

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, February 17, 2010, at 6:00 p.m.

The President, Marcella Cora, called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Marcella Cora, Kevin Sabuda, Jonathan Tate, William Watson  
and William White  
Members Absent: Cornelius Cooper (excused)  
Francis Krupinski

Motion Carried

#### Consent Agenda

President Cora offered a motion, seconded by Member Cooper, to approve this evening's consent agenda.

Yeas: Members: Cora, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White  
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried

At this time Superintendent Lopez wanted two statements to be read into the minutes:

#### Athletic Games-Forfeiture

Each member of the Board of Education has received a copy of the letter to Ms. McCrary-Main, Athletic Director from Mr. John E. Roberts, Executive Director of Michigan High School Athletic Association regarding a violation of the Maximum Enrollment and Transfer Regulations rule of MHSAA. Mr. Roberts has placed this violation on record and River Rouge High School will forfeit 12 Varsity Basketball Games. Mr. Roberts has informed the School District that he acknowledges that there has been a new process put in place to prevent this violation in the future.

#### Report Card Grades – High School

River Rouge Middle College High School Academy – Prior to the start of the board bulletin, I want to confirm with the board members that they have received my board update regarding the report cards and that they concur with my direction to teachers.

#### Presentations:

Principal's Appreciation: President Cora read the resolution from Governor Jennifer Granholm proclaiming the week of February 14<sup>th</sup> as Principals Week. The principals were each given a copy of the resolution as well as a certificate from the Board of Education and the Superintendent.

New Tech High: Superintendent Lopez gave an update of the progress of New Tech High, the Project Based Learning that they have seen in the school visits they have been on and the support that we are receiving from Wayne County as well as the state. He stated that we will begin at the high school level and continue to expand the program to include K-12.

Academic Coach: Dr. Arlene Gibson indicated that she would like to give the Board of Education a quarterly report to keep them aware of what is going on in the high school. She gave a presentation to summarize what has been done during the first semester and what the high school is working toward for the second semester. She discussed the climate of the school and explained the grant that is being submitted regarding the School-wide Positive Behavior Plan and well as the School Improvement Team and Galileo Team and how the teams are helping to identify the strengths and areas of concern.

Revised Strategic Plan: Superintendent Lopez finished with the Revised Strategic Plan that he

as a guideline for both administrators and staff members to use. The Master Plan covers each of the areas of Education, Finance, Technology, Safety/Security, Facilities, Human Resources, Community and Marketing.

Communications/Correspondence

There were no communications or correspondence this evening.

Comments from the Board

The finances of the district were discussed and it was suggested that the Finance Committee agree to meet on a weekly basis at this time and continue to update the board of the district standings. The US Steel settlement and Retirees Health Benefits Meeting that was held earlier in the month were both discussed and it was stated that several of the retirees thanked the board and business office for the clarity of the information presented.

Attorney Update

Attorney Joseph P. McCarroll stated that a brief closed session would be needed regarding litigation with RREA.

Old Business

There was no old business this evening.

New Business

President Cora stated that a Student Expulsion Hearing was needed for Student #14-09-10 and that a committee would need to be assigned. The hearing will be held for Student #14-09-10 will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. with Members Cora and Tate with Member Watson as chairman.

Recall teacher for Special Education

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Tate made a motion seconded by Member White that in order to fill the vacant position of Special Education Teacher that was approved at the December 16, 2009 meeting to recall Ms. Kim Boyd who is currently unavailable due to being under contract with another district, resolved that the board recall laid off teacher, Jackie Knight for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year, effective immediately or whenever mutually agreed upon by the individual and the Superintendent. This recall will be in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement between RREA and RRSD.

Yeas: Members: Cora, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White

Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried

Impact Aid 2009-2010

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Tate that in order to apply for monies available through Federal Funds under the provisions of Section 427 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Section 8003 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), Memorandum #98-1 as amended (Impact Aid), the board authorize the Superintendent to sign and submit the necessary paperwork as required and make the representations and commitments and to act

as the authorized representative of the River Rouge School District in connection with the application.

Yeas: Members: Cora, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White  
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried

Approval of Independent Audit-D.R.M. Stakor & Assoc.

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Sabuda that each board member has received a copy of the Dependent Benefit Eligibility Audit with the Detailed Audit Procedures which gives a more detailed explanation of the labor intensive effort that will need to be put into the Benefit Audit. As an effort on the part of the districts ongoing effort to reduce expenditures, the board resolved to accept the request to have Mr. Al Cotter, from Stakor & Associates, in coordination with a member of his firm and the district's business office will work together to complete the review. The cost for the dependent health care audit is \$3,000.00.

Member Tate and Member White questioned why this was brought back before the board and if there had been further discussion regarding this audit since the action was denied at the last board meeting. Ms. Meek addressed the issue and the detailed work involved as well as the man-hours that it would cost our staff.

Yeas: Members: Cora, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White  
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried

Pitney Bowes

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Tate that each member of the Board of Education has received a copy of the Pitney Bowes lease agreement for the district postage machine, the board resolved to authorize the Superintendent to sign the lease with Pitney Bowes on behalf of the school district for the postage machine. The lease price decreased by \$44 per month and the district will receive a new machine with all of the same benefits. (The lease is derived from the state wide bid and state contract.)

Yeas: Members: Cora, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White  
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried

Use of Building Request

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member Tate that the board resolved to approve the request from Carol Meyers on behalf of Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency to use the Gymnasium, Auditorium and five classrooms of the high school for a Senior Caregivers Conference on Saturday, April 24, 2010 from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Wayne Metro and River Rouge School District are currently participating in a collaboration providing the After School Programs. Because of this collaboration that benefits the River Rouge students and the Senior Caregivers Conference being a community event, the board approved to waive the Use of Building Language adopted November 11, 2009 and not charge the \$120.00 custodial and security

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fees. Wayne Metro has already provided the district with a copy of the Certificate of Liability Insurance that has been placed on file.

Yeas: Members: Cora, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White  
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried

Use of Building Request

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Tate made a motion seconded by Member White that the board resolved to approve the receipt of the request from Ira Hester, on behalf of The Professionals to use the Auditorium and Dressing Room of the high school for a Musical Concert on Friday, March 19, 2010 from 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. The board stated that the rental will follow the approved Use of Building - Facility Usage Fee schedule.

Yeas: Members: Cora, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White  
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried

Revised Strategic Plan 2010-2014

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lopez, Member Tate made a motion seconded by Member White that the board resolved to approve the Revised Strategic Plan for the 2010-2014 school years.

Yeas: Members: Cora, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White  
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried

Board Committee Reports

There are no board committee reports this evening. President Cora has requested to have a Finance/Audit Meeting every Tuesdays each week for the current time.

Comments from the Audience

President Cora asked for any comments from the audience and several members of the audience came up and asked questions and stated their opinions of their matters of concern.

At 7:43 p.m. President Cora suspended the meeting to enter the Closed Session to discuss litigation matters and stated that the board meeting would resume after the closed session.

Yeas: Members: Cora, Krupinski, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White  
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

At 7:46 p.m. President Cora called for the roll to resume the meeting.

Yeas: Members: Cora, Krupinski, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White  
Nays: Members: None

Motion Carried.

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Settlement Agreement Teacher 01-09-10

Member Watson made a motion seconded by Member White to accept the settlement agreement between the River Rouge School District and River Rouge Education Association for RREA member #01-09-10.

Yeas:       Members:     Cora, Krupinski, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White

Nays:       Members:     None

Motion Carried.

At 7:50 p.m. President Cora stated for the good of the order and the meeting was concluded and roll call was taken.

Yeas:       Members:     Cora, Krupinski, Sabuda, Tate, Watson and White

Nays:       Members:     None

Motion Carried.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 17, 2010 with the study session beginning at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis Krupinski, Secretary  
Board of Education  
FK/mb