschool begins next week.
- Kudos to Brooke Hempton, teacher at Jefferson Elementary School and her commitment to Project Fit.
- Jefferson Elementary School held a garage sale and raised over \$600.00 to support the courtyard project. Congratulations to Monica Nick for organizing this event.
- Jefferson Elementary School held a school assembly "Brainstormers" focusing on students and writing.
- The Redford Township Fire Department held a school assembly at Jefferson Elementary School.
- The Fall Fest at Jefferson Elementary School will be on October 16, 2009 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Eight teachers have signed up for the professional development opportunity for K-5 math teachers through the University of Michigan. The professional development will be held in South Redford School District.
- Three teachers were selected to participate in a professional development on Formative Assessments held at Washtenaw ISD sponsored by Wayne RESA.

- The South Redford School District Transportation Department passed with a 100% again this year on their State Police inspection.
- Thurston High School won the homecoming football game, 36-12, on Friday, October 9 against Redford Union High School.
- South Redford New Family Orientation “Reaching for the Stars” will be on Thursday, October 22, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### **BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS**

- Thursday, October 15, Dave Martell, Wayne RESA.
- Saturday, October 17, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Say Yes to No, Thurston High School.
- Thursday, October 22, New Family Orientation, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, October 19, Board Workshop, Building Use Fees.
- On Student Count Day, 3,321 students were in attendance. There were 106 students absent. Total enrollment should be 3,427 students.
- Congratulations to Coach Snell in obtaining his 100<sup>th</sup> career victory at Thurston High School.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approval of Minutes:  
The minutes of the Closed Meeting of September 14, 2009, Special Meeting of September 28, 2009, closed Meeting of September 28, 2009 and Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 28, 2009, were approved as printed.
- b. Approval of Warrants:  
Warrants for weeks ending September 25, October 2, and 9, 2009, were approved as printed.
- c. Approval of Treasurer’s Report  
The Treasurer’s Report for the month ending September 30, 2009 was approved as printed.
- d. Tenure  
Erin Ferris was recognized for the achievement of tenure status.
- e. Resignation  
Nese Nasif’s letter of resignation was approved.

Ms. Cheryl Flesher moved to approve the Consent Agenda items a-e listed above, supported by Mr. Stephen Baker. Vote: All ayes (7) - Hicks, Dowdy, Mazurowski, Flesher, Morgan, Baker and Kangas. Nay - (0). Abstain - (0).

### **PRESENTATION FROM FISHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mr. Brian Galdes, principal of Fisher Elementary School, and members of the Fisher Elementary School Staff presented many of the instructional programs and activities occurring at Fisher Elementary School.

### **CONSIDER RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT’S REGULAR ELECTION DATE TO THE NOVEMBER REGULAR ELECTION DATE IN EVEN YEARS.**

The South Redford School District Board of Education passed a resolution at the Board of Education meeting on August 10, 2009 to hold a hearing of the Board of Education on the proposed adoption of a resolution to change the School District’s regular election date to the November Regular Election date in even years. The School Board has given notice of said public hearing in a manner designed to reach the largest number of the School District’s qualified electors in a timely fashion, all in accordance with the provisions of

Section 642 of the Michigan Election Law. The hearing was held on September 14, 2009. A resolution was brought before the Board at the Regular Board meeting of September 14, 2009, but was not passed by a 3-3 vote. The Board has requested that a Resolution be brought before the Board at the Regular meeting on October 12, 2009. The Board discussed the different options for the School Board election.

Discussion was held to consider moving the regular School Board Election date from the May regular election date to the November regular election. There was also discussion to consider moving the regular school board election date to the August primary election date. The resolution brought before the Board was not considered.

#### **UPDATE ON THE WALKING TRACK AT VANDENBERG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

At the Board meeting on September 14, 2009, Syndee Malek, Principal of Vandenberg Elementary School and Mike Dennis from the Redford Township, presented information on the installation of the walking track at Vandenberg Elementary School that is being installed by a partnership between Redford Township and Vandenberg Elementary School.

Mike Dennis and Syndee Malek were at the Board meeting again Monday night to discuss the Bid Award and give an update on the progress of the project

At 9:20 p.m. the President, Laurie Hicks called a ten minute recess.

The Board returned from recess at 9:30 p.m.

#### **CONSIDER RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ANDY DILLON'S HEALTH CARE PROPOSAL**

Michigan schools face record cuts, even after the state exhausts all federal stimulus dollars. If nothing is done, schools will be forced to cut more than \$520 per student over the next two years. During these difficult times the welfare of our schools and the education of our children must remain a top priority. A well educated workforce is critical to Michigan's prosperity.

“There is not an easy fix. Perhaps this dire financial situation will provide the motivation this legislature needs to do what should have been done years ago; make systemic changes that present a long-term solution. At a minimum, that means supporting Speaker Dillon's proposal to consolidate the planning, delivery and administration of health care benefits for all public sector employees and retirees in Michigan. This proposal represents the kind of thinking Michigan needs as we face our budget crisis. It's a proposal that embraces innovation and lays the groundwork for a new prosperity.” (Excerpt from: [www.masb.org](http://www.masb.org).)

In an update on September 24, 2009 the Board received information regarding Andy Dillon's Health Care proposal. The Michigan Association of School Boards is asking District School Boards across the state to show support of this proposal.

Ms. Cheryl Flesher moved the following resolution,

WHEREAS, health care costs for public employees have skyrocketed leaving elected school board members with the decision between decreasing benefits or cutting programs; and

WHEREAS, resources for an excellent educational experience are at risk as a result of a statewide financial crisis; and

WHEREAS, the budgeting and bargaining processes have become more and more divisive and uncertain due to the challenges Michigan and the United States face; and

WHEREAS, the time of teachers, administrators and board members would be better spent on school improvement and the learning environment; and

WHEREAS, our state stands ready to take on the challenges ahead to ensure that our students are prepared to lead in the new global economy; and

WHEREAS, we need long-term solutions that represent true structural reform to ensure high quality education and state services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the South Redford School District does hereby support the investigation and exploration of a statewide health insurance benefit pool for all public employees that results in substantial financial savings and fair and quality benefits for the dedicated individuals who serve our schools, local governments and the State of Michigan.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools will forward this resolution to the media, legislatures and Michigan Association of School Boards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is hereby directed to advise the media, legislatures and MASB of this action and to do all things necessary to implement the intent of this resolution.

Supported by Mr. Gregory Morgan.

Ms. Laurie Hicks motioned to table this resolution. Supported by Tom Dowdy. Vote: All ayes (7) - Hicks, Dowdy, Mazurowski, Flesher, Morgan, Baker and Kangas. Nay - (0). Abstain - (0).

### **CONSIDER AWARD OF BID FOR LAPTOP COMPUTERS**

On September 15, 2009 bids were received, opened and publicly read aloud at the Board of Education for the purpose of purchasing sixty-five (65) laptop computers to use in South Redford School District. Bidding documents were prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Michigan Department of Education and had been approved by the Department prior to advertising for bids.

Prior to placing the bid for this project; Mr. Kevin Smyth, Network Administrator and Dr. Kris Harmon, Curriculum Director, researched the components and models of laptop computers to determine the best fit for use with at-risk, elementary students in the District. Once the bids were received, they were reviewed by Dr. Kristina Harmon and Kevin Smyth.

The bid submitted by Dell Marketing LLP was not the lowest bid at \$42,021.20. However, the laptop computers included in their bid, manufactured by Dell, have been determined to be the best available for the needs of educators and students. The bid includes Windows XP Pro. This was the only bid that shipped the computer from the factory with this feature and will support the Premier software used for reading and writing for struggling learners.

The other bids that were submitted as a part of this process were determined to be either 1) inferior products or 2) did not come with Windows XP Pro directly from the factory. A sample laptop was tried out by a classroom teacher familiar with using the Premier software for student use and found to be a workable solution for classroom application of the software for at-risk students.

Dr. Linda Hicks, Superintendent recommended that Dell Marketing LLP be awarded the bid for laptop computers. The project will be funded with proceeds from 31A (At-Risk) funding allocated from the State of Michigan.

Mr. Bruce Mazurowski moved adoption of the following resolution,

WHEREAS, bids were received, opened, and publicly read aloud at Jan W. Jacobs Educational Services Center on September 15, 2009, for the purpose of purchasing sixty-five (65) laptop computers for use in South Redford School District, and

WHEREAS, all bids were reviewed by Dr. Kristina Harmon and Kevin Smyth, and

WHEREAS, the above mentioned recommend the low responsible bid of Dell Marketing LLP, and  
WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools concurs with the recommendation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby award the bid to Marketing LLP for the purchase of sixty-five laptop computers at a total cost of \$42,021.20, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of this resolution.

Supported by Mr. Stephen Baker. Vote: Ayes (6) - Hicks, Dowdy, Mazurowski, Flesher, Baker and Kangas. Nay - (1) - Morgan. Abstain - (0).

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Staff, parents and community members addressed the Board with concerns.

**PLUS/DELTA FOR THE BOARD MEETING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2009**

Plus	Delta
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A large group of staff members in attendance at Board meeting.</li><li>• Very informative meeting.</li><li>• Dollars well spent on Interactive White Boards.</li><li>• Exciting to see the Interactive White Boards.</li><li>• Appreciated data presented.</li><li>• Big dream of Vandenberg for track – partnership with Township.</li><li>• Enjoy coming to Fisher.</li><li>• Appreciate Kara Clayton and student.</li><li>• Great refreshments healthy – book.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting too long.</li><li>• Larger font on some graphs.</li><li>• Videotaping with this equipment at schools is difficult to tape, room too narrow for wide shot of whole Board – consider room set up for taping.</li><li>• Concerns about Dillon’s Heath Care Initiative Agenda Item.</li></ul>

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:01 p.m.

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Bruce Mazurowski, Secretary  
Board of Education

Present: Amy Davidson, Kellee Groulay, Julie Troyanek, Corey Garbutt, Donald Hasket, Jeff Corbin, Susan Corbin, Michelle Groven Nelson, Bill Triolet, Marybeth Ankofski, Patty Thomas, Jeanne Mogielski, Bryan Chase, Karlana Harrison Janet Kuksa, Jennifer Heskett, Erick Draper, William Freeman, Laketha Lee, Karla Macelli, Syndee Malek, Carol Lindman, Nancy Beattie, Diane Lewis, Judy Considine, Mark Zerial, Sue Carver, Janet Vermiglio, Deborah Reichmann, Kevin Conte, Brenda Huffman, Lorelei Collins, Ruth Berry, Kelli Lynn Scott Edwards, Angela Novelli and Brian Galdes.