

REGULAR MEETING OF THE RAVENNA BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES

August 14, 2023

Ravenna Middle School Library 6:30 p.m.

1. Regular meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Mike Pierson. Present: Brent Chalko, Joshua Emery, Ryan Jawor, Paula Morton, Mike Pierson, Fred Rosel and Jim Shull.
2. Motion by Rosel support by Shull to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Brent Chalko, Joshua Emery, Ryan Jawor, Paula Morton, Mike Pierson, Fred Rosel and Jim Shull. Motion carried 7-0.
3. Motion by Emery, support by Morton to approve the Consent Agenda. Items on the Consent Agenda:
  - a. Approve the Board of Education Organizational and Regular Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2023 and Special Meeting Minutes of July 31, 2023
  - b. Accept the Resignation of Amanda Hiler, High School Math Teacher
  - c. Eliminate the Director of Teaching & Learning Position
  - d. Accept the Resignation of Frank Marietta, Director of Teaching and Learning
  - e. Accept the Retirement/Resignation of Joan Iwaniw, Administrative Assistant and NHS Co Advisor Effective 1-2-2024
  - f. Approve the Hire of Lisa Romans, NHS Co Advisor Effective 1-2-2024
  - g. Approve the Hire of Tyler Nietering, Varsity Wrestling Coach
  - h. Approve the Hire of Kirsten Dobberstein, Full-Time Instructional Paraprofessional
  - i. Approve the Hire of Jamie Hawkins, Full-Time Instructional Paraprofessional
  - j. Approve the Hire of Sherilyn Bailey, Full-Time Instructional Paraprofessional
  - k. Approve the Hire of Michael Grayson Kloostra, Part Time Non Instructional Paraprofessional
  - l. Approve the Hire of Sara Johnson and Morgan Scussel, Middle School Student Council Co-Advisors
  - m. Approve the Hire of Anita Kantola, 8th Grade Volleyball Coach
  - n. Approve the Hire of Kera Howell, 7th Grade Volleyball Coach
  - o. Approve the Hire of Jessica Russell, Varsity Sideline Cheer CoachAyes: Brent Chalko, Joshua Emery, Ryan Jawor, Paula Morton, Mike Pierson, Fred Rosel and Jim Shull. Motion carried 7-0.
4. Correspondence
  - a. Superintendent Helmer shared that Dr. John Severson, State Superintendent Executive Director congratulated the students, teachers and administrators involved with the Rural Tech Project on their success and the recent trip to Washington DC.
5. Reports
  - a. Motion by Rosel, supported by Emery to Approve the expenditures of \$294,239.59 from the General Fund and \$8,776.63 and from the Food Service Fund. Ayes: Brent Chalko, Joshua Emery, Ryan Jawor, Paula Morton, Mike Pierson, Fred Rosel and Jim Shull. Motion carried 7-0.
6. Superintendent Report
  - a. Superintendent Helmer shared three of his takeaways from his recent MAISD Superintendent Leadership Retreat

- i. Project-Based Learning is gaining momentum county-wide.
  - ii. Districts need to educate themselves and their staff regarding Artificial Intelligence (AI). There will be a county-wide effort to work on awareness and how to embrace AI in the school setting.
  - iii. Local district superintendents shared that the Muskegon County school districts' wage settlements or offers were mostly in the Steps + 3% range.
- b. Superintendent Helmer reported that 43 teachers had taken part in Bulldog Curriculum Academy 5.0.
  - c. Superintendent Helmer discussed his plan to engage in community and staff visits. He was looking for Board feedback and plans to begin the visits in November. Dates to be determined and shared.

7. Old Business

- a. Superintendent Helmer is meeting with District Leadership Team members and HR to put together a plan for exit interviews. Offering both face-to-face and a google form so staff can choose what fits their comfort level.
- b. Superintendent Helmer reported that he heard from Forester Denny Worst regarding two properties that may be ready for harvest. Property and Grounds Committee Members will meet to discuss.

8. New Business

- a. Motion by Rosel, support by Emery to Authorize Dan Martin of Thrun Law Firm to respond to the Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) filed on August 14, 2023 and to file a counter-ULP against the REA to address the misinformation that has been shared publicly and to address the REA Chief Negotiator's acknowledgement, during a bargaining session, that any offer would have to be brought to and approved by the Shoreline Educational Coordinating Council before being presented to the local membership. Ayes: Brent Chalko, Joshua Emery, Ryan Jawor, Paula Morton, Mike Pierson, Fred Rosel and Jim Shull. Motion carried 7-0.

9. Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:35 p.m.



Michael Pierson, President



Fred Rosel, Secretary