

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

**MARCH 11, 2010  
7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** President, Michael Hartman; Vice-President, Gary Briggs; Secretary, Marty Cardamone; Treasurer, Deborah Anderson; Trustee, Lisa Bradford; Trustee, Carrie Beerer; and Trustee Jeff Brinker

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent, Thomas Moline; Executive Director Business and Technology Services, G. Anders Linell; Executive Director Business and Personnel Services, John Schwartz; Executive Director Student Services, Carol Hansen; Executive Director Administrative Services, Cheryl Goodgine; and many visitors

**ABSENT:**

1. Opening of Meeting – Mr. Hartman called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was given. Students from Keller’s Bridges Program helped lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. President’s Comment

Dr. Moline presented pictures of eight Royal Oak members who went to Lansing to show support of Michigan schools. Dr. Moline and Mr. Cardamone were at the Legislative meeting yesterday in Lansing. Dr. Moline stated that the House is divided on reform.

3.1 Best of Royal Oak – Keller Elementary – Bridges Program

John Houghton, principal of Keller Elementary; social worker, Michelle Daane-Gumbleton; school psychologist Nicole Brannan, and students from Keller Elementary explained the Bridges Program. Students give up two recess periods a week to pair up with a peer with disabilities. Students learn about disability awareness and social skills.

The students explained what they like about being part of the Bridges Program, and wished Mr. Houghton a happy birthday.

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

Mrs. Goodgine introduced the Royal Oak Schools teachers of the year who were submitted to Oakland Schools for teacher of the year. Oak Ridge teacher Pam Edginton, Royal Oak Middle School teacher Kristina James and Royal Oak High School teacher Bertha Arribas.

Mr. Hartman presented Pam Edginton and Kristina James a certificate of recognition. (Unfortunately Bertha Arribas was unable to attend.)

### 3.3 Save Our Youth Task Force

The Save Our Youth Task Force formed out of reported substance abuse of the youth in our community.

Members of the Save Our Youth Task Force Officer Millard, Chief White, Maureen Elliott from Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak Middle School Principal Cecilia Boyer, Catherine and Kirk Jude-Goddard, Tim Renaud Chaplain to the Royal Oak Police and Fire Dept., Kathy Howell, and Michael Greening Principal of Royal Oak High School shared their involvement with the committee and the accomplishments of the committee. The committee has been together for four years.

Accomplishments include: Parental Ordinances, Town Hall Meetings, Royal Oak Police Department will take old prescriptions under Operation Medicine Cabinet, put in place at Royal Oak Middle School - Challenge Day, Stand for Change, Reaching Higher, and a Mentor/Mentee Program from Common Ground.

A minor in possession video has been produced and free drug testing kits are available for families who cannot afford it, at the Boys & Girls Clubs and YMCA.

### 3.4 Curriculum/Instruction Update

Mrs. Hansen and Mrs. Boyer Principal at the middle school explained a scenario and shared concerns for restructuring the 25-minute team planning time at the middle school in order to save the district money without affecting instructional time, due to the State's financial crisis.

### 3.5 Economic/Budget/Audit Update

Mr. Schwartz stated that the Senate presented their proposal of cuts only. The plan includes a foundation allowance cut by \$118 per student, retirement reform with additional contributions from employees, and no 20j restoration.

Shortfall \$268 per student, plus \$165 from this year and 20j funding loss.

We began with a \$5 million shortfall for next year and recommendations have been made. There is still \$1.4 million shortfall and it will be difficult to find where it will come from.

3.6 Transportation – Support for Parents

Dr. Moline presented information on Michigan Safe Routes To School (SR2S) Training of the committee was on March 4 at the YMCA along with other districts. The committee met on March 9. The PTA is helping with this information.

Suggestions such as drop-offs can be a block away from the buildings and do not have to be right at the building. Utilizing the SMART system and parent to parent connections are also considerations.

4. Communications – Mr. Cardamone received the following communications:

Dance Team concerns from: Christopher and Heidi Ruggero, Janet Kueber, Carolyn Scully, Susan Williams, Tony Nolan, Anne Schaeffer, Stephanie Jarrett and Darlene Nolan

Busing concerns: Cathy Good, Kelly Vesprini, Larry Steed, Lisa Schwartz, Krisanne Schmidt, Holly Stennet-Mueller, Terry Downs and Brenda Firestine

Media Tech positions: Gail Barnett and Pat Affeld

Mary Ann Campbell regarding middle school planning time and social worker positions.

Victoria Markland regarding rules at Churchill Community High School.

Robert Sanders regarding the emergency contact system

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.

Kyle Bardram 4138 Yorbalinda spoke regarding elimination of busing and custodian concerns.

Lindsey Nasi spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.

Albana Myftari spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.

Mikea Williams spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.

Marcela Jackson spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.

Brendan Lamb & Nicholas Arceci Seminole Dr. spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.

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Corey Anderson Walnut Ave. spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.  
Lashawn Walker spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.  
Terry Powers Farmington Hills spoke regarding the academic eligibility rules.  
Shalona Gomiller spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.  
Cheryl Lamb 4346 Mandolay spoke regarding elimination of busing and cutting from the top  
Katherine Williams spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.  
Brian Gordon Rochester Hills spoke regarding academic eligibility requirements.  
Julie Foster Berkley spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.  
Yuri Sanders spoke regarding elimination of busing concerns.  
Holly Colby 7414 Vintage Lane W. Bloomfield dance team coach spoke regarding concerns for Dance Team recommendations  
Susan Williams 1623 Cedar Hill spoke regarding concerns for Dance Team recommendations.  
Kim Peel spoke regarding concerns of elimination of busing.  
Sheryl Butler Troy spoke regarding concerns of elimination of busing  
Susan McLaughlin spoke regarding the middle school team planning time.  
Kerry Derminer Ferndale spoke regarding middle school team planning time.  
Debbie Taylor spoke regarding middle school team planning time.  
Mary Siwajec 4518 Hillcrest spoke regarding middle school team planning time.  
Sid Kardon spoke regarding support of district busing and opposition of privatization and concerns of special education and collaboration time.  
Frank Houston 622 Walnut spoke regarding Kiwanis Law Enforcement Scholarship opportunity and budget concerns.  
Mark Weatherwax 307 Potter spoke regarding budget concerns and employee concessions, funding of union president's time, and planning time.  
Sharon Anderson Walnut Royal Oak spoke regarding concerns of elimination of transportation.

6. Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Moline congratulated Royal Oak Middle School for their receipt of Blue Lake scholarships totaling \$122,265.

Congratulations to Royal Oak High School Girls Varsity Bowling Team are OAA champions.

Congratulations to Royal Oak High School senior Alejandra Roig who received a gold key for digital art in the Southeastern Michigan Scholastic Art Awards Competition. Dr. Moline also congratulated teacher Martha Shrode.

Congratulations to Marty Cardamone for receiving an Award of Merit from the Michigan Association of School Boards.

Dr. Moline also announced the passing of Robert Dondero, son of George A. Dondero.

7. **\*Consent Agenda Item Considerations**

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8. \*Approval of Minutes of the Regular and Closed Meetings of February 11, 2010

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approves the minutes of the Regular and Closed Meetings of February 11, 2010.

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>
Fuelling, Lenee	Int'l Academy Teacher	Leave of Absence	2010-2011 School Year
Kirkwood, Andrea	Teacher	Return from Leave of Absence	2010-2011 School Year
Gordon, James	Teacher	Resignation	April 9, 2010

9.2 \*Field Trip Requests

9.2.1 \*ROHS – BPA Conference – Grand Rapids, MI Request

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approves the request for six students from Royal Oak High School to Grand Rapids, MI from March 18 - 21, 2010.

9.2.2 \*ROMS – 6th Grade – Toledo, OH Request

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approves the request for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students from Royal Oak Middle School to Toledo, OH on May 17, 2010.

9.3 \*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 \$6,384,419.26 for the period of December 26, 2009 through January 29, 2010.

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Expenses in the amount of \$6,384,419.26 for the period of December 26, 2009 through January 29, 2010 as detailed in the Expenditure Register are presented for approval.

9.4 2010-11 Budget Recommendations

Moved By: Mr. Cardamone

Seconded By: Mr. Briggs

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak hereby approves the following necessary budget reduction and revenue enhancement initiatives for the 2010-11 fiscal year:

- Elimination of the position of Executive Director, Student Services
- Elimination of the position of Executive Director, Business and Technology Services
- Reduction of 0.2 fte - Music Coordinator position
- Elimination of 0.2 fte - PE Coordinator position
- Reduction of 0.5 fte - Royal Oak Middle School counseling position
- Reduction of 1.0 fte - Royal Oak High School counseling position
- Elimination of remaining Royal Oak Middle School team planning
- Approval of an approximate 3% fee increase in Childcare, Preschool, Young Oaks, Acorn, and Summer Camp programs
- Approval of the fee schedule for the new half-day 4 year-old Preschool offerings of a four day per week program and a five day per week program

Mr. Brinker asked to separate the motion.

Mr. Cardamone withdrew his motion.

There was discussion on the items considered.

Moved By: Mr. Brinker

Seconded By: Mrs. Anderson

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak hereby approves the following necessary budget reduction and revenue enhancement initiatives for the 2010-11 fiscal year:

- Approval of an approximate 3% fee increase in Childcare, Preschool, Young Oaks, Acorn, and Summer Camp programs
- Approval of the fee schedule for the new half-day 4 year-old Preschool offerings of a four day per week program and a five day per week program
- Reduction of 0.2 fte - Music Coordinator position
- Elimination of 0.2 fte - PE Coordinator position

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Roll Call Vote

Mr. Brinker	Yes
Mrs. Bradford	Yes
Mr. Briggs	Yes
Mr. Hartman	Yes
Mr. Cardamone	Yes
Mrs. Beerer	Yes
Mrs. Anderson	Yes

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Moved By: Mr. Briggs

Seconded By: Mrs. Anderson

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak hereby approves the following necessary budget reduction and revenue enhancement initiatives for the 2010-11 fiscal year:

- Elimination of the position of Executive Director, Business and Technology Services

Roll Call Vote

Mrs. Bradford	Yes
Mr. Briggs	Yes
Mr. Hartman	Yes
Mr. Cardamone	Yes
Mrs. Beerer	Yes
Mrs. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Brinker	Yes

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Moved By: Mr. Briggs

Seconded By: Mr. Brinker

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak hereby approves the following necessary budget reduction and revenue enhancement initiatives for the 2010-11 fiscal year:

- Elimination of the position of Executive Director, Student Services

Roll Call Vote

Mr. Briggs	Yes
Mr. Hartman	Yes
Mr. Cardamone	Yes

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Mrs. Beerer	Yes
Mrs. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Brinker	Yes
Mrs. Bradford	No

Motion Carried: Yes – 6 No -1

9.5 \*Support of the Final Report of the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates

**WHEREAS** the electorate of the State of Michigan passed an amendment in November 1978 to the State’s Constitution that required the State to fund mandates imposed on local units of government (often referred to as the “Headlee Amendment”); and

**WHEREAS** the Headlee Amendment (Article IX, Section 29) states:

“The state is hereby prohibited from reducing the state financed proportion of the necessary costs of any existing activity or service required of units of Local Government by state law. A new activity or service or an increase in the level of any activity or service beyond that required by existing law shall not be required by the legislature or any state agency of units of Local Government, unless a state appropriation is made and disbursed to pay the unit of Local Government for any necessary increased costs. The provision of this section shall not apply to costs incurred pursuant to Article VI, Section 18.”

**WHEREAS** the Headlee Amendment became effective on December 23, 1978; and

**WHEREAS** the State Legislature established the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates (LCSM) through P.A. 98 of 2007, as amended by P.A. 356 of 2008 and assigned the LCSM to identify mandates (including those involving

reports) and the related cost of the mandates to local units of government, along with recommendations to resolve the unfunded mandates; and

**WHEREAS** the LCSM worked with the Citizens Research Council (issued an analysis of other state's statutes and constitutional requirements similar to the Headlee Amendment) and local units of government associations, including the Michigan School Business Officials and Michigan Association of School Administrators.

**WHEREAS** the LCSM issued a report in June 2009 entitled "Interim Report of the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates" that indicated, among other matters, that the State had failed to enact legislation enabling the Headlee Amendment and has not complied with the Headlee Amendment since its adoption in 1978; and

**WHEREAS** the LCSM completed its report in December 2009 entitled "Final Report of the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates" that reaffirms the Interim Report results and provides recommendations, including but not limited to:

- Drafted legislation and court rules that would mitigate unfunded mandates imposed on local units of government in the future.
- Proposed procedures that will prevent new unfunded mandates from being imposed on local units of government.
- Proposed procedures that would be corrective should unfunded mandates be imposed that include, among other requirements:
  - A submission of an action before the Court of Appeals to be heard by a special master in order to rule on whether the matter is a mandate and if the mandate is underfunded.
  - Require the Court of Appeals to rule on the above within six months of the filing.
  - Should the Court of Appeals not rule on the above within six months, the local unit of government would have no obligation to

continue to provide the services until such time as the State complies with the Headlee Amendment.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak supports the findings and recommendations in the interim and final reports of the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates and encourages the Governor, Legislature and Supreme Court to adopt and enact the recommendations cited in the final report.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approves the release of this resolution to be distributed to the Governor, Legislators and Supreme Court.

9.6 Extension Agreements

9.6.1 Royal Oak Education Association (ROEA)

Moved By: Mr. Cardamone                      Seconded By: Mrs. Beerer

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approve the Extension Agreement between the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak and the Royal Oak Education Association.

Roll Call Vote

Mr. Hartman	Yes
Mr. Cardamone	Yes
Mrs. Beerer	Yes
Mrs. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Beerer	Yes
Mrs. Bradford	Yes
Mr. Briggs	No

Motion Carried: Yes – 6 No – 1

9.6.2 Royal Oak Educational Support Association (ROESA)

Moved By: Mr. Cardamone                      Seconded By: Mrs. Beerer

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak approve the Extension Agreement between the Board of

Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak and the Royal Oak Educational Support Association.

Roll Call Vote

Mr. Cardamone	Yes
Mrs. Beerer	Yes
Mrs. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Brinker	Yes
Mrs. Bradford	Yes
Mr. Briggs	No
Mr. Hartman	Yes

Motion Carried: Yes – 6 No - 1

10. Board Action and Non-Action Items

It was determined that there will be a regular Board meeting on March 25 at 6:00 p.m. to determine remaining budget considerations.

Moved By: Mr. Briggs

Seconded By: Mrs. Anderson

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak hereby extends the Board meeting past 11:00 p.m., a time to be determined by the Board.

Roll Call Vote

Mrs. Beerer	Yes
Mrs. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Brinker	Yes
Mrs. Bradford	Yes
Mr. Briggs	Yes
Mr. Hartman	Yes
Mr. Cardamone	Yes

Motion Carried: Unanimously

Mrs. Anderson spoke regarding Michigan schools not receiving the Race to the Top (RTTT) funds.

11. Opportunity for Citizens to Speak

Mark Weatherwax 307 Potter urged people to contact their legislators regarding school funding.

Sheri Anderson Walnut spoke regarding paying benefits

12. Board Comments/Liaison Report

Mr. Brinker asked if information can be provided for discussion on March 25<sup>th</sup> regarding the athletic self-funded model used in hockey and lacrosse to determine if it can be used for other athletic and extra curricular programs. Also any other programs not mandated by statute or contract.

Mr. Briggs asked for information about volunteer coaching.

13. Adjourn to Closed Session – Attorney/Client Privilege

Moved By: Mr. Briggs

Seconded By: Mrs. Anderson

Resolved that the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Royal Oak adjourns to a Closed Session for the purpose of discussing written opinion of legal counsel as is permissible under the Open Meetings Act 15.268, Section 8, Subsection (h).

Mrs. Beerer	Yes
Mrs. Anderson	Yes
Mr. Brinker	Yes
Mrs. Bradford	Yes
Mr. Briggs	Yes
Mr. Hartman	Yes
Mr. Cardamone	Yes

Motion Carried: Unanimously

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 10:58 p.m.

14. Reconvene – 11:47 p.m.

15. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 11:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Cardamone  
Secretary, Board of Education