

**DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL**  
**HOWELL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**ADMINISTRATION BUILDING BOARD ROOM**  
**September 22, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Literski at 6:00 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD**

Present: Mr. Literski, President; Ms. Pratt, Vice President; Mr. Yenshaw, Secretary; Mr. Fondriest, Treasurer; Mr. Westmoreland, Trustee; Ms. Day, Trustee; Mr. Michaels, Trustee.

**CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT**

Mr. Gardella, Superintendent; Ms. Parrish, Deputy Superintendent for Labor Relations and Personnel; Mr. Terres, Associate Superintendent for Business; Ms. Farina, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum, Assessment and Staff Development; Mr. Peterson, Director of Operations; Mr. Pominville, Director of Technology; Dawn Bentley, Director of Special Education.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

#2008-050 Moved by Mr. Westmoreland and supported by Ms. Pratt that the board adjourn into executive session pursuant to Section 8(b) of the Open Meetings Act, it being understood that a closed session hearing had been requested by the family of the student who is recommended for expulsion.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution #2008-050: Westmoreland-Yes; Fondriest-Yes; Pratt-Yes; Literski-Yes; Yenshaw-Yes; Day-Yes; Michaels-Yes. No. None. Motion carried 7-0.

The board adjourned into executive session at 6:04 PM.

The board reconvened into public session at 7:02 PM.

**ROUTINE ITEMS**

Agenda Additions, Deletions and Approval

#2008-051 Moved by Mr. Westmoreland and supported by Ms. Pratt that the agenda be approved. Yes: Westmoreland, Fondriest, Pratt, Literski, Yenshaw, Day, Michaels. No: None. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes September 15, 2008

#2008-052 Moved by Mr. Fondriest and supported by Mr. Yenshaw that the minutes of the special meeting of September 15, 2008, be approved. Yes: Fondriest, Pratt, Literski, Yenshaw, Day, Michaels. No: None. Abstention: Mr. Westmoreland. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A. Board Members

- Ms. Day heard from community members regarding board elections, curriculum, sex education, and political discussions in the classroom.
- Ms. Pratt and Mr. Literski noted receipt of MASB information.
- Mr. Michaels noted receipt of correspondence regarding curriculum issues.

B. Superintendent

Mr. Gardella noted communication with LESA on new alternative education options for students, including Ombudsman, and with LESA regarding grant opportunities with respect to the Parker Campus.

**HOWELL HIGHLIGHTS AND HAPPENINGS**

- Great turnout at the Howell v. Ann Arbor Pioneer football game
- Ms. Pratt shared an invitation from the homecoming decorating committee inviting the board to help with decorations and / or to see the finished product.

**REPORTS**

A. Student Representative to the Board

Student representative to the board, Anna Wyatt, reported on upcoming HHS activities, including Powder Puff football, September 30 at 6:00 PM, followed by a bonfire from 8:00 – 10:00 PM; Homecoming Pep Assembly, Oct 3, during 6<sup>th</sup> hour, followed by the homecoming parade at 5:00 PM; Homecoming Dance, October 4.

B. Superintendent Report

The board heard a report from Superintendent Gardella on field trip approvals by the board; the Options diploma issue and ongoing work on solutions; and a proposal to use Parker High School for a film project.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Pat Convery, President of the Howell Area Chamber of Commerce, commented on the proposed film project in Howell and expressed her support.
- Kim Witt, 968 Eager Pines Court, commented on the educational opportunities the proposed film project would bring to Howell students; reported that HHS football players helped the fire department move equipment and fill sandbags at the American Red Cross building during the recent heavy rains.
- Carol Elliot, NW teacher, highlighted programs at NW elementary.
- Barb Barden, Executive Director of Livingston County Convention and Visitors Bureau, spoke in support of the film proposal at Parker High School, and commented on the positive economic impact to the community.
- Valerie Webster, 1101 Gray Fox, commented that the film opportunity sounds wonderful; expressed her concerns regarding the Curriculum department.

**MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

A. Neola

The board discussed the cost of contracting Neola, Inc., to develop the board policy book and administrative guidelines. Board members reported positive feedback on Neola reference checks.

B. Graduation

The board discussed the HHS graduation dates. Ms. Pratt asked that the graduation date be an administrative decision, rather than a board decision.

The issue will be sent back to the high school administration for further consideration.

C. New 403B National Regulations

The new 403B regulations were discussed.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

#2008-053 Moved by Ms. Pratt and supported by Mr. Michaels that the board, upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following consent items:

A. Change in Status of Employees

Approval of: *Resignations*: Teacher / Media Specialist Dan Davenport, effective September 19, 2008; Instructional Assistant Kayla Parrot, effective September 16, 2008; Instructional Assistant Nanette Frimodig, effective September 16, 2008; Instructional Assistant Tammy Bruck, effective September 16, 2008; Instructional Assistant Sandra Wrenn, effective September 17, 2008. *Retirements*: LR Special Needs Aide Cindy Matie, effective September 26, 2008, with 21 years of service. *New Hires - Non -Certified\**: Voyager General Education Aide Robin Resinger, effective September 10, 2008; CH General Education Aide Cheryl Rineman, effective September 15, 2008; SW General Education Aide Kristine Crawford, effective September 16, 2008; HU Food Service Assistant Julianne Endebrock, effective September 17, 2008.

B. Payment of Vouchers

Approval of payment of expenditures from the following funds: payment from the general fund of \$3,257,924.74 and from payroll of \$2,438,282.00; payment from the athletic fund of \$14,622.98; payment from the student activity fund of \$114.62; payment from the HHS student activity fund of \$1,026.80; payment from the cafeteria fund of \$9,416.78; payment from the 2003 construction fund of \$2,943,450.35; payment from the 2001 construction fund of \$770.00.

C. Approval of Overnight Field

The board approve (1) overnight field trip to Clear Lake Outdoor Education Center in Dowling, Michigan, for SE Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from November 17 -21, 2008.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution #2008-053: Westmoreland-Yes; Fondriest-Yes; Pratt-Yes; Literski-Yes; Day-Yes; Yenshaw-Yes; Michaels-Yes. No: None. Motion carried 7-0.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Moved by Ms. Pratt and supported by Ms. Day to add the following items under the Action portion of the agenda: D. Approval of the Resolution drafted by Thrun Law regarding the film project; E. Approval of Neola, Inc., to develop the Howell Public Schools board policy book. Yes: Westmoreland, Fondriest, Pratt, Literski, Yenshaw, Day, Michaels. No: None. Motion carried.

#2008-054 A. Action Resulting from Student Expulsion Hearing Case #043  
Moved by Ms. Day and supported by Ms. Pratt that the student identified in Case #043 be expelled from Howell Public Schools for 180 days from the date of the offense.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution #2008-054: Westmoreland-Yes; Fondriest-Yes; Pratt-Yes; Literski-Yes; Yenshaw-Yes; Day-Yes; Michaels-Yes. No: None. Motion carried. Motion carried 7-0.

#2008-055 B. Approval of the Head Start Food Service Contract with Livingston Educational Service Agency (LESA)  
Moved by Ms. Day and supported by Ms. Pratt that the board approve the Head Start Food Service Contract with Livingston Educational Service Agency (LESA), as per Exhibit B of the official minutes.

#2008-056 Moved by Ms. Day to amend Action Item B to include wording in the contract making invoices payable within 30 days of receipt. Ms. Pratt seconded the motion. Yes: Westmoreland, Fondriest, Pratt, Literski, Yenshaw, Day, Michaels. No: None Motion carried.

Vote on Resolution #2008-055 as amended: Yes: Westmoreland, Fondriest, Pratt, Literski, Yenshaw, Day, Michaels. No: None. Motion carried 7-0.

#2008-057 C. Approval of the Michigan School Readiness Contract with Livingston Educational Service Agency (LESA)  
Moved by Ms. Pratt and support by Mr. Michaels that the board approve the Michigan School Readiness Contract with Livingston Educational Service Agency (LESA), as per Exhibit C of the official board minutes.

Vote on Resolution #2008-057: Yes: Westmoreland, Fondriest, Pratt, Literski, Yenshaw, Day, Michaels. No: None. Motion carried 7-0.

#2008-058 D. Approval of the Resolution Regarding the Proposed Film Project at Parker High School  
Moved by Ms. Day and supported by Ms. Pratt the board approve the resolution prepared by Thrun Law as it relates to the proposed film project at Parker High School.

Vote on Resolution #2008-058: Yes: Westmoreland, Fondriest, Pratt, Literski, Yenshaw, Day, Michaels. No: None. Motion carried 7-0.

E. Approval to Contract Neola, Inc., to Develop the Howell Public Schools Board Policy Book

#2008-059

Moved by Ms. Day and supported by Mr. Westmoreland that the board approve contracting Neola, Inc., to develop the Howell Public Schools board policy book, as per the quote received by the superintendent's office.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution #2008-059: Westmoreland-Yes; Fondriest-Yes; Pratt-Yes; Literski-Yes; Yenshaw-Yes; Day-Yes; Michaels-Yes. No. None. Motion carried. Motion carried 7-0.

## COMMENTS

### Guests

- Julie Albaugh, 977 Pinecone, commented on the HHS graduation date as it relates to the senior all-night party; commented on the Powder Puff football game and the movie proposal; asked questions about the MI Merit Diploma and curriculum.

### Board of Education

- Mr. Fondriest asked about Hot Topics.
- Ms. Day thanked the Howell Area Chamber of Commerce and the Visitors Bureau for attending; commented on the opportunity to address concerns brought up by guests tonight, at the next meeting.
- Mr. Literski commented on the urgency of the film proposal and suggested a Special board meeting on Monday, September 29, 2008, at 6:00 PM.
- Mr. Yenshaw thanked Mr. Larry Lemerand for contacting him and providing the impetus for this film project.
- Mr. Michaels thanked the Howell Area Chamber of Commerce and the Visitors Bureau for being proactive.
- Ms. Pratt commented on the movie; encouraged individuals who hear rumors to take their questions directly to the source; commented that she and Mr. Michaels attended a presentation by the MEA at Pinckney High School; asked the high school principal to pass on the boards thanks to the HHS football team for their support in the community.

### Superintendent / Administration / Recognition of Attending School Personnel

- Mr. Gardella recognized and thanked attending administrators: Kara Cotton from NW, Kari Naghtin from LR, Melanie Post from SE, Aaron Moran from HHS, and Deb Madeja from CH; thanked everyone who attended; thanked Mr. Terres for his work on the film project, and expressed his appreciation for the openness by the board on this project.

## ADJOURNMENT

The board meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

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Michael Yenshaw, Secretary  
Board of Education