

**Marquette Area Public Schools  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
1201 W. Fair Avenue  
Marquette, MI 49855  
Telephone 906-225-4200  
WEBSITE: www.mapsnet.org**

**Work Session  
Monday, April 20, 2009, 5:15 p.m.  
Marquette Senior High School Library  
1203 W. Fair Avenue**

**MINUTES**

- **Call to Order**

A work session of the Marquette Area Public Schools Board of Education was held Monday, April 20, in the Library of the Marquette Senior High School. The meeting was called to order by Board President **Kellie Holmstrom** at 5:19 p.m.

- **Roll Call**

**Members Present**

Kellie A. Holmstrom, DVM	President
Alan Hawker	Vice President
Mark Smith	Secretary-Treasurer
Scott Brogan	Trustee
Norman Gruber	Trustee
Tony Retaskie	Trustee
Laura Songer	Trustee

**Student Board Representatives Present**

Alex Mallos and Kelsey Wilson

**Central Administration Present**

Jon Hartwig	Superintendent
Deborah Veiht	Assistant Superintendent
Tim Yeadon	Assistant Superintendent for Finance
Jackie Winkowski	Administrative Assistant / Recording Secretary

**Others Present**

MAPS employees, parents / citizens, Mining Journal Reporter Miriam Moeller (about 80 people, total)

- **Approval of Agenda**

**A motion was made by Al Hawker and seconded by Tony Retaskie to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried, 7-0.**

- **Approval of Minutes of April 14, 2009, 5 p.m., Special Board Meeting**

**A motion was made by Norm Gruber and seconded by Scott Brogan to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2009, 5 p.m., Special Board meeting as presented. Motion carried, 7-0.**

- **Board Work Session on Expenditure Reduction Strategies**

**Dr. Holmstrom** advised that this is the third work session of this kind, and there will be no formal action by the Board this evening.

The Administration and Board held continued discussion on proposed expenditure reduction strategies as described in the following:

- *Expenditure Reduction Strategies Background Information* dated March 9, 2009; and
- *Expenditure Reduction Strategies* dated February 2009 (from February 16 Work Session).
- Input received by the Board from MAPS administrators, other employees, parent, and other citizens.

Through discussion, there was consensus among Board members on several expenditure-related issues, including the following which will not require Board action:

- To not implement, at this time, district-wide privatized custodial services.
- The viability of an MAEA-proposed retirement incentive will not be assessed by an independent firm; consensus was not reached for a proposed Early Retirement Incentive.
- House grades K-4 programs during 2009-2010 at Cherry Creek, Sandy Knoll and Superior Hills; and house grade 5 at Graveraet Intermediate for 2009-2010. It was noted that cost savings through implementation of the 2009-10 grade 5 only Intermediate School Program were unavailable but will be included in next year's budget.
- Maintain the current *School Nurse Program* for 2009-10.

During discussion, Board members did not express support for:

- Reducing the \$200,000 allocation for new textbooks.
- Discontinuing the current Teaching Assistant Pilot Program and Literacy Coach Program for 2009-2010.
- Changing the current employer status of substitute teachers for 2009-2010.

In other discussion, it was noted that cost savings through transportation-related strategies, such as increased walking distance, contracting, bus route elimination, have not been identified.

The following proposed expenditure reductions were also discussed. Board members will be asked to consider these in the form of resolutions drafted by the Superintendent, at their April 23, 5:15 p.m. special meeting in the MSHS Library:

- Reduce MAPS' 2009-2010 General Fund transfer to the Athletic Fund by \$65,059.
- Eliminate MAPS' General Fund support for 2009-2010 Police School Liaison and School Safety Officer programs.
- Eliminate MAPS' General Fund support for 2009-2010 K-5 counselor positions.
- Eliminate MAPS' General Fund support for 2009-2010 discretionary substitutes.
- Eliminate MAPS' 2009-2010 *Supervisor of Technology Instruction* position.
- Reduce MAPS' 2009-2010 *School Psychologist* staff by 1.0 FTE.
- Reduce MAPS' 2009-2010 expenditures for Clerical Support by \$100,204.

During the above session, Dr. Holmstrom recessed the meeting from 7:48 to 8:04 p.m.

- **Comments from the Public**

**Name / topic**

**Stu Skauge**, MEA Uniserv Director, expressed support for maintaining K-5 counselors and the current level of school psychologists and the school nurse. He also expressed support for the MAEA-proposed early retirement incentive program as a form of cost savings to MAPS.

**Matt Edgell**, MAEA President, expressed support for the early retirement incentive proposal and noted that the EA waited until the proposed State plan was off the table before submitting a local proposal.

- **Board Members' Comments**

**Board Members' comments** covered the following:

- Appreciation for the productive discussion this evening.

- **Board President's Comments**

**Dr. Kellie Holmstrom** expressed appreciation for the discussion and input.

- **Adjourn**

**A motion was made by Al Hawker and seconded by Mark Smith to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 7-0. Adjourned at 8:47 p.m.**

Kellie A. Holmstrom, DVM  
President

Mark Smith  
Secretary-Treasurer

Jackie Winkowski  
Admin. Assistant / Recording Secretary

Attachment

*This document was distributed to Board members  
at the beginning of the 4-20-09 work session*

## **Marquette Area Public Schools**

**April 20, 2009**

### **Board Workshop Purpose**

1. Third meeting of its kind.
2. Intent is to encourage board member-to-board member discussion.
3. Board will identify areas of consensus regarding proposed budget reduction strategies.
4. Voting on any strategy will not occur this evening.

## **Previous Board Action**

1. Reduce Vandendoom Elementary support costs to "inactive" status.
2. Reduce workforce by one assistant elementary principal.
3. Reduce workforce by one central office administrator.

## **Strategies Approved Through Annual Budget Development Process**

1. Reduce load-bearing teachers FTE
2. Reduce technology equipment budget
3. Reduce capital outlay budget
4. Increase projected heating dial-back savings
5. Reduce discretionary custodial overtime budget
6. Reduce Board of Education travel budget
7. Reduce administrative Travel & Conference budget
8. Reduce budget for general Conferences and workshops
9. Eliminate administrative substitute budget
10. Reduce miscellaneous supplies and materials budget
11. Reduce miscellaneous expenditures budgets
12. Reduce duplicating costs
13. Reduce public relations budget
14. Reduce advertising budget
15. Reduce budget for Supporting Materials for New Textbooks
16. Reduce per-student allocation for teaching supplies
17. Eliminate budget for AmeriCorps Workers matching funds

## **Strategies for Which Approval is Requested Prior to Implementation**

1. Reduce New Textbooks budget
2. Eliminate General Fund support for Teacher Assistant program
3. Reduce General Fund Transfer to Athletic Budget
4. Eliminate Safety Officers Program
5. Eliminate General Fund support for K-5 Counseling program
6. Eliminate General Fund support for literacy Coaches
7. Eliminate General Fund support for Discretionary Substitutes program
8. Eliminate Supervisor of Technology Position
9. Reduced Budget for Clerical Support
10. Eliminate General Fund support for one Psychological Services position
11. Reduce General Fund support for School Nurse program
12. Substitute Teacher Contracting cost savings
13. Grade Realignment (Graveret Fourth / Fifth Discussion)
14. Consider MAEA Early Retirement Incentive Program
15. Increased Walking Distance (bussing) proposal
16. Other Specific Parent Committee recommendations
17. Other K-12 Administrator recommendations
18. Saving through privatization of custodial services