

Pending approval.

October 5, 2009

Regular Meeting of the Lawrence Public
Schools Board of Education.

Members Present: Julie Beam, Chuck
Carpp, Dave Garvison, Jeff Johnson,
Gerry Martin, Tom Reynnells

Member Absent: Carol Sjoquist

Administration Present: John Overley,
Sue McQueen

Administration Absent: Jay Peterson

Athletic Director Present: Jeff Miller

Reynnells moved and Carpp supported the motion to approve the September 8, 2009 minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Carpp moved and Beam supported the motion to approve the bills of \$444,109.01 as presented. Discussion was held. Motion carried 6-0.

Comments from the public:

Jim Sanborn, representing the Athletic Boosters, requested both the indoor concession stand and the outdoor concession stand be given to the Athletic Boosters. He stated concerns working with the Band Boosters with bulk purchases and purchases that were required to be ordered through the Pepsi organization. It was stated the agreement at present was the Band Boosters and the Athletic Boosters would rotate in and out concessions two years at a time. Discussion was held. The board would look into the past minutes to review the actual agreement and then direct the concern to the policy committee to meet with three members of each group and to report back to the November, 2009 board meeting.

Discussion was held having the band participate as part of the tunnel at the football games. Miller stated an adjustment of

the schedule could be made to make this possible.

Troy Zimmerlee asked if the Athletic Committee had made any recommendation to allow for an assistant coach for the wrestling program. Johnson stated there had been no allowance made for this position at this time due to the unknown financial status from the State.

Martin moved and Carpp supported the motion to approve Mindy Russell-Haight's request for a joint Spanish class trip to the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico in the summer of 2010 with Hartford's Spanish Class reserving the right to cancel at anytime due to safety reasons. Discussion was held. It was stated the students are covered under the school insurance for this trip. Motion carried 6-0.

Overley presented Peterson's High School Principal's report highlighting the Count Day, the upcoming MEAP testing and Homecoming Week. The report stated ongoing projects in communication with parents and the discipline tracker program for faculty.

McQueen stated the elementary had had a successful Open House, Count Day and Grandparent's Day. The fundraiser was a success, but receipts were down about 20%. The elementary cross country meet will be held Oct 6, 2009.

Miller presented the Athletic Director's report stating the position will be posted for the Head Freshman Volleyball coach and that Wendy Charles had volunteered to help Jr. High volleyball. He stated we have hosted 19 home athletic events since August. Financial assistance for physicals, and sports goggles had been provided to a few students in need. A Entergy Open Grant request, submitted by Dale Gribler, for a baseball batting cage at a total \$4,000 had been approved.

McQueen presented a positive overview of the Annual Report stating the elementary had received an "A" from the State based on AYP and student scores.

Overley presented a positive overview of the Annual Report stating the Jr./Sr. High School had received a "B" from the State based on AYP and student scores. He stated all faculty

K-12 were “Highly Qualified”. A letter of appreciation and congratulations will be sent to all staff on their positive report.

Carpp moved and Beam supported the motion to approve Joe Hillman’s letter of resignation from freshman basketball with regret. Motion carried 6-0.

Carpp moved and Beam supported the motion to accept Jodi Rittenhouse’s letter of resignation from freshman volleyball. Motion carried 6-0.

Martin moved and Reynnells supported the motion to approve Becky Cook’s request for eight weeks of maternity leave, under the FMLA, using personal business and sick days. Motion carried 6-0.

Carpp moved and Martin supported the motion to approve setting Commencement on Sunday, June 6, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Overley presented the budget update. He stated the State approved the continuation budget but no action had been taken on the K-12 budget at this time. He also stated the school aid payment may not go out to the schools if the decision is not made by October 9, 2009. The Michigan Promise Scholarship has been cut from the budget. The State will not be financing the school bus inspection this year. We do not need the inspection until May 2010. Overley has attended county wide superintendent’s meetings discussing ways the county schools can come together to share costs.

Overley stated the final student count on Count Day is 730.35, down 10-12 students from the previous school year.

Overley is still looking into the possibility of moving the school elections to the November election. He stated rotation of board terms may have to be adjusted and an open hearing needs to be held before December 31. It was noted that all school board requests would be listed at the bottom of the ballot. A report will be brought back to the November meeting.

Martin reported from the committee for “Outstanding People for Education Award” that the Van Buren County ISD is

working on. A Lawrence selection committee will be formed including Sue McQueen, Gerry Martin, one teacher and one support staff.

Martin suggested comments from the public be placed on the agenda both at the beginning of the board meeting and at the end of the board meeting.

Troy Zimmerlee commended Jeff Miller on having all athletic functions well organized and welcoming for other schools.

Carpp moved and Garvison supported the motion to approve Wendy Charles as a volunteer for Jr. High volleyball. Motion carried 6-0.

Reynnells moved and Carpp supported the motion to higher Heather Jarka to fill the Head Freshman volleyball coach position if other applicants are not favorable. Motion carried 6-0.

Gene Butler was not present with website updates. Overlay stated Sinclair graphics sent the school logo for the new banner and Al LaShall has taken pictures of the facility for the website.

Discussion was held on a possible student discipline issue. Overlay stated there would be a possible board meeting October 14, 2009.

Discussion was held regarding school safety issues and making the buildings more secure.

Linda Marshall still has a balance of \$51,138.20 to be repaid to the school district from the embezzlement. The original amount was \$74,535.00 with the insurance paying \$10,000.

Discussion was held on possible diploma cover changes. The board had no objection to Peterson's ideas for the cover changes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Pat Garrod, Recording Secretary.