
Board Briefs

SUMMARY OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION INTERIM MEETING

January 7, 2010

STUDENT ITEM

Pierce: National Junior Honor Society - Students from Pierce Middle School addressed the Board of Education regarding the purpose and goal of the Pierce chapter of the National Junior Honors Society. In addition, the students shared information on their many projects and activities that benefit various charities and organizations.

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT BY CENTRAL STAFF

Dow Automotive - Each year during the holiday season, Kingsley Montgomery School is adopted by the Dow Automotive group of Auburn Hills. Staff members for Dow put on a holiday show for KMS and provide holiday gifts for all students. To show their appreciation, the staff provides a potluck lunch for Dow Automotive. This wonderful relationship and event were coordinated by Renee Watt, Instructional Aide at Kingsley Montgomery School. She helps to make sure that every student gets a gift and that the Dow staff is fed and appreciated. Thank you to Dow Automotive and Renee Watt.

Waterford-Pontiac ELKS - Kathy Menig, Social Worker, and Sandra Swearingen, teacher at Kingsley Montgomery School, collaborated with the Waterford - Pontiac ELKS to provide Christmas gifts for students in the Severe Cognitive and Severe Multiply Impaired programs. Through their efforts, ELKS helped to provide gifts for 61 students between the ages of 3 and 25. The big surprise gift was a Wii Fit for the students in the program to use in conjunction with their adaptive physical education program. Thank you to the Waterford-Pontiac ELKS, Kathy Menig, and Sandra Swearingen for making this holiday season special for so many of our students.

INFORMATION ITEM

Head Start Policies - The Head Start program is required by the federal government to have a policy committee. This committee meets monthly for the purpose of developing and approving policies for the Head Start program. All policies developed and approved by this committee also require Board of Education approval. As such, the following policies were recommended to Board of Education for approval: Code of Operations, Reimbursement, Recruitment, Governance Plan, Internal Dispute Resolution and Grievance Dispute for Community Complaints. A recommendation for approval will be presented on January 21.

School Reform Legislation - Robert Neu, Superintendent of Schools, provided an update to the Board of Education on recent school reform legislation.

Title I Hardware Purchase - Mike Batten, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction & Accountability, and Darin Holley, Supervisor of Instructional Data, provided the Board of Education with information as it relates to the purchase of wireless technology infrastructure hardware. The purchase of this equipment was included in the District's Consolidated Title I application that has been submitted to and approved by the Michigan Department of Education. This purchase is in alignment with the District's Continuous Improvement Plan and NCA-AdvancED recommendations.

The hardware will make Title I buildings wireless. This will enable staff to individualize instruction for at-risk students through safe, secure on-line learning opportunities.

The administration recommends that the Board of Education purchases wireless, infrastructure for a total amount not to exceed \$70,090, through Computer Discount Warehouse-Government (CDW-G).

CDW-G is a leading provider of technology products and services for Federal, state and local government, as well as education. CDW-G holds hundreds of contracts and preferred vendor awards for Federal, state and local governments, ensuring competitive pricing. CDW-G pricing is consistently the lowest for many of our technology infrastructure purchases because they use an RFP process similar to and including REMC. On our wireless infrastructure, we will save an additional 34% from an already discounted list price.

A recommendation for approval will be presented to the Board at the January 21, 2010, Board of Education meeting.

Funding Source: Federal Dollars, Title I AARA Funds

Title I Software Purchase - Mike Batten, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction & Accountability, and Darin Holley, Supervisor of Instructional Data, provided the Board of Education with information as it relates to the development of a literacy tracking system which was included in the District's Consolidated Title I application that has been submitted to and approved by the Michigan Department of Education. This purchase is in alignment with the District's Continuous Improvement plan and NCA-AdvancED recommendations.

The tracking system will provide an aligned, comprehensive method for monitoring student achievement in literacy. This system will provide a user friendly, flexible method for data entry, data analysis and the creation of reports. Staff will be able to monitor student growth in a formative method adjusting learning for students based on individual needs. This tracking system will not only report student success on district assessments, but be able to predict student success on future district and state assessments.

The administration recommends that the Board of Education approve the purchase of the literacy tracking system for the total amount not to exceed \$99,000, through British Technologies (BT INS). This project is a continuation of the District's work with BT in a developing our datamart (ORCA- On-line Resource for Curriculum and Assessment). The District's long standing relationship with BT will ensure the integration of this tracking system into our current system.

A recommendation for approval will be presented to the Board at the January 21, 2010 Board of Education meeting.

Funding Source: Federal Dollars, Title I AARA Funds

PUBLIC HEARING PERTAINING TO ABANDONMENT OF EMPLOYMENT

A public hearing was held by the Board of Education in regards to the abandonment of employment by a District employee.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution: Abandonment of Employment - The Board of Education approved a resolution regarding the termination of an employee due to job abandonment.

FUTURE

January 21, 2010

- (1) Organization - Election of Officers
- (2) Organization - Board Appointments
- (3) Student - Beaumont: Empowering Student Learners
- (4) Information - Budget Revisions
- (5) Information - Facility Utilization Study Update
- (6) Action - Head Start Policies
- (7) Action - Title I Hardware Purchase
- (8) Action - Title I Software Purchase

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. Board of Education meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of each month, beginning at 6:00 PM. The public is invited to attend.