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# Board Briefs

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*SUMMARY OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING*

*August 21, 2008*

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## RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

**Dr. Gordon** - The Waterford School District is proud to recognize the many contributions made to Oakland County youth by Dr. Thomas J. Gordon, Director of Oakland County Department of Health and Human Services.

In his role as Director, Dr. Gordon has been responsible for the operation of Oakland County Children's Village, located in Waterford Township. Children's Village provides both a residential and educational setting for children and youth who come under the jurisdiction of the court. The Waterford School District and Oakland County partner to provide educational programs at Children's Village School that are tailored to meet the needs of its students. During Dr. Gordon's tenure, the Children's Village School has grown to serve over 800 students annually, from kindergarten to high school, and on average 160 students each day.

Dr. Gordon has been a tremendous supporter of Children's Village, Children's Village School, and the Waterford School District and we are grateful for all he has done for the children of Oakland County.

On behalf of the Board of Education Superintendent Neu wished Dr. Gordon all the best as he retires from Oakland County.

## RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT FROM CENTRAL STAFF

**Scholarship** - Congratulations to 2008 Mott graduate, Erika McCracken who received one of three \$1,000 college scholarships awarded locally from the Qdoba Mexican Restaurant on Dixie Highway in Clarkston. This is a great example of area business supporting the education of local youth.

**American Idol** - Waterford Mott senior, Brian Moore is in California currently, auditioning for American Idol. So far, Brian has made it through three rounds. Brian is in Madrigal Singers, Mott's top choir. Look for Brian in all of the promotional commercials too. Congratulations to Brian and best of luck.

**Bus Inspections** - The Michigan State Police conducted its annual inspection of our bus fleet from July 30, 2008 to August 8, 2008. Inspections include a review of over 100 safety checks such as brakes, body condition, tires, seat condition, and operation of lights. With a total fleet of 81 buses (5 buses are lease returns and exempt) inspections were performed on 76 buses.

Due to the great work our staff, especially the mechanics, the fleet passed in excellent condition with all buses passing inspection without any "Red" or "Yellow" violation tags (**100% pass rate**). The inspector had positive comments about our maintenance program and the quality and character of our garage staff. This is great validation for the diligent regular maintenance performed throughout the year and the great work they do! Congratulations to Jim Beaver and the Waterford School District Transportation Department staff for an outstanding inspection!

## INFORMATION ITEM

**Facility Update** - Thomas Wiseman, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, provided the Board of Education with an update as it relates to District facilities and the preparation for the 2008-2009 school year.

**Fact Finder's Report** - The Fact Finder's Report was received July 10, 2008. Peni Aldrich, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, reviewed the Fact Finder's Report, Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Recommendations.

**Administrative Guideline 5460: Graduation Requirements** - The Board of Education received the revisions for Administrative Guideline 5460: Graduation Requirements. This revised guideline has been prepared and reviewed by Neola's legal counsel for statutory compliancy.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Board of Education Policy Revisions** - The Board of Education approved the policy revisions as presented. All new, revised, and replacement policies have been reviewed by Neola's legal counsel for statutory compliance.

**Short Term Borrowing** - Based on cash flow projections the Administration has determined it is necessary to borrow up to \$6,500,000 to meet short term cash flow obligations. These projections have been reviewed and supported by the Michigan School Investment Association. This short term borrowing for the 2008-09 fiscal year will be repaid September of 2009.

Historically the District has borrowed for short term obligations based on the timing of receiving State Aid funds. This short term borrowing is consistent with that historical pattern. The borrowing will be accomplished through brokerage firms and banking institution bids.

The Board of Education approved the resolution authorizing the borrowing not to exceed \$6,500,000.

**Line of Credit** - The Administration recommends the renewal of the District line of credit. The Administration also recommends increasing the line of credit from \$3,000,000 to \$3,500,000 due to changes from State funding on personal property taxes.

In years past, personal property taxes were collected locally in September, whereas in the current fiscal year the State collects those taxes then redistributes them back to the District over a period of 11 months. As a result, the District receives all personal property taxes, but over an extended period of time instead of at the beginning of the school year.

Also, the District has borrowed for short term obligations based on the timing of receiving State Aid funds. The State pays two months behind and on the 20th of the month. As a result of the 2 month lag, the District borrows funds for the day to day operations. Two years ago the State began paying the Monday after the 20th if the 20th fell on the weekend verses paying the District the Friday before. This additional delay in State Aid payment causes the need for a line of credit.

The advantage of a line of credit is to limit the borrowing to only those days needed within the month while limiting the District's annual outstanding debt obligation to \$6,500,000. In essence, this will limit the District's interest expense.

The Board of Education approved the resolution authorizing a line of credit not to exceed \$3,500,000.

**Contract Changes/Appointments** - The Board of Education approved the following contract changes/appointments:

Bonfiglio, Christopher  
Mott High School  
Increase from 100% to 110%  
First Semester Only, Tenure Contract  
Effective August 27, 2008

Burlingame, Christopher, Teacher  
Children's Village School  
100% Probationary Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Craven, Kathleen, Teacher  
Children's Village School  
100% Probationary Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Frankowiak, Jeffrey, Counselor  
Kettering High School  
100% Probationary Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Gagnon, Kelly, Speech Pathologist  
Student Support Services  
100% Annual Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Hamilton, Amanda, Teacher  
Burt Elementary School  
100% Probationary Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Hedden, Richard, Teacher  
Mott High School  
100% Probationary Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Horbach, Taryn, Teacher  
Mason Middle School  
100% Probationary Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Kumor, Jacob, Teacher  
Kingsley Montgomery School  
100% Probationary Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Larkin, Susan  
Kettering High School  
Increase from 100% to 110%  
First Semester Only, Tenure Contract  
Effective August 27, 2008

McGrath, Meagan, Teacher  
Waterford Village Elementary School  
100% Probationary Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Miller, Anthony  
Kettering High School  
Increase from 50% to 90%  
Probationary Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Sly, Tanya, Interventionist  
Grayson Elementary School  
100% Probationary Contract  
Effective August 22, 2008

Wandrie, Matthew, Interim Principal  
Mott High School  
Effective August 25, 2008

**Resignations** - The Board of Education approved the following resignations:

Erickson, Kirk, Teacher  
Mott High School  
Resignation  
August 13, 2008

Fitrzyk, Kristin, Teacher  
Burt Elementary  
Resignation  
August 14, 2008

Johnston, Jamie, Teacher  
Pierce Middle School  
Resignation  
August 14, 2008

Nault, Andrea, Teacher  
Kettering High School  
Resignation  
August 10, 2008

Pietrzak, Linda, Teacher  
Crary Middle School  
Retirement  
June 30, 2008

**Attendance Policy Guidelines**- The Board of Education approved the revisions to the Attendance Policy Guidelines and Procedures.

**Appointment to the Board** - The Board of Education approved the President's Recommendation to appoint Robert J. Seeterlin to the Waterford School District Board of Education to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Brian J. Whiston. Mr. Seeterlin's term will expire December 31, 2008.

#### **FUTURE**

##### **September 4, 2008**

Information - Back to School Report

Information - MME Results

Information - Graduation Rates

For information on these subjects, watch the replay of the Board meeting on Channel 22 Friday following the meeting at 10:00 AM, Sunday at 12:00 PM, again the following Monday at 8:00 PM. The Interim and Regular meetings, held on the first Thursday of each month, beginning at 7:00 PM. The public is invited to attend.