



# Lapeer Community Schools Board Action Briefs

Mike Keller .....	President
Gary Oyster .....	Vice President
John Nugent .....	Secretary
Peggy Bush .....	Trustee
Wendy Byard .....	Trustee
Denise Becker .....	Trustee
Jonathan Nugent .....	Trustee
Matthew Wandrie .....	Superintendent

## Board of Education Meeting Thursday, March 7, 2013

Lapeer Community High School student Julien Tindale led the Board and audience in the pledge of allegiance.

### Recognition

Board Vice President Gary Oyster, on behalf of the Board of Education, presented Sherryl McLaughlin, Director of Special Education, and Linda Thompson, Director of Transportation, certificates for their thoughtful and timely response to a situation, over the course of a weekend, that helped limit anxiety among many of our special education parents and transportation staff; and for verifying the accuracy of information about the situation in order to calm their fears.

### Presentation

Mr. Kevin Walters, principal of Community High School, presented information on Community High School. He reviewed the comprehensive approach that staff is taking to help LCH students be successful and shared test results that are showing positive improvements.

### Committee Reports

Gary Oyster, chairperson of the Personnel Committee, reported on the meeting that was held on February 26 when the superintendent evaluation was discussed.

John Nugent, chairperson of the Teaching, Learning, Technology Committee, reported on meeting that was held on February 27 when the following items were discussed: Healthy Choices Task Force Report; Elementary RtI Update; and AG 5111.01 Homeless Students.

Wendy Byard, member of the Student Advocacy and Communication Committee, reported on the meeting that was held on February 28 when administrative guidelines for the Diversion Program was discussed.

### Re-Thinking Secondary Education

Ron Reed, Executive Director for Secondary Education, explained that the following Task Forces: Secondary Magnet; West Complex; Alternative Education; High School Transition; and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Transition, have been meeting for several months to create a recommendation regarding High school consolidation, flexible student scheduling, increased access to academic rigor and a long-term plan to offset revenue declines stemming from lower enrollment.

Mr. Wandrie reviewed the 2011 survey results showing 64% respondents stating the District should consolidate high schools and 3% stating the District should not close a high school under any circumstance. He reviewed the 4 year Strategic Plan Proposal that was presented in February 2012 and reviewed the changes in that plan due to recommendations from the Task Forces. The district's goal is to create a world-class academic, athletic, and arts program at the secondary level with increased academic rigor for all students. He reviewed a plan for a flexible day for students so learning can be focused on aptitude and not age. The flexible day will allow students who struggle by giving them equal access to the curriculum by taking 6 full classes. Students that are 2 grade levels below in reading will be provided 6 classes, but will also be expected to attend one of the support times from 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM or from 2:15 PM to 3:45 PM. This support could be provided at East, West or a middle school. Transportation would be provided to and from the student's homes for the flex classes and also between the schools. These same time slots could be used for student enrichment and acceleration.

The following staff members spoke regarding their support for the program and how they feel it will help students in multiple ways: Chad Kenny, Mayfield Elementary teacher and coach; Dan Hundt, Lapeer West Band Director; Jennifer Taylor, Rolland-Warner Middle School Principal; and Kevin Wenzel, 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Zemmer Middle School and coach.

President Mike Keller thanked the parents, staff and community members who have volunteered their time to serve on the various Task Forces. He thanked Chad Kenny, Dan Hundt, Jennifer Taylor, and Kevin Wenzel for sharing their thoughts and experiences with the Board.

Mr. Keller stated that over the past few years the Board has been presented with recommendations for major cuts in order to balance the budget and he wants that to stop. He stated "We have to create our own economy and change how we work" and "we have to continue to change because the world around us is changing". He thanked Matt Wandrie, staff, parents, and community members for the work they had put into this.

Mr. Wandrie reminded everyone that Lapeer Community Schools will host a community forum on Wednesday, March 13, 2013, at Lapeer East High School to review the information presented to Board. It will begin at 6 PM in the auditorium and is open to the public.

### **Board Action**

The Board approved the following items:

- That the March 21 Work Session be changed to a Regular Meeting and location be moved to Zemmer Middle School.
- That the Date for the May 16, 2013 Work Session be changed to May 23, 2013.
- The 2012-2013 General Fund amendments.
- That a Legislative Ad Hoc Committee be formed for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year.

### **Board Member Comments**

Board members thanked all the staff, parents, and community members that attending the meeting. They appreciate their comments and heartfelt words. They thanked Mr. Walters for his presentation on Community High School.

Board members congratulated Lapeer West Wrestling team for being selected for best sportsmanship by 4 out of 8 of their competitors.

Board members noted that Ron Thwing had passed away this week. Mr. Thwing was former teacher, coach, and administrator for Lapeer Community Schools.

### **Superintendent Comments**

Superintendent Matt Wandrie thanked the staff members who spoke and thanked Mr. Walters for his presentation.