

Regular Meeting of the Houghton Lake Community Schools Board of Education was held Monday, August 17, 2009 in the Board of Education office.

Members Present: Harned, Burger, Maiani, Dean, Duquette, and Scherer. Absent: Fry

Administration/Staff: Superintendent Murphy, Susan Tyer, Stan Gardner, Matt Lewis, Lori Warson, Brent Cryderman, Jared Socia, Gail Harned, Tonja Hinkston, and Alicia Thompson.

Visitors: Student to be reinstated and parents of student.

Press: Cheryl Holladay, Houghton Lake Resorter  
Jeff Patrus, Roscommon County Herald News

Board President Harned called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Citizen's Request to Address the Board of Education - None**

### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Murphy introduced our new High School Principal ~ Brent Cryderman, and the new Technology Director ~ Jared Socia. He then informed the Board of the following:

- A Staff Development day has been scheduled for September 2<sup>nd</sup>, with the first day of school being September 8<sup>th</sup> for the teachers, and September 9<sup>th</sup> for the students.
- The following topics will be addressed monthly by Superintendent Murphy:
  - 1.) Student Achievement
  - 2.) Opportunities for Students / Community
  - 3.) Communications
  - 4.) Finance / Facilities / Forward Thinking
- The building principals will no longer provide a written board report; instead they will give an oral report about their building (*approximately 2 minutes*) at the meeting. Also, at Board work sessions, the principals will present a "Building Spotlight", two per year/per administrator.

Superintendent Murphy requested that the Board members suggest 10 topics of interest for future work sessions.

### **Financial Report**

Mr. Lewis informed the Board that the bond projects are still well under budget (approximately \$250,000) and on time. The Press Box is due to arrive next week, the auditorium seats were delivered today as well as the stage floor. The technology upgrades will be completed in October – without any interruptions to the students. Collins Elementary just had tile installed, and the middle school lockers are finished.

The district was able to avoid more teacher layoffs due to the state providing stimulus funding. Also, the district will end the year with a balanced budget, as long as the state does not cut any student funding.

### **Discussion Items**

The second reading on the 2009/2010 Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan took place.

Superintendent Murphy and several Board members attended the MASB (Districts in Distress) conference. Board Vice-President Dean shared that many districts would survive this year, but next year is when school district budgets could really take a hard hit. He then indicated that there was a great deal of talk on the possibility of the state cutting \$600.00 per student. Board member Duquette stated that the conference speakers emphasized the need to keep the public/community informed, so that the news is not a surprise.

Discussion on the current Board Policy being updated by an outside agency took place. The Board will still be reviewing the policy language to stay informed and up-to-date.

### **Board Presentation ~**

Lori Warson and Susan Tyer addressed the Board to inform them the outcome of our Summer School program. Mrs. Warson indicated that the Middle School and Collins Elementary did not have any problems. However, at the high school the software that was recommended and purchased by COOR was

a large problem, and student report cards were sent home very late so parents/students did not know if summer school was needed until the classes had already begun. Also, the report cards did not indicate which classes/courses the students needed to make up. Mr. Cryderman indicated that these problems will be corrected and will not happen again next year. Student achievement data will be compiled and shared with the Board.

### **Citizen's Second Request to Address the Board of Education - None**

#### **Action Items**

##### ***Consent Agenda***

Motion by Scherer, supported by Duquette to approve the consent agenda as presented, the minutes of the Regular Meeting held July 20, 2009, the Special Meetings held August 3 & 5, 2009, along with the following expenditures for the month of July 2009: General Fund \$495,761.73, Food Service \$22,237.20, and Athletics \$12,930.50. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

##### ***Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control***

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani to adopt the Bloodborne Pathogens/Exposure Control Plan as presented for school year 2009/2010. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

At 7:30 p.m. the Board took a short break to let the room clear out to begin the reinstatement hearing that the parents requested be held in closed session.

##### ***Closed Session ~ Reinstatement Hearing***

Motion by Dean, supported by Duquette that the Board of Education go into closed session at 7:41 p.m. for the purpose of a student reinstatement hearing. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

Motion by Dean, supported Duquette that the Board of Education come out of closed session at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

Motion by Burger, supported by Duquette to reinstate a high school student beginning with the 2009/2010 school year. Motion carried Yes 6, No 0.

#### **Correspondence - None**

##### ***Closed Session ~ Negotiations***

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani that the Board of Education go into closed at 8:05 p.m. for the purpose of discussing negotiations. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

Motion by Duquette, supported Scherer that the Board of Education come out of closed session at 8:37 p.m. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0.

Discussion took place on the food service department providing lunch for band camp. Kevin and Matt agreed it would be covered.

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. Motion carried Yes 6, No 0.