

# Agenda of Regular

## The Board of Education Waverly Community Schools

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A Regular of the Board of Education of Waverly Community Schools will be held November 26, 2007, beginning at 7:30 PM in the Board Room, 515 Snow Road, Lansing, MI 48917.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

- I. Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag - President John Broughton
- II. Special Presentations
- III. Correspondence - Secretary Edith Suttles
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Student Representative Report
- VI. Board Member Comment
- VII. Adoption of Meeting Agenda
- VIII. \*\*\*Approval of Minutes 2
- IX. Presentation of Reports
  - A. Curriculum Advisory Committee Report
  - B. Facilities/Policy Advisory Committee Report
  - C. Finance/Personnel Advisory Committee Report
- X. Superintendent's Report
- XI. Public Comment
- XII. Other Board Business
- XIII. Adjournment

**WAVERLY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 12, 2007**

***Opening of Meeting***

The regular meeting of the Waverly Community Schools Board of Education was called to order by President John Broughton at 7:33 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Center, 515 Snow Road, Lansing, Michigan.

***Members Present:***

Mr. John Broughton, President  
Mr. Britt Slocum, Vice President  
Mr. Calvin Jones, Treasurer  
Mr. Don Knechtel, Vice Secretary-Treasurer  
Mrs. Mary Ann Martin, Trustee  
Mrs. Fonda Brewer-Williams, Trustee

***Member Absent:***

Mrs. Edith Suttles, Secretary

***Staff Present:***

Dr. Thomas J. Pillar, Superintendent  
Mrs. Jacklin Blodgett, Asst. Superintendent for Finance & Personnel  
Mrs. Dorothy Blackwell, Director of Curriculum  
Mr. Rob Spagnuolo, Business Manager  
Karen Burgess  
Gretchen Mikula  
Vickie Tisdale  
Mark Nester  
Cathy Mosher  
Rebecca Pease

***Others Present:***

Andrew Fritz, Student Representative  
Matt Johnson  
Pat Johnson  
Pat Herrington  
Mary Jo White

***Pledge***

Member Don Knechtel led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

***Special Presentations***

The first special presentation featured a report by Vickie Tisdale, principal of Windemere View Elementary School, regarding participation of third and fourth grade students in a book release at Barnes & Noble. The students were chosen by author Janet Mary Sinke (Grandma Janet) to act out parts from her latest book, "*Priscilla McDoodleNut Doodle McMae*". The book is about diversity and tolerance. In it, hair color is the discriminatory element. Grandma Janet had visited Windemere View Elementary and was impressed with the students' and teachers' focus on character, diversity and acceptance.

Dr. Pillar presented the district's 2006-2007 annual report in compliance with state law. Each Board member received a printed copy of the report. The annual report will appear on the district's website. A hard copy will be provided upon request.

***Correspondence***

None

**Public Comment**

Addressing the Board during public comment was Pat Harrington.

**Student Representative Report**

Student Representative Andrew Fritz reported the high school musical, “*Little Shop of Horrors*” previews for students on Wednesday, with performances on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and a 2:00 p.m. show on Sunday. The high school marching band and the Reflections will be participating in *Silver Bells in the City* on Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. This week is French week at the high school. The French Honor Society promotes awareness by sponsoring French-themed activities. Conferences were held last week and students enjoyed time off from their studies.

**Board Member Comment**

Member Martin congratulated Windemere View for bringing such an honor to Waverly. She thanked Dr. Pillar and the staff for getting the PowerSchool parent portal up and running. Member Martin expressed appreciation to all those involved in preparing 2,200 apple pies as a band fundraiser. Member Martin commented on the importance of maintaining an appropriate fund balance.

Member Knechtel also thanked the volunteers involved in the pie making activity, noting he appreciates what goes on in the district by volunteers. Member Knechtel stated he hopes the Board’s advisory committees will take a look at academic results presented at the Board’s professional development session.

Member Slocum congratulated students and staff at Windemere View on their participation in the book release. He expressed appreciation for the PowerSchool parent portal launch and indicated he needed more information about accessing homework assignments. Member Slocum reported he attend the Waverly Extravabandza, noting it was quite an event. He thanked Mr. Tom Kestenholtz, announcer for the marching band’s halftime performances, who announced for the last time this year. Member Slocum reported he attended conferences at the middle school for the first time in four years and he liked the format. Member Slocum thanked Pat Harrington for the nice statement about his kids thriving in Waverly. He also thanked President Broughton for his comments in the Annual Report about Waverly. President Broughton had written “Come and check us out. We think that you will like what you see.”

Member Jones congratulated Vickie Tisdale and the staff at Windemere View Elementary for their performance at Barnes and Noble and told them to keep up the great work. He reported the Lansing Board of Water & Light is sponsoring *Silver Bells in the City* this coming weekend and noted there is a large Waverly contingent involved in the activities. Member Jones thanked Dr. Pillar and his staff for the great professional development session conducted on Monday, October 22 for the Board. He reported the Delta-Waverly Rotary Club held its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Bookie Benefit fundraiser with all funds raised being donated to the Delta Library. With the help of 50 celebrity servers, the Rotarians raised \$3,000. Member Jones thanked WHS deputy principal Tracy Thomas and students Ashley Cromartie, Tayloire Thomas, Vincent Parker, Shirley Vicente, Brooke McComb, Diana Major, Christopher Harris, and Matt Slater for their involvement with the fundraiser.

Member Brewer-Williams thanked Vickie Tisdale and her team for showcasing Janet Mary Sinke’s book release and continuing the effort of recognizing diversity. She reported she attended the Delta Township 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, saying it was a great opportunity to network. Member Brewer-Williams reported she attended the Michigan Association of School Boards’ fall conference, and is on her way to becoming a certified Board member. Member Brewer-Williams expressed thanks to Colt principal Peggy Baldwin for her letter to parents in Colt’s November newsletter. Dr. Baldwin provided questions parents should ask themselves before attending conferences and questions to ask the teacher during the conference.

***Board Member Comment (continued)***

Member Brewer-Williams stated she plans to attend Family Fun night at Waverly East Intermediate on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

President Broughton congratulated the View students taking part in the book release performance.

***Adoption of Agenda***

A motion was presented by Member Slocum and supported by Member Jones. MOTION: The Board of Education adopt the meeting agenda as presented. Member Knechtel asked that the October 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes be removed from the consent agenda.

Motion carried (with the removal of the October 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes from the consent agenda).  
VOTE: AYES – 6; NAYS – 0; (Member Suttles absent).

***\*\*\*Approval of Minutes***

The minutes of October 8<sup>th</sup>, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, and two meetings on November 5<sup>th</sup> were approved as presented.

Member Knechtel questioned that in the October 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes there was no mention of the attendance of the student and/or parent. It was determined the minutes would be corrected. A motion was presented by Member Jones and supported by Member Slocum. The minutes of the meeting of October 23<sup>rd</sup> be approved as corrected.

Motion carried. VOTE: AYES – 6; NAYS – 0; (Member Suttles absent).

***\*\*\*Extended Field Trips – For Information***

David Rosin, David Gorbe, and Benjamin Knapp have planned an extended field trip for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band, orchestra, and choir students to Cedar Point. The trip serves as a year-end reward for students in these programs. Approximately 150 students and 15 chaperones will accompany the staff advisors to Cedar Point on Friday, May 30, 2008. They will travel by charter buses. The estimated cost of the trip per student is \$70.00. Students are responsible for providing the funds for their trip. Fundraising opportunities will be made available to help defray the cost. Students will be away from the traditional classroom setting one day.

David Rosin, high school orchestra teacher, has planned an extended field trip for orchestra students in grades 9-12 with good grades and behavior. It is estimated 40-43 students accompanied by 7-9 chaperones will travel to Chicago May 23-26, 2008 by charter bus and will stay at the Doubletree Hotel. They will have a performance opportunity, participate in the ETI Clinic at Northwestern University, and attend performances of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Blue Man Group, and Wicked. Students will also have opportunities for shopping and enjoying the city. Cost of the trip is estimated at \$530.00 per individual. Students will be responsible for the cost of the trip; fundraising opportunities will be available to help defray expenses. Students will be away from the traditional classroom setting one day.

Holly LaPratt has planned an overnight field trip to the Impression 5 Museum for Waverly's Destination ImagiNation students. It is estimated 36-80 students and one or two parent chaperones per team will travel by car to the downtown Lansing Museum where students will have creative problem solving training and participate in "Instant Challenges" designed for the Waverly students. Participation in the overnight event will help better prepare the students to represent the district in upcoming competitions. The overnight field trip is scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> and will cost each participant \$20.

***Extended Field Trips (continued)***

Benjamin Knapp, high school choir teacher, has planned an extended field trip to New York City for Waverly High School choir students in grades 9-12. Traveling by motor coaches, the group will depart on March 26 and return on March 30, 2008. While in New York, students will attend a Broadway workshop, a Broadway show, and a Gospel tour and concert, and will visit Carnegie Hall, Times Square, Ellis Island, Ground Zero and the NBC studios. It is estimated 50-72 students, 4-7 adult chaperones, and staff members will participate in the trip. The estimated cost per student is \$684 if one bus is needed; if two buses are needed, the cost would be \$712. Each participant will be responsible for the costs associated with the trip. Fundraising opportunities will be available to help defray the cost. Students will be away from the traditional classroom setting two days.

***Policy –First Reading – Report #07-2 – For Action***

A motion was presented by Member Knechtel and supported by Member Slocum. MOTION: The Board of Education approve the policy updates in Report #07-31 at first reading.

Discussion was held and suggestions made for changes to several of the policies.

Motion carried. VOTE: AYES – 6; NAYS – 0; (Member Suttles absent).

***\*\*\*Financial Recommendation – Report #07-32 – For Action***

The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

***\*\*\*Summer Tax Collection Resolution – Report #07-33 – For Action***

The Board of Education adopted the Annual Summer Tax Resolution, invoking for 2008 its previously adopted, ongoing resolution imposing a summer tax levy of one-half (1/2) of school property taxes upon property located within the School District. A copy is affixed to the official minutes of this meeting.

***Personnel Recommendations – Report #07-24 – For Action***

A motion was presented by Member Slocum and supported by Member Martin. MOTION: The Board of Education approve the employment of Christel Benjamin (Winans 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher) and Nathaniel Jarvie (.9 High School Social Studies teacher); and the resignation of Brittany Wilson (High School Social Studies Teacher).

Motion carried. VOTE: AYES – 6; NAYS – 0; (Member Suttles absent)

Also included in the report for information were the employment of non-certified employees, the retirement of a non-certified employee, the resignation of non-certified employees, a Middle School coaching assignment, and extracurricular Schedule B, 8.8, and High School musical stipends.

Member Martin acknowledged the years of service of retiring bus driver Karen Hicks, noting she has taken care of a lot of children for many miles.

***Superintendent's Report***

Dr. Pillar announced Tom Kestenholtz will be recognized by the Board at its December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting for his years of service as the voice of the Waverly Marching Band.

Dr. Pillar reported Parent-Teacher Conferences were held last week and appeared to be well attended. He stated he went to all buildings twice to talk with staff and parents.

Dr. Pillar announced the PowerSchool parent portal has been released and is well received. So far there have been 397 hits by parents, 170 hits by students, and 52 families have signed up to receive progress reports via email. The average length of time a parent has been on the website is 8.4 minutes, while the

***Superintendent's Report (continued)***

length of time a student has been on the website averages 8.7 minutes. There have been 294 student records accessed during the time frame November 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. Computer labs will be open at various times to allow parents without computers to access their students' records.

Dr. Pillar announced a Board/Student Senate dialogue is scheduled for noon on Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be provided. He asked Board members to forward discussion topics to him so an agenda can be created.

Dr. Pillar reported AdvanceED Quality Assurance Review Team will visit Waverly April 20-23, 2008. This is an integral part of the District-wide accreditation process. All schools are currently preparing for the visit.

Dr. Pillar announced district offices and schools will be closed for Thanksgiving recess on Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Dr. Pillar announced a holiday concert schedule has been prepared and will be distributed to Board members.

Dr. Pillar reported students in grades K-8 will have the afternoon off on Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> as it is the end of the first trimester.

Dr. Pillar reminded Board members to RSVP to the Ingham ISD for the December 5<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Education to be held at the Kellogg Center.

Dr. Pillar announced tentative agreements have been reached with the Waverly Education Association and the Waverly Educational Support Personnel Association. He asked Jacklin Blodgett to provide information to the Board. Mrs. Blodgett reported the WEA ratified its contract today and WESPA will vote on Friday. It was confirmed that the Board will meet in closed session on Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. to review the tentative agreements in closed session. The meeting will then open for the Board to vote on the two contracts, pending WESPA ratification.

***Public Comment***

None

***Other Board Business***

Member Slocum wished Member Jones a fine Veterans' Day.

Member Martin stated she was proud to represent Waverly Community Schools at Delta Township's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. She also expressed appreciation for the excellent Board professional development session and the tentative contract agreements.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald P. Knechtel, Vice Secretary-Treasurer

\*\*\*Consent Agenda

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**WAVERLY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
November 19, 2007**

***Opening of Meeting***

The special meeting of the Waverly Community Schools Board of Education was called to order by President John Broughton at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Center, 515 Snow Road, Lansing, Michigan.

***Members Present:***

Mr. John Broughton, President  
Mr. Britt Slocum, Vice President  
Mrs. Edith Suttles, Secretary  
Mr. Calvin Jones, Treasurer  
Mr. Don Knechtel, Vice Secretary-Treasurer  
Mrs. Mary Ann Martin, Trustee  
Mrs. Fonda Brewer-Williams, Trustee

***Staff Present:***

Dr. Thomas J. Pillar, Superintendent  
Mrs. Jacklin Blodgett, Asst. Superintendent for Finance & Personnel

***Others Present:***

Karen Burgess  
Mary Jo White

***Purpose***

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss tentative contract agreements.

A motion was presented by Member Martin and supported by Member Jones. MOTION: The Board of Education move into closed session for the purpose of discussing tentative contract agreements.

Roll call vote was taken. Motion carried, with all members present voting aye.

***Return to Open Session***

The Board returned to open session at 6:20 p.m.

***Master Agreement Ratification – Waverly Education Association - Report #07-35 – For Action***

A motion was presented by Member Slocum and supported by Member Brewer-Williams. MOTION: The Board of Education approve the tentative agreement as negotiated between the Waverly Education Association and the Board of Education as presented in Report #07-35.

Motion carried. VOTE: AYES – 7; NAYS – 0.

***Master Agreement Ratification – Waverly Educational Support Personnel Association – Report #07-36 – For Action***

A motion was presented by Member Martin and supported by Member Knechtel. MOTION: The Board of Education approve the tentative agreement as negotiated between the Waverly Educational Support Personnel Association and the Board of Education as presented in Report #07-36.

Motion carried. VOTE: AYES – 7; NAYS – 0.

***Adjournment***

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,