

VASSAR PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Date: October 13, 2014

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Place: High School Media Center

A. CALL TO ORDER:

1. The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Mike Kennard at 6:30 P.M.

B. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Kennard , Ben Guile, Kirk Van Wormer, Russ Hubbard, Jeff Fackler, Jill Baase,
Randy Middlin

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Palmer, Phil Marcy, Jason Kiss, Chuck Fabbro, Steve Wilkinson, Andrea Legue

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: ADDITION OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

1. MOTION by Ben Guile, support by Russ Hubbard approve agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

E. BOARD RECOGNITION AND REMEMBRANCES:

F. SPOTLIGHT OF MONTH:

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CORRECTIONS:

1. MOTION by Jeff Fackler, support by Jill Baase to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2014 Regular Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

H. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS AND/OR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. General Ledger Summary Comparison Reports-General Fund and Food Service: Mr. Van Wormer asked about the \$2,650,000 balance under Tax Anticipation Notes. Mrs. Peplinski stated that it was the \$2,350,000 State Aid Note plus \$300,000 Tax Anticipation Note to cover the August payroll cash shortfall.
2. Internal Fund Balance Sheet- Mr. Van Wormer inquired as to the high account balances. Mrs. Peplinski replied that most had balances carried over from the following year to which they are adding.
3. RECOMMENDATION by Kirk Van Wormer, support by Russ Hubbard to approve the payroll expenses in the amount of \$670,663.98.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

RECOMMENDATION by Kirk Van Wormer, support by Jeff Fackler to approve the General Fund expenses in the amount of \$212,932.68.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

4. Committee Reports – NA

I. FINANCIAL ISSUES:

J. CURRICULUM ISSUES:

1. Mr. Kiss: The plan has been submitted. It is a rough draft. On October 23, Mr. Kiss, Dr. Makas and Mr. Palmer attended a meeting in Lansing to assist in finalizing the plan. The committee will re-meet as a team and solidify the plan. There will be no feedback on the plan prior to the October 23 meeting. Next they are looking for grant monies to fund the plan. It is available for \$1,000-\$50,000 due to our being a Priority School. Mr. Palmer: These are specialty grants only for Priority Schools.

In order for these grants to be obtained they must be written properly. This may require the hiring of a grant writer. Current grants are tied up. Once At Risk funding is confirmed, there are plans to build a computer lab. Mr. Middlin: Staff and Mr. Kiss are working well together to help low achieving kids. He suggested an open forum for when the plan is presented to the public.

- 2. Mr. Marcy: We have met with the Focus Schools Coach. We discussed data and direction. The next meeting is October 15 to continue to interpret data and design formal plan to be in line with Central’s plans. He provided a brief explanation of how the building became a Focus School.

K. BY-LAWS AND POLICY ISSUES:

- 1. Mr. Palmer: We are looking for a handbook rule change not a district policy change. We have concern regarding child safety and would like to establish 1 am pick up and 1 pm drop off. Other districts in the county have adopted this. Mr. Marcy spoke how changes for some students are frequent, if not daily. It is a nightly game of radio tag, however they are short staff. If there is a lost child, Skyward has only 1 drop off/pick up and has been used to place students on the proper bus. When no one is home, the student will be taken to Latchkey. Latchkey staff is aware. On Act of God days latchkey stays open to 6-7:00pm. Parents will be responsible for any Latchkey fee.

MOTION by Ben Guile, support by Russ Hubbard to support the change to the transportation policy hand book.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

L. PERSONNEL ISSUES:

- 1. MOTION by Randy Middlin, support by Kirk Van Wormer to allow Mr. Deo to be on the volunteer list.

Roll Call:

Hubbard – yes	Guile – No	Kennard – Yes	Van Wormer – Yes
Fackler – No	Baase – No	Middlin - Yes	

MOTION CARRIED (4 Yes, 3 No)

M. STUDENT ISSUES:

- 1. Krystal Reinhardt spoke about the foster parent process. The district will work with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to help find parents. There is a Community Orientation at the Tuscola Technology Center on November 13, 2014 at 6:00pm.
- 2. Karen Southgate discussed “Pathways to Potential” program. The program will put a social worker at both Central School and the Middle School. DHS ran caseloads and has about 1,400 cases of families receiving assistance. They are here to supplement. They want to see students succeed and help families be successful. There will be no cost to the district. They will be in the buildings 3-4 days a week.
- 3. Mr. Kiss spoke for the Band Boosters who would like to change the venue from Hawaii to Nashville/New Orleans. Original funding plans fell short.

MOTION by Jeff Fackler, support by Russ Hubbard to change the venue of the bank trip from Hawaii to Nashville/New Orleans.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

N. OPERATIONAL ISSUES:

- 1. Mrs. Peplinski: On September 25 I received a call from Chad Urchike, State Aid and School Funding for MDE who reviews district websites for compliance. He asked permission for Vassar’s Budget Transparency Website to be used as an example of compliancy with current transparency regulations. He will be highlighting the areas regarding Credit Card Information and Out of State Travel. At the time there were few examples in the state of districts who are compliant in these areas as the regulations are so new.

2. Cheryl Deike on behalf of the Vassar Chamber of Commerce, would like to use the district grounds as venue for the 2015 Riverfest. They have their own liability insurance. Concern was expressed as to wear and tear to the grounds. It would be a great way to show off our current facilities. It would be all outdoors, except for the historical Society lumberjack breakfast. It would be July 31-August 2. They will not be using the football field or any of the other sports fields.

MOTION by Kirk Van Wormer, support by Jeff Fackler to allow the Vassar Chamber of Commerce to use the school grounds pending any charges for custodial.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

O. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. There was public comment at this meeting.

P. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS:

1. Pupil Count: We broke even with the budgeted count.
2. The book from the award ceremony was passed among board members from Gary Lasceski received the Liberty Bell award.
3. The Tuscola County Board of Education dinner will be held October 29, 2014. Please RSVP to our office.
4. Facility Committee Meeting will be posted for October 21, 2014.
5. Dual Superintendency Council meeting will be posted for November 5, 2014 in Millington. If you would like to see something on the agenda, please email Mr. Palmer.

Q. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:

- o Mr. Marcy: Halloween Parade will be on the High School track at 11:15am. Veterans Day will be celebrated with a brunch/fellowship and program
- o Mr. Wilkinson: Looking for bus drivers.
- o Mr. Fabbro: Count is up to 162 which includes some prior Vassar dropouts. Unaccompanied Children through the Heartland Alliance: There has been a slow down at the border so there is NO NEED for them to come to Vassar. Wolverine is expanding by increasing its Michigan girl population. Hoping to get additional 40 students.
- o Mr. Kiss: Homecoming this year had the teachers, student government, staff, students, and Community putting a whole lot of effort into it. It was great community support. Fall Youth in Government had 2 of our students as candidates for Lt. Governor and Governor.

R. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- o Mrs. Baase: Owe Mr. Fabbro a round of applause for his efforts to get DSH in district and for his student count. The Facebook page is separate from the district Website & Transparency site. It has been removed. She will be spear heading an employee survey to get freedom of opinion. But staff must follow chain of command.
- o Mr. Fackler: Phenomenal for getting extra students at PWL. But we can't count on that money as we have been in the past. It may not continue.
- o Mr. Van Wormer: Riverfest location, he doesn't see any concern about the grounds.
- o Mr. Hubbard: Latchkey is doing well.

S. CLOSED SESSION:

1. MOTION by Russ Hubbard, support by Jill Baase to go into closed session at 8:20pm to discuss union contract negotiations for Teachers.

ROLL CALL:

Hubbard – yes

Guile – yes

Kennard – yes

Van Wormer – yes

Fackler – yes

Baase – yes

Middlin - yes

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

2. MOTION by Russ Hubbard, support by Ben Guile to return to open session at 9:13pm.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

3. No action taken.

4. Mr. Kiss discussed the fire alarm problem. When the alarm is pulled, it sends out a surge which blows sensors. So far they have not been able to find the current blown sensors. Last year it cost about \$2500 to fix. The cost to replace the system is estimated at \$100,000. The larger problem now is finding a company that will get into the ceilings due to asbestos & too much water to go below.

T. DATES TO REMEMBER:

October 31 Halloween; student half day with Teacher PD in afternoon

U. NEXT REGULAR OR SPECIAL MEETING:

October 21 Special Meeting – Facilities Committee in the High School Media Center @ 6:30pm

November 5 Special Meeting – Dual Superintendency Council in Millington at 6:30pm

November 10 Regular Meeting in the High School Media Center @ 6:30pm

V. ADJOURNMENT:

1. MOTION by Ben Guile, support by Russ Hubbard to adjourn the meeting at 9:21pm.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

DATED _____

SIGNED: _____
(Secretary)