

WILLOW RUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Ypsilanti, Michigan

REGULAR MEETING

December 18, 2003

The regular meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. at Kettering Elementary School, 1633 Knowles, Ypsilanti, Michigan, with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Those present were:

Claudette Braxton, President
Andreas Blakita, Vice President
Brenda Clay, Secretary
Avery Heningburg, Trustee
Clifford Smith, Trustee
Mark Wilde, Trustee
Joe Coburn, Student Representative to the Board

Absent:

Scott Wilson, Treasurer

Members of the Administrative Council Present Included:

Dr. Douglas Benit, Superintendent
Mary Brandau, Principal, Kettering Elementary
Laura Chew, Director, Academic Services
Bill McGill, Principal, Willow Run High School
Raymond Mellberg, Principal, Kaiser Elementary
John Nickel, Director, Business Services
Peter Silveri, Director, Human Resources
Katie Smith, Director, Technology

President Braxton called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

Citizens' Time

Mr. King, Kettering area parent shared a story that was in *the Ann Arbor News* about his son playing in a shoot-out hockey game at Joe Louis Arena on December 17, 2003.

Ms. Sartorius, Kaiser Teacher, spoke about the teacher contract negotiations.

Ms. Gibson, Willow Run High School parent, thanked Dr. Benit for his prompt attention to a problem she had brought to his attention at the last Board meeting. She said it turned out to be a miscommunication.

Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Dr. Benit informed the Board of the following additions to the Agenda:

Item III.A. – Approval of December 17, 2003 Minutes

Item IV.B. – Sheriff Liaison Officer Report

Item VIII.A.1. – Budget Update

Approval of the Agenda

#03041214 Ms. Clay moved that the Board of Education accept the agenda as amended.
Mr. Wilde supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

Excellence in Education – Kettering Elementary Report

Kettering students put on a play of the story they wrote entitled “’Twas the Night Before School Started.”

Approval of Minutes

#03041215 Ms. Clay moved that the Board of Education approves the minutes as presented from the study session of December 3, 2003, the regular meeting of December 4, 2003, and from the special meeting of December 17, 2003. Mr. Wilde supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

Approval of Bills

#03041216 Mr. Smith moved that the Board of Education approves payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$2,507,630.53 and 2001 Building & Site Fund bills in the amount of \$2,418,535.86. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

Financial Statements

#03041217 Mr. Smith moved that the Board of Education accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

Communications

Dr. Benit shared the following communications with the Board:

- * Teacher Appreciation certificates sponsored by Pulte Homes were drawn on October 28th. Dr. Benit presented these to Kettering teachers Lana Tatom, Pat Doolittle, and Brenda Johnson at this evening’s meeting.
- * Dr. Benit shared the log of hours for Deputy Boivin with the Board.

Committee Reports

Ms. Clay reported on the meeting of the Policy Committee, which took place on December 5, 2003. The topic of this meeting was the review of policies, which will be brought to the Board at a later date.

Acceptance of Donation – Kettering Elementary

#03041118 Mr. Wilde moved that the Board of Education accept the donation of new T-shirts from arTees Island Designs Company, valued at \$1,488.45, to the students at Kettering Elementary. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

Approval of Overnight Field Trip – Kettering Elementary

#03041119 Mr. Heningburg moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve an overnight field trip for Kettering Elementary students in Ms. Rhodes', Mr. Schwartz', and Ms. Smith's classes to Mackinaw Island, June 2-3, 2004. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 -Motion carried

Approval of Overnight/Out-of-State Field Trip – Kettering Elementary

#03041120 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve an overnight/out-of-state field trip to Chicago, Illinois, for Ms. Jarvey's and Ms. Schwartz' classes for May 26-27, 2004. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

Acceptance of Donation – Cheney Academy

#03041121 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the donation of 73 books (51) hardback and (22) paperback books valued at \$750, from Debra Williams to Cheney's Media Center. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 -Motion carried.

Community Education Contract Approval

#03041122 Ms. Clay moved that the Willow Run Board approve the attached contract between WRCS Community Education and Washtenaw Literacy for the 2003-2004 school year. Mr. Wilde supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 -Motion carried.

Declaration of Surplus Equipment

#03041123 Mr. Smith moved that the Willow Run Board of Education declare the attached list of items surplus equipment and allow the District to sell, or dispose of the items if necessary. Mr. Wilde supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 -Motion carried.

Authorization to Participate in USDA Commodity Co-Operative

#03041124 Ms. Clay moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve the attached resolution authorizing the District to participate in School Purchasing and Resource Consortium. Mr. Smith supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 -Motion carried.

Approval of Overnight/Out-of-State Field Trip

#03041125 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve the Willow Run High School Steel Drum Band to travel to Kauai and Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 5-14, 2004, to perform at the Polynesia Cultural Center in Honolulu and to participate in a cultural exchange at the Kauai Cultural Center. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 -Motion carried.

Establishment of the Willow Run Community Schools Foundation

#03041126 Mr. Heningburg moved that the Willow Run Board of Education authorize the establishment of the Willow Run Community Schools Foundation. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 – Motion carried.

Budget Update

Mr. Nickel said the situation at the State is changing so rapidly that an official budget presentation cannot be given at this time, because our funding is contingent on funding from income taxes. When more solid information is available a budget presentation will be given to the Board.

Approval of Musical Instrument Purchase Orders

#03041127 Mr. Smith moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve Purchase Orders #0810A to Marshall, #0811A to Anderson, #0815A to Woodwind and #0829A to Michael G. Kernahan for a combined total of \$83,415.00 for musical instruments. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 – Motion carried.

Approval of TV Production Equipment Purchase Orders

#03041128 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve Purchase Orders #0822A to Thalner Electronic Laboratoreis, Inc. for a total of \$34,254.00 for TV Production Equipment. Mr. Smith supported.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0 – Motion carried.

Approval of Tentative Agreement with W.R.P.O.

#03041129 Mr. Smith moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve the terms and conditions of the one-year Agreement reached with the Willow Run ParaEducator Organization. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: Mr. Heningburg, Mr. Wilde, Mr. Smith, Mr. Blakita, Ms. Clay,
Ms. Braxton

Nays: 0 – Motion carried.

Approval of Tentative Agreement with W.R.M.S.U.

#03041130 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve the terms and conditions of the one-year Agreement reached with the Willow Run Management Support unit – M.E.A./N.E.A. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: Mr. Heningburg, Mr. Wilde, Mr. Smith, Mr. Blakita, Ms. Clay,
Ms. Braxton

Nays: 0 – Motion carried.

Approval of Tentative Agreement with Local 3451

#03041131 Ms. Clay moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve the terms and conditions of the one-year Agreement reached with the Willow Run Chapter of Local 3451 – A.F.S.C.M.E. Mr. Wilde supported.

Ayes: Mr. Heningburg, Mr. Wilde, Mr. Smith, Mr. Blakita, Ms. Clay,
Ms. Braxton

Nays: 0 – Motion carried.

Citizens' Questions

Ms. Martin, Kettering area parent praised and thanked the Board of Education for the excellent job, hard-work, and time given. She also thanked the Board for approving the purchase of new band instruments.

Mr. King spoke about the great Kettering principal and staff. He said being a Kettering parent is awesome.

A Willow Run High School parent asked if graduation can be changed from Pease Auditorium to another location with more seating.

Ms. Austin, Kaiser Teacher, thanked teachers and principals for staying late into the night for extra programs. She said we want the best for all Willow Run kids.

Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Benit said a message was received from Lansing this afternoon that the tax bill was passed. He said we are still waiting to hear about the School Aid Bill.

Dr. Benit invited everyone to the basketball games at Willow Run High School beginning at 3:00 p.m., with the last game starting at 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Benit wished everyone a safe and Merry Christmas.

Presidents' Comments

President Braxton expressed appreciation to each and every one of the staff for their hard work and long hours. She said it shows.

Board Members' Comments

Mr. Blakita said there was a Round-Table discussion held at the WISD last week. The topic was the budget situation.

President Braxton declared the meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.