

**SALINE AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

MINUTES

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

5:30 PM

The Special Retreat Meeting of the Board of Education of the Saline Area School District was held on Tuesday, April 15, 2008, at the Olive Garden Restaurant in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Board Members Present: Trudy Driscoll, David Friese, Paul Hynek, Bari Livsey, David Medley, Lisa Slawson, and Kim VanHoek

Administrators Present: Scot Graden and Betty Rosen-Leacher

CALL TO ORDER of the Special Retreat Meeting of April 15, 2008, by President Lisa Slawson at 6:05 PM.

ITEMS OF INTEREST AND INQUIRY:

Public:

No public comment at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT EXPECTATIONS

Dr. Carl Hartman from MASB attended the retreat and led the discussion on what expectations the Board has for Superintendent Graden as well as what expectations Superintendent Graden has for the Board.

Dr. Hartman did an exercise on establishing common expectations and spoke about the need to periodically revisit these expectations to see if anything has changed.

A discussion was held on the evaluation process for the Superintendent. Dr. Hartman emphasized the need for constant dialog between the Board and the Superintendent. He felt that communication and trust were key to a successful Board/Superintendent relationship.

The Board indicated that they felt that Superintendent Graden was doing an excellent job with the parameters that had been established.

Dr. Hartman went over the process and procedures that the Board should take when a new member becomes elected. He felt that they should have a meeting with the whole Board

and go over the policies and procedures. The Board felt that this would be a great idea and very helpful to new members.

Dr. Hartman then led the discussion about the Board self evaluations and setting goals with both the Board and Administrators. This ensures that everyone in the organization is on the same page and there are no surprises.

OTHER BUSINESS

School Calendar

Superintendent Graden distributed and discussed the school calendar for the 2008-2009 school year.

Superintendent's Contract

Board President Slawson indicated that the contract for Superintendent Graden would be complete and ready for approval at the April 22nd Regular Board Meeting.

School email Contacts

Superintendent Graden informed the Board that they would be receiving school email accounts shortly. He is also going to be scheduling his quarterly one-on-one meeting with each Board member in the next week.

Special Education Leadership

Superintendent Graden announced that a new Special Education Leadership plan would be implemented for the next school year. This plan includes splitting the current Special Education Director position into a K-6 Director of Elementary Special Education position and a 7-12 Director of Secondary Special Education position. These positions will be housed in the school buildings to provide better services for all families involved.

Schools of Choice

There have been numerous calls to the District Office regarding Schools of Choice for the next school year. Superintendent Graden indicated that he is currently going through the evaluation process and will provide his recommendation to the Board shortly.

Collective Negotiations

Superintendent Graden indicated that there would be a closed session at the April 22nd Board Meeting to discuss Collective Negotiations.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Kim Van Hoek, seconded by Trudy Driscoll to adjourn the Special Board of Education Meeting of April 15, 2008, at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Hynek, Secretary

By Patti Waltz, Recording Secretary