



Lapeer Community Schools Board Action Briefs

Mike Keller..... President
Mike Nolan..... Vice President
Peggy Bush..... Secretary
Wendy Byard..... Trustee
Denise Becker..... Trustee
Jan Peabody..... Trustee
Lisa Novak..... Trustee
Matthew Wandrie..... Superintendent

Board of Education Meeting Thursday, March 9, 2017

Turrill students led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bob Downey, Principal of Turrill Elementary, explained this is his first year at Turrill and he has spent the time getting to know the building, staff, students, and families. Piper Austin, 5th Grader and member of Turrill Student Council, shared information with the Board from a student's perspective.

Crystal Hoganson, the Intercession Coordinator, shared information on the programs that have been made available for students this year.

Learning Coach Beth Shemanski reviewed grants that have been awarded to Turrill this year.

Learning Coaches Cathy Ruhlman and Beth Shemanski thanked the Board for supporting the Reading Recovery program. They shared how it has changed the lives of their students.

Mr. Downey shared that teachers Holly Rajewski and Nicolette Wilderding presented at the local level on working with students with ASD, teacher Jessica Oliver presented at a GISD ELA conference on Reading Workshop and teachers Theresa Hribar and Cheryl Smith are scheduled to present at an MRA State Conference. Mrs. Hribar and Mrs. Smith shared what they will be presenting.

Denise Becker reported on the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Committee meeting that was held on February 17 when the committee received an update on Grants and reviewed an overnight/out of state trip for the physics/calculus class.

Peggy Bush reported on the Finance and Operation Committee meeting that was held on February 27 when the following items were discussed: Board Treasurer Reports; Revision to Policy 6423 FINANCES Use of Credit Cards; and Moody's Rating.

The Board approved the following items:

- Minutes from the February 2, 2017 Regular Meeting
- Minutes from the February 16, 2017 Work Session
- The following Overnight/Out of State Trips:
 - LHS Physics/Calculus Students to Cedar Point on May 16, 2017
 - Zemmer and LHS Robotics Team to Marysville, Michigan on April 6-8, 2017
 - Zemmer and LHS Robotics Team to Saginaw, Michigan on April 12-15, 2017
- First reading of changes to the following policies:
 - 3217 PROFESSIONAL STAFF Dangerous Weapons
 - 4217 SUPPORT STAFF Dangerous Weapons
 - 5772 STUDENTS Dangerous Weapons
 - 7217 PROPERTY Dangerous Weapons
 - 6423 FINANCE Use of Credit-Debit Cards

Board members thanked Mr. Downey and Turrill staff for their presentations. They also thanked Piper Austin for the information she shared with the Board.

Board members congratulated the girl's Varsity Basketball Team for a great season and winning the District Championship.

Mr. Wandrie thanked Mr. Downey, Turrill Staff and students for their presentations. He is pleased with the results from the reading recovery program and happy that it is proving to be so effective.

Due to massive power outages in Lapeer and Oakland County, the District is working to partner with DTE Energy regarding the use of our facilities for parking service trucks and possibly a warming center for those without power.

Mr. Wandrie read the following statement that was drafted jointly by himself and Mr. Keller:

We have received numerous inquiries for further information regarding the police investigation into the threat made to the Zemmer Campus late last month. Please understand that the District is not in a position to provide information to the community beyond what has already been reported in the local media. We recognize the desire among many parents to know specifics about the threat, but the District cannot release sensitive information that could potentially interfere with the efforts of law enforcement. Further, the District is prohibited by federal student privacy laws from discussing student matters in public.

It was also brought our attention that there were families with students who were not included in the initial phone call to Zemmer parents. For example, students from Lapeer High School who take one course at the Zemmer Campus. This was an oversight on our part, as those students were included in Lapeer High School's call-out list. We have rectified this issue and are reviewing our protocols to ensure there is no additional oversight. The original letter was sent to Zemmer Campus parents, placed on the District website, the Zemmer website and on social media. We did not send out a phone message district-wide so as not to cause undue panic over a threat that was not active.

The District will closely monitor the legal proceedings moving forward and will continue to fully cooperate with local law enforcement until the matter has been resolved.

Mr. Wandrie reminded everyone that the investigation was initiated by law enforcement and the District will continue to support the Sheriff's Department and Prosecutor's Office in any way possible.

Mr. Wandrie and the Board recognize that this was frightening for students and parents to go through and we were fortunate that young people came forward and brought it to the attention of law enforcement.

After legal proceedings are finalized, the District will work with the Sheriff and Prosecutor's office regarding a community engagement opportunity.

He asked everyone to use discretion when it comes to this topic on social media and cautioned that even something posed as a question on social media can cause a chain reaction of doubt and misinformation.

Board President Mike Keller stated that school safety will also be a part of the new strategic plan process.