

# Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes April 28, 2025 Powell 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy – Media Center

Called to Order

6:00 p.m. Called to order by President, Rachel Eichhorst. 7 members present. 0 members absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by the Board

**Approved** 

Agenda for April 28, 2025 Regular Meeting. Rice moved. Antoine supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried. Agenda Approved.

Dr. Robinson requested a slight amendment to the agenda to move the Board Discussion and Public Comment before the closed session. Rice moved. Bowman supported. Amendment approved.

**Bulldog Spotlight** 

- The winter All-State athletes were introduced and presented with a certificate.
   Coach Cali spoke regarding the team's success.
- A presentation was given on the Secondary Adjusted Studies Programming at RMS,
   9GA and RHS. An overview, highlights and photos of students were shared.
   Students and parents spoke and gave their perspectives of the program.

### **Presentations**

None

## **Approved**

**Consent Action Items A-E.** Banach moved. Bowman supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

- General Fund Bills (check register)
- Financial Reports (summary, revenue & expense reports)
- Wire Transfer report
- Purchasing Card Expenditures
- Minutes from Regular Meeting held on March 17, 2025

Informational Updates/New Business

**Communications** – A thank you letter from Supt. DeVault for hosting the Governor and the IAM Graduation Ceremony Invitation were shared with the board.

#### Committee Reports –

Curriculum – Mrs. Eichhorst gave an overview of the meeting and stated the bulk of time was reviewing CKLA. Up for discussion was adopting a 3<sup>rd</sup> edition to CKLA. They discussed the units in that edition which would allow for some unit replacements and the pricing. There would be a buy-back on current materials which are not being used. If approved, it would be a 3-year contract. They discussed the math pilots and how they are going. The committees will have further discussions and it will be coming up for approval at a future date. Staffing needs were discussed and there's a resolution on the agenda tonight for 4 additional teaching positions at the secondary level. Media materials and the media materials policy were briefly discussed.

Safety – Mrs. Bowman gave an overview of the meeting. The Committee reviewed the safety focus areas progress for the 24/25 school year priorities which included the emergency response team coordination. They had facility site visits which allows first responders to tour the buildings when school is not in session and has shown to improve response time in recent incidents. Outcomes of the 2024 table top exercise were reviewed including emergency communication, unified command & support and the reunification process. A cardiac response update was given. The district nurse has taken over the leadership of this legal requirement. Every school now has a designated team to respond in the case of a cardiac event. Mrs. Rice inquired as to how staff is trained and suggested they understand the use of NARCAN for potential drug overdoses. History and data for state funding for safety was reviewed. RCS safety funding and projections were shared. In school violence prevention was discussed. A 3rd SRO at the 9GA was discussed. Mike Thomas and Officer Bauer stated the data does not support this at this time. Board members requested a report of incidents that occur. Dr. Robinson shared how a portion of the budget is devoted to security matters and the board requested that they look at the numbers so the public can see what they are focusing their efforts on. Emergency communications were reviewed. A parent outreach event was discussed with Kenny Spears for parents to learn the negative effects of social media.

Finance – Mr. Antoine gave an overview of the meeting. Discussions took place on 5 resolutions which are on the agenda. One pertains to childcare fees – a proposal to standardize fees to get proper staffing and an increase based on competitiveness to other districts. The student refresh for 1 to 1 devices which has been built into the budget to happen every 4 years was discussed. The food service fund which has additional money in excess of what is allowed and some expenditures for consideration (a new food service truck, food service equipment, new food items and a reclassification of a position to a supervisor) were reviewed. The contract for Shield which is up for renewal and the resolution for baseball field and middle school track bleachers were also discussed.

Facilities – Mrs. Banach gave an overview of the meeting which was a committee of the whole. Members from Barton Malow and MI School Research were in attendance. Discussions took place on future bond planning. A report was given on the community feedback. MI School Data conducted focus groups and a survey which identified items that need more and better communication. They discussed perception vs. reality especially pertaining to enrollment. Those results will help to create information for the bond campaign. The bond application process and the timeline were reviewed and the 4 project groups were discussed (infrastructure, safety and security, learning environment and arts and athletics). Discussions took place on how bond messages can be delivered and the 1 to 1 device refresh. Barton Malow gave an overview of Group 2 projects, Group 3 projects were discussed, and change orders were reviewed

## Superintendent's Report -

Academic Services Update -

Elementary – Mr. Murray gave an elementary update. The math pilot decision meeting will take place on May 13<sup>th.</sup> They are in the process of collecting feedback from teachers so that they can choose the best curriculum for students. He thanked the educators and people who supported the process. He shared updates on summer programming – summer skills program for grades 1-3 and a virtual program tied to IXL is being reviewed for grades 4-5. ECE to Elementary collaboration is in process. They are trying to streamline the process to ease the transition for students moving from Croswell to the elementary buildings. Early childhood educators will be visiting the elementary schools to learn what's needed for a 4 or 5-year-old to be successful and in mid-May teachers from Croswell & the elementaries will have transition meetings.

## Secondary -

Ms. McFarlane gave a secondary update. WDIV did a Trade up spotlight video on the skilled trades and it can be viewed on the WBRW website. The RHS Class of 2025 Approval of Graduates is on the agenda tonight (pending successful completion of requirements). Some math pilots are taking place at the middle and high school and a follow-up meeting is taking place on May 15th. The high school has moved away from a "Top 10" to Summa Cum Laude honors. Forty-one students earned the Summa Cum Laude honors and are invited to a dinner. The student newspaper created an edition

recognizing these graduates. The IAM and The Early College of Macomb Commencement dates were shared.

## Enrollment Driven Teaching Positions 2025-26

A resolution for 4 new teaching positions at the high school and middle school are on the agenda. Ms. McFarlane explained the rationale on why these positions are needed.

#### Facilities Bond Update -

Dr. Robinson listed the construction resolutions and spoke about the change orders. He discussed the new bleachers, the technology student device replacement and the courtyard project which is out to bid and that may be brought to the May meeting. He thanked everyone that participated in the Bond Planning Focus Groups and Community Survey which he stated gave valuable insight.

## District Leadership Team Priorities 2025-26-

The 2025-26 District Leadership Priorities were listed. These were grouped together in 4 groups. He reviewed Group 1 priorities (maintaining math interventionists and working on equitable and sustainable contracts). These will be built into the budget and accounted for before they talk about funding for any other priority groups.

Mrs. Eichhorst mentioned that administrators and cabinet members met at the study session to present their vision, needs and wants and a lot of legwork goes into creating the list and prioritizing it.

# **Upcoming Meetings**

A list of future board meetings and dates was shared. June and July board meetings will be held at Croswell due to building renovations.

#### **Public Comment**

Mrs. Danielle Lee spoke regarding Policy 4005 and asked for clarification on what constitutes political and ideological content and who is responsible for making these decisions. She asked if they could supply some examples of what is and is not permitted.

# Approved Resolutions

- Employee Services Resolution #36 Personnel Update
  Bowman moved. Banach supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- Employee Services Resolution #37a BOE Policy Update 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading/Approval (Policy 4003 Conditions of Employment)
   Antoine moved. Bowman supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- Employee Services Resolution #37b BOE Policy Update 2<sup>nd</sup>
   Reading/Approval (Policy 4005 Display of Ideological and Political symbols)
   Rice moved. Cichocki supported. 6 Ayes. 1 Nays. Motion carried.

Ms. Eichhorst mentioned that the policy readings can be found on the website.

- Employee Services Resolution #38 Tentative Agreement Teamsters 214 Romeo Administrators Assoc.
  - Banach moved. Cichocki supported. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- Business Services Resolution #39 Early Childhood and Childcare Fees Bowman moved. Antoine supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- Business Services Resolution #40 SEC Shield Contract Update Rice moved. Banach supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

- Facilities Resolution #41 2021 Bond Change Order Approval
   Cichocki moved. Banach supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- Facilities Resolution #42 2021 Bond Equipment Purchase Approval Antoine moved. Banach supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- Technology Resolution #43 Technology Purchase Approval Student 1 to 1
   Device Replacement

Antoine moved. Rice supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

- Academic Services Resolution #44 Enrollment Driven Teaching Positions 25-26 Rice moved. Banach supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- Academic Services Resolution #45 Approval of RHS Class of 2025 Graduates Bowman moved. Rice supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

## Board Discussion/ For the Good of the District

Mr. Antoine stated that he attended the budget meeting at the ISD and encouraged others to go next year as it was a good learning experience on how the ISD supports districts and the programs that are out there. He also attended the Macomb Leadership Meeting which he thought was beneficial. He saw the RMS track and mentioned that it looks great. He thanked Dr. Robinson for inviting him to opening day at the ball field and letting him throw the opening pitch.

Mr. Boyer gave a shoutout to the Romeo Robotics team who made it to Worlds.

## **Public Comment**

None

Closed Session – Legal Opinion
 Boyer moved. Cichocki supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

7:18 p.m. into Closed Session for the purpose of Legal Opinion. Roll Call: 7 members present. Vicki Laseke and Todd Robinson were also present.

8:05 p.m. out of Closed Session. Into Open Session. Boyer moved. Rice supported. Roll call: 7 members present. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

## Adjournment

8:05 p.m. Boyer moved. Rice supported. 7 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Approved by: Katherine Rice, Secretary