



# The Board Report

A bulletin of actions taken by the Dearborn Board of Education

A publication of the Communications Office

December 12, 2011

## RECOGNITION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Musical Performance

Music resource teacher, Lisa Meyer, introduced Dearborn High School's vocal music teacher, Carmelle Atkins, and her students. The vocal group sang four songs, wrapping up their performance with the classic *Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer*. The Board thanked the performers and Ms. Atkins.

### Commendations

Commendations will now be read by a different high school student at each meeting. Kicking off this new tradition was Edsel Ford High School junior, Mazen Hammoud.

### District

Congratulations to the students in the Secondary Honors Choir for their performance of *Waltz of the Snowflakes* done with the Detroit Civic Symphony during their performance of the Nutcracker Ballet at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center.

### Edsel Ford High School

Congratulations to Edsel Ford senior, Marie Gaedke, for her remarkable performance at a recent basketball game between Edsel Ford and Livonia Stevenson. Not only did Marie hit the game winning shot in triple overtime but she racked up a total of 54 points during the game. She also had 15 rebounds, 12 steals, hit 15 of 24 two-point shots, 3-for-7 three-point shots, and 15 of 23 free-throw attempts.

### Fordson High School

Congratulations to Fordson Assistant Principal, Chadi Farhat, for being named the Assistant Principal of the Year by the Michigan Association of School Principals.

Commendations to the Fordson Key Club members and faculty advisors, Mrs. Scaramucci, Mrs. Mikulak, and Ms. Zriek, for their support of the yearly handicap bowling event at Cherry Hill Lanes.

### Dearborn High School

Congratulations to Dearborn High students, Camille Charara, Jordan DiGregorio, and Vicky Johnson, for being awarded Certificates of Excellence in Theatre Performance at the 2011 State Thespian Festival.

Congratulations to the Dearborn High Theatre cast and crew for their outstanding performances of *The Odd Couple* and *The Odd Couple – The Female Version*.

Congratulations to Dearborn High swimmers, Sascha Meyers, Chloe Palajac, Nathalie Meyers, Hannah Robar, Katy Frank, and Melissa Hane, who qualified to represent Dearborn at the MHSAA Division 1 Swimming State Finals. Congratulations to Coach Polk and all of the members of the girls varsity swim team on a fine season.

Congratulations to the Dearborn High varsity volleyball team for their 20<sup>th</sup> District Championship in 24 seasons, as well as their MIVCA All-Academic Team Award for 2011, with a team G.P.A. of 3.653. The Dearborn volleyball program also raised over \$500 this fall in their Dig Pink campaign. Commendations to High School Hall of Fame Coach Dianne Phillips for her work with the team.

Congratulations to the following Dearborn High varsity athletic teams for winning League and/or District Championships during the fall season:

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Boys Varsity Soccer         | WWAC League Champions and MHSAA District Champions |
| Girls Varsity Golf          | League Champions                                   |
| Boys Varsity Cross Country  | WWAC Blue Division Champions                       |
| Girls Varsity Cross Country | WWAC League Champions                              |
| Girls Varsity Swimming      | WWAC League Champions                              |

### **Snow Elementary School**

Congratulations to Snow Elementary teacher, Mr. Ernie DeSantis, for being named the Teacher of the Year by the American Legion.

### **Maples Elementary School**

Commendations to the Maples Arabic Music Ensemble for their performance at the 2011 Festival of Trees.

### **Salina Elementary School**

Congratulations to Nada Darwish, Salina Elementary teacher, for her article titled *Technology Integration in a "Newcomer's" Classroom*. The article recently appeared in the MACUL Journal.

### **Howard Elementary School**

Commendations to first graders in Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Korte's classes at Howard Elementary for their efforts to collect brand new socks, hats and gloves for homeless men and women in the Detroit area. The students collected a total of 266 items to be distributed to the needy during the holiday season.

Congratulations to Aya Alcodray and Jeanna Zein, third grade students at Howard, for winning the gold medal at a recent ice-skating competition held in Ann Arbor.

## **SPECIAL REPORTS**

### **District Literacy – SIOP**

Associate Superintendent of Elementary Education, Dr. Jill Chochol, stated that the SIOP model (Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol) is used for at-risk and ELL students. Maura Sedgeman, SIOP resource teacher, led the presentation. She stated that there are eight components of SIOP. They are: Lesson Preparation, Building Background, Comprehensible Input, Strategies, Interaction, Practice/Application Lesson Delivery, and Review/Assessment. Within those are 28 other components. (Detailed cards were given to the Board.) Also, there are seven steps to a language-rich interactive SIOP classroom. They are: Teach students strategies and language to use when they don't know what to do; Have students speak in complete sentences; Randomize and rotate when calling on students; Use total response signals; Set clear content and language objectives; Have students participate in structured conversations; Have students participate in structured reading and writing activities.

### **District Late Start**

Dr. Gail Shenkman, Associate Superintendent of Secondary Education, stated that 2008 was the beginning of the Late Start program at the high school level. Dr. Jill Chochol, Associate Superintendent of Elementary Education, stated that students improve when there is constant professional development for instructional staff. Instructional representatives from Fordson High School and Geer Park Elementary School gave a snapshot of immediate feedback to what works or doesn't work in the classroom. Dr. Shenkman noted that surveys are being done to see how Late Start affects the home life.

### **Elementary Truancy**

Nada Berry, Truancy Specialist, gave a presentation, starting with a short video on elementary truancy. Truancy is when a student is absent ten or more times in a marking period that includes excused, unexcused, and tardiness. Mrs. Berry listed the following home factors that correlate to truancy: Poverty; High mobility rates; Residential stability; Parents holding multiple jobs; Increased student responsibility at home. Mrs. Berry stated that positive parent support, school engagement, data accuracy, and truancy specialist/follow-up are some items that curtail truancy. The accurate use of student data flags and identifies each student along with the types of absences. Both awareness of the problem and quick intervention helps to hinder the amount and frequency of absences. In conclusion, Mrs. Berry noted that the Dearborn Public School District has the responsibility under the laws of the State of Michigan to inform parents of their responsibility for the education of their children.

## **BOARD ACTIONS**

- Approved \$39,237.84 for Microsoft Exchange server licenses and account licenses to the Microsoft Exchange 2010 version.
- Approved \$228,000.00 for supply of miscellaneous Halal meat products.
- Approved November Financial Statement.
- Approved multi-year Dell Partnership/Volume Purchase Agreement and the purchase of up to \$3 million of Dell products over a three-year term.
- Approved Teacher Evaluation Tool.
- Approved Child Accounting Services Agreement with Westwood Community Schools.
- Approved Executive Session on Monday, December 12, 2011, immediately following Board meeting.

## **RESIGNATION**

**Michelle Russell**, Dearborn, Food Service Assistant, effective 12/5/11.

**Khadijah Shajrah**, Departmental Resource Room Teacher, effective 12/16/11.

## **RETIREMENT**

**Gail Gabriel**, Woodworth, Life Management Teacher, 17-1/2 years of service, effective 1/27/12.

**Laura Grigorian**, Miller, Elementary Teacher, 23-1/2 years of service, effective 2/28/12.

**Larry Simon**, Henry Ford Early College, Principal, 26 years of service, effective 1/31/12.

**Kathleen Smith**, Stout, Science Teacher, 23-1/2 years of service, effective 1/27/12.

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Jason Ferry**, On Extended Health Leave, Custodial A, effective 11/29/11.

**Lisa Lark**, Edsel Ford, Language Arts Teacher, effective 1/30/12.

## **OTHER SEVERANCE**

**Fadia Dakroub**, Paraprofessional/Instructional (Bilingual), On Extended Health Leave, effective 12/13/11.

## **APPOINTMENT**

**Samia Abdulla**, Departmental Bilingual Teacher, effective 11/28/11.

**Hilah Alawy**, Noon Hour Supervisor, Miller, effective 12/13/11.

**Marwa Beydoun**, Elementary Teacher, McDonald, effective 12/7/11.

**Eden Chapman**, Custodial A, McCollough/Unis, effective 12/13/11.

**Elizabeth Doner**, Food Service Assistant, Woodworth, effective 12/13/11.

**Breanna French**, Custodial A, McCollough/Unis, effective 12/13/11.

**Denise Gresehover**, Food Service Assistant, Bryant, effective 12/13/11.

**Diala Haidar**, Arabic Language Teacher, Woodworth, effective 12/19/11.

**Ghada Hammoud**, Departmental Bilingual Teacher, McCollough/Unis, effective 11/21/11.

**Kim Kovacs-Gucwa**, Food Service Assistant, Dearborn, effective 12/13/11.

**Jason Rivera**, Social Studies/Language Arts Teacher, Lowrey, effective 11/29/11.

**Maritza Rodriguez**, Food Service Assistant, McCollough/Unis, effective 12/13/11.

**Rola Sobh**, Language Arts Teacher, Lowrey, effective 11/21/11.

**Ameena Yahya**, Noon Hour Supervisor, Miller, effective 12/13/11.

## **REAPPOINTMENT FROM LAYOFF**

**Nadia Makled**, Adult and Community Education, Adult Education Assistant Supervisor, effective 12/19/11.

## **SALARY SCHEDULE CHANGE OF STATUS**

**Mariam Berry**, Becker, Elementary Teacher, from BA, Step 3, Schedule P-12 Teachers'; to MA, Step 3, Schedule P-12 Teachers'; effective 1/30/12.

**Cheryl Caillouette**, River Oaks, Elementary Teacher, from MA, Step 13, Schedule P-12 Teachers'; to MA(30), Step 13, Schedule P-12 Teachers'; effective 1/30/12.

**Dawn Demos**, Howard, from Lead Childcare Provider, 10-Months, to Lead Childcare Provider, H.F.C.C. Child Development Center, 12 Months, effective 11/9/11.

**Kristen Farkas**, Bryant, Mathematics/Science Teacher, from BA, Step 6, Schedule P-12 Teachers'; to MA, Step 6, Schedule P-12 Teachers'; effective 1/30/12.

**Connie Harrison**, Departmental Media Specialist, from MA(30), Step 17, Schedule P-12 Teachers'; to MA(60), Step 17, Schedule P-12 Teachers'; effective 1/30/12.

## **CHANGE IN CLASSIFICATION**

**Patricia Carr**, from Division of District Operations, Bus Attendant (Part-Time), to Custodial A, Dearborn, effective 12/12/11.

**Amina Dabaja**, from Miller, Paraprofessional/Instructional, to Instructional Technician, Fordson, effective 12/13/11.

**Mary Beth Mayler**, from H.F.C.C., Secretary III, to Secretary IV, Adult and Community Education, Administrative Service Center, effective 12/13/11.

**Deborah Sitarski**, from McCollough/Unis, Secretary III, to Secretary IV, River Oaks, effective 12/13/11.

## **ACHIEVEMENT OF TENURE**

**Samantha Lamberti**, Resource Room Teacher, effective 12/9/11.

## **EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY**

**Jil Matthews**, Departmental Autism Spectrum Disorder Teacher, deceased 11/25/11.

## **DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Budget Review 2011-2012**

Director of Business Services, Mr. Bob Cipriano, presented the 2011-12 Budget – 1<sup>st</sup> Revision. He noted that in January the Board will take action on the 1<sup>st</sup> Revision. There is a Revenue Conference in January, student count takes place in February, and due in March is the 2012-13 budget presentation. He stated that the following variable revenue items affect the budget: February 2011 and September 2011 student count; This was an increase of 469 students from last year; State Aid that includes 2011 Foundation, categorical, and others. Mr. Cipriano stated that the watch points for the district's budget are enrollment trends, one time categoricals, pension, and state school budget.

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Monday, December 19, 2011, Regular HFCC Meeting, 7:00 p.m., at Henry Ford Community College.

Monday, January 9, 2012, P-12 Organizational Meeting, 6:45 p.m., at the Administrative Service Center.

Monday, January 9, 2012, P-12 Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m., at the Administrative Service Center.

Monday, January 17, 2012, Regular HFCC Meeting, 7:00 p.m., at Henry Ford Community College.

Monday, January 23, 2012, P-12 Board Study Session, 7:00 p.m., at the Administrative Service Center.