

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

**MARCH 13, 2008
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: 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: President Gary Briggs and Vice President Michael Hartman

1. Opening of Meeting and Electing of Chair for Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Mrs. Hartwig nominated Mr. McLogan to chair the meeting as Mr. Briggs and Mr. Hartman were unable to attend.

Roll Call Vote

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

Motion Carried: Unanimously

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

3. President's Comments

3.1 Best of Royal Oak

3.1.1 Royal Oak Middle School - Future Cities Team

Donna Tarsavage, teacher from the middle school, and students Anna Marck, Katherine Skoog and Jack Bennett demonstrated their presentation from the State and National Future City competition. Future City Competition is a national middle school engineering competition, sponsored locally in Michigan by the Engineering Society of Detroit. This years topic was using nanotechnology for keeping the city infrastructure healthy. Over 100 students from Royal Oak Middle School competed and elected 3 students to represent the team. The team placed first in the Sate of Michigan and also won the People's Choice Award and also won for the best research essay. The students went on to the National finals competition and were honored by the U.S. Department of Transportation for the best transportation system design.

3.1.2 Interact Club – New Orleans Service Project

Royal Oak High School teacher Steve Chisnell and Interact Club students Melanie Adams, Gail Feltner and Theresa Williams, presented information on their experience in New Orleans, Louisiana. 49 students and 7 chaperones from Royal Oak High School traveled by bus during February break to aid in clean-up efforts from Hurricane Katrina. Students worked on a Civic Center building, a fine arts school and houses. Each student raised \$500 for the trip, however additional money was collected and donated to a local charity in New Orleans through the local fire department. There were many more students wanting to participate in these efforts and the Interact Club would like to get more students involved working with National Relief.

Dr. Moline announced that Mr. Chisnell has been nominated as the Michigan teacher of the year. Mr. Chisnell has been selected as the Regional teacher of the year and now will go on to the State level.

Royal Oak High School student Raylen Davis was recognized as the State 189 pound division wrestling champion. Mr. Greg Castle stated that Raylen was also recognized as All State in football and has been chosen by the Air Force Academy and will play football for them. Raylen was congratulated for his accomplishments.

3.2 Pride of Royal Oak – Royal Oak Teachers of the Year

Moved By: Mrs. Anderson

Seconded By: Mr. Champagne

Whereas Patricia Hein has been nominated as the elementary teacher of the year, Keith Kohring has been nominated as the middle school teacher of the year and David Barnett has been nominated as the high school teacher of the year from the School District of the City of Royal Oak for the 2007-08 Oakland County Outstanding Teacher of the Year by their building administrator, professional colleagues, parents and former students;

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak hereby acknowledges and expresses its recognition for the professional excellency displayed by Patricia Hein, Keith Kohring and David Barnett.

Roll Call Vote

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

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Patricia Hein, and David Barnett were presented with a certificate. Keith Kohring was unable to attend due to his fire-fighter training he is involved in. The three teachers have been nominated for Oakland Schools Teacher of the Year and are represented as Royal Oak's Teachers of the Year.

3.2 Economic/Budget Update

Mr. Schwartz presented the information on the State budget update. The Senate released the State Aid Bill which is \$140 million less in projected expenditures than the Governor's proposal. The Senate proposal reflects lower than anticipated revenues. The Senate per pupil increase is for \$70 to \$140 compared to the Governor proposal of \$108 to \$216. Additional \$40 per pupil for Hold Harmless Districts.

The Senate also proposed a \$16-\$17 per pupil for infrastructure grant. The May Revenue Consensus Conference will be important and the February, March and April revenue is not reflected in the Senate proposal, which will impact the State Aid Bill. Also in the Senate version is no small high school initiative, no reduction in kindergarten funding, reduced early childhood funding and a 25% reduction in declining enrollment categorical in which we receive currently about \$160,000.

The next step is the House and then Conference Committee.

Mr. Schwartz explained the District's General Fund Budget update provided to the Board. The primary objective is to preserve our instructional programs.

Currently there is a \$1.2 million operating deficiency after using \$1.0 million fund equity, after consideration of \$1.5 million in favorable budget variance.

Due to loss of enrollment and the revenue loss associated to the loss in enrollment, reductions will include teaching positions at elementary, middle and high school level, special ed teaching positions, ancillary and paraprofessional positions, custodial staff at middle & high schools, hall guards at the high school,

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central maintenance, transportation, instructional support and also reductions in supplies, materials, field trips and capital outlay.

April 10 will be a work session for the budget from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., prior to the Regular Board meeting.

Dr. Moline stated that he has spent the afternoon with most of the superintendents in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb County regarding the bills. The re-estimates on funding bring the overall increase to districts in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne with the recalculation of dropping of property values, to less than 1%. Districts such as Royal Oak are experiencing at least a 5% growth factor in their budget. We continue to lose ground. Dr. Moline stated that some districts are borrowing money just to meet payroll due to the under-funding and those districts are forced to increase class sizes.

4. Communications

- Tina Cardamone regarding the tiles from Longfellow
- Patrice DeTal regarding voluntary drug testing
- Bob Muller regarding Nature Night
- Lori Folger regarding the Northwood grounds.

5. Opportunity for Citizens to Speak

If you would like to address the Board of Education:

Please remain seated and raise your hand. When you are called on by the Board President, please come to the microphone, state your name and address for the record. You will have 3 minutes to address the Board. Please address the Board as a whole and not individually. When you are finished, please sign the sign-in sheet before you return to your seat. If you exceed your 3 minutes the Board President will ask you to please finish your comments, if you need more time you are offered a second opportunity to address the Board at the end of the meeting with an additional 3 minutes. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Pam Shewchuck 2016 Cresthill spoke regarding website issues.

6. Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Moline mentioned that the website committee under the Communications Committee is working on developing upgrades to the district website.

On February 29 the Woodwind Ensemble rated a 1 at division competition. On March 6 was the All City Band Concert at the high school. Royal Oak High Symphony achieved 18 number 1's out of 24 possible in division competition. The All City Symphony Concert will be on March 18 at the high school. 209 students qualified for scholarships from Blue Lake totaling \$103,000.

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Mr. Linell announced that the 10th annual Dream Home Expo is April 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Royal Oak Middle School. The Dream Home Expo is an opportunity for home owners to attend and meet with architects, general contractors, building companies such as roofing, windows, hvac companies, etc., banks and offer the alternative to do construction in homes in Royal Oak, rather than moving out of Royal Oak to a larger home.

- 7. ***Consent Agenda Item Considerations** – The Consent Agenda items were approved at this time.
- 8. ***Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 27, 2008**

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 27, 2008.

9. Personnel/Instruction/Business

9.1 *Regular Personnel Changes

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak hereby approves the following regular personnel changes:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Leah Doster Barnett	ROHS Teacher	Leave Extension	2008-2009 School Year
Amanda Muth	Teacher	Return from Leave	2008-2009 School Year
Jennifer Vick	Teacher	Leave Extension	2008-2009 School Year
Lenee Fuelling	Int'l Academy Teacher	Leave Extension	2008-2009 School Year
Monica Crowe	Teacher	Leave Extension	2008-2009 School Year

9.2 *Payment of Expenditures

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak hereby approves expenditures as processed in the amount of \$6,794,360.60 for the period of December 29, 2007 through January 25, 2008.

Expenses in the amount of \$6,794,360.60 for the period of December 29, 2007 through January 25, 2008 as detailed in the Expenditure Register are presented for approval.

9.3 *Curriculum Office - Out of State Travel Requests

9.3.1 *PEARSON Forum Request

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approves the PEASRSON Forum request as indicated in Mrs. Hansen's letter to Dr. Moline dated March 4, 2008.

9.3.2 *International Teaching & Learning Consortium Symposium (ITLC)
Request

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approves the International Teaching and Learning Consortium Symposium request as outlined in Mrs. Hansen's letter to Dr. Moline dated February 15, 2008.

9.4 International Baccalaureate – Primary Years Program Update

Mr. John Houghton and Kelly Stanesa presented information on the process of Keller's International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program. The Feasibility Study took approximately two years and submitted application for Candidate Status. Candidate Status has been achieved and this phase will take from 12 to 24 months. and the next step is preparing the second application. 2007-08 goals were developing the PYP Steering Committee, develop a program of inquiry, write instructional unit, complete level 1 & level 2 training, prepare monthly informational newsletter and building-wide learner profile instruction. 2008-09 goals include level 2 & level 3 training, revise the program of inquiry, write 2nd instructional unit at each grade level and develop assessments. 2009-10 goals include revise program of inquiry, write 3rd instructional unit at each grade level, prepare and submit next application, level 3 training, authorization visit in Spring 2010 to be a fully accredited IB World School in Fall 2010. There will be an open house on March 19 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

9.5 *Twain Property Closing Sale Extension Recommendation

WHEREAS, the School District and Pinnacle-Whitmore Park, LLC ("Pinnacle") entered into an Offer To Purchase Real Estate (the "Offer"), dated April 3, 2007, for the sale and purchase of the former Mark Twain Elementary School property (the "Property");

WHEREAS, the School District and Pinnacle entered into a First Amendment To Offer To Purchase Real Estate (the "First Amendment"), dated September 13, 2007, which extended certain dates in the Offer (the Offer and the First Amendment are collectively known as the "Agreement");

WHEREAS, Pinnacle has requested to further amend the Agreement to provide for an extension to the agreed upon closing date for the sale of the Property, and has submitted a Second Amendment To Offer To Purchase Real Estate to the School District, dated March 7, 2008 (the "Second Amendment");

WHEREAS, the School District is now desirous of amending the Agreement to extend the agreed upon closing date for thirty (30) days; and

WHEREAS, the School District and Pinnacle will now close on the Property and complete the transaction on or before April 30, 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The School District hereby amends the Agreement to provide that the closing on the Property will occur on or before April 30, 2008.
2. The Superintendent of the School District is hereby authorized to execute the Second Amendment To Offer To Purchase Real Estate.

9.6 Northwood Furniture Purchase Recommendation

Moved By: Mrs. Bradford

Seconded By: Mr. Champagne

RESOLVED that, the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak authorizes the purchase of Library, Office Reception, and Cafeteria tables in the amount of \$97,675.51 from School Specialty, funded from the 2005 Bond Proceeds.

These purchases are being made using the OCSPO (Oakland County School Purchasing Officials bid pricing and AEPA (Association of Education Purchasing Agencies) bid pricing.

Roll Call Vote

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

11. Opportunity for Citizens to Speak

Pam Shewchuck 2016 Cresthill spoke regarding Character Education Program

12. Board Comments/Liaison Report

Mrs. Hartwig was at Addams and reported that the plumbing issues at Addams stated at a previous meeting, were resolved. The new equipment water temperature controls were explained.

Mrs. Hartwig and Mrs. Anderson attended a Historical Society meeting. Mrs. Hartwig attended the Upton PTA meeting where the voluntary drug testing was discussed. Mrs. Hartwig stated that Oak Ridge Elementary will be the first school in the District to receive a Green School Designation by the State of Michigan. Mrs. Hartwig also wished the Robotics team good luck on their competition this weekend

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Mrs. Anderson stated that the Swing Dance on March 1 was a great time and recommended looking for the announcement of the event again next year.

Mrs. Bradford thanked Mr. Champagne for the Royal Oak Jazz Band and the personal performance, which was available due to the previous Royal Oak Foundation Golf Outing fundraiser event. Mrs. Bradford encouraged everyone to participate in this years outing on June 23.

Mr. McLogan attended Keller and Oakland PTA meetings and discussed the drug testing. Mr. McLogan also attended Northwood's Open House and the Governor's Education Summit.

Mrs. Hartwig also spoke regarding the possibility of the fireplace tiles at Northwood being incorporated into the new Northwood. Mrs. Hartwig stated that the columns from the old building will also be incorporated into the new Northwood.

Mr. McLogan stated that next Monday will be a Town Hall Meeting at Keller with State Representative Marie Donigan regarding the dangers of toxic toys. Toys will be tested. Families can bring up to three items.

13. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin McLogan
Secretary, Board of Education