



**BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 13, 2025 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Board of Education of the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools district convened a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, January 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Harry L. Wheeler Community Center and Administrative Offices, located at 24076 F.V. Pankow Boulevard, Clinton Township, Michigan.

A. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

Mr. Adam Lipski, President, called the Committee of the Whole to order at 6:31 p.m.

Roll Call

Present Mr. Adam Lipski, President
 Mr. Al Doss, Vice President
 Mrs. Sharon Ross, Secretary
 Mr. John Da Via, Treasurer
 Mrs. Sandra Hernden, Trustee
 Mr. Andrew Parski, Trustee
 Mr. Shane Sellers, Trustee

Also present: Mr. Keith Howell, Superintendent
 Ms. Lisa Montpas, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
 Mr. Michael Van Camp, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
 Ms. Kathy Konon, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations
 Ms. Kimberly Rawski, Director for Secondary Education
 Mr. Tony Sedick, Director for Elementary Education
 Ms. Nancy Supanich, Director for Special Education
 Mr. Donald Gratton, Director for Operations
 Mr. Brandon Streng, Director for Technology
 Ms. Beth Disbrow, Director for Finance
 Ms. Cheryl Goodall, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
 Employees and Patrons of the District

B. Hearing of School District Patrons

No patrons addressed the Board at this time.

C. Superintendent's Report

C.1. Mr. Howell welcomed Sandra Hernden and Andrew Parski to the Board of Education and expressed appreciation for the new perspectives they'll bring. He said he is looking forward to working with both of them. Mr. Howell also recognized the entire Board for School Board Appreciation Month and indicated there will be a more formal presentation at the next Board meeting on January 27. He thanked the Board for the support they've given him as Superintendent and is looking forward to the year ahead.

Mr. Howell shared that the Burdi Center was named the recipient of School Specialty's \$50,000 School Makeover Sweepstakes. The funding was used to renovate the before-and-after care preschool classroom space and made other upgrades throughout the building. These enhancements were completed over the holiday break, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony revealing the upgrades took place

on Monday, January 6 and Mr. Howell and Mr. Da Via attended. The students were excited to see the changes.

Mr. Howell recognized Law Enforcement Appreciation Day which was January 9 and thanked the four School Resource Officers Jimmy Cowan (Districtwide), Tim Davis (LCHS), Patrick Militello (LCHSN) and Mark Javery (Pellerin), that serve the district. He also thanked Sandra Hernden for her service in law enforcement.

Mr. Howell shared a Parent Advisory Committee Meeting took place last Thursday. Safety was a topic of discussion. Safety preparedness and emergency preparedness along with physical and emotional safety were discussed. Shelley Alwardt also presented information about Title I Grant programming. A bond update was provided. A discussion also followed about possible upcoming projects. Mr. Howell thanked Mr. Da Via for being a part of the meeting.

Mr. Howell stated that he is almost at his first 100 days as Superintendent and is putting together an executive summary for the Board's review and his hope is that it will guide the Superintendent's goals moving forward.

D. Bond Program

D.1 Mrs. Konon stated they are in the process of securing Technology Designer Services to assist with bond planning along with an architect for construction projects. Mrs. Konon, Mr. Gratton and Mr. Streng have narrowed the selection down to three and are hoping to have a decision to present to the Board at the next meeting.

D.2 Mrs. Konon stated projects are progressing on schedule at this time. Current projects include flooring at Tenniswood, Lobbestael and Yacks, baseball and softball fields and tennis courts at High School North are on schedule according to the plan. Pavement project planning is also progressing with areas that present safety hazards and critical needs being addressed first with the goal of addressing those next Summer. Mr. Gratton is working on the bids for pool filtration and HVAC at High School North, along with managing roof bids for Graham and High School North.

Discussion followed.

E. Department Updates

- **Human Resources**

Mr. Van Camp provided statistics about student teachers and interns including the number we've had and the universities represented.

Discussion followed.

- **Business Office**

Mrs. Konon advised the department is working on tax-related documents due by the end of the month. The department is also working on budget preparation and targeting to have an amendment to present in March. Food and Nutrition is being provided training and professional development in the processes at L'Anse Creuse.

There were no other Department Updates at this time.

F. Curriculum and Instruction Office

- F.1.** Ms. Montpas stated Kindergarten enrollment will be opening the first week of February. Ms. Montpas will be presented information and statistical data about student enrollment and the Schools of Choice program. The Schools of Choice recommendation will be presented at the next regular board meeting for approval for the 2025-2026 School Year.

Discussion followed.

- F.2.** Ms. Montpas provided Student Travel Requests that will be presented to the Board for approval at the next Regular Board Meeting.

G. Business Office

- G.1.** Mrs. Konon provided information on the Consent Agenda Items that will be presented for approval at the next Regular Board Meeting.

H. Human Resources Office

- H.1.** Mr. Van Camp provided information regarding the Employment Recommendations that will be presented for approval at the next Regular Board Meeting.

I. Hearing of District Patrons Follow-up

No patrons addressed the Board at this time.

J. Board Member Comment

Mr. Parski thanked everyone for welcoming him to the Board and is looking forward to working with everyone.

Mr. Da Via shared his experience and the challenges of attempting to collect data in the past during his tenure as a principal and expressed that he understands the complexities of this process, regarding the Schools of Choice presentation.

Mr. Doss wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Lipski congratulated and welcomed the new Board Members. He thanked Central Administration for the information provided.

Mrs. Ross welcomed the new Board Members. She also thanked Central Administration for the information provided. She also informed Board Members of the MCSBA monthly meetings and the dinner meeting to be held later this month and encouraged Board Members to attend.

Mr. Sellers wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed the new Board Members. He addressed an anonymous letter received by all Board Members appearing to be from a district parent regarding athletics. He stated he appreciated Mr. Howell had already indicated he would be reviewing athletics in the district as a part of his executive summary.

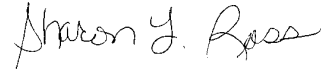
Mrs. Hernden wished everyone a Happy New Year and expressed her gratitude for the voters. She also addressed the anonymous letter received as mentioned by Mr. Sellers. She thanked Central Administration for the orientation and is looking forward to working with all.

K. Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Ross, supported by Mr. Da Via, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Yes: All
No: None
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon L. Ross, Secretary
Board of Education
SLR:cjg