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# Board Briefs

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*SUMMARY OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING*

*November 20, 2008*

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## STUDENT PRESENTATION

**Sandburg Elementary Art-** The day after the election of Barack Obama as our next president, the fifth and fourth grade students of Sandburg Elementary were asked by Art Instructor, Bob Craner, to address a call for change in a collaborative creative problem solving lesson.

Students in groups of four were first asked to identify the problems our country now faces. Next, with limited supplies each group of students was asked to build a community where at least one problem was solved. Finally, each group described the community they had built and explained how problems were solved. Several of the students from Sandburg Elementary School presented further information on their projects to the Board of Education.

## RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

**Waterford Lions Club** - The Waterford School District recognized the Waterford Lions Club. This organization is comprised of a dedicated group of community leaders who volunteer their time and resources to support many worthwhile educational and enrichment opportunities within our school district and greater community.

Known for their service to the blind and visually impaired, the Lions Club members demonstrate their commitment to sight conservation through various community programs that support eyeglass recycling and countless other sight services. Recently, the Waterford Lions Club made a very generous donation of \$1,125 to the visually impaired program at Cooley Elementary and Pierce Middle School.

## RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT FROM CENTRAL STAFF

**Mason Chorus** - The Mason Mariner Chorus has been selected to perform at the Michigan Education Association's Instruction and Professional Development Conference on Saturday, December 6, 2008 at the Dearborn Hyatt Regency. This state-wide conference is called, "Set the Stage for Learning," and will be attended by several hundred Michigan educators, presenting a wonderful showcase opportunity for our talented Mason Middle School singers. Congratulations to Mason choir teacher, Jackie Thompson and these PAVA students.

**The Murmur** - The Kettering High School student newspaper, The Murmur, placed 6<sup>th</sup> in the National Scholastic Press Association's "Best of Show" competition. This is the second time that the newspaper has placed and it's the highest finish ever for a Waterford Publication. In addition, two Kettering students received honorable mentions in the on-site writing and design competitions: Lauren Wamsley for "Inside Page Design" and Adam Crane for "Sports Writing."

**Mott Drama Club** - Just prior to Halloween, students of the Mott Drama Club dressed in their Halloween costumes and stood outside Tenuta's to collect canned goods for the needy. This year they broke their record and collected 3,171 pounds of food, which was donated to Gleaners food bank and stays local. The International Thespian Society has confirmed that this was the largest collection by a local troupe in the State of Michigan. We thank the Waterford community for being very generous. Congratulations to Marilyn Drake, Drama Club sponsor, as well as the Mott theatre students.

**RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT FROM CENTRAL STAFF**

**Artwork Featured** - Waterford Kettering alum, Chelsea Harris' art work is included in the 2008-2009 Governor's Traveling Exhibit. The show was displayed at the Michigan Art Education Association State Conference in October and will now travel to various sites throughout Michigan, including Waterford Kettering HS. Congratulations to Chelsea, and her instructors, Lori Groff and Frank Puddy.

**Robotics Team** - Waterford School District's robotics team is taking the county competition by storm this season. Thus far, we have been awarded the Beautiful Bot Award, where the coordination of the team logo and colors made it a captain among its competitors; The VEX Award, demonstrating excellence in design and autonomous programming strategies; a second place finish in the Birmingham Seaholm tournament and a first place finish in the Holly High School Diversity Showcase tournament.

As we enter into the County Championship tournament being held this Saturday, November 22, at Royal Oak High School, we are the #1 seed, having accumulated the greatest number of points, to date. Congratulations and good luck to all 25 Kettering High School engineering students that have participated in this project.

Special recognition to those students who have provided a leadership role including Juniors: Mitch Bailey and Joey Kaiser, Seniors: David Auricchio, Alex Dengate, Mike Strong, Andrew Thompson and John Wilder, and their coach, Steve Smitka, Drafting and Design teacher at Waterford Kettering.

**INFORMATION ITEM**

**Fall Athletic Accomplishments** - Mike Butterfield, Supervisor of Athletics at Kettering High School, and Rick Dorn, Supervisor of Athletics at Mott High School, shared the fall athletic accomplishments and highlights from their respective buildings.

**Purchasing: Annual Competitive Bid Threshold Revision** - The Michigan Department of Education's base amount for competitive bids for 2008-2009 was established at \$20,488 for procurement for supplies, materials, and equipment. Revisions to the base amount and above for which competitive bids must be obtained for school year 2008-2009 is indicated below. These amounts provide for an increase in the base that corresponds with increases in the Consumer Price Index. Section 1267 pertaining to construction, renovation, repair, or remodeling for 2008-2009 is \$20,959.

In accordance with Policy 6320: Purchasing, these changes reflect the annual revision of the base amount above which competitive bids must be obtained for construction, renovation, repair or remodeling and procurement of supplies, materials, and equipment as determined by State law.

**Negotiations Update** - Peni Aldrich, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented the Board of Education with an update relative to negotiations.

**Head Start Reports**- The Board of Education received the Head Start Director's Reports for the months of September 2008 and October 2008 and the Financial Reports for July - September 2008.

NEW BUSINESS

**Contract Changes/Appointments** - The Board of Education approved the following teaching/administrative contracts for the 2008-2009 school year:

Andrew Knuuti, Teacher  
Waterford Kettering High School  
100% Probationary Contract  
Effective November 10, 2008

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

Susan Larkin, Teacher  
Kettering High School  
Retirement  
January 19, 2009

Lee Pattison, Teacher  
Kettering High School  
Retirement  
January 19, 2009

FUTURE

November 6, 2008

Information - Budget Revision 2008-2009  
Information - Historian and Teacher Grant  
Information - Homeless Assistance Act Grant

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.