

## **Beecher Community School District**

A special meeting of the Beecher Board of Education was held on April 13, 2016 in the Coates Administration Building Board Room, 1020 W. Coldwater Road, Flint, MI 48505 and was called to order at 6:00 PM by Board President, Michele Loper.

Member in attendance were: Joyce Jackson, LaSonya Larry, Michele Loper, Reginald Mays, Mary Rankins, Marvin Smoot and Oceolar Denson Watson.

Mrs. Loper asked board members and the audience for a moment of silence in memory of Mrs. Judy Pirtle, former substitute teacher and mother of J.C. Pirtle, who passed away Thursday, March 10, 2016.

### **April 2016 Recognitions:**

Dr. Talison recognized the following individuals:

Mia Barnett, Tucker Middle School Behavior Interventionist, for going above and beyond in working with the most challenging children at Tucker. Once she sets her mind to helping a student improve, there is no stopping her. She pulls close the students who try to push teachers and staff away. Ms. Barnett is an asset to the Beecher Team. She has a great attitude and gives the kids her best.

Jennifer Rimer, Early Head Start Home Visitor Educator, who has worked for the Beecher Head Start and Early Head Start program for 9 years. This year, Ms. Jennifer willingly accepted two additional families in order to maintain program compliance. Some of her caseload consists of teen mothers and she ensures these young mothers are well educated of their developing babies and transport them to their medical appointments. Ms. Jennifer is organized, kind and courtesy with exemplary customer service skills. She has a great relationship with the students and families she serves which is truly an asset to the Beecher Early Head Start Program.

Mr. Michael Williams, Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, for leading our team to four State Championships out of the last 5 years. This year I was especially proud of him because we didn't necessarily have the most talented team, but we had the best coached team. Coach Williams did a phenomenal job throughout the season and especially in the playoffs. Many people counted us out with seconds to lose and he always made sure our kids were in position to win. Congratulations Coach Williams.

### **Old Business**

- A. Motioned by Mr. Smoot supported by Mrs. Rankins to approve the Minutes of March 2, 2016 (Regular Meeting).

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

**Motion carried.**

- B. Old Business – Board Members**

Ms. Watson – None

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Mrs. Rankins discussed the following: I wish all board members could have been at the meeting with the state. This was information we needed to have, especially the Treasurer and the Secretary. It was a very informative meeting. If we don't come together and get it together, we're going to lose Beecher. We have to put the pettiness aside and come together, along with the superintendent, to get this done. We need to come up with a plan. If we can't come together and get it together, they will do it for us.

Mr. Smoot and Dr. Talison discussed the following: We discussed hiring a math teacher, has there been a resolution to that with finding a candidate? We are pulling applications this week and there is a student teacher who is completing his instruction who may be a good fit. Mrs. Castle is looking at applications this week; the property we own on George, is it up for sale because I'm getting complaints about that area being a dump site. The church down the street is interested in the property and maybe we can liquidate it and put some capital in our budget. Did we recognize the wrestling team? No, not yet; can we put that on the agenda for the assembly during the basketball recognition? Yes.

Ms. Jackson, Dr. Talison, Mrs. Loper, and Ms. Larry discussed the following: I asked about an employee that was injured at Dailey. I did not ask to see the employee's medical information and I have a problem with the information I received from the superintendent saying a board member asked for private information. I do know the HIPPA law so of course I would not ask for anybody's personal information and I have a problem with information being put out that's incorrect that I said. I want to know is Mrs. Turner retiring? She hasn't submitted anything in writing but she has verbally informed me; I have a problem with the district being restructured with the principal's and a name to be left off and they haven't formally sent in their papers. Why would that information be sent out that way and it shouldn't have been? I would like to know what division in the school district that the school district does not take care of financially, what group, who has to pay their own way? Are you talking about students or staff? I'm talking about Little League. Why does Little League have to pay for security and custodians? If you recall, we discussed this a few years ago and the Little League and Booster Club are not part of the district and the district was paying for the custodian and security. That had to be a cost to them because the district was no long picking up that additional cost. This started several years ago; when? I can double check for you; all of the sport events in the district, the Little League is the only one that has to take care of themselves? Yes; I have never heard of that; I will have Coach Hawkins give a report about it. We had conversations about Little League and them being separate from the school district and they have been paying for the Saturday custodian and any security that was needed; the Little League is the one that comes to varsity, so how are they going to be separate? They are under the Men's Club and are not a part of the sports program; when the gentleman was here to say that the board members have to ask permission to go into the schools and that the superintendent was not allowed around money, which I would think consists of the concession stand at games, I would like to see that information. I want a copy of that policy because if I can't go into a school and for me as a board member to have to ask your permission, I've never heard of that until that gentleman came and for you not to be able to be around money, I would think the concession stands at the basketball and football games, you're not supposed to be there.

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How is it that you can do and go around where you're not supposed to but the board can't, I would like to see that policy; there's no Beecher policy regarding that, do you want me to contact MASB about that? I know there's not a Beecher policy. The gentleman you had come in here and do a special meeting is the one that said it and that I would like to see. I saw you three games after that behind the concession stand at the cash register, like you have been doing since you've been here, which no other superintendent did; that is something totally different. I am volunteering my personal time, it's after hours, and I'm not functioning as superintendent when I'm volunteering my time to something; the roles don't change to accommodate. I would like to know as far as when our finances are being paid, who has the final say as far as whether something is paid before it comes to the board members for us to vote on? Me; anything that comes from the finance that gets in our packet as far as payments, you have the last word? If it is something I sign off on. If it is State & Federal, I don't sign off on State & Federal things. Every department I don't oversee and go back and check on. If Mr. Hawkins (*Courtney*) approves something through athletics, he has the final say-so on that. If it is General Fund under my guidance, I sign off on it. If it is something for maintenance, the maintenance department has the final sign off on it; but you're seeing whatever is asked to be paid? Not necessarily, that's why we have a checks-and-balance system with the Business Office. If the Business Office sees something in the maintenance department that they do not have funds for, they will let Mr. Hawkins (*Jacob*) know. It doesn't come back to me; when I asked for something in the Business Office and was told no one can get information, not even board members, unless they went to the superintendent, are you telling me they told me is not the truth? No, if you asked a question, I will obtain the information to share the information with everybody; I don't need to interrupt you from doing what you're doing to ask for a certain thing; it goes back to the training you just referred to of what was said you're not supposed to do. You can't want to do one thing but not the other. It is a proper procedure and protocol for that; I have a letter concerning one of our employees concerning a recommendation, why wasn't there any information to say that this is what you're asking the board to do? We discussed this at the Working Committee in March; when Carl Banks was in the district, I wasn't notified. Was anyone else notified? I informed Dr. Talison when anyone is in the district, we should be notified whether we're able to attend or not, we should still be notified; the principal should have been in the pictures with him (*Carl Banks*) instead of you. She wasn't in any pictures; yes she was.

Ms. Larry discussed the following: The state has been looking at us for years, at least 10 years, and it didn't just start with this board. I took the oath for the community, kids and parents. My actions speak better than my words. I represent Beecher inside and outside of Beecher. I don't have a personal agenda. We kick kids out every day, but when are we going to start holding staff accountable for what they do? We gave him power to oversee this district, not do what you want to do and make up rules as you go along. It's embarrassing and insulting for board members not to know what's going on in our own community. You have a principal who can't do what she's supposed to do as a principal. Let her do what she's supposed to do with her staff without somebody knocking her down all the time. I'm surprised she's still here. My seat is up this year. I can do more damage sitting out there than being on this board because sitting up here, I have to watch

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what I say. I hope when people get on the board, you get on here for the right reason. When we had the training, the man didn't say don't go into the schools. He said don't go into the school dictating and trying to do somebody else's job but go in and observe and don't say or do anything. He said don't go in there running things because that's not your job.

Mr. Mays – None

Mrs. Loper discussed the following: Congratulations to Mrs. Rankins for receiving the NAACP Vera Rison Unsung Hero Award. Mrs. Rankins is the first recipient of this award and she has been on the board for 19 years and she was recognized for all her hard work. Congratulations to the Boys Basketball Team. Malik Ellison was the Flint Journal Player of the Year and Coach Williams won the Flint Journal Coach of the Year.

### **New Business**

#### **A. Public comments on agenda items only**

None

#### **B. District and Title I Review Presentation – Mrs. McWilliams, State & Federal Programs Director**

Mrs. McWilliams stated Michigan Department of Education Office of Field Study Consultant, Mr. Mike McGraw was impressed with the staff at Dailey. He spoke with parents, students gave them a tour, and he congratulated the Parent Facilitator. We were criticized on the website for outdated material, which we are looking into a new and user-friendly website; lack of written procedures (curriculum); building spent a lot on large incentives for students; there was an overview of what was presented to the State of areas that need work, and a plan to attack issues needing improvement; The Title IIa plan is due by June 2016; the district improvement plan is needed and more professional development is needed. There are many areas that we need to fix.

*(Discussion ensued from board members regarding the following: We would like to have a meeting to discuss the findings; this was all printed up after the meeting and we didn't know about this until after the consultant came in. This is their review of Beecher and we should have known about this ahead of time. We should have had a meeting to discuss this. We can hire a retiree to do the Title I, II, etc. and it be paid out of Title I monies; this is embarrassing that we are just now finding out about this. It could have been handled better than this; all the conferences that you and Talison go on and this is what we get? All of the conferences that you go on do you share that information with the board at other schools? Where do we go from here and how do we do to move forward? We need to have a meeting and look at the things that need to be corrected. Ms. McWilliams needs to come with suggested corrections and we also need to have benchmarks; why do we always hear about things at the end of the school year? How far in advance does the State notify us that they are coming? We have to be pro-active)*

#### **C. Beecher High School Presentation – Ms. Robinson & Mr. Hicks**

Ms. Robinson presented a schematic overview of ELA (English Language Arts) and

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Mathematics of WAC, NWEA, ACT (Gaines from 2012-2015); and the change to SAT for this summer. Mr. Hicks presented a schematic overview of the Instructional Learning Cycle Implementing Effective Instruction which consisted of Pre-Planning; Instructional Planning; and Follow-up of Data Points (Identify Area of Focus; Align Instructional Components; Plan Assessment; Administer Pre-Assessment; Analyze Student Results; Analyze Pre-Assessment; Create Instructional Plan; Identify Monitoring Approach; Implement Instructional Plan; Monitor Implementation; Administer Post-Assessment; Analyze Student Results; Analyze Post-Assessment Data; Analyze Implementation Data; Reflect on Results; Plan for SST Presentation).

### **D. Authorization for Payment of Bills – Board Treasurer Mays**

Motioned by Mr. Mays supported by Mrs. Rankins to approve the Authorization for Payment of Bills totaling \$1,215,024.07 for the period ending April 13, 2016.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

**Motion carried.**

### **E. Business from Central Office/Informational Items – Dr. Talison, Superintendent**

- Motioned by Ms. Jackson supported by Mr. Mays to accept the letter of resignation from Sabrina Morgan-Armstrong, Administrative Assistant at Beecher Adult/Alternative Education, effective Monday, March 14, 2016.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

**Motion carried.**

- Motioned by Ms. Watson supported by Mr. Smoot to hire Martone Pyatt-Hatter for the position of Early Head Start Home Visitor Educator at Dailey Elementary Early Head Start. All clearances have been met and are on file in the Personnel Department.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

**Motion carried.**

*(Mrs. Pyatt-Hatter thanked the Beecher Community Schools and the board for accepting her into the community and she can't wait to get started educating our young children and our parents.)*

- Motioned by Mr. Smoot supported by Mr. Mays to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter at 7:29 PM.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

**Motion carried.**

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- Motioned by Mr. Smoot supported by Mr. Mays to reconvene the special board meeting at 8:13 PM.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

**Motion carried.**

- Motioned by Ms. Watson supported by Mr. Mays to approve the following resolution that the Superintendent of Schools, or his designee, provide Kevin Brock with notice that this Board of Education is considering the nonrenewal of his contract based upon reasons set forth in the revised letter to him dated April 11, 2016 which is incorporated herein by reference; and all resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Mr. Smoot, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper; Ms. Jackson and Mrs. Rankins voted no; Ms. Larry refused to vote).

**Motion carried.**

- Motioned by Mr. Mays supported by Mr. Smoot to approve the Resolution Authorizing Amendment and Restatement of Retirement Plan via Adoption of VALIC Retirement Services Company Retirement Plan for Governmental Employees.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper; Ms. Jackson voted no).

**Motion carried.**

- Motioned by Mr. Mays supported by Mr. Smoot to approve the Resolution Authorizing Amendment and Restatement of Retirement Plan via Adoption of VALIC Retirement Services Company of Governmental Volume Submitter Plan.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper; Ms. Larry and Ms. Jackson voted no).

**Motion carried.**

- Motioned by Ms. Watson supported by Mr. Mays to approve the Resolution to make Plan Member an authorized 457(b) plan provider for employee retirement contributions.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper; Ms. Jackson voted no).

**Motion carried.**

Dr. Talison stated please note that the Beecher Early Head Start monthly reporting information for March 2016 are in your packet, which includes the Enrollment Counts, Home

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Visit Completion, Socialization Meal Counts, Financial Report (Including Credit Card Usage), Early Head Start Parent Policy Committee Meeting Minutes, and Newsletter.

### **F. 2016-2017 Collaborative Schools of Choice Resolution Adoption**

Motioned by Mr. Mays supported by Ms. Watson to adopt the 2016-2017 Collaborative Schools of Choice Resolution.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

**Motion carried.**

### **G. NEOLA Volume 30, Number 1, September 2015-Part I – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

This is considered the second reading of NEOLA Volume 30, Number 1, September 2015-Part I policies. Board members, if you have any corrections, please let me know prior to the next board meeting as at that time, they will be considered for adoption.

### **H. Committee Reports**

#### **1) Committee #11/Student Hearing Results 3/7/16 – 5:30 PM (Mrs. Loper, Chairperson)**

The hearings were cancelled and rescheduled for Wednesday, March 8, 2016.

#### **2) Committee #12/Student Hearing Results 3/8/16 – 5:30 PM (Mrs. Rankins, Substitute Chairperson)**

Case #15-14 was expelled for 180 days and many not attend New Directions effective Wednesday, March 9, 2016; Case #15-15 was expelled for 180 days and many not attend New Directions effective Wednesday, March 9, 2016; and Case #15-16 was expelled for 180 days and will receive F.A.P.E. services effective Wednesday, March 9, 2016.

#### **3) Committee #11/Student Hearing Results 3/9/16 – 5:30 PM (Mrs. Loper, Chairperson)**

Case #15-11 was expelled for 180 days and may attend New Directions effective Thursday, March 10, 2016; Case #15-12 was expelled for 180 days and may attend New Directions effective Thursday, March 10, 2016; and Case #15-13 was expelled for 180 days and may attend New Directions effective Thursday, March 10, 2016.

#### **4) Finance Committee Meeting of the Whole-Closed Session 3/10/16 – 5:30 PM (Mr. Mays, Chairperson)**

The committee discussed a Written Legal Opinion, which was discussed in closed session.

#### **5) Working Committee Meeting of the Whole 3/16/16 – 5:30 PM (Ms. Watson, Chairperson)**

The committee received presentations from Uniquely Created Children's Center from Mr. Haywood, CEO and presentations from the Department Chairs; the committee

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discussed the High School Math Position; and 2016-2017 Administrative Recommendations/Renewal.

### **6) Committee #9/Student Hearing Results 3/21/16 – 5:30 PM (Mr. Mays, Chairperson)**

Case #15-06 was expelled for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year and may attend New Directions effective Tuesday, March 22, 2016.

### **I. Other Business – Board Members**

Mr. Mays – None

Ms. Larry discussed the following: I have issues and concerns with the special education department with the number of students and the number of teachers. The classroom size needs to be restructured. There was an issue with a special education teacher's conduct and it wasn't brought to the board. I received a letter from the principal; you're always praising the Athletic Director, what about the other coaches?

Ms. Jackson discussed the following: I want to say something about Anthony Brown for the accomplishment he received. I was proud when he invited me to the presentation. With everything that is going on, he is still continuing to do his best. I want to acknowledge that he has not stopped. I am glad that nothing has interfered for him to stop doing what he has been doing. I am proud of him.

Mr. Smoot and Dr. Talison discussed the following: At the high school they took the old wrestling room out. We have a computer center with white boards and computers that aren't being utilized or am I misspeaking? The computers are being used; who is utilizing them? I will look into it.

Mrs. Rankins and Dr. Talison discussed the following: Are we going to look into the fact of whether we can find a retiree that will take care of Title I, II, etc. business to try to hire someone? Mr. McGraw is coming and Friday and I will get more clarification from him; I hope we can come together with something before we have to send the report by May 20<sup>th</sup> to find some solutions. It's not all about cuts but how we can turn things around. They gave a lot of ideas of what we can do. We need to start on it ASAP.

Ms. Watson discussed the following: I received several phone calls about the Messer property because it really looks horrible. I told the person who called me when they see someone doing something like that to call the police so they can be cited. I would like for Mr. Hawkins to have Messer cleaned up as soon as possible.

Mrs. Loper – None

### **J. Public Comments**

None

### **K. Adjournment**



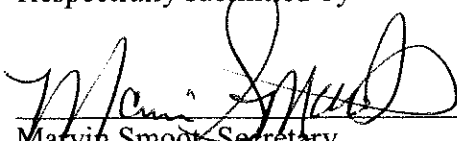
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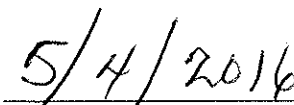
Motioned by Mrs. Rankins supported by Mr. Smoot to adjourn the special board meeting at 8:34 PM.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

**Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted by

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marvin Smoot, Secretary  
Beecher Board of Education

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved

Minutes taken by Terrie A. Seltzer