

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF ROYAL OAK**  
**1123 Lexington Boulevard**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**JANUARY 24, 2008**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** President Gary Briggs, Vice President Michael Hartman, Secretary Kevin McLogan, Treasurer Daniel Champagne, Trustee Deborah Anderson, Trustee Lisa Bradford and Trustee Christine Hartwig

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent Thomas Moline, Executive Director Business and Technology Services G. Anders Linell, Executive Director Business and Personnel Services John Schwartz, Executive Director Administrative Services Cheryl Goodgine, visitors and members of the press

**ABSENT:**

1. Opening of Meeting – Mr. Briggs called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was given.
3. President’s Comments

Mr. Briggs thanked the Addams PTA for the coffee mugs and the Northwood PTA for the basket of brownies and muffins for Board Recognition month.

Mr. Briggs congratulated Donna Tarsavage and the Royal Oak Middle School Future Cities Team for their 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Novi competition. They will be going on to the Nationals in Washington D.C..

Royal Oak High Boosters fundraiser is on January 31 at Mark Ridley’s Comedy Castle.

March 1 is the Royal Oak Historic Society and the Murals Restoration fundraiser Swing Dance at Royal Oak Middle School.

3.1 Economic/Budget Update

Mr. Schwartz reviewed the challenges the District faces of declining revenue and increasing expenditures, while preserving instructional programs. The operating deficiency is projected to be about 3.5 million dollars for the 2008-09 school year. Mr. Schwartz stated that this deficiency cannot be ignored and the goal for the next 4 to 5 months will be to address the deficiency and reduce it by enhancing

revenues, reduce expenditures and hope that districts will receive an increase in foundation allowance.

The Finance Committee will be making a recommendation to use \$1 million from the Fund Equity.

Attracting new students and retaining our students is really the only means of significantly increasing revenue. A pilot all day kindergarten program is on the agenda this evening. This pilot program could help in retaining students.

Increase foundation allowance per student, possibly \$100 for next year.

There will be recommendations to restructure programs, reduce some services and eliminate some programs.

4. Communications

Mr. McLogan received the following communications:

- Cecilia Boyer regarding the Future Cities Team 1<sup>st</sup> place award
- Diane Dovico regarding the Community Coalition newsletter
- Jessica Luther regarding elementary busing
- Tom Regan, Bonnita Reinking and Mary Ann Welch-Campbell regarding all day kindergarten

5. Opportunity for Citizens to Speak

Pam Shewchuck Cresthill Ave. spoke regarding programs provided by Royal Oak Schools such as band and foreign language in light of budgetary concerns.

6. Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Moline stated that Jim George passed away after just retiring this past June. Mr. George was a special education teacher at Kimball & Royal Oak High School.

Dr. Moline introduced Royal Oak Model UN (ROMUN) Alec Snyder and two students Domenic Smith and Karly Lawniczak and they shared the ROMUN accomplishment of winning Best School Award at the U of M Model UN Conference. They will attend the Michigan State conference in March.

Dr. Moline stated that the recognition of the middle school Future Cities Team taking first place in Novi, was in the Daily Tribune. Dr. Moline congratulated the students, staff and Donna Tarsavage for their work.

This past Saturday the Board held a workshop for the budget and goals.

Dr. Moline stated that the Superintendents conference was this week. Information provided at the conference focused on challenges facing superintendents as well as opportunities that are available, while preparing our students for a future borderless society and international education.

January 31 is the PTA Disability Awareness Open House in conjunction with Wright & Filippis at Churchill at 7:00 p.m., featuring a basketball game with the Wright & Filippis team.

7. **\*Consent Agenda Item Considerations** – The Consent Agenda Items were approved at this time.

8. **\*Approval of Minutes of the Organizational, Regular and Closed Meeting of January 10, 2008**

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approve the minutes of the Organizational, Regular and Closed Meeting of January 10, 2008.

9. Personnel/Instruction/Business

- 9.1 **\*Field Trip Request – ROHS Student Council MASC State Conference**

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approves the request for Royal Oak High School Student Council to Traverse City, MI from April 5-7, 2008.

- 9.2 **\*MME Recommendation**

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak hereby approves an adjustment in the school calendar for the week of March 10-14, 2008 for the purpose of administration of the Michigan Merit Exam with Royal Oak High School students. This change has been outlined in the Letter of Agreement signed and dated January 17, 2008 by both the Board of Education and the Royal Oak Education Association.

- 9.3 **Elementary Boundary Recommendation**

Moved By: Mrs. Bradford

Seconded By: Mr. McLogan

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approves the changes to elementary school boundaries as outlined in a memo to Superintendent Tom Moline from Executive Director, G. A. Linell, dated January 18, 2008.

Roll Call Vote

Mr. Champagne      Yes

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Mrs. Bradford | Yes |
| Mr. Hartman   | Yes |
| Mr. Briggs    | Yes |
| Mr. McLogan   | Yes |
| Mrs. Hartwig  | Yes |
| Mrs. Anderson | Yes |

Motion Carried: Unanimously

9.4 All Day Kindergarten Recommendation

Moved By: Mr. Hartman

Seconded By: Mr. Champagne

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approves an all day, every day kindergarten pilot program at Oakland and Upton Elementary Schools for the 2008-09 school year. This pilot program will be fiscally and programmatically reviewed during the 2008-09 school year for consideration of continuation, and / or expansion to other elementary buildings in future years.

Roll Call Vote

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Mrs. Bradford | Yes |
| Mr. Hartman   | Yes |
| Mr. Briggs    | Yes |
| Mr. McLogan   | Yes |
| Mrs. Hartwig  | Yes |
| Mrs. Anderson | Yes |
| Mr. Champagne | Yes |

Motion Carried: Unanimously

9.5 \*Longfellow Property – YMCA

WHEREAS, the School District has offered for sale certain surplus real property situated in the City of Royal Oak, Oakland County, Michigan, described as follows:

A 4.94+/- acre parcel, Sidwell Number 25-16-380-026, commonly known as Longfellow Elementary School (the “Property”);

WHEREAS, on August 16, 2007, the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak authorized the Superintendent to negotiate the terms and conditions of a final Offer To Purchase for 1.96 +/- acres of the Property (the “Premises”) with the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit (the “YMCA”) for a purchase price of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) under a land contract with a term not to exceed five (5) years and which land contract shall be interest free for a period of not to exceed the first two (2) years of the land contract term;



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|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Mr. McLogan   | Yes |
| Mrs. Hartwig  | Yes |
| Mrs. Anderson | Yes |
| Mr. Champagne | Yes |
| Mrs. Bradford | Yes |

Motion Carried: Unanimously

10. Board Action and Non-Action Items

10.1 \*2008 Board Liaison Assignments

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approves the 2008 Board Liaison Assignments as presented.

11. Opportunity for Citizens to Speak

Mrs. Shewchuck spoke regarding the pilot all day kindergarten program.

12. Board Comments/Liaison Report

Mrs. Hartwig attended the Solo & Ensemble in Howell where the Chamber singers received a rating of 1. Individual performers also did very well.

The Spectrum concert is coming up on February 14.

Mrs. Hartwig attended the OCSBA dinner meeting with a speaker from Michigan State University discussing Michigan's Economic Outlook.

Mr. McLogan announced Feb 7 is Advocacy Day for PTSA.

Mrs. Bradford stated that Founder's Day is February 4.

13. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin McLogan  
Secretary, Board of Education