

MINUTES  
Regular Board Meeting  
**Almont Community Schools Board of Education**  
July 28, 2014

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice President Miles called the Regular Board Meeting of the Almont Community Schools Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. in Board Meeting Room at the Almont Elementary, 401 Church Street, Almont, Mi.

**Present**

John Miles, John Brzozowski, Jon Owens, Steven Manko, Nancy Boxey and Superintendent Joseph Candela.

**Visitors:** 4

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** Scott Kmetz and Steve Hoffa were absent

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Agenda was updated in the following manner:

No Approval of June 23<sup>rd</sup> Closed Minutes for Negotiations. They will be approved at the August meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Dan Sutter from the Athletic Boosters presented the 'Scoreboard Project' overview.

Mr. Sutter had handouts of the proposed project which included pictures, list of sponsors and overview of LED scoreboard advantages. Mr. Sutter also indicated that:

Current scoreboards are 26 years old and parts are no longer available

They have raised all necessary dollars for the project, including the cost to move the scoreboard on the football field if that is what the school decides to do.

If the school decides to leave the football scoreboard where it currently stands the new one will need to be reinforced because it is much bigger than the current one.

The issue with not moving it is that it cannot be easily seen from the press box but he understands it is the BOE's decision to move it and to where to move it. He feels it is a great opportunity to move it because the cost of the extra reinforcements is about the same as actually moving it and putting electricity to the new spot.

The basketball scoreboards are the same size as the current ones so there will be no extra work putting these up (no painting etc.)

He went over the advantage of LED's vs. current bulbs.

Another issue is that the football scoreboard currently only has one controller the new one will have two. The indoor scoreboards will also have two and the new scoreboards will make it possible to run them separately which is necessary for volleyball. Also the outside scoreboard can be used for track if necessary, the current one does not have this capability.

Mrs. Boxey thanked Mr. Sutter for the efforts of the Athletic Boosters. She also inquired as to whether the other coaches that use the football/track area had been consulted about the possible moving of the sign.

Mr. Sutter responded that not as of yet and he wanted to talk to Mr. Weigand (AD) as well.

Mrs. Boxey suggested that he do that as talk to track, soccer, band and anyone else that uses the facility to make sure that moving the sign will not interfere with their activities.

Mr. Sutter agreed that he would do this. He then mentioned that as a side note the receipt that was given to the sponsors stated that the school owns the sign and no promises were made in regard to the advertising.

Mr. Owens asked if the advertising was easily removable

Mr. Sutter stated that it is screwed on separately

Mrs. Boxey wondered what would happen if we needed to change it for some unforeseen reason.

Mr. Sutter stated that we could put a big sticker on it if necessary as well.

Mr. Owens was concerned about the language on the receipt. He would like the wording changed to read 'chooses to remove or replace the scoreboard or scoreboard panels' instead of the current 'chooses to remove or replace the scoreboard'.

Mr. Owens is concerned about the high visibility of the space and wondered if the way we are planning to use the advertising is the best use for the district. He was also wondering if the Athletic Boosters approached all the businesses in Almont before venturing outside of the town.

Mr. Sutter stated that the sponsors on the sign have always been big supporters of the Athletic Boosters and were more than happy to help with the sign just as they have helped with other fundraisers in the past.

Mr. Owens stated that he was unaware of the sponsorship and advertising that is planned for the sign and he is struggling with advertising as a whole. He is also concerned that we have not had any community involvement in the advertising decision. He feels that maybe there should be some kind of dollar threshold for advertising on the sign.

Mr. Sutter stated that there are many places on the property that you can find advertising.

Mr. Brzozowski wondered about the amount of monies to get on the scoreboards as well. He sponsors a sign on the bleachers and pays for it each year.

Mr. Candela stated that the Boosters were instructed to feel free to raise money for the scoreboards and they did exactly as instructed.

Mr. Owens stated that that is true and this was definitely a lesson learned for him.

Mr. Miles stated that the only Policy that he found referred to naming of an arena or such nothing specific about sponsorship or advertising.

Mrs. Boxey stated that the advertising on the back of the bleachers was approved by the Board. It is not the scoreboards that are at issue here it is the bigger issue of advertising on school property in general.

Mr. Sutter stated that when fund raising it is a known fact that if a business is helping to pay for something they will get advertising out of it.

Mrs. Boxey agreed and stated that the Board is just debating the specifics or rather non-specifics of the policy.

Mr. Candela stated that Dan has followed the process that he was asked to follow. The Board has the option of rejecting the gift if they feel it is necessary.

Mr. Brzozowski stated that he has concerns about the advertising and the fact that it could be up there for 26 years. He feels maybe we should look at a time limit. Maybe this could be done by changing the booster receipt.

Mr. Manko stated that he does not have the concerns that the other board members have. He feels that the boosters have done a great job and the issue is not complicated. He does not want Mr. Sutter to walk away feeling that the board is not great full for the booster's efforts.

Mr. Sutter stated that it is a policy of four county community foundation to have their name prominent on any gifts that they donate too.

Mr. Manko stated that if they just change the language on the receipt he felt the board would be in agreement.

Mr. Sutter stated that he just wanted to make it clear that if no advertising was allowed he felt that the scoreboards would be a no go. Also they had hoped to have this in the works before the first game on the 28<sup>th</sup>. The first volleyball game is on Sept 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Miles stated that we need to try and wrap this up then. The board would have to decide if they wanted to accept or not accept this gift regardless of the advertising. He also had a question about moving the sign. He wondered if it would be more feasible to change the press box layout.

Mr. Sutter stated that the counter in the press box is necessary and that they can make do with what they have if the decision is not to move the sign. The reason they lean out is that sometimes the sign does not work correctly because buttons stick and they need to make sure the sign is correct. With a new sign this would not be the case. Mr. Candela asked if the intent was to move the scoreboard when they went into this project. Mr. Sutter stated yes. Mr. Miles asked if everyone in the press box feels it is the correct decision to move the sign. Mr. Sutter stated yes. Mr. Miles asked if the board had any more questions. Mr. Candela stated it was time for a decision

Mr. Manko made a Motion the Board of Education approve the scoreboard purchase subject to new contract language on the receipt which states that the scoreboard panels can be removed at the boards discretion. No Support was granted.

Mr. Sutter wanted to again stress that if no advertising was allowed then the project would not go through.

### **Approval of Purchase and Installation of Scoreboards**

Mrs. Boxey made a motion, supported by Mr. Owens, to approve the purchase and installation of the scoreboards subject to new contract language (on the receipt to sponsors) that states the scoreboard, and/or scoreboard advertising panels, can be removed at the Board of Education's discretion and that the Boosters will get written permission from the Athletic Director, as well as, all clubs and teams that use the stadium, that they approve of the moving of the scoreboard to the proposed new site.

**P, 113, 5-0-0**

Mr. Sutter wanted to make sure that the intent was not to take the advertising down at the end of the season. Mr. Candela and the Board assured him that that was not the intent. Mrs. Boxey stated that she would like to see a future agenda item discussing advertising policy. Mr. Sutter thanked the Board for their time. The Board thanked Mr. Sutter.

### **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: AUDIENCE**

None

### **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: BOARD**

Mrs. Boxey wondered if we had gotten any feedback from the SOC postcards yet. Mr. Candela stated that he hoped to see something this week.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Boxey, supported by Brzozowski, the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the June 23, 2014 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Approval of the Minutes from the June 23, 2014 Budget Hearing
- C. Approval of the Minutes from the July 21, 2014 Work Session
- D. Approval of the Minutes from the July 21, 2014 Closed Session Negotiations

**P, 114, 5-0-0**

## **BILLS PAYABLE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Motion by Brzozowski, supported by Owens, the Board of Education approve the bills payable and the financial reports as proposed by the administration and reviewed by the Finance Committee.

<b>June 2014</b>	
<b>General Fund</b>	\$ 1,386,217.43
<b>School Lunch Program</b>	12,643.76
<b>2002 Debt Fund</b>	0
<b>2004 Refunding Bonds</b>	0
<b>2006 Refunding Bonds</b>	0
<b>2012 Refunding Bonds</b>	0
<b>2013 SBL Refinance</b>	0
<b>2013 Refunding Bonds</b>	0
<b>QZAB Bond</b>	1,018.85
<b>General Fund Transfers for Payroll</b>	0
<b>PESG</b>	13,774.48
<b>CoachEZ</b>	
<b>Participant Benefit Claims</b>	
<b>Total Funds Spent</b>	\$ 1,413,654.52
<b>Voided Checks: none</b>	
<b>Check Numbers: 32146-32271</b>	

Approval of check numbers covering these invoices range from check number 32146-32271 and voided checks as presented: Voided check(s): None

**P, 115, 5-0-0**

## **ORCHARD PRIMARY, ALMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND ALMONT HIGH SCHOOL TRUST AND AGENCY ACCOUNT REPORTS**

The Trust and Agency Accounts were approved as presented.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Superintendents Report**

#### **NO- Principal Reports**

##### **Almont Kids First**

Reminder that the vote for the sinking fund will take on August 5<sup>th</sup>, polls will open at 7:00 am and close at 8:00 pm. The final Almont Kids First sinking fund presentation will be held this Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Middle School Media Center.

##### **Athletics**

The fall coach's meeting is scheduled for August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. After tonight's board meeting all coaches will be in place for the fall. We are still looking at numbers in freshman football. Mr. Weigand has all the sports schedules fill for the upcoming fall season. Homecoming is scheduled for September 26<sup>th</sup>.

##### **Counseling Position**

Mrs. VonHiltmayer and Mrs. Weigand will begin interviews for the Orchard Primary and Middle School Counseling Position the week of August 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Start of School for Staff and PD**

The first day for teachers will be August 27<sup>th</sup>, which will be a PD day. Welcome back Breakfast and teacher work day is August 28<sup>th</sup>. We will have 5 PLC days and 3 full day PD days

### **Board of Education: Questions**

**NONE**

### **PERSONNEL**

#### **Approval of Layoff**

Moved by Boxey, supported by Brzozowski, the Board of Education approve the layoff of the employee on attached list.

Read "Resolution for Notice of Layoff" – begin with "Whereas".....

Resolution to be attached to official minutes and marked VIII B 1

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Manko, Brzozowski, Owens, Miles, Boxey

Nays: None

**P, 116, 5-0-0**

#### **Approval of Contracts**

Moved by Boxey, supported by Brzozowski, the Board of Education approve the employment contracts of the following individuals as presented, with copies of the individual contracts to be marked VIII B(2) and attached to the Official Minutes of this meeting.

**P, 117, 5-0-0**

#### **Approval of CoachEZ Positions**

Moved by Boxey, supported by Brzozowski, the Board of Education staff the following positions with personnel provided by CoachEZ:

- JV Volleyball
- Freshman Volleyball

**P, 118, 5-0-0**

#### **Approval of New Hire**

Moved by Boxey, supported by Brzozowski, the Board of Education employ Susan Royster as part time Music teacher at Orchard Primary.

**P, 119, 5-0-0**

### **FINANCE**

#### **Approval of Certification of Millage Rates**

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Owens, the Board of Education certify the following rates:

- |                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| • 2006R UTQ debt           | .46         |
| • 2012R UTQ debt           | .48         |
| • 2013 R SBL debt          | 1.65        |
| • 2013R/94                 | 2.24        |
| • <u>2013R/96 &amp; 02</u> | <u>3.62</u> |
| Total 2014/15              | 8.45        |

**P, 120, 5-0-0**

**Approval of School Bond Loan Fund**

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Owens, Board of Education approve the resolution authorizing the District to borrow funds from the School Bond Loan Fund, a copy of which to be marked VIII C(2) and attached to the Official Minutes of this meeting.

**P, 121, 5-0-0**

**Approval of State Aid Note**

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve the State Aid Operating Notes Resolution, which approves the establishment of a State Aid note not to exceed the amount of One Million Seven Hundred Thousand (\$1,700,000) Dollars, a copy of which to be marked VIII C (3) and attached to the official Minutes of this meeting.

**P, 122, 5-0-0**

Roll Call:

Ayes: Brzozowski, Manko, Owens, Miles, Boxey

Nays: None

**BUSINESS****Acceptance of School of Choice Students**

Moved by Boxey, supported by Brzozowski, the Board of Education accept the students on the attached list for the 2014/2015 school year through the 105 and 105C Schools of Choice Programs.

**P, 123, 5-0-0**

**POLICY****Approval of PAC Representatives**

Moved by Manko, supported by Owens, the Board of Education approve Gynnae Bourdeau and Jennifer Thompson as representatives to the parent advisory committee for a 3 year term.

**P, 124, 5-0-0**

**Approval of Handbook Changes**

Moved by Manko, supported by Owens, the Board of Education approve the recommended changes to the Middle School and Orchard Primary Handbooks for the 2014-2015 school year.

**P, 125, 5-0-0**

**COMMENTS: AUDIENCE**

None

**QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: BOARD OF EDUCATION**

None

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mrs. Boxey stated that she would like to see some discussion of the advertising policy in August.

Mr. Manko suggested that we check with Neola to see what they already have so we do not reinvent the wheel.

Mr. Miles was wondering what would happen if they discussed and updated the policy in August how would it affect what they just approved tonight with the scoreboard.

All agreed this was not an issue.

Mrs. Boxey said she felt our space is very important and she feels we need more specific policies.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.**

Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Boxey, Secretary

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Hoffa, President