



Parchment, Michigan
May 19, 2014

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

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Parchment School District, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, was held on Monday, May 19, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Parchment High School, 1915 E. G Avenue, Parchment, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Nancy Lenz, Pres.

MEMBERS PRESENT Nancy Lenz, Joel Shaffer, Rhonda Newman, Doug Heaney, Tim Lasher, John Madaras and Thomas Andrews

MEMBERS ABSENT None

OTHERS PRESENT Matthew Miller, Shauna Collison, Robert Champion, Ben Tanis, Tom Novak, Paula Smeed, Michelle Burghdoff, Stephanie and Bob Winter, Cyndi Lasher, Nicole Berish, Robin Madaras, Sharon Smith, Tina Terry, Sarah Terry, Tina Maxwell Steve and Stephanie Gibson, Janet Romyak, Marlene Koch, Karen and Jeff Koch, Beth Jonker, Winnie Sopjes, Susan, Rob and Brad Thayer, Kate Thayer, Cheryl Tiernan, Marilyn Chadderdon, Julia Kaemming, Sarah Johnson, George Stamas, Shani Thorne, Doug Mullen, Marcy Patterson, Amy Hansen, Deanna Phillips, Rachael Noteboom, Don Banner, Suzanne Dean, Jennifer Barker, Amy Triplett, Bill Jensen, Karen Stevens, Elizabeth Seeger, Tina and Tom Walton, Teresa Schulz, Shannon Stutz, Holly Henderson and others

CONSENT AGENDA Tim Lasher moved to approve the consent agenda with support from Rhonda Newman. All voted aye – motion carried.

- Included:
- Adoption of the Agenda
 - Approval of the Regular meeting minutes of April 28, 2014 and Special meeting minutes of May 12, 2014
 - Approval of Personnel Matters - Resignation request from Katie McHugh, ECSE instructor, ► One-year extension of contract for probationary teachers: Sara Allison, Jennifer Chiechi, Amanda Clark, Cara Cook, Hannah Cook, Ann Green, Christine Kiel, Ramona Lapekas, Alice Lucas, Nicole Matthews, Blakely Mays, Amanda Militzer, Nic Millet, Tyler Millward, Zachary Page-Wood, Kelly Prior, Beth Scheele, Laura Simonds, Jessica Smock, Allison Weger and Sarah Woodley
 - Financial Reports

April Expense (Gen. Fund):	\$ 1,421,797.50
(Payroll related \$ 762,320.87)	
Trust & Agency	\$ 4,217.59
Hot Lunch	\$ 11,107.73
GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$ 1,437,122.82

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) 486.1300

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

COMMUNICATIONS None

RECOGNITIONS

High School Principal, Scott Karaptian introduced Rachael Noteboom, who is the Salutatorian for the Class of 2014. Rachael attends classes at the Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center (KAMSC) and she is active in National Honor Society. She volunteers additional time on food and blood drives. Rachael achieved a score of 30 on the ACT and plans to pursue a career in biology at Grand Valley State University.

Mr. Karaptian then introduced Kate Thayer, who is the Valedictorian for the Class of 2014. Kate is active in National Honor Society, track, cross country and soccer. She received a 31 on her ACT. She plans to attend Northern Michigan University and study business/entrepreneurial and minor in health and wellness.

Nicole Berish introduced band instructor, Beth Jonker, who was named by her colleagues as the **PEA Teacher of the Year for 2014**. Nicole said Beth is known throughout the district for all she has done for the band program. She is active within the PEA unit and serves as the Critical Needs liaison. Beth is a wonderful example for students and her colleagues. George Stamas said Beth puts in a lot of time with new 6th graders who really develop into good musicians in a short time. Scott Karaptian commented she is passionate about her job. Matthew Miller presented Mrs. Jonker with a gift of appreciation from the board.

Paula Smeed, the principal's secretary at Parchment Middle School was introduced by Michelle Burghdoff as **PEAO Partner in Education for 2014**. Michelle worked with Paula for eight years and said Paula has always been a great example of what secretaries do and what they represent in the district. Middle School Principal George Stamas said Paula has always conveyed a great sense of humor in the office and she has helped keep parents and students on track -- she does an amazing job. Matthew Miller presented Mrs. Smeed with a gift of appreciation from the board.

**COMMENTS ON
AGENDA ITEMS**

Shannon Stutz added a comment to Scott Karaptian's introduction before -- both the Valedictorian and Salutatorian have been taking dual enrollment classes and/or attend KAMSC.

**FINANCE COMMIT-
TEE UPDATE**

Rhonda Newman said the committee met with KRESA Deputy Superintendent, Holly Norman. She went over the KRESA budget for 2014/2015 with the committee. Also, bids for Energy Systems were discussed and will be discussed further. Negotiation matters were reviewed and will be looked at later in Closed Session. The opportunity to refund the 2005 bonds was reviewed. Renewal of the 18 mill Non-Homestead millage was discussed and resulted in calling a Special Meeting on May 12 to vote on ballot language.

Nancy Lenz added it was really helpful having Holly Norman attend to review the KRESA budget.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT Joel Shaffer reported the committee met to discuss staffing needs for next year and non-union contracts. The members reviewed by-laws and discussed interaction with community members. To reassess and better serve the board's needs there will now be information found on the back of the yellow note cards used at board meetings for persons to communicate questions with the board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT Matthew Miller reported the state revenue estimating conference is reporting a decline in the school aid fund since the figures were projected in January. Revenues for 13-14 are estimated to be \$63 million less that was projected in January and \$80 million less for 2015-2016. It is reported student count estimates have declined sharply – 13,388 less than 2012-13. Further reductions are estimated for the 2014-15 and 2015-16 school years. Reports from the three school aid budget proposals (Governor, House and Senate) may be up \$100 per student over this year.

Rhonda Newman asked why enrollment is down statewide. Matthew said it is because the birthrate is down and with the poor economy families have continued to move out of state.

KRESA GENERAL FUND RESOLUTION Tim Lasher moved to approve the KRESA General Fund Operating Budget resolution as presented. John Madaras seconded the motion.

AYES: Nancy Lenz, Joel Shaffer, Rhonda Newman, Tim Lasher, Doug Heaney, John Madaras and Thomas Andrews

NAYS: None

Motion carries: 7 – 0

80/20 HEALTH CONTRIBUTION EXTENSION Tim Lasher moved to approve the resolution extending 80/20 Health Contributions through June 30, 2015. Thomas Andrews supported the motion.

Matthew Miller stated the district has had hard caps for insurance premiums for a long time and they are below the state mandated caps.

AYES: Nancy Lenz, Joel Shaffer, Rhonda Newman, Tim Lasher, Doug Heaney, John Madaras and Thomas Andrews

NAYS: None

Motion carries: 7 – 0

COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS Tom Novak read a prepared statement regarding recent comments made at the April board meeting. He is a teacher and parent as well as a member of the teachers' union and has held office for many years. He stated teachers have a contract that provides steps to pursue concerns in the workplace within the bounds of their contract. He said the PEA had encouraged four of the current board members to run to represent teachers. Teachers learn early in their careers about professional conduct and that includes following procedures and not

going to parents to vent concerns. Tom appreciates all of his co-workers and as a parent he appreciates all teachers. He is proud of his district.

Karen Stevens introduced herself to the board as the incoming PEA President. She named the other officers who were present; Jennifer Barker, Vice-President and Amy Triplett Treasurer (Chris Sutton, Secretary, could not be present). Mrs. Stevens wanted to let the board know they are eager to work together and would like to have a chance to meet and get to know each other.

Steve Gibson read a prepared statement regarding his concerns about the comments made at the last board meeting. His parents were proud Panthers and his father had been school board president many years ago. Steve learned from his parents to give back and be part of solutions. Parchment has always been a district where citizens can agree to disagree. Personal attacks and smear campaigns serve no purpose and will only discredit Parchment's reputation within the area and the state. The district has always attracted top notch superintendents due to our reputation – that advantage will be gone if negative media and social network smear campaigns continue. He urged people not to run to the media to “play gotcha”.

Suzie Dean began by adding her congratulations to Beth Jonker -- Mrs. Dean had twirled baton at band programs in Parchment when she was in high school and appreciates all that goes into those. She followed up on concerns that were stated at last month's meeting. She said more communication is needed. She related the concerns of her young son for the missing gate monies reported in the media. Mrs. Dean knows from her personal family experience how the Parchment community can come together. She asked for an effort of the board to meet with others to discuss some manner of fundraising to recover the funds.

Dodi Leckie said she too comes from a long line of Parchment residents. She is parent to eight children -- she has a graduating senior and her youngest is starting kindergarten. She has always taken part in multiple school and community organizations to be involved in her children's activities. She urged individuals to stop complaining to the press or on social media – that is what's creating negative press. The two year old history is over -- move on and let it go. Be an advocate for Parchment, be a strong 'PR' person for the community. Tell others about the great things going on here.

**ADJOURN TO
CLOSED SESSION**

At 7:46 p.m. Rhonda Newman moved to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations. Tom Andrews supported the motion.

AYES: Nancy Lenz, Joel Shaffer, Rhonda Newman, Tim Lasher,
Doug Heaney, John Madaras and Tom Andrews

NAYS: None

Motion carries: 7 – 0

**RETURN TO
OPEN SESSION**

At 8:25 p.m. Rhonda Newman moved to return to open session with a second by Tim Lasher.

AYES: Nancy Lenz, Joel Shaffer, Rhonda Newman, Tim Lasher, Doug Heaney, John Madaras and Tom Andrews

NAYS: None

Motion carries: 7 – 0

The Board discussed opportunities to present positive public relations and advocate for the district. As in the past year in the study of weighted grades at the high school, board members now decided to form an ad hoc committee to discuss district communications and public relations. Further discussions will follow.

**FUTURE ITEMS FOR
CONSIDERATION**

The next Regular Board Meeting will be Monday, June 23, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the High School library.

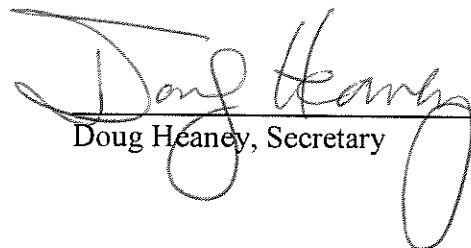
The Barclay Hills Education Center graduation will be held Thursday, June 5, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Comstock Community Auditorium.

The Parchment High School graduation will be held Friday, June 6, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at Miller Auditorium.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Board of Education of the
Parchment School District


Doug Heaney, Secretary