

**SOUTH LAKE SCHOOLS**  
**Board of Education Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**March 19, 2014**

The regular meeting of the South Lake Schools' Board of Education, held on March 19, 2014, in the South Lake Administration Building, located at 23101 Stadium Boulevard, St. Clair Shores, Michigan was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by our president Ellen Dunn.

Members present: Ellen Dunn, Paula Mack-Crouchman, Christi Frazier, Charlotte Rebelein, Lois Cardenas, Kelly Gattuso

Members absent: Karla Anderson

Administrators present: Pamela Balint, John Thero, Ted Von Hiltmayer, Matthew Dishman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Dunn.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mrs. Dunn recommended Board of Education approval for the items listed on the Consent Agenda which include:

**Checks written for February 2014**

General Fund	\$394,416.73
Activity Fund	\$15,272.05
Cafeteria Fund	\$37,905.94
2008 Bond Fund	\$93,170.19
Latch Key Fund	\$61.86
PEGS	\$18,605.46
American Express	\$18,757.32
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$578,189.55</b>

- Minutes from the Board of Education Special Meeting of February 10, 2014.
- Minutes from the Board of Education Special Meeting of February 11, 2014.
- Minutes from the Board of Education Superintendent Evaluation Meeting of February 12, 2014.
- Minutes from the Board of Education Superintendent Evaluation Closed Session of February 12, 2014.
- Minutes from the Board of Education Regular Meeting of February 19, 2014.
- Minutes from the Board of Education Study Session of February 19, 2014.
- Attorney Invoices for the month of February totaling \$814.00.

Moved by Mrs. Cardenas, supported by Mrs. Rebelein to approve above Consent Agenda.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Motion Carried: 6/0

**STUDENT REPORT**

Errol French was here to report on the following:

- District Open House was a huge success!
- Kindergarten round-up was fun. Nice to see faces painted by me.
- Winter Sports Awards are tomorrow at 6:30 p.m.
- The High School Play, "It's a Fairy Tale about a Girl, Her Slippers, A Glass Slipper and a Prince" will take place on March 28 and 29. Adults \$12.00, Seniors \$10.00 and \$7.00 for students.
- Spring Sports should be starting soon

### **BOARD BRIGHTENER**

Ms. Carmen Kennedy began by saying how proud we are of our new CTE program. She then introduced Mr. James Ryan who is our new Robotic Team coach at the high school. Mr. Ryan started by thanking Mr. Thero for getting the grant in order to form the first 5214 Mighty Cavbots team. Students Kayla White, from Harper Woods High School along with sophomore Evan Russell were here to give us a presentation along with a Power Point of how the robot was built and the competitions they were involved in. The students thanked the Board, Mr. Thero and Mrs. Jamieson for allowing them to use the school facilities and getting all the purchased parts to complete this project. Mr. Damiani also thanked the Board for allowing them to participate in this project. Mrs. Dunn thanked them all. Ms. Frazier said thank you for providing this to our kids. Mr. Segura noted that this is one of the only high school sports all kids can become a professional in and pursue a career. The Board and administrators were given an ID in order to attend the competition at Troy Athens on April 4 and April 5. The team presented Mrs. Dunn with their first trophy.

### **PRESENTATION – MR. INNES**

Mrs. Dunn began by saying that the Board has many jobs to do throughout the school year. Some of these include setting policy, hiring the Superintendent, etc., but most importantly working as a team toward the goal of student achievement. Mrs. Dunn thanked Mr. Innes for being her friend and for all his hard work in the last ten years serving as a member of this Board. He was presented a token of appreciation from the District.

Mr. Innes thanked everyone for working with him. It will always be about what is best for the students. We have one of the best administrative teams around.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no public comments on agenda items.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mrs. Balint reported on the current House Bill 4369 which sets new guidelines for how failing schools move to the State School Reform/Redesign District. This bill passed the Senate in December and is currently awaiting vote in the House. The EAA has been operating 15 schools in Detroit but this bill would expand its authority. She read the major concerns the bill would have on the school districts.

Overall, this is a political move to control the schools and eliminate districts and local control. It is being accomplished via a system that is untested and whose early results are not positive. While it is true we need to address the persistently underachieving schools, the early data does not clearly support that the EAA is the way to do this.

### **PERSONNEL REPORT**

Mr. Von Hiltmayer recommended Board of Education approval to grant Kelly Yakel an extended leave of absence for the 2014/2015 school year. Kelly's request meets the requirements outlined in the current collective bargaining agreement.

Moved by Mrs. Cardenas, supported by Mrs. Rebelein to grant Kelly Yakel an extended leave of absence for the 2014/2015 school year.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Motion Carried: 6/0

Mr. Von Hiltmayer recommended Board of Education approval to grant Joe Verbeke a leave of absence beginning April 14, 2014, through the remainder of the 2013/2014 school year. Mr. Verbeke's request meets the requirements outlined in the current collective bargaining agreement.

Moved by Mrs. Rebelein, supported by Mrs. Cardenas to grant Joe Verbeke a leave of absence as noted above.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Motion Carried: 6/0

Mr. Von Hiltmayer recommended Board of Education approval to grant Wayne Smoot a probationary contract for the remainder of the 2013/2014 school year. Mr. Smoot has accepted the High School Mechatronics teaching position, effective the remainder of the 2013/2014 school year.

Moved by Mrs. Cardenas, supported by Mrs. Mack-Crouchman to grant Wayne Smoot a probationary contract for the remainder of the 2013/2014 school year.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Motion Carried: 6/0

## **CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT**

Mr. Thero reported on the following:

### **CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS**

The Celebration of the Arts' date has been set for Thursday, May 1, 2014, from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. The event will take place at South Lake High School. Student work from all of the arts will be on display.

### **MARCH IS READING MONTH**

March is the month we take some time to focus on reading and all the fun it brings. The schools have had many interesting activities related to the joy and importance of reading. Here are just some of the activities happening:

If you would like to participate as a guest reader in one of our schools, please contact the school office.

### **MACOMB COUNTY EARLY COLLEGE UPDATE**

The Macomb Intermediate School District has received 517 Early College applications. Fifteen of those applications were from South Lake students. All applicants are required to take an admission test (Compass test) at the Macomb Community College. The mandatory admission testing dates for the applicants are: Wed., March 5; Thurs., March 6; Wed., March 19; or Thurs., March 20.

### **SENIOR CITIZEN BREAKFAST**

Please mark your calendars for our Senior Citizen Breakfast which will be held Tuesday, April 29 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the high school cafeteria. Additional information will be forthcoming.

### **MEAP FALL 2013 SCORES**

Mr. Thero presented a Power Point regarding the district MEAP data. There were improvements in reading, writing and science. Due to the dip in math scores, staff is meeting and working with the MISD on various projects to increase these scores for next year.

## **BUSINESS REPORT**

Mr. Dishman recommended Board of Education Approval of Credit Change Order for Varsity Flooring, Inc. in the amount of \$5,000.00. This credit is due to the fact that the purchase order issued included Alternate Number 2. The alternate work was not necessary.

Moved by Mrs. Mack-Crouchman, supported by Mrs. Rebelein to Approve the Credit Change Order for Varsity Flooring Inc. in the amount of \$5,000.00. This amount will remain in the 2008 Bond Fund.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Motion Carried: 6/0

Mr. Dishman recommended Board of Education Approval of Payment to Varsity Flooring Inc. for \$9,600.00. This was the final payment for application of the high school gym floor.

Moved by Mrs. Rebelein, supported by Mrs. Cardenas to approve payment to Varsity Flooring Inc., in the amount of \$9,600.00.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Motion Carried: 6/0

Mr. Dishman recommended Board of Education Approval of Resolution for Submission of Application for Preliminary Qualification of Bonds. South Lake Schools is submitting an Application for Preliminary Qualification of Bonds to the Michigan Department of Treasury for review and approval.

Moved by Mrs. Cardenas, supported by Ms. Frazier to approve the Resolution for Submission of Application for Preliminary Qualifications of Bonds.

Mrs. Dunn gave the community an explanation as to what this resolution included. This resolution will authorize the administration to submit an application to the Michigan Department of Treasury. The application contains a list of renovations, replacements and upgrades that will cost a total of 25 million dollars. If approved by voters, taxes for a person living in a home valued at \$100,000 will increase by \$2.00 per month. Some homes will be slightly more and some slightly less.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Motion Carried: 6/0

Mr. Dishman recommended Board of Education Approval of Payment to VSC, Inc. for 16 Epson Projectors for the amount of 7,200.00. This is to be paid from the technology portion of the 2008 Bond Fund.

Moved by Mrs. Cardenas, supported by Mrs. Rebelein to approve payment to VSC, Inc. for 16 Epson Projectors in the amount of \$7,200.00.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Motion Carried: 6/0

Mr. Dishman reported that a settlement has been reached in the Adair case. The Michigan Court of Appeals ordered the State of Michigan to reimburse the participating school districts for the out-of-pocket expenses incurred during the 10 ½ years history of the Adair case.

### **OPERATIONS AND FINANCE REPORT**

We are hoping to have spring sports begin soon. We have had to cancel a few soccer games so far. We are also not able to use the tennis courts at this time.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Damiani, current Dads and Moms Club president, invited the Board to the upcoming band banquet. He will let us know the exact date and time.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **Kelly Gattuso**

- Going to the band banquet. Always enjoyed attending the banquets when she was in band.
- Congratulations to the Teachers of the Year. I know all of them personally. They are all so energetic, passionate, knowledgeable and kind.

#### **Lois Cardenas**

- Thanked the staff and all parents and children for attending the District Open House. It was so much fun and very informative.
- Thanks to the Cavbots, you are absolutely unbelievable.

#### **Christi Frazier**

- The Robotics Team was awesome. It is so nice to hear the passion of the kids come through. It is great to see we are drawing students from other school districts. I cannot wait for it to begin at the elementary level.
- Mr. Innes, I really appreciate your leadership. He brought a great deal of knowledge to us. I really did appreciate all the conversations and advice. He will continue to hear from me.

#### **Charlotte Rebelein**

- Congratulations to our Robotics Team. They were 63 out of 279.
- Mr. Innes will be greatly missed.
- Thanks for the band banquet invite.
- Great article in the Connection regarding Dan Heaton a former South Lake grad. He was Journalist of the Year.

#### **Paula Mack-Crouchman**

- Ditto to everything.
- Kayla, you have such a bright future. You are so enthusiastic.
- House Bill 4369 should be very concerning to all of us.
- Mr. Innes, thank you for your support and dedication. We always did agree to disagree.

#### **Pamela Balint**

- Thanked the Cavbots for the presentation. There is a need for these types of jobs in our area and State. I went on a Manufacturing Day field trip with other Superintendents. We travelled to two plants in Macomb County. We were able to see molds being made, robotics, etc. The staff seemed very happy in their jobs. Remember, not every student is university bound.
- Mr. Damiani has a date for the band banquet. It will be held on May 8 from 6:30 to 9:00 at the East Pointe Manor on Gratiot between Stephens and 10 Mile Road.
- The Open House was wonderful.
- Thanked Mr. Innes for writing a check to help defray the cost of the staff shirts. While we will miss him, we know he will still be involved in working with South Lake Schools.

**Ted Von Hiltmayer**

- The District Open House was held last night. Thanked all the staff for their help. It was wonderful to see how many people were there. Thanked the parents who volunteered their time, the students, cheer leaders, step teams and everyone who participated.

**John Thero**

- Thanked the community for attending the Open House.
- Thanked the Cavbots.
- Thanked Mr. Ryan and Mr. Damiani.
- If the team makes it to States, there is an additional grant available. We hope to have a program for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the future.

**Matthew Dishman**

- Thanked Mr. Ryan and the team.
- Had a great time at the Open House. Thanked staff and kids for all their hard work.

**Veda Hall**

- Thanks Cavbots for your presentation.
- Koepsell had a recycled book sale and raised \$50.00 for the Eimers Foundation.
- Koepsell Kindergarten Parent Open House is March 25 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- The Annual Art Auction will be held on April 25.
- State Representative Sarah Roberts was at Koepsell for March Reading Month. She is heading over to Avalon on March 31.
- Avalon will hold their movie night on March 31 at 6:30 p.m.
- Avalon Kindergarten parent Open House will be held on March 27 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- Elmwood’s Kindergarten parent Open House will take place on April 16 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- Middle school will be having Transition Thursdays on March 20 through April 3. Fifth grade parents and students are invited to come to the Middle School and visit while classes are in session.
- The High School is presenting their Spring Musical on March 28 and March 29 at 7:00 p.m.
- South Lake Schools art projects will be on display at Caffe Far Bella beginning March 20 through the month of April. Caffe Far Bella is located on Nine Mack Drive.

**Ellen Dunn**

- Thank you Robotics Team! Your working together is phenomenal. I am honored to receive this trophy to be passed on.
- Shout-out to Mr. Cravens for creating the flyer for the District Open House.
- Heartfelt condolences to the entire Talaban family.

Mrs. Mack-Crouchman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, supported by Ms. Frazier.

Ayes: 6      Nays: 0      Motion Carried: 6/0

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Charlotte A. Rebelein

Prepared by Veda Hall