

**Minutes of the Oscoda Area Schools Board of Education
Regular Meeting Monday, March 16, 2015**

The March 16, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Oscoda Area Schools, Iosco and Alcona Counties, Michigan, Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 2015 by President Tony Johnson. The meeting was held in the Board of Education Meeting Room located in Oscoda Area High School, 3550 East River Road, Oscoda, Michigan 48750. President Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Davis read the district's Vision, Mission, and Belief statements.

Members Present: Johnson, Davis, Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink, Ellis (arrived at 7:35 p.m.)
Members Absent: None

President Johnson noted that signs containing the district vision and mission statements have been purchased and are posted throughout the district.

Technology Director Jana Stepp reported:

- Reich software has been purchased to help keep track of tasks associated with the technology initiatives. Charts and timelines can be developed using this software and can be shared with appropriate staff.
- The district will be purchasing 600 laptops for grades 7 through 12 for one to one computing.
- Three different laptops are being piloted by staff and students at the high school for 3 ½ weeks. The district will purchase the one the majority prefers. The building principal selected the staff members to pilot the machines. Machines being piloted are small so that the district will not have to purchase lots of furniture to accommodate the initiative.
- The district can get a discount of approximately \$100 per device if it can forecast what it will purchase.
- Wireless bids came in higher than anticipated. The Technology Department is recommending that the Board accept the bid from Hi-Tech in the amount of \$219,398.17, contingent on e-rate reimbursement. Copies of the bids are available in the Board of Education office.
- The district hopes to get 85% of the cost of the wireless network reimbursed through e-rate, but will not know if the funding will be available until June.
- The plan is to begin installation of the wireless network in July and have it completed by August 26, 2015. Staff training will be conducted the following week.
- Laptops will be purchased for classrooms at the high school and will not be assigned to students.
- Additional laptops will be purchased to enable students without access to technology at home to check them out, along with an internet card.

Superintendent Moore stated that he recommends that the district proceed with the wireless network regardless of e-rate reimbursement. He stated that there are four parts to the technology initiative:

- 1 to 1 computing
- Wi-fi installation and increasing bandwidth
- Professional development
- Curriculum mapping and common assessments. This will be the biggest challenge and will take two or three years to complete.

Trustee Kellstrom suggested that the high school take a survey to see how many students do not have access to technology at home. This information will be helpful in determining how many extra laptops the district should have available for students to check out. President Johnson stated that the Policy Committee will need to look at policies regarding personal devices and wireless access in the near future.

O.E.A. President Kathleen Erickson reported on the 3rd annual Empty Bowl Supper put on by RES students and the Oscoda Lions Club. Students in Jamie Merdzinski's art classes made 300 bowls to sell, and the Lions Club supplied the soup supper. The event raised \$1,500, which was donated to the homeless shelter in Oscoda.

The Board of Education heard no general/public comments.

- Motion:** by Reitler, supported by Kahila, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda items which include: approval of the Agenda for the March 16, 2015 Regular Meeting; the tentative minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Monday, February 9, 2015; the tentative minutes of the Sinking Fund Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, March 25, 2015; and the payment of the General Fund checks #10746 through #10905 totaling \$514,071.00 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
- Yeas: Ellis, Johnson, Davis, Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstained: None
 Motion declared adopted with a 7 – 0 vote.
- Motion:** by Kellstrom, supported by Ellis, that the Board of Education authorize the opening of a new Michigan Liquid Asset Fund (MILAF) investment account for 2015 debt retirement, as recommended by the Finance Director, and that Superintendent Scott Moore, Finance Director Sean Pear and Human Resource Director Janice LaVigne be authorized persons on this account.
- Yeas: Johnson, Davis, Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink, Ellis
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstained: None
 Motion declared adopted with a 7 – 0 vote.
- Motion:** by Davis, supported by Reitler, that the Board of Education approve the lease agreement between the Oscoda Area Schools and Ray’s Gym, for use of the Cedar Lake Elementary School gymnasium and adjoining restrooms for two years, from April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2017, as presented and as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
- Yeas: Davis, Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink, Ellis, Johnson
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstained: None
 Motion declared adopted with a 7 – 0 vote.
- Motion:** by Schlink, supported by Kahila, that the Board of Education award the bid for a wireless network to Hi-Tech in the amount of \$219,398.17, contingent upon the district receiving e-rate reimbursement for the project, as recommended by the Technology Director and the Superintendent of Schools.
- Yeas: Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink, Ellis, Johnson, Davis
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstained: None
 Motion declared adopted with a 7 –0 vote.
- Motion:** by Davis, supported by Kellstrom, that the Board of Education approve the Memo of Understanding between the Kirtland Community College and Iosco Regional Educational Service Agency, Oscoda Area Schools, Hale Area Schools, Tawas Area Schools, and Whittimore-Prescott Area Schools to jointly develop, maintain and promote an Early/Middle College program for high school students beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, as presented and as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
- Yeas: Kellstrom, Reitler, Schlink, Ellis, Johnson, Davis, Kahila
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Abstained: None
 Motion declared adopted with a 7 –0 vote.

Motion: by Kellstrom, supported by Reitler, that the Board of Education approve the request of Hale Area Schools Superintendent Loren Vannest to release a 9th grade Oscoda resident to Hale Area Schools.

Yeas: Reitler, Schlink, Ellis, Johnson, Davis, Kahila, Kellstrom

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstained: None

Motion declared adopted with a 7 –0 vote.

President Johnson read a letter from Pastor Hendricks thanking the Board for the use of Cedar Lake Elementary for the grocery giveaway.

President Johnson stated that MASB will be offering classes for Board members during the months of April and May in Lansing. President Johnson plans to take the Advanced Board President Workshop on April 25, 2015. If any Board members wish to take classes at MASB, they notify him or Sue Barnhart.

Superintendent Moore reported that Alcona Community Schools applied for a grant through AdviseMI to help pay the cost of a counselor to work with students on college readiness. Alcona was told that due to the size of their district, they would not be eligible for the grant, but could share the position with another district. Superintendent Moore reported that the district will be pursuing the grant in conjunction with Alcona Community Schools. The cost to the district for a half-time counselor over the period of three years would be \$15,000.

The Board of Education acknowledged the resignation of cross country coach George Morse and 7th and 8th grade track coaches Amy Alda and Seth Alda.

The Board of Education acknowledged the hiring of Summer Feeding Program dietary staff Kathleen Harrison and Lori VonZynda, and the hiring of Girl's Track Coach Michelle Harger for the 2014-15 school year.

Superintendent Moore reported that the district plans to offer summer school to 80 to 120 students over an eight-week period this summer. This will be a full-day program, Monday through Friday, and will provide students with breakfast and lunch.

Superintendent Moore reported that the budget will be amended at the April Board Meeting.

Superintendent Moore reported that the Technology Director is in the process of investigating a new phone system, which will result in a savings for the district.

Superintendent Moore stated that he is working with Innovative Shorts on a proposal to liquidate assets that the district no longer needs. Innovative Shorts will inventory assets, suggest a sale price, and market the sale.

Superintendent Moore stated that it has been the practice of the district to hire teachers with two certifications. He stated that four years ago the district hired a teacher with one certification but only had to pass the MTTC test to receive her second certification. She was hired with an agreement that she would resign if she did not get her second endorsement by a certain date. The teacher has taken the MTTC test 11 times, but has not been able to pass the test. She is an excellent teacher and he would like to keep her. He wanted the Board to know that he is working with the O.E.A. to let the teacher out of the agreement, but not making it precedent setting.

Mr. Moore reported that the hand-in-hand awards will be presented at the April 13, 2015 Board Meeting.

The Board of Education acknowledged the updated fundraising calendar and the updated list of volunteers.

Motion: by Kellstrom, supported by Ellis, that the Board of Education enter into closed session at 8:05 p.m. for the purpose of discussing OEA contract negotiations, as provided for in Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act.

Yeas: Schlink, Ellis, Johnson, Davis, Kahila, Kellstrom, Reitler

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstained: None

Motion declared adopted with a 7 –0 vote.

The Board of Education returned to open session at 9:37 p.m. No action was taken during closed session.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.