



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
Michael Nolan	Trustee
Matthew Wandrie	Superintendent

**Board of Education Meeting
Thursday, October 4, 2012
at the Administration and Services Center**

Mr. Scott Warren, principal of Murphy Elementary School, presented a video in which Murphy students led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Warren explained that 4th and 5th grade students have a morning program, run by parent volunteers, where students make daily announcements and showcase student work. He presented the program that had been run that morning for the Board and guests.

Mr. Warren introduced teacher Karen Allmen who presented information on Murphy's school improvement plan for writing. Mrs. Allmen explained that the teachers were using the book "An Ethic of Excellence: Building a Culture of Craftsmanship with Students" written by Ron Berger as a model to improve student writing. Teachers are using models, multiple drafts, and positive critique to help students improve their writing skills. The school's plan is to begin with writing and then incorporate this technique into other areas.

Denise Becker, chairperson of the Student Advocacy and Communications Committee, reported on the SAC Committee meeting that was held on September 27 when policy revision recommendations and committee goals/measurement tools were discussed.

John Nugent, chairperson of the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Committee, reported on the TLT Committee meeting that was held on September 27 when the following items were discussed: field trips; policy revision recommendations; dual enrollment procedures; attack the gap instructional strategy; K-12 instructional strategies; and committee goals/measurement tools were discussed.

In order for the district to align with the State Best Practices, changes to the following policies were approved for first reading:

- Policy 2271 PROGRAM Postsecondary Enrollment Option Program;
- Policy 2370 PROGRAM Academic Exceptions Expanding and Extending Student Learning;
- Policy 2623 PROGRAM Student Assessment;
- Policy 3419 PROFESSIONAL STAFF Group Health Plans;
- Policy 4419 SUPPORT STAFF Group Health Plans;
- Policy 5461 STUDENTS Academic Exceptions Expanding and Extending Student Learning.

The following overnight/out-of-state field trip requests were approved:

- Lapeer West Fashion/Graphic Arts/Visual Arts Students to New York City on May 17-20, 2013;
- Rolland-Warner 7th Grade Band to Mackinac Island on May 10-11, 2013;
- Rolland-Warner Students to Washington, D.C. on November 3-8, 2013 and November 2-7, 2014;
- Zemmer Students to Lansing, Michigan on November 18-20, 2012;
- Lapeer East Symphony Band Students to New York University on April 11-15, 2013.

Board members thanked Murphy students for leading the pledge digitally and thanked Mr. Warren and Mrs. Allmen for the presentations. A request was made that the district review its policy on political activity in the schools once the November election is over. Board members hope that the district can get some data from students on issues they are dealing with outside of school that is affecting their learning so interventions can be put in place. Board members are pleased that Mott Community College is purchasing the building they are using in the City of Lapeer. Having a college in our town creates options for students and people in our community.

Mr. Oyster shared his thoughts regarding a recent newsletter to constituents from Senator Phil Pavlov, chair of the Senate Education Committee. He stated his disappointment that the following items have not yet been addressed

by the Senate Education Committee: tenure reform; pension reform; equity in funding; closing the fiscal year gap; and ISD reform. (Mr. Oyster's complete statement will be available in the official minutes.)

Mr. Keller commented on HB 5923 which came as a result of the Governor commissioning the Oxford Foundation to propose a rewrite of the Michigan School Aid Act. He wants our district to continue to be proactive, as we have been with starting the Lapeer Virtual Learning Center, and continue to seek to offer other choices to our families.

Superintendent Matt Wandrie thanked Mr. Warren and Mrs. Allmen for their presentations. Mr. Wandrie stated that he made the comment "that adults have the power to overwhelm the culture of a building" at the staff meeting on "opening day". He feels the leaders in our buildings are doing that. He shared with the Board that he and COLT are attending staff meetings at all buildings in the district and recognizing employees with years of service.

Mr. Wandrie shared that he spent the morning at Lapeer West High School and thanked Ms. Cornell and Ms. Noble for letting him into their classrooms. He encouraged the students to get involved in the Task Forces.