

Lapeer Community Schools Board Action Briefs

Board of Education Meeting Thursday, May 4, 2017

Murphy kindergarten students Ellery Mattila, Jackson Jacob, and Fern Hosch led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Katie Jordan, Murphy Elementary Principal, shared information on how the staff at Murphy Elementary are working to meet the Board of Education goals. Kindergarten teacher, Traci Chouinard, explained how she uses "visible thinking" in her classroom which allows students to learn using a variety of thinking routines. Mrs. Chouinard uses this technique across the curriculum in her classroom.

Amy Duncan, Learning Coach, shared how Murphy is creating a culture of thinking. Teachers are using thinking routines which become patterns in the classroom. This process demystifies the thinking process. She is very excited about the changes that are taking place.

Mr. Nolan reported on the Personnel Committee Meeting that was held on April 21 when the following items were discussed: Superintendent Evaluation Process, Board Policy 1240 Evaluation of the Superintendent, AG 1120 Employment of Professional Staff, AG 3120 Employment of Professional Staff, bargaining update and 2017-2018 staffing update.

Mrs. Byard reported on the TLT Committee Meeting that was held on April 28 when the secondary math pilot and overnight/out of state trips were discussed.

Mrs. Bush reported on the F&O Committee Meeting that was held on May 1 when the following items were discussed: Lawn maintenance, paid lunch equity, food service renewal, the ISD proposed general fund operating budget, and reviewed the following Board policies; 1130 ADMINISTRATION Conflict of Interest - Private Practice, 3110 PROFESSIONAL STAFF Conflict of Interest, 4110 SUPPORT STAFF Conflict of Interest, 7300 PROPERTY Disposition of Real Property, 7310 PROPERTY Disposition of Surplus Property, and 7450 PROPERTY Property Inventory.

Michelle Bradford and Doug Lindsay presented information on the secondary math pilot that has been taking place this year. Michelle, Doug, and the piloting teachers, are recommending that the Board adopt the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt curriculum for secondary math. The Teaching, Learning, and Technology Committee supports this recommendation. A sample of the Harcourt program and materials will be on display in the Board room until June 1 when the Board will be asked to adopt the program.

The Board approved the following items:

- Minutes from the March 30, 2017 Regular Meeting.
- Minutes from the April 20, 2017 Work Session.
- The policies below were approved for second reading and adoption:
 - 2261.01 PROGRAM Parent and Family Engagement
 - 5460 STUDENTS Graduation Requirements
- LHS MI Future Problem Solvers are allowed to travel to the international competition in Wisconsin on June 8-11, 2017.
- Zemmer Band Students are allowed to travel to Cedar Point on June 17, 2017.

- The policies below were approved for first reading:
 - o Policy 1130 ADMINISTRATION Conflict of Interest-Private Practice.
 - o Policy 1240 ADMINISTRATION Evaluation of the Superintendent.
 - o Policy 1420 ADMINISTRATION School Administrator Evaluation.
 - Policy 3110 PROFESSIONAL STAFF Conflict of Interest.
 - Policy 3220 PROFESSIONAL STAFF Certified Evaluation.
 - o Policy 4110 SUPPORT STAFF Conflict of Interest.
 - o Policy 7300 PROPERTY Disposition of Real Property.
 - Policy 7310 PROPERTY Disposition of Surplus Property.
 - Policy 7450 PROPERTY Property Inventory.
- ISD 2017-2018 General Fund Operating Budget Resolution
- Resolution to Consider Designation of Electoral Representative for the June 5, 2017 ISD Biennial Election
- Lunch prices at the elementary and secondary level will be raised by .25 cents and the
 deli lunch at the high school will be reduced by .25 cents. (Please note that this lunch
 price adjustment was approved in order for the District to comply with "Paid Lunch
 Equity" which is a Federal requirement. Districts must review lunch prices annually and
 work toward eliminating the differential between paid and Federally reimbursed
 lunches.)
- The Food Service Contract with Chartwell's was renewed for 2017-2018.

Board members thanked the Murphy students for leading the pledge and thanked Mrs. Jordan, Mrs. Chouinard, and Mrs. Duncan for their presentations.

Board members thanked the students and parents that spoke during "public comment". The Board appreciated their passion for the program and the courage it took for them to address the Board.

Mrs. Becker shared that she represented the Board in April as a member of the steering committee for the City of Lapeer's Michigan Main Street program. A group from the Michigan Main Street Program came from Lansing to share their ideas on how to make the City stronger and more productive. A strong community helps both the City and the District.

The Board voiced their appreciation to high school teacher Sommer Schons, for holding a study session for the students on a Sunday. Her time and commitment to the students is greatly appreciated.

The Board thanked Mrs. Bradford and Mr. Lindsay, along with all the teachers that participated in the math pilot. It is understood that participating in a pilot program can be difficult and they thanked them for their time and expertise in this endeavor.

Mr. Keller attended the Annual Meeting of the Lapeer County Intermediate School District on May 3 at the Educational and Technical Center. A number of Lapeer Community School students were honored at this meeting.

Mr. Wandrie thanked Mrs. Jordan and staff for their presentations and thanked the students for leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

He thanked Mrs. Bradford and Mr. Lindsay, the teachers and the learning coaches that participated in the math pilot program this year. It is difficult, from a teaching perspective, to be a part of a pilot program. It took a lot of time, training, meetings, and collaboration and it is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Wandrie announced that this week is Teacher Appreciation week, and he thanked our teachers for all the unique and special things that they are doing with our students.

Mr. Wandrie thanked the students that addressed the Board during public comment. Their passion and commitment to the programs in our District are evidence of good teaching, good parenting, and a good learning environment. He explained that courses in our District are provided according to the number of those interested in participating. It is very difficult, and painful at times, but due to the shrinking population of students, some courses may not be able to be offered every year. He and the Board will take what the students said tonight into consideration.

Mr. Wandrie and Jared Field, District's Director of Communications, met with Chris Candela, the new president and CEO of McLaren Lapeer Region. The hospital and Lapeer Community Schools are the two largest employers in Lapeer County. He and Mr. Field are happy work to with Mr. Candela and the Lapeer Hospital in any way they can to better the Lapeer Community.

Mr. Wandrie commented on the recent press coverage related the Lapeer High School prom. A committee of teachers and students work very hard and spend a year planning in order to make the prom possible for our students. He is concerned about the way some parents and members of the community chose to demonstrate their displeasure through social media. He is urging parents and community members, in the future, to acknowledge the countless hours put in by a committee of volunteers, and allow them the opportunity, when necessary, to problem solve. A misleading story was recently aired on a local TV station regarding the prom and the District has contacted the news director at that station and voiced our displeasure. The hard working teachers and students on the prom committee did not deserve the critical, misinformation, that was reported. Mr. Wandrie thanked the Prom Committee, the principals, and the office staff at the high school for the outstanding job they did in problem solving and making sure everyone that want to attend the prom was able to do so.

A budget managers meeting was recently held. This is the mechanism used to bring all of our bargaining and non-union membership together to review upcoming challenges in order to submit a balanced budget. The group was asked to think both short term and long term in a strategic way. This process includes close to 30 people and included a variety of employees from every level. A second meeting is scheduled for later this month.