
Board Briefs

SUMMARY OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION INTERIM MEETING

March 5, 2009

STUDENT ITEMS

Link Crew - The Link Crew program pairs incoming freshmen with seniors to establish a bond that allows the freshmen to feel more welcomed, engaged, and enthusiastic about the transition to high school. Students from Mott High School shared their experience with the Link Crew program with the Board of Education.

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

For the second year, the Waterford School District has co-sponsored the Salvation Army Junior Bed and Bread Campaign, to raise money to provide food and shelter for those in need. The staff, students, and entire Waterford School District community showed incredible support for this important cause with overwhelming generosity. On Friday, February 27, Rhonda Lessel, Supervisor of School and Community Services, had the pleasure of presenting Dick Purtan with a check, on behalf of the District, in the amount of \$12,684.11 at the 22nd annual WOMC Radio-thon, over \$2,000 more than last year.

A very special student has become an ambassador of the District's campaign this year. First grade Haviland Elementary student, Sean Brennehan, heard this call to action and took it upon himself to make a difference. With the help of his parents, Rich and Val, Sean contacted a number of family and friends by writing letters urging them to get involved and contribute. Sean even used pictures he drew to explain how the Bed and Bread Program will benefit the less fortunate. As of last Friday, Sean had personally raised an impressive \$350 for the Bed and Bread program. He was featured in The Oakland Press and he also joined Rhonda Lessel at the WOMC Radio-thon, where he was interviewed on-air by Dick Purtan.

Sean is an amazing boy who has inspired a community to become involved and make a difference in the lives of others. He has displayed a sense of compassion, drive, and leadership well beyond his years and I expect we will hear many great things about Sean during his academic career in the Waterford School District.

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT FROM CENTRAL STAFF

Essay Contest Winners - Three Mason Middle School students have been named local winners in the 40th annual America & Me Essay Contest, sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance. Katie Ward took third place, Christian Kettenbeil, was awarded second place, and Colette Verch placed first. As the first place winner, Colette will receive a plaque for display at Mason and her essay advances to the state level competition. Congratulations to these students and best of luck to Colette at her essay advances.

Athletics - We are proud Mott Boys Varsity Basketball team and Mott Varsity Cheer team who have both won the KLAA League Championships! We are also pleased to congratulate the Waterford United Ski team for finishing 2nd in the state meet. Carson Hunter from Mott High School was a State champion in the Giant Slalom event. Congratulations also to the following Waterford School District students who qualified at the MHSAA Division 1 Region 4 State Bowling tournament: From Kettering High School, Adam Lessel took 8th place and Holly Broadwater placed first. From Mott High School, Kayla Land and Carl Boldt took 10th place and Tyler Kitchen placed 9th. Congratulations to all of these remarkable student athletes for these outstanding accomplishments!

ARC Awards - The ARC of Oakland County, a non-profit United Way Agency that recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions and improvements to the quality of life of persons with mental retardation, has announced that Julie Rule, Elementary Resource Room teacher at Jayno-Adams will receive the Leonard Cercone, Teacher of the Year Award and Jim Autry, Instructional Aide within the KMS-Severely Multiply Impaired classroom housed at Mott High School will receive the Support Personnel Award. These individuals were selected from numerous nominations from school based and disability support based organizations. These prestigious awards will be presented at the 39th Annual Dove Awards Presentation and Banquet on Friday, March 27^t, 2009, at the San Marino Club, in Troy. Congratulations to both Julie and Jim for being the recipient of these very distinguished awards.

Destination Imagination - Recently, 150 Destination Imagination teams from throughout southeastern Michigan attended a competition held at Mott High School, resulting in a wonderful day of creativity. Waterford will have five teams advancing from the regional tournament to the State finals! The teams that will compete on April 4, at the Central Michigan are:

Haviland - Vidio Lit Hits challenge - team managers Greg Heilman/Mike Haehn
 Haviland - Vidio Lit Hits challenge - team managers Rebecca Briggs/Amy Beaupre
 Crary - A New Angle challenge - team managers Sally McGregor/Mike Mitchell
 Pierce - A New Angle challenge - team manager Kelli McCormick
 Pierce - Instinct Messaging challenge - team manager Sophia Marcero

Congratulations to all of our teams, and their managers!

INFORMATION ITEM

Ruby Payne - Ruby Payne is an expert of the mindsets of poverty, middle class, and wealth. Last year, Crary Middle School staff took on the challenge of studying her book, [A Framework for Understanding Poverty](#). Several other schools in Waterford have also studied her work. Through several small book studies and staff meetings, the Crary staff learned how generational and situational poverty impacts students. They examined their practices as they relate to this subject and have begun the process of implementing new practices that will benefit not only students from poverty but will benefit all of our students."

Craig Blomquist, Crary Middle School principal, will share a few key ideas that they learned from the book study with the Board of Education.

Hidden Valley Grant Award- Rhonda Lessel, Supervisor of School and Community Services, provided the Board of Education with an update on the Hidden Valley Grant award.

Timeline, School District Refunding Bonds, 1999 Series I - The Board received a timeline providing the schedule of events for the sale of the School District Refunding Bonds, 1999 Series I, not to exceed \$7,600,000.

Kingsley Montgomery School Renovations - Thomas Wiseman, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, presented an update and timeline of the Kingsley Montgomery School renovations. A recommendation for contract awards will be presented for Board approval on March 19.

Employee Benefits - Thomas Wiseman, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, and Sharee Baskins, MEBS, presented an overview and update regarding employee benefits.

Negotiations Update - Peni Aldrich, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, provided an update on negotiations.

NEW BUSINESS

Bond Authorizing Resolution - The Board of Education approved a resolution in authorizing the District to issue bonds in the principal amount not to exceed \$7,600,000 for the purpose of refinancing the 1999 Series I Bond Issue.

Application for Final Qualification of Bonds - The Board of Education approved the Application for Final Qualification for the refinancing of the 1999 Series I Bond Issuance. Waterford School District had already obtained Preliminary Qualifications of Bonds by the Department of Treasury and School Bond Loan Program.

Resolution: Section 1352 of Revised School Code - The Board of Education approved a resolution enabling the District to comply with the provisions of Section 1352 of the Revised School Code, with respect to contracting for legal representation by a law firm for the School District’s issuance of its School District Refunding Bonds, 1999 Series I. Axe & Ecklund, P.C. is the District’s legal counsel for this bond issuance and works in conjunction with the District financial advisor, Mr. Louis Schimmel.

School Breakfast Week - The Board of Education approved a resolution in support of School Breakfast Week, March 2 - 6, 2009. This special week serves as a fitting time to become aware of the solid foundation for learning that a nutritious school breakfast provides and to recognize the dedicated people who make the program a reality.

Contract Changes/Appointments - The Board of Education approved the following contract changes/appointments:

Kruse, Ann, Assistant Principal
Mott High School
Effective February 23, 2009

Resignations - The Board of Education approved the following resignations:

Emmerling, James, Teacher
Mott High School
Resignation
Effective February 27, 2009

Pettit, Regina, Teacher
International Academy
Resignation
Effective June 18, 2009

FUTURE

March 19, 2009

Information - Betty Campion
Action - KMS Renovation Contract Awards

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. The Interim and Regular meetings, held on the first Thursday of each month, beginning at 7:00 PM. The public is invited to attend.