

The regular meeting of the Board of Education for the School District of the City of River Rouge, Wayne County, Michigan was held in the said offices of the Board of Education on Wednesday, November 11, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.

The President, William White, called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Sam Arapakis, Marcella Cora, Francis Krupinski,
William Watson, William White and Ingrid Wilson-Johnson
Members Absent: Cornelius Cooper-Excused

*Member Arapakis was on duty (fire department) and at 6:51 p.m. was required to leave the meeting.

President White indicated there would be one change to the agenda, the presentations will be moved to after the Superintendent's Bulletin.

Member Cora offered a motion, seconded by Member Krupinski, to approve this evening's consent agenda. Under discussion, Member Wilson-Johnson noted there appeared to be an over-site and the explanation sheets for accounts payable were missing. Ms. Meek said she would look into it and be sure they were available at the next board meeting.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

At this time President White introduced Mr. Paul Bryant from Plante Moran who has completed our annual 2008-2009 Audit Report. He addressed, explained and answered questions from both the board members and the audience.

Superintendent Lopez stated that at this time he will not be doing his scheduled presentation.

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Cooper made a motion seconded by Member Cora that the board enters into a closed session for the purpose of contract negotiations and agreements.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

President White called the board meeting to resume from closed session at 7:39 p.m.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Communications/Correspondence

Member Cora congratulated Ms. Jan Meek for her completion of the Financial Certification through MASA.

Comments from the Board

Member Cora commented on another successful MJROTC Birthday Ball and was pleased with the parental support. Member Wilson-Johnson commented on the Fall Sports Banquet and said there was a wonderful turnout for the banquet. She went on to remind us that the kids count on us and they were so excited about the recognition they received. She extended her thanks to Ms. Jessica McCrary-Maine, Athletic Director. There were several other issues addressed including the progressive uniform policy and the need to enforce it. Since there has

parental support to make it successful. Member Wilson-Johnson stated that students model what they see and they need to see adult staff dress appropriately also. Member Wilson-Johnson also stated that she was disappointed that we weren't able to pass the bond issue. She noted that several surrounding cities had bonds on the ballot and they passed. She felt it didn't speak well of our commitment to our students. Member Watson said at this time the city is on the verge of being taken over and homeowners are overburdened with taxes at this time. There will be a Millage Renewal on the ballot coming up in 2010; we hope to successfully pass this.

Attorney Update

Attorney Joseph McCarroll stated that he had no public update at this time but requested a closed session to discuss ongoing litigation. President White stated that the closed session will be held at the end of the meeting and that the board would adjourn from that session.

Old Business

Under old business, Member Wilson-Johnson brought up the Use of Bldg fees, insurance certificates and the waiver requests stating that it cost the district money to provide custodial and security services whenever the buildings are rented in addition the exposure to any lawsuits that could result from an accident. It was agreed that any requests for a waiver of fees would be granted only upon approval of the board but there would be a base fee of \$120.00 per four hour blocks of time (with additional per block fees for additional time) and a waiver of insurance would be mandatory for all rentals.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

New Business

President White stated there was a need to have a committee set for an expulsion hearing. Members White and Arapakis with Member Watson as chairperson will hear the case on Monday, November 23, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in Room G104 of the high school.

Title I-Academic Intervention Specialist (Full Time)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Krupinski that the board of education authorized the Superintendent to interview and hire the Title I-Academic Intervention Specialist as a full time position to be paid from Title I funds for the 2009-2010 school year. Upon the recommendation of the interview committee, the board of education hired Nick Palmer to fill this position. This will be effective, Thursday, October 12, 2009. Salary and benefits will be prorated accordingly.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Title I-Brain Boost Teacher (.6) Ann Visger

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Cora that the board of education authorized the Superintendent to post and hire a Title I-Brain Boost Teacher that will be paid from Title I funds for the 2009-2010 school year. Upon the recommendation of the interview committee, the board of education

hired Dawn Vaughn to fill this position. This will be effective, Monday, November 9, 2009 salary and benefits will be prorated accordingly.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) Resolution

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Krupinski that each board member received a copy of the resolution from the Michigan Dept. of Education regarding the GSRP program that has been funded. The board of education authorized the Superintendent and the Board President to sign the resolution to certify that the River Rouge School District will provide Full Day preschool education for 18 eligible four-year old children and that the \$122,400 of the stated amount based on the approved per capita allowance of \$6,800 will be used specifically for this purpose. Further the River Rouge School District certifies that more than 50 percent of the children enrolled in the school readiness program will meet the income eligibility guidelines outlined in Sections 32d and 37 through 40. Under discussion Member Cora asked if 18 students were the maximum allowed to be served and Superintendent Lopez stated that the numbers are based upon the students served in the prior year and that the program is growing and our numbers should increase for the 2010-2011 school year.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

MASB Delegate

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Krupinski made a motion seconded by Member Watson that at the board meeting held on Wednesday, October 21, 2009 the letter from MASB was discussed regarding the need to designate 2 voting delegates that will be certified to vote at the MASB conferences and represent the River Rouge School District. The second delegate will be the alternate. Member Krupinski will serve as the delegate with Member Cora as the alternate; these two members are authorized to be the delegates to represent River Rouge School District.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Advanced Authorization for RREA Teacher Layoffs

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Krupinski that in the best interest of the district that advanced authorization was given to the Superintendent of Schools for the layoff of certified RREA staff, should there be a need for layoffs, which will be in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement between RREA and the River Rouge Board of Education as soon as the new staffing model schedule is ready to be implemented at the River Rouge Middle College High School Academy. Layoffs will be based on seniority, certification and qualifications. The names of the individuals laid off will be brought back before the Board of Education for formal

board action. Under discussion, Superintendent Lopez stated that this would go before the Finance Committee before action was taken for approval.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Advanced Authorization for RREA Teacher Recall

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Cora that in the best interest of the district advanced authorization was given to the Superintendent of Schools for the recall of certified RREA staff to fill current vacancies within the district. The recalls will be in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement between RREA and the River Rouge Board of Education. Recalls will be based on seniority, certification and qualifications. The names of the individuals recalled will be brought back before the Board of Education for formal board action. The recalls will consist of the following teachers listed below. Under discussion, Superintendent Lopez stated that this would go before the Finance Committee before action was taken for approval. Other questions were discussed regarding the positions available and if the classes were currently being taught by substitutes teachers and Superintendent addressed these questions and stated that we need to do the right thing and get in compliance. Also under discussion posting #4 was crossed off because it should not have been on this list.

- 1.0 Kindergarten Teacher – CB Sabbath K-8 Preparatory Academy
- 1.0 Social Studies Teacher- CB Sabbath K-8 Preparatory Academy *
- 1.0 Gym Teacher – Ann Visger K-5 Preparatory Academy
- ~~1.0 Special Education Teacher – River Rouge Middle College High School Acad.~~
- 1/6th Red River Productions Teacher - River Rouge MCHS Academy
- 1/6th Band Teacher – River Rouge Middle College High School Academy
- 1/6th PE/Health Teacher - River Rouge Middle College High School Academy
- 1.0 Japanese Teacher – Ann Visger K-5 Preparatory Academy
- 1.0 Spanish Teacher – CB Sabbath K-8 Preparatory Academy

*Please note that there is currently a 2nd grade opening at AV, however due to teacher request for a re-assignment, a CB Sabbath school teacher will be moved to that position which makes a Social Studies position open at Sabbath.

Posting of Positions

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Krupinski made a motion seconded by Member Wilson-Johnson that in the best interest of the district advanced authorization was given to the Superintendent of Schools to post the positions that the district is not able to fill through the recall process as outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between RREA and the River Rouge Board of Education.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Layoff of Part-Time Security Guard

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Arapakis, that due to the Security Guard positions becoming a part of the Local 2555 Union, one of the fellow Local 2555 members exercised his right to bump into a lower paying classification therefore creating a need to lay off the least senior security guard

discussion questions arose regarding the original posting not being a union position, the need for security and other options to get staff in these positions as well as keeping within the budget constraints. Superintendent Lopez has some options that he will investigate. When the positions were originally posted and filled they were not in the union, however Superintendent Lopez asked Attorney McCarroll to give an overview of the results at the recent MERC hearing that the administrative law judge said these positions needed to be in the union and if not and it was challenged in court we would lose this case.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Recall/Bumping Rights Part-Time Security Guard

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Krupinski made a motion seconded by Member Wilson-Johnson that due to the Security Guard positions becoming a part of the Local 2555 Union, a fellow Local 2555 member has exercised his right to bump into a job classification with an equivalent or lower rate of pay to which his district-wide seniority will take him. Mr. Andra Major will be recalled to a security guard position effective, Monday, November 9, 2009 receiving the pay and benefits corresponding to that job classification. Under discussion this allows the employee to continue both district and classification seniority. This will need to be addressed when the contract comes up for renewal.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Change of January Board Meeting Date

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Krupinski made a motion seconded by Member Cora that due to unforeseen circumstances, the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2010 will be rescheduled to Wednesday, January 13, 2010. The regular order for posting the notice for public knowledge will be followed.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Reduction in Work Force

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by member Krupinski, that at the meeting held on Wednesday, October 21, 2009 the board resolved that due to economic necessity and in order to meet our financial obligations to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) as required by the Deficit Elimination Plan (DEP), not to replace the current custodial position that was vacated through a custodian's retirement. The Board of Education has rescinded this motion and authorized the Superintendent to recall Annie Jackson to fill the current vacancy within the district, effective Thursday, November 5, 2009. The recall was in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Local 2555 and the River Rouge Board of Education. Under discussion the need to have this position was asked and answered due to the conditions of the classrooms and the H1N1 virus. It was also noted that when the contract is up for renewal,

multitasking and job cross-training without restrictions be addressed for more flexibility within Local 2555.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Transition of Duties

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Wilson-Johnson that since the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year, Mr. Corey Parker has been working in the capacity of Dean of Students (non-union) for the River Rouge Middle College High School Academy. The Board of Education resolved to keep Mr. Parker in his current capacity for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year at the same pay. Under discussion the need for the position was questioned and a unanimous “yes” was the response. The Dean of Students will oversee the discipline of students as well as Code of Conduct violations and Reflection Room

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Employee Referral #09-10-01 (Mariam Logan)

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Arapakis, that in the best interest of the district the Board of Education has authorize the Superintendent of School to proceed in the manner he recommended (Option #4 of proposed choices). This option will be taken to Employee #09-10-01 and if an agreement is reached Employee #09-10-01 will be suspended without pay for a specified period of time equal to the restitution costs associated with this issue. Employee #09-10-01 will be transferred to another building so that no retaliation to the class can occur. Suspension notices and all related documentation will be placed permanently in Employee #09-10-01’s file.

- Cost of Test;
- 1 day for Nick Palmer to administer the test to the class;
- 3 days pay for Dolores Reid, Director of State & Federal Programs and Tammy Hubbard, Principal, Ann Visger (10/23/09 meeting and 10/22/09 and 10/26/09 for interviewing students);
- 2 days pay for Carlos Lopez, Superintendent of Schools and Patricia DeLaTorre, Director of Human Resources (10/23/09 meeting and administrative details – meetings with Ms. Hubbard, Ms. Reid and Dave Kocbus, RREA President);
- 1 ½ days pay for attorney fees for Attorney Joseph McCarroll’s presence at 10/23/09 meeting and follow up;
- Substitute teacher costs for Employee #09-10-01, Don Fitzpatrick, RREA Union Rep and Dave Kocbus, RREA President to attend the meeting on 10/23/09;
- Substitute teacher costs for Employee #09-10-01 while Employee #09-10-01 is out on leave.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Heating at CB Sabbath K-8 Preparatory Academy

Upon the recommendation of Member Krupinski, Member Cora made a motion seconded by Member Watson that after careful review, consideration and comparison, the Building & Grounds Committee as well as the rest of the board and community was given a presentation by Expert Mechanical service, Inc. regarding the heating and cooling at CB Sabbath School. The Building & Grounds Committee would like to recommend that the board of education authorize Superintendent Lopez to enter an agreement with Expert Mechanical Service, Inc and sign all appropriate documents on behalf of the River Rouge School District based on their proposal of \$66,520.00 and/or an additional optional cost of \$7,900.00 for Economizers. This agreement will be contingent upon approval from Plante & Moran. Under discussion Member Krupinski stated that he was impressed with the presentation given and feels that we will be getting our monies worth. Member Wilson-Johnson asked if this needed to go out to bid, but per Enrolled House Bill No.5376 "emergency" conditions apply, however again with approval from Plante & Moran auditors will be received before proceeding. Once the approval has been received from Plante & Moran, Superintendent Lopez will forward by e-mail to all board members as well as Attorney McCarroll.

Yeas: Members: Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

*Member Arapakis was on duty (fire department) and at 6:51 p.m. was required to leave the meeting.

Board Committee Reports

Member Wilson-Johnson

Presentation – Expert Mechanical Inc.

A presentation was done by Expert Mechanical Inc. to discuss the options, costs for the repair and replacement of the heating equipment at CB Sabbath K-8 Preparatory Academy. After the presentation, questions were asked and answered from both the board members and the audience.

Presentation – River Rouge School District Annual Report for 2008-2009

Ms. Dolores Reid, Director of State & Federal Programs presented the Annual Report for the 2008-2009 school year and discussed the "report card" grades for each school as well as the AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) and the steps that are being taken to improve both ratings. She also discussed the importance of keeping accurate data since this is crucial in the grading of school districts. She also pointed out some of the points of pride throughout the district.

Comments from the Audience

President White asked for any comments from the audience, one parent stated that she just wanted to say she was very impressed with Mr. Cox, Principal at CB Sabbath.

At 7:30 p.m. President White closed the meeting to enter the Closed Session to discuss litigation matters.

Yeas: Members: Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

Minutes
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At 7:50 p.m. President White called for the roll to resume the meeting.

Yeas:	Members:	Arapakis, Cora, Krupinski, Watson, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays:	Members:	None

Motion Carried.

At 7:52 p.m. President White stated for the good of the order and the meeting was concluded and roll call was taken.

Yeas:	Members:	Cooper, Cora, Krupinski, White and Wilson-Johnson
Nays:	Members:	None

Motion Carried.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 with the study session beginning at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcella Cora, Secretary
Board of Education
MC/mb