

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent
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September 24, 2010

**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE
KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Kalamazoo Public Schools will be held on **Thursday, September 30, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 1220 Howard Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Marcy L. Peake, Secretary
Board of Education

The Board of Trustees, Superintendent and senior staff will have an informational meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's office area, and will also discuss any matters that may come before the Board.

- ❖ Please contact the Superintendent's Office in advance of the meeting if auxiliary aids or services for individuals with disabilities are needed.
- ❖ Official minutes of Kalamazoo Public Schools Board of Education open meetings are available for inspection within eight working days of the meeting at the Superintendent's Office, 1220 Howard Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

REVISED 9-29-10

**KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Meeting
1220 Howard Street
September 30, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.**

A G E N D A

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Attendance**
- IV. Announcements and Recognitions**
- V. Committee Reports/School Reports**
- VI. Correspondence**
- VII. Consent Calendar Items**
 - A. Minutes**
September 16, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - B. Business and Financial Reports**
 - C. Personnel Items**
Personnel Changes
 - D. Other**
- VIII. Persons Requesting to Address the Board (3 minutes individual limit)**
- IX. Reports and Recommendations**
- X. Other Business**
Policy 4.10 Homeless Education – First Reading
- XI. Comments by Trustees/Superintendent**
- XII. Executive Session (if needed)**

Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: Thursday, October 14, 2010.

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education
1220 Howard Street
September 16, 2010 – Regular Meeting

I. Call to Order

President Carol McGlinn called the September 16, 2010 regular Board of Education meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 1220 Howard Street.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Attendance

Board members present: Ervin Armstrong, Eric Breisach, Liz Henderson, Carol McGlinn, Marcy Peake, Patti Sholler-Barber, and Dr. Martha Warfield. Superintendent Dr. Michael F. Rice was also present.

IV. Announcements and Recognitions

Executive Director of Communications Alex Lee presented for recognition a team of three students whose original film, “Being Great,” won first place in the 2010 National Boys and Girls Club Digital Arts Festival. Team members were ArieYonna Yarbrough from Milwood Magnet School: A Center for Math, Science, and Technology; RayJean Wright from Hillside Middle School; and Yatesha Welch, who attended Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts last school year, but was unable to attend the meeting. The students’ family members in the audience were also recognized, as was Mr. Kevin Campbell, Principal of Milwood Magnet School.

V. School Reports/Committee Reports

Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee – *Marcy Peake, chair*: The committee met on September 13 and developed a list of proposed topics for future agendas. The committee’s next meeting is October 11, 2010.

Budget Committee – *Eric Breisach, chair*: The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 28 at 6:00 p.m.

Evaluation Committee – *Patti Sholler-Barber, chair*: The first meeting will be held on Monday, October 4 at 5:00 p.m.

Policy Committee – *Liz Henderson, chair*: The committee will mainly meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, with the first meeting scheduled for September 28 at 4:30 p.m.

Teaching and Learning Council – *Patti Sholler-Barber, representative*: The Teaching and Learning Council will meet for the first time on October 7.

Communities in Schools of Kalamazoo – *Carol McGlinn, representative*: The CIS Board will meet on September 17.

Wellness Committee – *Ervin Armstrong, representative*: The first meeting of the school year will be Tuesday, September 21 at 4:00 p.m.

School Reports

Ervin Armstrong: Reported that several KPS students had cultivated two community gardens over the summer that won first place in “vegetables” (tomatoes and cucumbers). The students were very excited about winning the award, performing community service, and giving the food to others.

VI. Correspondence

Secretary Peake reviewed the correspondence received by the Board during the period of August 27-September 16, 2010. (File #5.)

VII. Consent Calendar

President McGlinn presented the Consent Calendar items: VII.A. August 26, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes, VII.C. Personnel Changes, and VII.D. Board Member Travel Expense Report.

Motion: Implied to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

Disposition: Voice vote: motion carried, 7-yes, 0-no, 0-abstentions.

VIII. Persons Requesting to Address the Board

Hether Frayer, 147 N. Berkley, conveyed her disappointment in the playground at Northglade Montessori Magnet School. She noted that she had read that the funds had been set aside for playground improvements, but have not yet been spent for this purpose, and should be.

IX. Reports and Recommendations

There were no reports or recommendations.

X. Other Business

Deputy Superintendent of Business, Communications and Operations Gary Start announced that the district and the Kalamazoo Education Association (KEA) have reached a contractual agreement for the 2010-2011 school year, and that the KEA membership has ratified the agreement. Provisions of the contract include a one percent base pay increase and minor changes to the increment schedule, which are offset by employee contributions to retirement. He said it is an outstanding contract, and thanked the KEA and the bargaining teams. Mr. Start added that the contract is good for teachers, yet also recognizes the financial realities of the district.

Motion: Moved by Patti Sholler-Barber, supported by Liz Henderson, to approve the contractual agreement between Kalamazoo Public Schools and the Kalamazoo Education Association for 2010-2011.

Board discussion: Ms. Sholler-Barber stated that she was “ecstatic” about this contractual agreement being settled so soon. She received confirmation from Mr. Start that this is the third contract in a row that has been settled before the start of the school year. He said that this is an indication of both sides of the table being willing to work together and arrive at solutions, and that it is also a show of confidence in each other. Ms. Sholler-Barber agreed, and thanked everyone who came to the table to do this difficult job. Ms. Henderson also congratulated both bargaining teams for the extensive time and effort involved. She said the KEA contract is one of the most important things that the district does, usually on a year-to-year basis. Mr. Breisach also offered congratulations to everyone involved. He said that in the past few years, the community has come together tremendously for our kids and the mission of educating our children. This is just one more example of the results of direction from the Board, leadership from Dr. Rice, leadership of the union, and hard work by teachers and staff. He added that this contract settlement is indicative of everyone working and moving together in a positive direction for the benefit of the kids. Ms. McGlinn also congratulated everyone.

Superintendent Rice extended thanks to all involved in this contract settlement, including Gary Start, Sheila Dorsey, and Barb Ruga. He also thanked Millie Lambert, Joe Ryan, Mike Milka and the rest of the KEA bargaining team. Dr. Rice noted that the actual tentative agreement had been completed several weeks before, but due to terms of the KEA bylaws, it could not be ratified until the membership had the opportunity to return for the school year for conversation before the vote. Dr. Rice also emphasized the importance of strong relationships among the district’s associations, particularly the teachers’ association membership, due to its critical work with our schools’ young people.

Audience comments: None.

Disposition: Roll call vote: motion carried, 7-yes, 0-no, 0-abstentions.

XI. Comments by Trustees

Patti Sholler-Barber: Stated that many people have contacted her for information about the Make a Promise to Volunteer campaign through Communities in Schools of Kalamazoo. She said that she appreciates the community's publicity of the program. Ms. Sholler-Barber also expressed her hope that the new shoes that so many children received for the beginning of the school year were serving their intended purposes. She also commented on the heartwarming experiences of being a "Celebrity Greeter" at the schools on the first day. She said that because of her association with Family and Children Services, she knows that many businesses and faith-based organizations in the community have ensured that children have backpacks and school supplies, as well as shoes. Lastly, Ms. Sholler-Barber commented on her pleasure at being able to greet the returning staff at Miller Auditorium on August 30. She said that this event serves a great connector for staff.

Liz Henderson: Reported on the graduation celebration ceremony for the students in the Institute for New Leadership, which was funded by the Arcus Foundation. Ms. Peake was a leader and facilitator for these young people who are learning to be leaders. She said that hearing what the students had to say and seeing their eagerness to get going was inspiring. They are not tempered with life experience or wisdom, which can sometimes be a very good thing, because their thinking can be that there is nothing that they can't approach and work on to bring benefit to the world at large. Ms. Henderson thanked Ms. Peake for her leadership role in the Institute for New Leadership, especially since several of the students were from KPS. Ms. Peake added that ten of the twelve students have either attended Kalamazoo Public Schools, graduated from KPS, or are current KPS students. Five of the 12 are attending Kalamazoo Valley Community College or Western Michigan University on the Kalamazoo Promise scholarship. Two are attending Phoenix High School and are on track to graduate in 2011.

Carol McGlenn: Noted that the kick-off for the United Way campaign was held the previous night, and that KPS has always been a generous contributor to the campaign. She said that she appreciates the work of Sheila Dorsey as one of the campaign chairs, and all of the great work done by United Way. Ms. McGlenn also congratulated Kalamazoo RESA on its beautiful new facility, WoodsEdge Learning Center. She said that it will be a wonderful asset to the community, and will positively affect the lives of the many students who will be educated there. Ms. McGlenn also expressed how much she enjoyed greeting the children at Milwood Elementary School on opening day. Regarding the Make a Promise to Volunteer campaign, she said that the large number of volunteers that has contacted the Specialized Language Development (SLD) Center attests to the success of the campaign. Ms. McGlenn encouraged people who are interested in volunteering to work with children to contact Communities in Schools of Kalamazoo to receive information about placement.

Ms. Sholler-Barber also expressed her appreciation for the WoodsEdge Learning Center and the many citizens whose support made the building of the school possible.

Comments by the Superintendent

Superintendent Rice relayed the following information: 1) For the first time in 25 years there is a new middle school schedule in the district, one which will provide more opportunity to address the needs of young people; 2) For the first time since 1999 there is a new high school schedule that will provide more opportunity for Advanced Placement courses, credit retrieval, Michigan Merit Exam requirements, and more time on task; and 3) For the first time since 2004, middle schools have a new math schedule. Additionally, the district is working to encourage to a much greater extent the assignment of homework. Since current state requirements do not allow sufficient time to educate students in the state, the district will put effort into extending the school day and week in a traditional yet effective way through the encouragement of homework in our schools.

Dr. Rice also stated that Make a Promise to Volunteer is an outstanding way of connecting young people with adults that become important in their lives. He noted that students from the Middle School Alternative Learning Program had mentored students in Mr. Armstrong's program. Ironically, students

that others may think need tutoring themselves benefit greatly from taking on the greater responsibility of helping the younger children.

Dr. Rice also commented about the WoodsEdge Learning Center, and thanked the voters for the K/RESA millage that supported the building of the Center. He congratulated K/RESA Superintendent Ron Fuller, the K/RESA Board, and all others who were involved in making WoodsEdge a reality. To conclude, Dr. Rice said that the district is off and going with over 12,000 young people, for the first time in many years.

XII. Executive Session

President McGlenn did not call for an executive session, and adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat VerMeulen, on behalf of
Marcy L. Peake, Secretary
Board of Education

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Michael F. Rice, Ph.D.

DATE: September 30, 2010

SUBJECT: Personnel Changes

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board approve the following employment changes:

- I. Employment
 - A. Professional/Management
Colleen Dailey, Occupational Therapist, Student Services, 09/27/2010
 - B. Classified
Joshua Brown, Attendance Interventionist, Phoenix High School, 09/13/2010
Carresha Cox, Special Education Paraprofessional, Lincoln International Studies School, 10/11/2010
Mary Marton, Bilingual Paraprofessional, Bilingual Department, 09/20/2010
- II. Promotions/Key Transfers
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified
- III. Leaves of Absence
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified
- IV. Terminations
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified

POLICY
of the
BOARD OF EDUCATION
KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

4.10 Homeless Education

Policy

Kalamazoo Public Schools will provide children who reside in the Kalamazoo Public School District or whose last school was a Kalamazoo Public School and who meet the federal definition of "homeless" with a free and appropriate public education in the same manner as all other students of the District.

Specifics

1. Homeless students will not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless.
2. Homeless students will not be denied enrollment based on lack of proof of residency.
3. Homeless students will be provided with services comparable to other students in the District, which may include: transportation services, educational services for which the homeless student meets eligibility criteria including services provided under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act or similar state and local programs, educational programs for children with disabilities, educational programs for students with limited English proficiency, and school nutrition programs.
4. The Superintendent will appoint a liaison for homeless children who will perform duties as assigned by the Superintendent. Additionally, the liaison will coordinate and collaborate with the state designee for the education of homeless children and youth, as well as with community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youth.

Draft for first reading: September 30, 2010

This policy supersedes all other policies on this issue.