



Parchment, Michigan

April 25, 2016

Parchment School District
520 North Orient Street
Parchment, MI 49004
(269) 488.1050 PHONE
(269) 488.1060 FAX
www.parchmentschools.org

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Parchment School District, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, was held on Monday, April 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Parchment High School, 1916 East G Avenue, Parchment, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Tom Andrews, President.

MEMBERS PRESENT Tom Andrews, Doug Heaney, John Madaras, Cheryl Balmer, Dodi Leckie, and Ben Tanis

MEMBERS ABSENT Nancy Lenz

OTHERS PRESENT Matthew Miller, Paula Smeed, Bob Champion, Sonja LeRoy, George Stamas, Jason Misner, Julia Kaemming, Marcy Patterson, Sarah Neumann (7:27 p.m.), Amy Hansen, Tina Maxwell, Kristy Mattern, Jennifer Barker, DeAnna Phillips, Shani Thorne, Doug Mullen, Cecilia Mallett, Pete Mallett, Winnie Sopjes, Erin Burkett, Kevin Huff, David Blough, Jennifer Chiechi, Greg Mackey, and others

CONSENT AGENDA Cheryl Balmer moved to approve the agenda with support from John Madaras. All voted aye – motion carried.

- Included:
- Adoption of the Agenda
 - Approval of the Regular minutes of March 28, 2016
Special Meeting minutes of April 12, 2016
 - Resignation/retirement request from Jamie Tomaszewski, High School Teacher, effective June 30, 2016
 - Financial Reports

Mar. vendor bills:	\$ 1,276,951.24
(Payroll related \$853,951.60)	
Hot Lunch	\$ 75,132.17
Trust & Agency	\$ 8,673.96
QZAB Capital	
Project Fund	\$ 110.99

GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS \$ 1,360,868.36

RECOGNITIONS: Middle School Special Education Teacher, Cecilia Mallett, was introduced by Special Education Director, Amy Hansen. Cecilia Mallett was presented with a certificate as the KRESA Excellence in Special Education recipient from Parchment for the PAC (Parent Advisory Committee). Building Principal, George Stamas, commented that Mrs. Mallett is passionate about teaching and passionate about her students. Mrs. Mallett was nominated by a parent for her patience and work with special needs children.

Parchment High School
1916 East G Avenue
Parchment, MI 49004
(269) 488.1100

Parchment Middle School
307 North Riverview Drive
Parchment, MI 49004
(269) 488.1200

Central Elementary
516 North Orient Street
Parchment, MI 49004
(269) 488.1000

North Elementary
5535 Keyes Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49004
(269) 488.1400

Northwood Elementary
600 Edison Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49004
(269) 488.1300

Barclay Hills
Education Center
1125 East Mosel Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49004
(269) 488.1470

Preschool &
Childcare Center
600 Edison Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49004
(269) 488.1360

None

**CURRICULUM
COMMITTEE
REPORT**

Cheryl Balmer reported that the committee had met and discussed the addition of a Statistics Class and new textbooks for the Statistics Class and the current Spanish Class. It was also mentioned that High School Algebra II credit can be earned through some Education for Employment (EFE) courses through highly qualified Math teachers.

The committee is recommending the approval of both the class and new textbooks to the full board.

**PR/COMMUNICATION
COMMITTEE
REPORT**

Doug Heaney reported that the committee had met and continued the discussion of a potential "Communications Director". They are looking into funding and the best way to utilize this potential new position.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Superintendent Miller reported updated information regarding that the 3rd Grade Reading Bill is in conference committee. The Senate version puts retention back to the parent, teacher, and principal. Third grade retention is not usually a good thing for students.

Superintendent Miller also commented that Representative Tim Kelly has prepared a Joint Resolution to do away with the State Board of Education and State Superintendent. Representative Kelly suggests that they be replaced with a Director of Education appointed by the Governor to oversee the Education Department. Since this would amend the State Constitution, it would have to go through public referendum during a general election and get 2/3 vote from the House and Senate prior to any vote.

**OTHER SPECIAL
REPORT**

Superintendent Miller introduced Greg Mackey from Honeywell. Mr. Mackey gave the board a handout showing the savings the district is already seeing post installation on our recent Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) Program.

Tom Andrews, school board president, commented about how happy they are with the results.

**ACTION ON
SUPERINTENDENT
CONTRACT**

Dodi Leckie moved to approve the extension of the Superintendent's contract. John Madaras seconded the motion.

Ben Tanis commented that he is not against the contract but questioned the timing of this extension. He would like to have more midyear updates. Ben feels past evaluation have been based on opinion and would like evaluations based on fact and doesn't feel it is imperative to vote tonight.

Tom Andrews said that the board just completed an evaluation in January. The Superintendent evaluation process and tool was just decided at the last meeting where they set goals and weights. We have put tools together but are just implementing them.

Doug Heaney talked about the fact that the board has been working on goal setting and they are not necessarily being tied together.

Cheryl Balmer asked why the Personnel Committee decided to extend Superintendent Miller's contract for one more year. It was mentioned with all the different groups' contract up for negotiations; they would like Mr. Miller's background and history to facilitate those negotiations.

AYES: Tom Andrews, Doug Heaney, John Madaras, Cheryl Balmer,
and Dodi Leckie

NAYES: Ben Tanis

Motion carried: 5 – 1

**ACTION ON
ADMINISTRATIVE
CONTRACTS**

Doug Heaney moved to approve the Administrative Contracts as presented in reference # 2. Dodi Leckie seconded the motion.

Ben Tanis asked if by approving the contracts if this locks administrators to the building. Superintendent Miller said that it just extends the contract with the Parchment School District.

AYES: Tom Andrews, Doug Heaney, John Madaras, Cheryl Balmer,
Dodi Leckie, and Ben Tanis

NAYES: none

Motion carried: 6 - 0

**ACTION ON
HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE**

John Madaras moved to approve the addition of Statistics at the high school. Cheryl Balmer seconded the motion.

All voted aye – motion carried

**ACTION ON
NEW TEXTBOOKS**

Dodi Leckie moved to approve the new textbooks: *The Practice of Statistics for the Advanced Placement Exam* and *¡Avancemos!*. John Madaras seconded the motion.

All voted aye – motion carried

**ACTION ON
BOARD GOALS**

John Madaras moved to approve the Board Goals as presented in reference #5. Ben Tanis seconded the motion.

John Madaras read aloud the Board Goals.

All voted aye – motion carried

COMMENTS

Jennifer Barker mentioned some highlights going on in the buildings.

- The High School Jazz Band will be performing at Thornapple Arts Council Jazz Festival in Hastings on April 29
- Nancy Looper's High School College Success Class is going to KVCC on May 6 to get a tour, do the Strengths Quest, meet professors, talk to nontraditional students, and talk with a scholar-athlete
- Lori Johnson, Central Elementary teacher, will be taking a mission trip to Uganda, Africa to talk to teachers about education in Uganda and the United States
- Jessica Collison, music teacher at North Elementary, is having their "Spring Musical Showcase" Tuesday, April 26 at Haven Reformed Church
- Nicole Stachelski, music teacher at Northwood Elementary, had their music program at North Park Reformed Church on April 25
- The Art Department (Zach Page-Wood, Susan Williams, Hillary Campbell, and Liz Honeysett) received an Excellence in Education grant to attend the National Art Education Association (NAEA) Conference in Chicago this past March. Hillary and Liz also received a Education for Art (EFA) grants to attend the NAEA in New York next spring.

- Elizabeth Honeysett (by Samantha Searles) and Christine Kiel (by Lorraine Kuch) were selected as Significant Educators for 2016
- Ryan Kasperski, band director, has started a jazz band at the middle school
- Central Elementary received a grant for 325 (8 oz) chocolate milks for participating in ACES Day (All Children Exercise Simultaneously).

Julia Kaemming, Central Elementary principal, along with Amy Hansen, Special Education Director, met with Margaret O'Brien and Aric Nesbitt and talked about homeschooling.

Cheryl Balmer thanked the staff for all they do.

Attorney Bob Champion shared a handout with the board about Open Meetings Act. The handout mentioned five ways to avoid violating the Open Meetings Act.

- Remember the Open Meetings Act (OMA) when communication by e-mail or phone
- Be careful how the board handles the public at meetings
- Avoid the appearance of a secret meeting
- Avoid decisions in closed session
- Understand the specific reasons a board may move into closed session to discuss employment issues

Mr. Champion reminded the board that being transparent is important and that any effort to influence votes behind the scenes violates the Act.

**PREVIOUS BOARD
MEETING
FOLLOW-UP**

None

**FUTURE ITEMS FOR
CONSIDERATION**

Board Work Session, Tuesday, May 10, at 6:00 p.m. at Parchment High School
KCSOA Dinner on Wednesday, May 11, at Beacon Club

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, May 23, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Parchment High School.

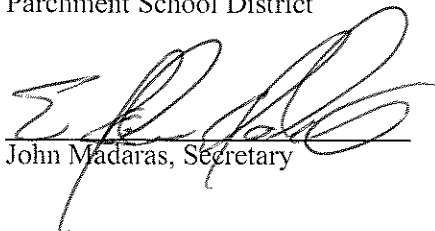
Graduations:

Barclay Hills Ed. Ctr. – Thursday, June 2, 2016 at Comstock Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
Parchment High School – Friday, June 3, 2016 at Miller Auditorium 7:30 p.m.
(Board members backstage by 7:00 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Board of Education of the
Parchment School District



John Madaras, Secretary