

Regular Meeting of the Houghton Lake Community Schools Board of Education was held Monday, May 19, 2008 in the Houghton Lake High School Library.

Members Present: Maiani, Haf, Stuck, Harned, Burger, Dean and Duquette.

Members Absent: None

Administration/Staff: Superintendent Injasoulian, Sue Milner, Jack Kramer, Matt Lewis, Gail Harned, Stan Gardner, Darlene Roberts, Jill Songer, Deborah Markiewicz, Sally Cotterman, Coreen Julin, Jenny VanDuinen, Anjanette Rusmisl, and Rob Kunik.

Visitors: Rod Lewis, Allyssa Kunik, Kellie Nelson, Jamie Bechtel, Alicia Killinger, Danielle Pothoof, Alexa Becht, Laura McNeill, Chelsie Roose, Alexis Bechill, Dan Tharp, Lou Ann Pacheco, and John Julin.

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

President Harned called the meeting to order at 8:32 p.m.

### **Citizen's Request to Address the Board of Education**

Dan Tharp – addressed the Board on behalf of the Booster Club stating how important it is to offer the students an athletic program. Also noting that students who participate in sports do much better academically, therefore, the Booster Club is committed to keeping the sports program running at Houghton Lake Community Schools. He thanked the Board for their partial contribution.

Wendy Heinig, MEA Uniserv Director – addressed the Board with concerns about the custodial employees, stating she was informed that they were told their last day of work will be June 30, 2008. She said the Board and the custodian's have a signed agreement that is good through the 2008/2009 school year. Also, that these employees have changed insurance and took a freeze in compensation to keep their jobs. She then asked if the district had sent out any RFP's (Request for Proposal) for custodial services yet, and if so - which company's.

Alicia Killinger – addressed the Board on behalf of the Varsity Volleyball Team to give thanks to the Board for allowing them the opportunity to have sports this year. Stating that the students were able to play in the regional and that it was a great experience for all of them.

### **Superintendent's Report**

- Superintendent Injasoulian stated that at the Board Retreat this Saturday, the 2008/2009 Budget was reviewed in great detail and in order for the district to have a balance budget next school year; a reduction of \$750,000 will need to take place. The only way school districts can deal with significant declining enrollments is to reduce staffing; a memo was sent to all the staff last week informing every one of the above information. Unfortunately, there will be cuts throughout the district.
- Congratulations goes to our returning Board members, Maiani, Harned, and Stuck, who have just been re-elected to serve on the Board of Education for Houghton Lake Community Schools. On June 30<sup>th</sup> the term for Board member Haf will expired, at that time the Board will need to appoint someone for that position.
- The re-count of the Bond Issue Election held May 6, 2008 will take place this Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at Denton Township Hall. If the recount does not change the outcome of the election, the district may hold another election in August 2008. However, the deadline for the Board to adopt the Election Resolution that is necessary to hold an election is May 27<sup>th</sup>, therefore, the Board will need to schedule a special meeting this week.

Board President Harned stated that the following topics which were discussed in length at the Board Retreat (May 17<sup>th</sup>) need to be added to tonight's agenda as action items:

- 1.) The Board of Education supporting adopted curriculum.
- 2.) An overnight request from the Golf Team.
- 3.) 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp changed from fall to the spring.
- 4.) Investigate and gather information on outsourcing custodial services.
- 5.) Hold a Special Election in August.
- 6.) Middle School Asst. Principal Position.

## **Discussion Items**

Administrative Board Reports were reviewed.

*Finance Committee Report* - Board Secretary Stuck stated the Finance Committee had met and the Business Manager and Superintendent went over the budget in great detail.

*Second Reading/Economic Text Book* ~ there was no further discussion necessary.

*Second Reading/District Wide Grading System* – Board member Haf stated that this item would need to be tabled. The Board will need to investigate more intensely because this grading system will be the system used in the Personnel Curriculum, so further discussion is necessary.

*Board Supporting the Adopted Curriculum* ~ there was no further discussion necessary.

*Second Reading/ H.S. Handbook revisions* – Board Secretary Stuck stated that the new board policy on (either section 3000 or 4000 has some revisions) and those changes may need to go into the handbook. She then asked Mrs. Milner if there would be a conflict between student eligibility and the attendance policy. Mrs. Milner stated no, and then added that the school calendar if approved would be in the handbook as well.

*Second Reading/Equity Funding Resolution* ~ there was no further discussion necessary.

**Board Presentation** ~ none

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

## **Action Items**

Consent Agenda

Motion by Dean, supported by Haf to approve the consent agenda as presented - minutes of the work session held March 3, 2008 and April 7, 2008 and the regular meeting held April 21, 2008: along with the following expenditures for the month of April 2008: General Fund \$362,281.23, Athletics \$7,222.20, and Food Service \$51,537.03. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

***Adopt - Economic Text Book***

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani to approve the adoption of **Economics: Principles in Action**, O'Sullivan and Sheffrin, Prentice Hall, 2007 as a new text for the Houghton Lake High School Economics course. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0. Board Secretary Stuck gave thanks to Jenny VanDuinen for the great job she did in giving the Board such detailed and specific information. Hoping others will follow in her footsteps and use her same technique when requesting a new text book.

***Adopt - District Wide Grading System***

Motion by Dean, supported by Duquette to table the adoption of the district grading scale until further discussion and research can take place. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

***Staff Retirements (Songer, Updyke, Rzycki, Krause, Krause, Eva)***

Motion by Maiani, supported by Duquette to accept Arnold Kraus's letter of retirement effective June 30, 2008, and to thank him for his long dedicated service to our students. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani to accept Julie Kraus's letter of retirement effective June 30, 2008, and to thank her for her long dedicated service to our students. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

Motion by Harned, supported by Duquette to accept Barb Eva's letter of retirement effective June 30, 2008, and to thank her for her long dedicated service to our students. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani to accept Jill Songer's letter of retirement effective June 30, 2008,

and to thank her for her long dedicated service to our students. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

Motion by Maiani, supported by Duquette to accept Duane Updyke's letter of retirement effective June 30, 2008, and to thank him for his long dedicated service to our students. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani to accept Patricia Rzycki's letter of retirement effective June 30, 2008, and to thank her for her long dedicated service to our students. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

Board President Harned stated that he would like to express the Board's appreciation to all the teachers retiring for everything that they have done, and again gave thanks to all of them. Board member Haf stated that he would like to personally thank Mrs. Songer for everything she did when his daughter was in her class.

#### ***Special Election in August***

Motion by Haf, supported by Duquette to hold another election for the Bond Issue in August if the recount does not uphold. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

#### ***Special Meeting - Budget Hearing***

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani to hold a special meeting on June 16, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of holding a budget hearing. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

#### ***Adopt - 2008/2009 C.O.O.R. ISD Proposed Budget***

Motion by Maiani, supported by Duquette to approve the C.O.O.R. Intermediate School District's preliminary 2008/2009 budget as presented. Motion carried. Yes 6, No 0. Board member Haf abstained from voting because he is an employee of C.O.O.R.ISD.

#### ***H.S. Student Handbook***

Motion by Duquette, supported by Dean to table the action to approve the high school student handbook revisions. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

#### ***Adopt - Equity Funding Resolution***

Motion by Duquette, supported by Maiani to approve the attached Equity Funding Resolution as presented to strongly encourage our Legislatures to begin putting an end to this inequity. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

#### ***Curriculum Support from the Board of Education***

Motion by Haf, supported by Duquette to approve the reaffirmation of the previously adopted Board Resolutions and Board support as stated. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0. (Note: Curriculum Details will follow – June 16, 2008 Board of Education meeting)

#### ***Gulf Team – Overnight Request***

Motion by Maiani, supported by Haf to approve the request for the Houghton Lake Community Schools Golf Team to stay overnight May 21, 2008, for the regional tournament with Benzie County Central Schools on May 22, 2008. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

#### ***4<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp***

Motion by Haf, supported by Dean to schedule 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp in the spring of 2009 at a time agreed to by staff and administration. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

#### ***Authorization for Custodial Services Bids***

Board Vice-President Dean stated that after careful consideration of the need for having a balanced budget that it grieved him to make the following motion, but that he must. Motion by Dean, supported by Duquette to authorize the Superintendent and Business Manager to investigate outsourcing and collect bids for contracting custodial services in the interest of the Budget reduction and cost savings. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

#### ***Middle School Asst. Principal Position***

Motion by Haf, supported by Duquette to re-hire the Assistant Principal at the Middle School full time with half time as the administrator and the other half time with other assigned duties. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.

Motion by Duquette, supported by Dean to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. Motion carried. Yes 7, No 0.