

## **MANCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### **Regular Meeting**

**June 13, 2016**

Lincoln

**PRESENT:** Hagenow, Jacobsen, Leon, Pattacini, Pazda, Scappaticci, Stafford, Stefanovicz, Thames

**ALSO PRESENT:** Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Management Brooks, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Radikas

**ABSENT:** Superintendent Geary

#### **A. OPENING**

##### **A.1. & 2. Meeting Called to Order**

**Chairperson Pattacini** called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. All in attendance participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by Mr. Pattacini. Mr. Pattacini noted that Mr. Geary was not present this evening due to a family emergency and Dr. Radikas would be sitting in for him.

##### **A.3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**APPROVED – Minutes Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of May 23, 2016. Secretary Scappaticci moved and Mr. Leon seconded the motion.**

**8/0 – Voted in favor.**

#### **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**C. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Secretary Scappaticci moved that the Board amend the Consent Calendar to add #5 Extended Field Trip Request - MHS Yearbook Club - 4 students, June 27, 2016 - June 28, 2016. Chaperone Chris Prytko, Advisor/Teacher. Mr. Leon seconded the vote.**

**8/0 - Voted in favor.**

Five items were then presented on the Consent Calendar for Board approval.

**C.1. Personnel Action**

Details had already been provided to the Board members with their agenda.

**C.2. Increase appropriation for MRA for FY 15/16 in the amount of \$434,454, bringing the total appropriation to \$1,234,454**

**C.3. Permission to apply for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Secondary Basic Grant for FY 16/17**

**C.4. Extended Field Trip Request - MHS Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) - FBLA National Leadership Conference - 12 students - June 29, 2016 - July 3, 2016. Chaperones: Michelle Sampiere, Advisor/Teacher, Kevin Bernardino, Teacher.**

**C.5. Extended Field Trip Request - MHS Yearbook Club - 4 students, June 27, 2016 - June 28, 2016. Chaperone Chris Prytko, Advisor/Teacher.**

**The Chairman called for a motion.**

**Secretary Scappaticci moved and Mr. Leon seconded the recommendation to adopt the Consent Calendar as amended.**

**8/0 - Voted in favor.**

**D. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Not present.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Tom Stringfellow, 183 Hillstown Road, supports all of the Consent Calendar, especially the tech grant and FBLA. As previously requested, Mr. Stringfellow would like to see a presentation from the tech-ed or business department. Mr. Stringfellow pointed out that Memorial Day passed recently and he recommended the magazine *Veterans of Foreign Wars*. He suggested an article about General Powell in the latest *Vietnam Veterans* magazine. Regarding civil rights, Mr. Stringfellow feels we need to look at other people that made an impact, and he mentioned Mohammed Ali.

Ms. Geraldine Reyes, 61 Charles Drive, was excited to be a part of the Spruce Street Block Party. She volunteered for the event and was able to see the vibe in Manchester of families sharing a meal, kids playing and having fun. Ms. Reyes feels we need more community-wide events like this to bring our community together and build a sense of partnership and being one. She feels it makes parents want to be more involved and that in turn helps kids become more successful. Ms. Reyes thanked Dr. Ratchford for an organized and orderly event and she hopes the Board will keep supporting more events like this.

**F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – PART I**

**F.1. Presentation of Citation for Lucia Reyes, 3rd Grader at Bowers Elementary, Recognized Inventor at CT Invention Convention Finals, CT Technology Council's Women of Innovation Awards**

**Dr. Amy Radikas** introduced Lucia Reyes, who was being recognized for her invention. Mayor Jay Moran gave Lucia a citation for being the first Manchester finalist with her Sprinkle Twinkle mouth spray invention.

### **F.2. Recognition of Building and District Teachers of the Year**

**Mayor Moran** congratulated all the teachers, especially the Teachers of the Year, for their hard work. He also echoed the thoughts of Ms. Reyes, about the great community events held this year at Squire Village, Washington School, and Spruce Street. Mayor Moran also thanked the administration and Mrs. Brooks for their work and noted that we broke ground at the Cheney Bennet project this past week.

**Dr. Radikas** thanked the Teachers of the Year for their tireless efforts for our community. Each principal introduced their Teacher of the Year and spoke a few words about them. Family and friends were present to celebrate these fine educators and enjoy cake and juice. This event usually takes place during the day at Central Office, but this year was held at night so family could partake in the event.

### **F.3. Update on Rights & Responsibilities for Transgender Students**

This update will be given at the next Board meeting.

### **F.4. Update on Adult Education**

**Dr. Radikas** introduced Dr. Diane Clare-Kearney, who gave a Powerpoint presentation of Adult Ed, which was supplemented by several staff members and students. The presentation is available for viewing on the website.

**Ms. Pazda** thanked Dr. Kearney and all the speakers. Ms. Pazda has taught developmental English at MCC for 15 years. She wondered about the different courses available and data on the REACT kids going on to college and career paths. Dr. Kearney reviewed the ABE = Adult Basic Education - it is a starting point and students can move into other classes. GED = General Education Development Test, math, english, science, social studies and reading. Generally older students work towards their GED, which requires self-discipline and the

ability to test into grade 10. CDP = Credit Diploma Program, which is generally for the 18-22 year olds who need to work on earning credits towards their diplomas. Once a student leaves CDP or GED then can enter REACT, which stands for Reaching Educational Achievement for College Transition. This is free of charge for academically eligible students to improve skills and begin college with a strong foundation of reading, writing and math. NEDP = National External Diploma Program is generally for those in their 40s and 50s with work experience and is competency based. Keytrain, led by Program Facilitator David A. Lee, leads to workplace skills. The focus is on applied math, reading for information and applied information. This is a computer-based course and we would like all adult education students to take this to earn the national career readiness certification.

**Mr. Thames** asked about computer technology and how it connects with college. Mr. Lee spoke about A+ certification and the Mike Myers series. There is also Microsoft Office certification. Digital literacy is an "every person" type of course to teach things such as how to validate a website, how to be safe on the internet, etc.

Mr. Thames wondered if, for the construction aspect, experts are hired. Mr. Lee stated they are not, but tech-ed teachers and software are used. Dr. Kearney added that ED244 grant funds are used for these programs.

**Mr. Leon** thought it was great to see the progress of this program, which was built from scratch. He wondered what we can do to enhance the program and if the students have all the technology they need. Dr. Kearney noted that they could use additional computer labs for students and she would like all students to have email addresses. If the high school computer labs get closed it will adversely impact Adult Ed. Dr. Kearney also noted location is an issue and they need space to grow. When asked how much space would be useful, Dr. Kearney noted that a location the size of Robertson School would be ideal, and it would mean that the program could run full time and students could attend during the day instead of just part-time at night.

**Mr. Pattacini** thanked Dr. Kearney for all the hard work and to the students who spoke he told them they were a great example of lifelong learners and perseverance.

**G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**I. PUBLIC COMMENTS** (Limited to items on tonight's agenda)

Mr. Tom Stringfellow, 183 Hillstown Road, congratulated little Miss Reyes and noted she should patent her invention. To Dr. Kearney, Mr. Stringfellow thought it was an excellent presentation. He feels adult ed is a vital part of education. Mr. Stringfellow recommended the book *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Leadership*. He also recommended an article in the magazine *Black EO Journal*. Mr. Stringfellow commends our school system and what we are doing. He wishes the media covered more of the good things going on and he recommends thinking outside the box.

Mr. Jim Stafford, of Adult Ed, noted that Pat Brooks is retiring and on behalf of his colleagues he thanks her as she was part of the vision of Adult Ed.

**J. COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**K. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

**Mr. Leon** would like to hear about the sports, music and arts programs in the fall. He would like to hear about their goals and maybe meet some of the players.

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Pattacini called for a motion to adjourn.**

**Secretary Scappaticci moved and Mr. Leon seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.**

**9/0 - Voted in favor.**

**Adjournment 8:27 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Scappaticci  
Board Secretary