



Muskegon Heights Public Schools

2603 Leahy Street • Muskegon Heights, MI 49444 • Phone 231-830-3221 Fax 231-830-3560

AGENDA

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

BOARD OF EDUCATION
2603 LEAHY STREET
MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

MUSKEGON HEIGHTS HOUSING COMMUNITY CENTER

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2013
1:00 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Secretary's Report and Approval of Minutes
4. Action Items
5. Report from the Emergency Financial Manager
6. From the Board
7. Concerns of Parents/Citizens and Recognition of Guests
8. Adjournment

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
of the
SCHOOL DISTRICT
of the
CITY OF MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2013
1:00 PM**

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

1. **The Regular Board Meeting, Muskegon Heights Board of Education, Conference Room, 2603 Leahy Street, Muskegon Heights, Michigan, was called to order by President Scott at 1:13 p.m.**
2. **President Scott, instructed Secretary Brewer, to call the roll and note Board Members and Administrative Staff present.**

BOARD MEMBERS: Mrs. Trinell Scott, President; Mr. Franklin Brewer, Secretary, _____ Vice President; Mrs. Peggy Selmon, Treasurer; Mrs. Cassandra Kitchen, Trustee; Mrs. Marjorie Cook, Trustee; Mrs. Estelita Rankin, Trustee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Cassandra Kitchen, Marjorie Cook (Late)

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: Dr. Donald B. Weatherspoon, Emergency Manager

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ABSENT:

3. SECRETARY'S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of **August 12, 2013**, be approved and placed on file.

M **Estelita Rankin** MOVED and m **Franklin Brewer** SECONDED the adoption of the resolution:

ROLL CALL - Yes Scott Yes Brewer _____ Kitchen
Yes Selmon Yes Rankin **ABS** Cook

4. ACTION ITEMS**5. REPORT FROM THE EMERGENCY MANAGER**

- A. Dr. Weatherspoon is attempting to schedule another all board workshop regarding an overview of reading and understanding educational data. This year substantial emphasis will be placed on student growth in respect to the PSA. This involves both elected and appointed board members need to understand the data and the tools being used to track the data and understand the instruments used in assessing student growth as well as student mastery in the areas of math, social studies, science and English Language Art (ELA). These are the core subjects that will show student growth. There have been several discussions with Mosaica and Mr. Scott, the President of Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System Board.
- B. The Muskegon Heights Public Schools District is seeking approximately 3 million dollars to cover outstanding operating deficit that the district has not been able to put into structure for long term payment. Dr. Weatherspoon and Ms. Scott attended a City Council meeting last year to discuss concerns reference revenues and revenue streams such as taxes and tax collections concerns. The district has reached its credit limit. Dr. Weatherspoon is trying to work with Treasury to find an alternative way to borrow the money needed to close out a large outstanding bill (ORS) in the amount of approximately 1.5 million dollars and hoping that nothing interrupts revenue stream for repaying the debt. The district owes a little less than 2.8 million on the energy loan incurred by the district several years ago. There is approximately 1 million dollars left from proceeds from the last request but the district still needs about 3 million dollars total.
- C. There will be a Public Forum held, required by statute, on Tuesday, September 24th at the Heights Housing Community Center at 12:00 noon. To discuss the Academies academic situation.
- The forum will consist of (*Where we've been and where we are going*). Presentation will be made by Mr. Scott, Mrs. Ross and the Leadership Team of the Academy.
 - Dr. Weatherspoon will outline the terms of the contract and what he needs to continue the contract.
- D. Report from J Knox-Williams
- School opened on Aug 12th. On the first day of school there was a Million Father March (had plenty of support from fathers and or grandfathers support) Plenty of male involvement on 1st Day.
 - There were also activities at Middle School which consisted of the presence of the State Police and several other activities
 - As of Sep 3rd enrollment was 873, last year at the close of the school year enrollment was at 1195. Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System goal is 1320. There are 147 students that transferred out of the district. No numbers on transfer in.
 - Building Staffing Opens:**

King	(1 opening)	Math Coach
Edgewood	(0 openings)	Fully Staffed
Middle	(3 openings)	8 th Grade Science, 6 th Grade Science and Math Coach (all covered by long term subs)

High (3 openings) an At-Risk Counselor; a Media Specialist, and a Social Worker

District (1 opening) Title 1 Administrator

E. Gary Britton: Transition process and key milestones:

a. Delivered Handouts

Attorney Britton will spend time at the next board meeting to explain the transition process more thoroughly.

Attorney Britton stated: that the Board already knows how to get an Emergency Manager. The handout speaks about the process of how an Emergency Manager leaves the district and how the board may exit receivership. There are (3) different processes as to how this could happen:

i. The board may/may not vote to remove the Emergency Manager after 18 months of PSA 436 law then the State of Michigan comes in and appoints a separate board to access the situation

ii. State of Michigan may reappoint an Emergency Manager if deem necessary or the State appointed board may follow the elected board for approximately 1-3 years and give assistant in training staff to ensure the board is a viable entity.

iii. Bankruptcy

b. Dissolution statue: Districts that cannot recap financial losses will have their students go to neighboring districts. ISD makes determination where students will go and the district will cease to exist.

c. Attorney Britton and Dr. Weatherspoon are attempting to ensure MHPSA understands all the statues and meets bench marks set in place last year.

d. The important role of the board this year is a make or break year: some decisions may be pushed on the district from the statutory point of view from the State Department and some determined by the board.

e. The reason the district cannot borrow money is because of the SEV is very low therefore the City of Muskegon Heights is in a crisis in itself.

f. Important to keep district alive if district dissolves the debt will be transferred to the City of Muskegon Heights (tax payers).

g. Attorney Britton will be at the next board meeting to revisit the handout.

F. Question by board member: "Does the City of Muskegon Heights understand and do their lawyers understand?" Gary stated, he has talked to Ted Williams he has talked to the Mayor and Dr. Weatherspoon has also talked to the Mayor, and the City Council.

G. Dissolution of the status-schools do not want to take our kids because of low score testing the state will give those schools 3 years before assessing test scores to the schools.

H. Statement by board member: "You just said other school will get 3 years because of statue". Attorney Britton stated yes they will have 3 years to include the test scores. After 3 years they must show the students are progressing.

I. Dr. Weatherspoon suggested the board in groups of 2 set down with him and Attorney Britton to answer any questions they have so they may understand and be able to communicate to the community.

6. **FROM THE BOARD**

Suggested the next board meeting convene at Christ Temple Apostolic Church at 6:00 pm.

7. **CONCERNS OF PARENTS/CITIZENS AND RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**


ADJOURNMENT

RESOLVED, that the Regular Board Meeting for Monday, September 9, 2013, adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

M Estelita Rankin MOVED and m Trinell Scott SECONDED the adoption of the resolution:

YEAS – 5 NAYS – 0

Respectfully submitted,


Franklin Brewer, Secretary