

**HARBOR SPRINGS BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESCHEDULED REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
February 8, 2010**

President Fuhrman called the rescheduled regular board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Middle School Large Group Instruction Room.

Members Present: Bezilla, Fuhrman, Lauer, Morse, Davis and Cupps (6)
Members Absent: Fischer (1)

A motion was made by Morse, seconded by Davis, to approve the agenda as amended. Remove XII. Request to go into Executive Session to Discuss Personnel. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Tompkins reported on the following items:

- Students have raised \$2,300.16 for shelter boxes for the people of Haiti. This donation will be matched by the Kiwanis Club of Harbor Springs.
- State of the School – Where are we now, where are we going and how will we get there?
 - Sinking Fund
 - Finance – we are an out-of-formula district; fund balance is 26%, 3% of the 26% is designated
 - Challenges – declining tax base; reduction of expenditures and use of fund balance
 - School climate – shared traditions; common standards of behavior, rules and training
 - Athletics and the arts – expanded athletic opportunities; arts expansion
 - Technology – aging infrastructure
 - Continuous improvement plan
 - Finish facilities with sinking fund – renovation of the band wing; high school roof; locker rooms
 - Prepare ourselves for financial lean times
 - Improve teaching and learning
 - Student mentors
 - Fix technology infrastructure

President Fuhrman reported on the following items:

- Superintendent's evaluation – scheduled a retreat on February 23, 2010 at 5:30 pm. Rob will send out the meeting location.

Administrators presented the Bully Prevention Initiative:

Shay/Blackbird Elementary principal Scholten reported:

- Consequences of bullying at different levels
- Presented the board gifts made by our students for Board Appreciation Month

Middle School principal Cwikiel reported:

- Youth Development Committee which included staff, students and community members
 - Marcia McEvoy will be training staff, students and community members
 - February 15, 2010 - Marcia McEvoy will present to parents and community; work with students February 15–17 and February 22-24

High School principal Jacobs reported:

- Positive school climate and what the schools are doing to make it a positive climate
- Presented the Board with *Black Out* shirts for Board Appreciation Month

President Fuhrman asked at this time if there would be any public input. No one responded.

Finance Committee report:

Lauer noted that we looked at the 2009-10 General Fund budget amendment and the 2010-11 budget. Reviewed the January bills.

A motion was made by Cupps, seconded by Lauer, to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

- General Fund invoices in the amount of \$407,880.85; Community Schools Fund invoices in the amount of \$9,104.41; Athletic Fund invoices in the amount of \$14,862.91; Lunch Fund invoices in the amount of \$26,735.93; Building & Site Fund invoices in the amount of \$39,006.00.
- Regular Meeting - January 11, 2010; Special Board Meeting – January 13, 2010 Hall of Fame Committee; Special Meeting Board Retreat - Executive Session Minutes - January 18, 2010; Special Meeting - January 18, 2010.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Bezilla, to approve the changes for the Board policies as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Lauer, to approve the General Fund Budget Amendment for the 2009-10 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Cupps, seconded by Lauer, to approve the resolution calling the annual school election on May 4, 2010 and authorizing the millage proposition. Motion carried unanimously.

Information and Proposals

Elementary Principal Scholten reviewed the Literacy Initiative.

- Book bags for all students to take home
- Parent Involvement Night
- Tier I Intervention – classroom
- Tier II Intervention – will be monitored
- Small group implementation
- Up and running by spring break

Communications Committee Report

Bezilla noted that we discussed the budget.

Finance Committee Report

See notes above under Finance Committee report.

Facilities Committee Report

Morse noted we are looking at the following sinking fund projects for spring and summer 2010:

- Working with Cornerstone Architects on the timeline for the band room renovation
- Replace the high school gym roof this summer and looking at replacing the high school (1915 building) roof

Steering Committee Report

Bezilla noted that Marcia McEvoy will be here on Monday, February 15th to give an anti-aggression presentation to parents and community members and work with our students.

Technology Committee Report

Davis noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 8th.

Hall of Fame Committee Report

Superintendent Tompkins noted that on Friday, February 19, 2010, Jeff Bodzick, Charlie Paige and Howard and Becky Morse will be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Personnel Issue

Superintendent Tompkins read the following memo to the Board and stated that it would be acted upon after Bo Whitfield addressed the Board:

On December 16, 2009, Bo Whitfield (Technology Director) was placed on administrative leave for conduct detrimental to the district as defined in section four, items C and D in his contract:

(C) The Employee shall refrain from all inappropriate comments, public or private, in all matters of a confidential or sensitive nature and shall utilize the appropriate forums and procedures for evidencing his/her opinion or views regarding same.

(D) Failure to comply with the conditions set forth herein or any of them shall be deemed to constitute sufficient cause for discharge of the Employee and termination of this contract of employment.

Specifically, on December 16, 2009, Bo sent an e-mail to all staff with the district Sonic Wall report attached. This was not an appropriate response to a concern about Internet speed in the district. Release of this report was not authorized, approved or condoned as it contained information that was inaccurate. This information could be misinterpreted and was potentially harmful to staff members.

As this was a direct violation of his contract, it is my recommendation that Bo Whitfield be discharged and his contract terminated as of February 9, 2010.

Bo Whitfield read a letter to the Board formally asking for an extension of time to allow for a meeting with his attorney being present.

After a lengthy discussion and stressing the importance of setting a date and time, a motion was made by Morse, seconded by Cupps, to grant an extension until February 22, 2010 for the purpose of meeting with Bo Whitfield with his attorney present. If a meeting has not taken place by that date, the superintendent's recommendation will be acted on at the special meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2010.

Ayes: Davis, Bezilla, Cupps, Fuhrman, Lauer and Morse (6)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

President Fuhrman asked at this time if there would be any public input. No one responded.

A motion was made by Morse, seconded by Cupps, to adjourn the regular board meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectively submitted,

Tim Davis,
Secretary