

## **MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2015 BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Meeting of the Riverview Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President O'Brien in the Council Chambers at Riverview City Hall, 14100 Civic Park Drive, Riverview, MI 48193.

The following members were present at roll call: President O'Brien, Vice President Laura-Frazier, Secretary Wright, Treasurer Pelkey and Trustee Irving. Excused absent: Trustee Filkins.

Also Present: Russell E. Pickell, Superintendent;  
Lou Ann Durand, Secretary; and  
Cathy Rios, Secretary

### **PRESENTATION**

President O'Brien announced that Trustee Gaggini has resigned from the Board, that he will be missed and that information about appointing a new Board Member would be on the district web-site. The spring athletes received proclamations for their accomplishments and retirees were honored.

### **GUEST AND VISITOR COMMENTS**

34 people asked and were granted permission to address the Board of Education.

### **A-29 – ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

Moved by Trustee Wright and supported by Trustee Laura-Frazier that the Riverview Board of Education accepts the Agenda for the June 23, 2015 meeting.

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

### **MOTION CARRIED**

### **A-30 – APPROVAL OF CONSENT GROUPING**

Moved by Trustee Laura-Frazier and supported by Trustee Wright that the Riverview Board of Education approves the items listed in the Consent Grouping.

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

### **MOTION CARRIED**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS/LEGISLATIVE REPORTS/ COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Superintendent Pickell said at this time legislation is not in session so we don't have to worry about anything from Lansing. He said he didn't have anything else to report at this time.

**A-31 – ADOPT BUDGET AMENDMENT #3, 2014-2015**

Moved by Trustee Pelkey and supported by Trustee Laura-Frazier that the Riverview Board of Education adopt the proposed General Fund Budget Amendment #3 for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**A-32 – ADOPT 2015-2016 BUDGET**

Moved by Trustee Pelkey and supported by Trustee Laura-Frazier that the Riverview Board of Education adopts the attached 2015-2016 Budget Resolution.

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**A-33 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF NOTE IN ANTICIPATION OF STATE SCHOOL AID**

Moved by Trustee Pelkey and supported by Trustee Wright that the Riverview Board of Education adopts the attached "Resolution Authorizing Issuance Of A Note in Anticipation of State School Aid".

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**A-34 – APPROVE RCHS SOCIAL STUDIES EUROPEAN TRIP**

Moved by Trustee Irving and supported by Trustee Laura-Frazier that the Riverview Board of Education approves the educational European trip during Spring Break 2016 for Mr. DiBranco and the high school Social Studies students.

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**A-35 – AWARD WINDOW SECURITY FILM PROJECT**

Moved by Trustee Pelkey and supported by Trustee Laura-Frazier that the Riverview Board of Education awards the window security film project for forty-eight thousand, one hundred seventy-six dollars (\$48,176.00) to The Enpro Group.

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**A-36 – AWARD TENNIS COURT RESURFACING PROJECT**

Moved by Trustee Laura-Frazier and supported by Trustee Wright that the Riverview Board of Education awards the tennis court resurfacing project for twenty-nine thousand, nine hundred dollars (\$29,900.00) to Goddard Coatings Sport Surfaces.

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**A-37 – PURCHASE OF COMPUTERS**

Moved by Trustee Pelkey and supported by Trustee Wright that the Riverview Board of Education awards the tennis court resurfacing project for twenty-nine thousand, nine hundred dollars (\$29,900.00) to Goddard Coatings Sport Surfaces.

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**A-38 – SECOND SCHOOL OF CHOICE APPLICATION PERIOD**

Moved by Trustee Wright and supported by Trustee Laura-Frazier that the Riverview Board of Education of the Riverview Community School District approves a second School of Choice application period for unlimited enrollment in grades K, 1, 6, 7 and 8, and limited enrollment in grades 2, 3, 4, 5 and 9, from July 27 – August 25, 2015.

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**GUEST AND VISITOR COMMENTS**

Eight people asked and received permission to address the Board of Education.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRESENTED BY BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNING WHICH NO ACTION CAN BE TAKEN**

President O'Brien thanked the audience for their Guest and Visitor comments, and asked them to extend the same courtesy to the Board and Superintendent as they respond.

Superintendent Pickell said he has taken notes during the comments – he will be generic with some and specific with some. He thanked everyone for expressing their opinions – especially the students. He said the students were very courteous – some of the adults not so much. He said the personal attacks were not necessary. It doesn't change the fact that there is work to be done. He said he would briefly remind everyone that he and his sons were and are all in band. He is not an outsider who doesn't know what is going on. He said it is not necessary for his neighbors who are cordial in

other settings, to express themselves in the way they did this evening.

Superintendent Pickell said we are not trying to run out Mr. Beson or get him to retire early. He agrees that no one works as hard as Mr. Beson. Mr. Pickell said we got along a lot better when I was the superintendent in Flat Rock because then we could talk about band. He said here we are often adversarial because of Bill's position with REA. Superintendent Pickell said Bill always wears his heart on his sleeve. He has done a fantastic job in this program but we have to remember that time and energy is in infinite supply. Mr. Pickell said we have three fantastic musicians in this program and we need to utilize their assets. He said when he looked at the music schedule – which has been grieved – he also looked at collaborative programming and now we can do cross-overs. Mr. Pickell said he listened to the band boosters and the music teachers but he couldn't get their input because they were instructed not to speak by Mr. Beson. Mr. Pickell said he had a conversation with Ms. Stover prior to that meeting and she is very capable. He said she has the same education but not as much experience. Superintendent Pickell said he also has an obligation to her professional development – to help her grow. He said he takes this seriously. Mr. Pickell said she needs to have the experience and an appropriate mentor and he can't think of a better person than Mr. Beson.

Superintendent Pickell said he also has other concerns and that he doesn't think this group is going to be happy. He said he has to look at retention. Mr. Pickell listed data for various classes indicating students dropping from band. He said looking at the future he sees more reduction and he has to look at solutions. He has a more complete set of teachers – I have the opportunity to do something different with the program instead of making Mr. Beson more over-reached. If we say it is not broke, don't fix it, but at some point he has to fix it. This data doesn't lie – there are names connected with these numbers. There is no criticism from me about Mr. Beson but he has to be mindful about the program. He said Mr. Beson does a lot in the community and has been a part of his life for eight years and probably six more.

Mr. Pickell said this is the rationale. He said it is difficult to have a discussion about the program when the union is present. He thinks Erin Stover is phenomenal. He doesn't think this is going to be utter chaos – kids have different teachers every year. He said this model is like that of surrounding districts. He said this is not a foreign concept – it should be a stress reduction for our band director.

Trustee Irving thanked everyone for their comments. At this time she said she would like to thank the retirees – especially Coach Gottlin.

Treasurer Pelkey congratulated the retirees and thanked them for their dedication.

President Laura-Frazier thanked Coach Gottlin and said it has been a pleasure to work with Lou Ann and is looking forward to continuing to work with her in Kiwanis. Mrs. Laura-Frazier also thanked everyone for coming out and expressing their opinions.

President O'Brien thanked Coach Gottlin and Secretary Durand. He said he was also taking notes during Guest and Visitor comments. He said teacher placements and schedules are not voted on by the Board. He said if things don't work out, this will be reflected in the superintendent's evaluation.

Mr. O'Brien expressed his dislike of the audience – he said he heard people calling for a recall and he heard laughing during the superintendent's comments and thinks this is unprofessional.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Laura-Frazier and supported by Trustee Pelkey that the June 23, 2015 Board of Education regular meeting be adjourned.

Yeas: Irving, Laura-Frazier, O'Brien, Pelkey, Wright

Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 P.M.

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Amy Wright, Secretary  
Riverview Board of Education

Accepted June 23, 2015