

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2007, AT 7:00 P.M.
AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL, CAFETERIA**

President Becker called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. All board members were present except Stephenitch. Also present were: Quintin Shepherd, Bonnie Morris, Sam Smith, Jackie Steinbach, Lori Sprung, Deb Gilmore, Jessica McCormick, Jeff Thake, Joyce Schamberger and Judi Callison.

The floor was opened to comments from the public. There were none.

A motion was made by Flessner and seconded by Setchell to approve the following consent agenda item(s):

- Minutes of the September 27, 2007, Regular Open & Closed Board Meetings;
- Use of facilities and waiver of fees for Carol Patton to conduct Brownie meetings in the Central School cafeteria; and
- Destruction of audio tapes dated April 6, 2006 and April 25, 2006.

Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

In his financial report, Superintendent Shepherd provided the Board members with a handout of preliminary data that included a general state aide comparison of anticipated revenues. The impact of the Budget Implementation Bill, which has been stalled in the House Rules Committee, could result in the district losing more than \$234,258 or \$26,029 per month. "The district should be okay for the time being, but if the delay continues for any length of time, it could be painful," said Shepherd. Becker said this would be a good time to call lawmakers.

With regard to the upcoming tax levy, Shepherd said he intends to present a more historical perspective of the process. He will focus his presentation on an in-depth analysis of what the rates have done in the past.

A motion was made by Mead and seconded by Akre to approve the current expenditures and payroll. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Dan Stephenitch arrived at 7:25 P.M.

The next order of business was the Administrative Reports, which were reviewed as presented in the Board packet.

President Becker thanked all three principals for the insight that they provide the Board each month with regard to the concept of mapping.

In his report, Superintendent Shepherd highlighted information from the maintenance report including discussion on snow removal bidding and bleacher repair. Tuition reimbursement was discussed. He pointed out that approximately \$15,000 had been allocated, for the year, from

Title II funds, and over \$14,600 has been spent in the first payment. Shepherd said the newly-formed Professional Issues Committee discussed the subject of tuition reimbursement and generated many good ideas on how to deal with overspending in the future.

Shepherd furnished the Board members with handout of the preliminary release of the School Report Card. He said that Annual Yearly Progress had been met in all targeted areas. "It's a result of really good teaching and good leadership in the buildings. It's a big deal, and we can't be too proud." he said. President Becker agreed, and said; "to continue to make strides takes a lot of effort on everybody's part."

A motion was made by Akre and seconded by Olson to approve a request by Todd Appleman, Amboy Junior High School wrestling coach, to include 5th grade students in the wrestling program. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Stephenitch and seconded by Mead to approve the IASB Policy Revisions as presented on the District website in September. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

The next topic of discussion was the new resolutions that will be presented at the Joint Annual Conference in November. Board member Flessner will serve as delegate. The objective of the discussion was to establish consensus of the Board to give direction in the voting process.

Discussion ensued on the proposed withdrawal from Lee County Special Education Association. Copies of the Notice to Withdraw and contract for the employment of Tom Lynch as consultant were provided. President Becker attended a recent special education meeting, and although the discussion was meaningful, he said an assessment based on EAVs and the estimate based on services "still did not add up." Given the complexity of the problem, he said it is important to determine clarity on the funding and program issues. The timeline of January 1, 2008, for the motion of intent to withdraw process has been met. Tom Mead said LCSEA now has the opportunity to step up and address the needs of everyone in the coop. "Hopefully, they can put together some meaningful numbers that would be fair and equitable and serve the students better. If they can do this, the window is still open to serve the district," said Mead.

At 7:40 p.m., a motion was made by Mead and seconded by Flessner to move to Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees and student discipline. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 8:17 p.m., a motion was made by Mead and seconded by Flessner to return to Open Session. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Stephenitch and seconded by Flessner to approve the suspensions of Students 10-24-07-01 through 10-24-07-21, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Olson and seconded by Stephenitch to accept the resignation of Gary Jones as Head Track Coach. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Setchell and seconded by Mead to accept the resignation of Laurie Koch as Mat Manager. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Olson and seconded by Akre to accept the resignation of Dean Powers as Assistant Football Coach. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Flessner and seconded by Mead to accept the resignation of James Younger as co-director of the spring musical at Amboy High School. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Mead and seconded by Olson to approve the employment of Mary Lovgren as Paraprofessional at Amboy Junior High School. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Olson and seconded by Stephenitch to approve the employment of Vonna Benhoff as Cafeteria Cook, part-time at Amboy Junior High School. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Stephenitch and seconded by Olson to approve the Extra-Curricular Schedule, as amended. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Upcoming dates include the Finance Meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in room #105; Partnership meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at 4:00 P.M. in room #105; and the next Regular School Board Meeting on TUESDAY, November 20, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Amboy High School cafeteria.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, a motion was made at 8:23 p.m. by Stephenitch and seconded by Mead to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Mead, Secretary

Mark F. Becker, President

Approved: _____