

**Minutes**  
**August 7, 2017**  
**Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Horace W. Porter School Cafeteria**

**Board Members Present:** Christopher Lent-Chairman, Linette Dooley, Karin Vertefeuille, Kathy Tolsdorf, Lisa Napolitano, James Chakulski

Board Members Absent: David Crim

**Others Present:** Lol Fearon-Superintendent, Alyssa Gwinnell- Principal, Barbara Wilson-Student Services Director, Beverly Ciurylo-Finance Director, Jennifer Hill-Assistant Principal/Data Coordinator, Mike Wolter, Douglas Curtis, Diane Curtis, Sandra Rijs

**I. Call to Order** – Chairman Chris Lent called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Comments from the Audience (Bylaws of the Board #9300)**

Time allotted for public participation is twenty (20) minutes; time allotted for an individual speaker is three (3) minutes.  
No comments were received.

**IV. Action Items (Consent)**

A consent agenda is presented by the Chairman at the beginning of a meeting. Items may be removed from the consent agenda on the request of any one member. Items not removed may be adopted by general consent without debate. Removed items may be taken up either immediately after the consent agenda or placed later on the agenda at the discretion of the assembly.

- a) *Approval of July 10, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes*
- b) *Appointment of Ms. Jennifer Hill, Assistant Principal/Data Coordinator for the 2017-2018 school year*
- c) *Approval of 2017-2018 Co-Curricular Assignments*

L. Napolitano MOVED, J. Chakulski SECONDED to approve the consent action items a-c. MOTION CARRIES 5:1. K. Vertefeuille OPPOSED.

Mr. Fearon welcomed and introduced Jennifer Hill as the Assistant Principal/Data Coordinator. He noted there were over 70 applicants who applied for the position.

Ms. Hill introduced herself and her family. She is excited to be appointed to the position.

**V. Discussion and Action**

a) *Payment of Bills*

L. Dooley MOVED, L. Napolitano SECONDED to approve payment of bills. MOTION CARRIES 6:0.

b) *Expenditure Report 2016/17 Update*

J. Chakulski MOVED, L. Dooley SECONDED to approve the 2016/2017 expenditure report update.  
MOTION CARRIES 6:0.

c) *Authorization for the Superintendent to complete all line item transfers for the 2016/2017 Budget.*

L. Napolitano MOVED, K. Tolsdorf SECONDED to authorize the superintendent to complete all line item transfers for the 2016/2017 school year. MOTION CARRIES 6:0.

*d) Second Reading Policies 1700 (a)(b), Form 2b, P3542.43(d), P5131.6(a-f)*

L. Napolitano MOVED, J. Chakulski SECONDED to approve the second reading of Policies 1700 (a)(b), Form 2b, P3542.43(d), P5131.6(a-f)

Discussion: Board members clarified the P1700 (a) and (b) concerning the weapons policy.

MOTION CARRIES 6:0.

*e) Board of Education Goals, Discussion and Timeline*

Members agreed to continue with the current process and address the timeline again at a later date.

## **VI. Reports of Board Committees**

- Policy - A meeting will be scheduled in October due to the building walk through scheduled for the September 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting
- Budget - Meetings will be scheduled after the start of school.
- Teaching and Learning - The Teaching and Learning Committee plans to meet again in October.
- Ad hoc Committee on Future Needs - The subcommittee met earlier this evening.

## **VII. Correspondence/Communications**

*a) Tenure Congratulations letter to Jessica Neumuth*

The Board offered congratulations to Jessica Neumuth.

*b) Cruise-In, The Second Annual Columbia Classic Car Show, Sunday September 10, 2017, 11:00-3:00*

*c) "What Will Our Children Lose" - The memo addresses some of the ramifications towns are facing due to the State's delay in passing a budget and the uncertainty of state funding.*

*d) Jill Krieger Superintendent of schools in Mansfield - Ms. Krieger was formerly the principal at Manchester H.S.*

Mr. Fearon mentioned he will be a mentor to RHAM Superintendent Patricia Law.

## **VIII. Board of Education Upcoming Meetings**

- *Future Meeting Dates:*
  - *August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 5:30 pm Administrator Negotiations, LMC*
  - *September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 pm, 6:00, Board of Education Building Tour*
  - *September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 pm, 7:00pm New Teacher Reception LMC Conference Room (Tentative)*
  - *September 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm Regular BOE Meeting, Cafeteria*
  - *October 2<sup>nd</sup> - Policy & Teaching & Learning subcommittee 6:00 - 7:30*
  - *October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30 pm Regular BOE Meeting, Cafeteria*

## **IX. Superintendent's Report**

- Superintendent's Goals 2017-2018

Mr. Fearon distributed a tentative draft of his goals to the Board.

Mr. Fearon reviewed project updates which include:

Windows repairs are underway. Balances and repairs are being completed by Manchester Glass.

Hybrid Voice over IP System - American Business Telephone will be installing equipment in the next few weeks.

Painting - F wing is completely painted.

Cafeteria Stairs - Mr. Fearon met with the Jason Nowosad, Mark Walter, Carmen Vance and Mike Sylvester. He is in hopes of scaling project back to reduce costs. The building inspector gave initial approval not to have the entire area enclosed. The architects and fire marshal will meet with the group to review the proposed scope of the work. A wall would be put in place across the top section and will be used for storage. The stairs will include railings and a gate. The lower section will be enclosed for storage of the lift. The upper end section is to be used for stage lighting productions. Changes are proposed in an effort to maintain the cost of the project within budgeted amounts.

**X. Future Regular and Subcommittee Agenda Items**

Self -Survey by Board Members

- A. Gwinnell noted she is continuing the common PD process with E.O. Smith and the Region 19 feeder schools.

**XI. Columbia Board of Education Member Remarks**

K. Vertefeuille asked about the status of hiring the new teacher.

Mr. Fearon said a paper screen of all applicants has been completed and approximately 9 people will be interviewed. Interviews are being scheduled for August 16<sup>th</sup>.

K. Vertefeuille asked to be sure to indicate the position is for a 1 year contract.

K. Vertefeuille said she disagrees with multiple assignments for co-curricular positions. She would like more positions opened to the public.

L. Napolitano suggested considering an old rule that no parent pick up or walking students were allowed to leave the building until all busses were loaded and left the school. This could offer potential savings if the current driveway and parking areas are not revised.

L. Fearon noted there is a liability aspect which prompted the proposed changes.

C. Lent offered congratulations to Jessica Neumuth in reaching tenure and welcomed Jennifer Hill.

**XII. Adjournment**

K. Tolsdorf MOVED, L. Napolitano SECONDED to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m.  
The MOTION CARRIED 6:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Tolsdorf,  
Vice Chairperson/Secretary