

## **WATERFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION – MINUTES**

**Interim Meeting  
December 7, 2017**

### **OPENING**

The Interim Meeting of the Waterford School District Board of Education, held at the Waterford Township Hall Auditorium, 5200 Civic Center Drive, Waterford, Michigan, was called to order by President Petrusha at 6:00 PM.

### **PLEDGE**

The audience joined the Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Members Petrusha, Sutherland, Barghahn, Himmelspach, and Torres

Absent: Members Piggott and Halls

Others: Keith Wunderlich, William Holbrook, Danielle Corbeil, Janet McLeod, Carly Stone, Darin Holley, Rhonda Lessel, Elizabeth Kutchev, Steve Smitka, Brenda Smith, Anna Findley, Mary Craite, Lanette Bright, Ann Kasdiner, Erika Elkins, Kim Nye, Jim Nye, Kelly Granger, Tim Granger, Tiffani McKinnon, David McKinnon, Pat McCusker, Irene Jarois, Ed Neaves, Grant Smith, Leland Needham, Becky Lesh, Erick Miller, Lily Morse, Wendy Morse, Kim Casagrande, Megan Roberts and others that did not register.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved by President Petrusha.

### **CELEBRATIONS OF LEARNING**

#### **a. WIRED Robotics**

This fall the Waterford Initiative for Robotics Education and Development ([W.I.R.E.D](#)) launched its third season with seven elementary teams and three middle school teams from around the district. Two of our teams joined the Board to share their experience as well as participate in a mini match. The Board welcomed team 64173A from Cooley and Riverside with Coach Dave McKinnon and team 45885B from Pierce with Coach Daniel Verhey.

Members of the Board offered comments and accolades to the students and their parents and coaches.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **a. Personnel**

William Holbrook, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations, and Janet McLeod, Director of Human Resources, provided information relative to Blue Book Personnel. A copy of the presentation is available on the Waterford School District/Board of Education website.

Member Barghahn expressed concerns with Blue Book employees not coming before the Board for discussion and inquired about the cap. Mr. Holbrook provided further explanation that these positions are approved within the budget, which would set the cap. Member Barghahn commented on the need for Board discussion suggesting a Study Session. Member Petrusha commented on previous study sessions with discussion on these positions, the budget and Board responsibilities. Member Sutherland spoke regarding Blue Book employees, budget approval and oversight. Member Barghahn expressed further

## INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Personnel (*continued*)

concerns with the process and transparency. Member Torres spoke to addressing this issue in the next budget and holding a study session to discuss further. Member Petrusha clarified with Mr. Holbrook that the District pays retirement for Blue Book employees but not for contracted employees. Member Himmelspach expressed his disagreement in the comments shared by Member Barghahn and expressed that he does not want the process changed. Member Barghahn responded to Member Himmelspach's comments. Member Sutherland and Member Torres offered additional comments on the matter.

b. Resolution of Support: Stormwater Management Plan

In order for Waterford School District to be appropriately authorized to discharge storm water from its MS4 to surface waters of the state Waterford School District is required to approve a resolution of support with the department. This resolution is reauthorized every few years.

The actions outlined in the Board Resolution are identical to the actions the District has already committed to when receiving the authorization to discharge. The board resolution provides the DEQ with additional documentation of the Districts commitment to the Stormwater Management program. A recommendation to approve the following resolution in support of the Stormwater Management Plan will be presented for action on December 21, 2017.

WHEREAS, Waterford School District owns and operates facilities within the boundaries of the "Detroit" urbanized area which discharges stormwater through a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) to surface waters of the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Waterford School District has applied for and received permit coverage to discharge stormwater from Waterford School District facilities to the MS4; and

WHEREAS, Waterford School District agrees to comply with the NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System discharge permit requirements, and

WHEREAS, Waterford School District has developed a Stormwater Management Program Plan (SWMP) outlining the policies, procedures, and best management practices to be employed by the district to comply with the permit requirements, and

WHEREAS, the conditions of the NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System discharge permit require Waterford School District to develop policies and procedures that prohibit illicit discharges to their stormwater system and to implement appropriate enforcement procedures and actions to detect and eliminate such illicit discharges, and

WHEREAS, Waterford School District agrees to prohibit the discharge of non-stormwater discharges into the storm drain system, including but not limited to pollutants or waters containing any pollutants, and

WHEREAS, Waterford School District agrees to eliminate illicit discharges and illicit connections, and

WHEREAS, Waterford School District agrees to prohibit the construction, use, maintenance or continued existence of illicit connections to the storm drain system. This prohibition expressly includes, without limitation, illicit connections made in the past, regardless of whether the connection was permissible under law or practices applicable or prevailing at the time of connection, and

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### b. Resolution of Support: Stormwater Management Plan

WHEREAS, Waterford School District agrees to obtain a Part 91 permit from the appropriate state, county, or local governmental soil erosion permitting agency for new development and redevelopment projects that disturb one or more acres, and

WHEREAS, Waterford School District agrees to obtain a construction site permit from the local municipality or other governing unit for new development and redevelopment projects that disturb one or more acres, and

WHEREAS, Waterford School District agrees to inspect, operate, and maintain structural controls for the purpose of reducing pollutant contribution, control runoff, and decrease or eliminate stream bank erosion due to stormwater runoff, and

WHEREAS, Waterford School District agrees to comply with the requirements of the State of Michigan Permit (Rule 323.2190) for stormwater discharge from construction activity.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Waterford School District Board of Education is highly committed to practicing sound environmental principals including the reduction of pollutants to surface waters through discharges of stormwater. The Board hereby approves and instructs the district Superintendent to enforce the above listed policies and procedures for illicit discharge elimination, control of stormwater runoff and long-term operation and maintenance of structural controls as part of the overall Waterford Stormwater Management Program Plan.

### c. Resolution of Support: School Finance Research Collaboration

The School Finance Research Collaborative is supporting Michigan's first comprehensive school adequacy study, expected in early 2018, that will help determine the true cost of providing a high-quality public school education to all students.

The new study is using multiple methodologies to reexamine how Michigan's schools are funded, something that has never been done in a comprehensive way in the Great Lakes State. More than 30 states have conducted adequacy studies over the past 15 years, many conducting multiple studies.

The School Finance Research Collaborative is a broad-based and diverse group of Republicans, Democrats, Independents, business leaders and education experts from Metro Detroit to the U.P. who agree: It's time to change the way Michigan's schools are funded.

A recommendation to approve the following resolution in support of the School Finance Research Collaborative will be presented for action under New Business.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Constitution states that The legislature shall maintain and support a system of free public elementary and secondary schools as defined by law, and

WHEREAS, Michigan ranks 32nd in student achievement nationwide, according to recent research; and

WHEREAS, the Governors 21<sup>st</sup> Century Education Commission states that the urgency could not be greater regarding the falling K-12 performance, further stating that Michiganders underperform their peers, ranking 41st on fourth-grade reading performance nationally, that is simply not true that these unacceptable statewide outcomes are a result of changing demographics as Michigan's higher-income and white students are also among the worst performing in the country and that Michigan is one of only three states that has seen a decline in fourth-grade reading achievement since 2003 ; and

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### c. Resolution of Support: School Finance Research Collaboration (*continued*)

WHEREAS, the Commission further stated that Michigan needs to efficiently distribute resources, and efficient distribution requires a transparent calculation of what it costs to meet performance standards, that students with greater educational needs should be provided with additional resources where needed to have an equal chance of meeting the performance standards ; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 the State of Michigan conducted a comprehensive statewide cost study (Adequacy Study) to determine the sufficient resources per pupil to provide a public education that enables a pupil to demonstrate successful completion, in terms of proficiency, of all of the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard and to determine whether public resources being committed to public education are distributed in such a way that all children have an equal opportunity to succeed in school; and

Whereas, the State funded Adequacy Study produced and provided valuable information but used only one methodology and did not fully examine special education costs due to data availability issues, did not examine preschool, charter schools, career and technical education, the impact of high concentrations of special needs students and the cost challenges faced by geographically isolated schools and or very small school districts; and

WHEREAS, the way we fund Michigan's public schools is fundamentally broken; and that Michigan needs to develop funding formulas that efficiently and effectively distribute these resources to the proper entities to support student success.

WHEREAS, we must reexamine our approach so ALL students, regardless of their circumstances, can achieve and succeed; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative is a broad-based, diverse and bipartisan group of business leaders and education experts, from Metro Detroit to the U.P., who agree it's time to determine the cost of student achievement for all students Pk-12 and then change how our schools are funded; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative has brought together top industry experts to reexamine our approach to how we fund Michigan's schools to fully prepare ALL students for jobs and success; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative is supporting Michigan's first comprehensive school adequacy study using multiple methodologies to determine the cost of educating a student; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative has hired the nation's top two school finance research firms which have a proven ability to combine the data generated from multiple research approaches to examine cost issues associated with key factors, including preschool, poverty, special education, Career and Technical Education, English Language Learners, at-risk students, and schools that are geographically isolated; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative study will be the only statewide study ever performed to include a statewide panel to examine all the costs faced by charter schools; and

WHEREAS, the research team will work with 20 educator panels involving more than 240 Michigan educators including teachers, teacher leaders, principals, superintendents, school business officials, special education directors and other specialists; and

## INFORMATION ITEMS

c. Resolution of Support: School Finance Research Collaboration (*continued*)

WHEREAS, adequacy studies have been performed in more than 30 other states over the past 15 years, with over 90% of these studies using multiple methodologies, as Step One in considering any comprehensive school reform; and

WHEREAS, many states have conducted multiple adequacy studies to make sure lawmakers have the very best, most reliable and valid information on what it costs to educate a student; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative adequacy study is expected to be completed in early 2018, and will provide lawmakers and the public with the best, most accurate and most reliable information on what it truly costs to educate ALL Michigan students.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Waterford Board of Education supports the School Finance Research Collaborative and its efforts to determine the true cost of educating ALL Michigan public school students (pk-12).

d. School Bus Leases 2018 – Transportation

Waterford School District Administration is seeking proposals for School Bus Leases, (36) month period as indicated below:

1. Five (5) – 54 Passenger Conventional Orthopedic Lift School Buses per district specifications- Diesel (or Alternate-Propane)
2. One (1) – 54 Passenger Conventional No-Lift School Bus per district specifications- Diesel (or Alternate-Propane)

Request “Bumper to Bumper” warranty for duration of lease period and to take delivery by June 30, 2018. Funding Source: General Fund.

e. Bond Authorizing Resolution

The Board received a resolution providing for authorization, by the Board of Education, for the issuance of School District Bond, 2016 Series III, not to exceed \$10,000,000. A recommendation to adopt this resolution will be presented at the December 21, 2017 Board of Education meeting.

f. Application for Final Qualification of Bonds, 2016 Series III

The Board of Education received the Application for Final Qualification for the School District Bond, 2016 Series III. Waterford School District has already received Preliminary Qualifications of Bonds by the Department of Treasury and the School Bond Loan Program. A recommendation for approval will be presented on December 21, 2017.

g. Resolution – Section 1352 of Revised School Code, 2016 bond Series III

A resolution was presented that enables the School District to comply with the provision of Section 1352 of the Revised School Code with respect to contracting for legal representation by a law firm for the School District’s issuance of its School District Bond, 2016 Series III. Clark Hill PLC is the District’s legal counsel for this bond issuance and works in conjunction with the District’s advisor, Mr. Louis Schimmel.

A recommendation to adopt this resolution will be presented to the Board of Education at the December 21, 2017 Board of Education meeting.

## AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS

There were no audience comments on action items.

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. November 16, 2017, Regular Meeting
- b. November 16, 2017, Closed Meeting

Moved by Member Himmelpach and supported by Member Sutherland that the Board of Education adopt the minutes of the meetings listed above.

Ayes: Members Himmelpach, Barghahn, Torres, Sutherland, and Petrusha

Nays: None

Motion carried. (5-0)

## NEW BUSINESS

- a. Superintendent's Recommendations

- (1) Recommendation 54-17-18 Relative to Resignations/Retirements/Leave of Absence Expirations

Moved by Member Himmelpach and supported by Member Sutherland that the Board of Education approve the following resignation:

Pocius, Cheryl, Elementary Principal  
Schoolcraft Elementary School  
Retirement Effective February 1, 2018

Sliwinski, Ronald, Special Education Teacher  
Mott High School  
Resignation Effective December 4, 2017

Ayes: Members Himmelpach, Barghahn, Torres, Sutherland, and Petrusha

Nays: None

Motion carried. (5-0)

- (2) Recommendation 55-17-18 Relative to Designation of Depositories

Moved by Member Torres and supported by Member Himmelpach that the Board of Education approve the following resolution designating legal depositories of District money for the 2017-2018 school year.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following list of financial institutions are designated as legal depositories of the moneys belonging to Waterford School District:

Comerica Bank  
Chase Bank Clarkston State  
Bank  
Fifth Third Bank  
Huntington National Bank  
Birmingham Bloomfield Credit Union  
Metro North Federal Credit Union  
PNC Bank

## NEW BUSINESS

### a. Superintendent's Recommendations

#### (2) Recommendation 55-17-18 Relative to Designation of Depositories (*continued*)

These financial institutions are hereby authorized to accept for its credit and/or collection, any and all checks, drafts and other negotiable instruments when endorsed in its name by rubber stamp or otherwise; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT

Comerica Bank, Chase Bank, Clarkston State Bank, Fifth Third Bank, PNC Bank and Metro North Federal Credit Union be authorized depositories for internal school funds of the district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT

The Board of Education Treasurer is hereby authorized to sign for Certification/Declaration of signatures and/or names of Authorized Signers and Authorized Agents for all accounts opened under such captions as may be necessary or desirable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT

Any and all funds credited to such accounts with the depositories may be paid out or withdrawn upon checks drawn against the respective accounts when signed by the Superintendent, Keith Wunderlich.

In the absence of the Superintendent, the lines of authority in decision making and signing will be as follows and the Superintendent informed:

William Holbrook

Assistant Superintendent, Business & Operations

Lisa McFee

Assistant Superintendent, Teaching & Learning Services

Ayes: Members Himmelspach, Barghahn, Torres, Sutherland, and Petrusha

Nays: None

Motion carried. (5-0)

#### (3) Recommendation 56-17-18 Relative to Resolution of Support: School Finance Research Collaborative

Moved by Member Himmelspach and supported by Member Sutherland that the Board of Education approve the following resolution in support of the School Finance Research Collaborative.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Constitution states that The legislature shall maintain and support a system of free public elementary and secondary schools as defined by law, and

WHEREAS, Michigan ranks 32nd in student achievement nationwide, according to recent research; and

WHEREAS, the Governors 21<sup>st</sup> Century Education Commission states that the urgency could not be greater regarding the falling K-12 performance, further stating that Michiganders underperform their peers, ranking 41st on fourth-grade reading performance nationally, that is simply not true that these unacceptable statewide outcomes are a result of changing demographics as Michigan's higher-income and white students are also among the worst performing in the country and that

## NEW BUSINESS

### a. Superintendent's Recommendations

#### (3) Recommendation 56-17-18 Relative to Resolution of Support: School Finance Research Collaborative (*continued*)

Michigan is one of only three states that has seen a decline in fourth-grade reading achievement since 2003; and

WHEREAS, the Commission further stated that Michigan needs to efficiently distribute resources, and efficient distribution requires a transparent calculation of what it costs to meet performance standards, that students with greater educational needs should be provided with additional resources where needed to have an equal chance of meeting the performance standards ; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 the State of Michigan conducted a comprehensive statewide cost study (Adequacy Study) to determine the sufficient resources per pupil to provide a public education that enables a pupil to demonstrate successful completion, in terms of proficiency, of all of the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard and to determine whether public resources being committed to public education are distributed in such a way that all children have an equal opportunity to succeed in school; and

WHEREAS, the State funded Adequacy Study produced and provided valuable information but used only one methodology and did not fully examine special education costs due to data availability issues, did not examine preschool, charter schools, career and technical education, the impact of high concentrations of special needs students and the cost challenges faced by geographically isolated schools and or very small school districts; and

WHEREAS, the way we fund Michigan's public schools is fundamentally broken; and that Michigan needs to develop funding formulas that efficiently and effectively distribute these resources to the proper entities to support student success.

WHEREAS, we must reexamine our approach so ALL students, regardless of their circumstances, can achieve and succeed; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative is a broad-based, diverse and bipartisan group of business leaders and education experts, from Metro Detroit to the U.P., who agree it's time to determine the cost of student achievement for all students Pk-12 and then change how our schools are funded; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative has brought together top industry experts to reexamine our approach to how we fund Michigan's schools to fully prepare ALL students for jobs and success; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative is supporting Michigan's first comprehensive school adequacy study using multiple methodologies to determine the cost of educating a student; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative has hired the nation's top two school finance research firms which have a proven ability to combine the data generated from multiple research approaches to examine cost issues associated with key factors, including preschool, poverty, special education, Career and Technical Education, English Language Learners, at-risk students, and schools that are geographically isolated; and



## NEW BUSINESS

### a. Superintendent's Recommendations

- (3) Recommendation 56-17-18 Relative to Resolution of Support: School Finance Research Collaborative (*continued*)

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative study will be the only statewide study ever performed to include a statewide panel to examine all the costs faced by charter schools; and

WHEREAS, the research team will work with 20 educator panels involving more than 240 Michigan educators including teachers, teacher leaders, principals, superintendents, school business officials, special education directors and other specialists; and

WHEREAS, adequacy studies have been performed in more than 30 other states over the past 15 years, with over 90% of these studies using multiple methodologies, as Step One in considering any comprehensive school reform; and

WHEREAS, many states have conducted multiple adequacy studies to make sure lawmakers have the very best, most reliable and valid information on what it costs to educate a student; and

WHEREAS, the School Finance Research Collaborative adequacy study is expected to be completed in early 2018, and will provide lawmakers and the public with the best, most accurate and most reliable information on what it truly costs to educate ALL Michigan students.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Waterford Board of Education supports the School Finance Research Collaborative and its efforts to determine the true cost of educating ALL Michigan public school students (pk-12).

President Petrusha requested clarification and Dr. Wunderlich explained that this collaborative is charged with finding the actual cost to educate a child in Michigan. Oakland Schools has asked that we join in support by passing this resolution.

Member Sutherland thanked Member Torres for his support and representation at the County and State level.

Member Torres thanked Member Sutherland and spoke to legislative matters.

Ayes: Members Himmelspach, Barghahn, Torres, Sutherland, and Petrusha

Nays: None

Motion carried. (5-0)

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### a. Future Items

- (1) COL – Mason Jazz Band
- (2) Information – Board Meeting Schedule
- (3) Information – School of Choice Resolution
- (4) Action – Resolution of Support: Stormwater Management Plan
- (5) Action – Bond Authorizing Resolution, 2016 Series III
- (6) Action – Application for Final Qualification of Bonds, 2016 Series III
- (7) Action – Resolution – 1352 of Revised School Code, 2016 Series III

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **b. Board of Education Reports**

Member Torres discussed the Oakland County Youth Assistance Breakfast and the important role the Youth Assistance plays in our community. He also talked about the Holiday Extravaganza Parade and promotion of Waterford READS.

Member Himmelspach invited the community to the Holiday Collage.

Member Petrusha spoke to the holiday spirit and all that we have to be grateful for.

Member Sutherland spoke to the Empty Bowls event, Collage Concert, and the upcoming New Horizons Band Concert.

## **AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS**

The following audience members addressed the Board of Education relative to the mid-year transfer of the Riverside Elementary Principal to Schoolcraft following the retirement of the Schoolcraft Principal.

Eric Miller  
Anna Findley  
Brenda Smith  
Erika Elkins

Leeland Needham spoke regarding Forgotten Harvest and Focus Hope.

Art Welch spoke regarding the presentation on personnel and making the state aware we are an excellent district.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Wunderlich addressed the midyear transfer of the Riverside principal and Member Barghahn expressed her concerns. Dr. Wunderlich also spoke on the personnel presentation and the location change of Focus Hope and Forgotten Harvest. Dr. Wunderlich also addressed the things we are doing to ensure the State hears of the great things happening in WSD. He went on to discuss the Durant Most Improved recognition, Hour of Code in the elementary schools and Kindergarten Orientation.

Member Torres spoke to the process of addressing district matters and the willingness of the board to assist. He also shared additional positives happening in the Waterford School District.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by President Petrusha at 7:40 PM.

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Secretary, Board of Education

/mr