

**HARBOR SPRINGS BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
January 4, 2012**

President Morse called the special Board meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. in the Conference Room at Shay Elementary School, 175 East Lake Street, Harbor Springs, MI 49740.

Members Present: Lauer, Fairbairn, Bezilla, Fuhrman, Morse, Davis and Cupps (8:33 a.m.) (7)
Members Absent: (0)

A motion was made by Fuhrman, seconded by Davis, to approve the agenda as amended. Item B. 5. Bond Update; IV.B.3. Food Service Report and D. 2. Closed Session to Discuss Written Opinion from Legal Counsel and Superintendent's Evaluation was added. Motion carried unanimously.

President Morse asked if there was any public input. No one responded.

The following items were discussed:

FACILITIES

Pool Roof – Maintenance manager Scott Lepird updated the Board on the pool roof issue. He received the report from APEX Engineering concerning the pool roof damage. Lepird recommends that we use a general contractor to oversee the process of repairing the damage. It was suggested that we seek a third opinion. The Board discussed how to proceed with this process and recommends that we contact Springfield Roofing and schedule a meeting.

Superintendent Tompkins discussed with the Board the options of renewing the sinking fund and operational millage:

- **Sinking Fund** – the sinking fund is up for renewal this year and may be presented to the voters at the May 2012 election. The option of changing the millage rate and the length of the proposal was discussed in length. The Board asked that a list of projects for the next five years funded by the sinking fund be compiled with cost estimates, so we can determine how much is needed and to determine the millage rate and length.
- **Operational Millage** – voted on yearly. The option of asking for a three-year versus a yearly proposal was discussed. The renewal proposal would be presented to the voters in May of 2012 and it was recommended to switch to the November election thereafter to avoid additional election costs.

Pool Rec Millage Planning – Superintendent Tompkins reviewed the pool survey facilitated by HARBOR Inc., which was positive. The possibility of a rec millage was discussed. Shauna Bezilla will research whether a library millage could fall under a rec millage.

The separation of the electric meter for the pool was discussed in order to get an accurate cost for the pool electric. Chris Nelson received an estimate of \$2,000 to install a device to separate the areas currently on the pool electric meter. Pam Gibson will find out if this cost could be covered from the sinking fund. The Board suggested that Chris Nelson also find out what areas the DTE Energy pool gas meter covers.

Dave Iafolla reviewed the financial statement of the community pool.

FINANCE

Review December Invoices – no comments.

Technology Bond Update – Chris Nelson reported on the Technology Expo held yesterday as part of the professional development day. It was a great opportunity for staff to learn about technology used in classrooms today, such as interactive boards, smart board, video projectors, software and much more. Elementary teachers met at grade level and middle and high school teachers met as Subject Area Committees to discuss technology purchases/needs. First step in decision making process is to get teachers hands-on experience. Get bid scope for each building and provide demo equipment for teachers and make decisions. Staff training will be critical.

Pam Gibson informed the Board that we have received the resolution authorizing the bond sale from our attorney and it will be presented for Board approval on Monday, January 9, 2012.

John Ruemenapp, Food Service Director, informed the Board of a potential shortfall of approximately \$40,000 for the 2011-12 school year. Some of the factors contributing to the shortfall are:

- Students leaving
- Dropping from 1200 to 890 students in 10 years; lost 90 kids from last year
- 50% of students district-wide participate in the lunch program
- Food cost have gone up 20-30%
- Staff retirement costs, etc.

Ruemenapp suggested that school booster clubs purchase supplies through the Food Service Program, which would increase volume and bring in more rebates. Catering school pizza parties, banquets, dinner fundraisers, etc. also would increase revenues for our Food Service Program.

Superintendent Tompkins and President Morse complemented John Ruemenapp for all his efforts and thanked him for his report.

Attorney Costs – Bryan Lauer asked to review the attorney bills. A comparison chart as to the costs for the last few years was also provided to the Board. Some of the cost is related to bond proposal preparation, FOIA issues, etc. It was suggested to find out the going rates from other attorneys.

Custodial Hiring – The areas at the high school covered by the full-time custodian that left HSPS, are being serviced by the current staff right now with overtime. Discussed going to two part-time positions versus one full-time position. Going to two part-time positions will save the district \$22,000 and increases actual cleaning hours.

ATHLETICS

Athletic Director Dave Iafolla reviewed the list of 2012 spring coaches that will be presented to the Board for approval at the regular Board meeting on Monday, January 9, 2012. Also discussed were some of the items for the next Athletic Advisory Council meeting and Mari Schumaker's role in AD department. It was suggested that the AD phone line, as well as the Community Schools' line, be transferred to their cell phones if not answered after so many rings to improve communication. Iafolla also reported that the Hall of Fame recipient selection will take place on January 9, 2012. There will be some fundraising for the cost of the Hall of Fame awards.

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Bezilla, to go into executive session at 10:20 a.m. to discuss written opinion of legal counsel and superintendent's evaluation.

Ayes: Morse, Fuhrman, Davis, Lauer, Fairbairn, Cupps and Bezilla (7)
Nays: (0)

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bezilla, seconded by Fuhrman, to reconvene the special Board meeting at 11:18 a.m.

Ayes: Morse, Fuhrman, Davis, Lauer, Fairbairn, Cupps and Bezilla (7)
Nays: (0)

Motion carried unanimously.

President Morse opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment, but Trustee Fuhrman stated that it would work better for his schedule to return to a committee structure schedule. After Board discussion, the Board president will talk to Superintendent Tompkins and plan to return to the committee meeting structure for next month and to meet as a committee of the whole once per quarter for our regular Board retreats.

A motion was made by Fuhrman, seconded by Davis, to adjourn the special meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Ayes: Morse, Fuhrman, Davis, Lauer, Fairbairn, Cupps and Bezilla (7)
Nays: (0)

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Shauna Bezilla
Secretary