

ATHENS AREA SCHOOLS  
Board of Education  
Athens, Michigan 49011-9781  
January 11, 2010

REGULAR MEETING  
Media Center  
7:00 P.M.

High School Media Center  
300 E. Holcomb Street  
TELEPHONE: 729-5414

1. The meeting was called to order by President Dennis Stanton at 7:00 p.m.

a. membership count to determine quorum presence:

Present: Joel Chapman, John Knowles, Dan Loew, Tomissa Smittendorf, Dennis Stanton  
and Amy Weeks.  
Absent: Kendra Falk (death in family).  
Quorum: Present.

2. Approval of Agenda.

0790910 Mr. Knowles moved that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

Second: Mrs. Smittendorf.  
Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Motion: Passed.

Mr. Stanton welcomed all in attendance.

3. Routine Matters.

A. Presentation of minutes of prior meetings:

0800910 Mr. Knowles moved approval of the minutes of the December 14, 2009 Regular Meeting and the January 7, 2010 Special Meeting as presented.

Second: Mrs. Smittendorf.  
Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Motion: Passed

B. Presentation of financial statements.

0810910 Mr. Chapman moved that the Board of Education receive and place on file for audit the financial reports for the District for the period ending December 31, 2009.

Second: Mr. Knowles.  
Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Motion: Passed.

## 4. Old and New Business.

## A. Coaching Recommendations.

0820910 Mr. Knowles moved that the Board of Education approve the following positions for coaching:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>School Year</u>
Boys Track	Robert Moore	2009-2010
Girls Track	Jordan Ward	2009-2010
Cross Country	Melissa Hamilton	2010-2011
Volleyball	Jacy Nay	2010-2011

Second: Mr. Loew.

Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Motion: Passed.

## 5. Reports.

## A. Superintendent's report.

Delay for Power Point presentation. Presented recommendation on building closure and a vision for the future of Athens Area Schools.

B. President's report. NONE.

C. Principals. Written – on file.

D. Athletic Director.

E. Committee Reports.

1. Strategic Planning Committee. NONE.

## Board Questions:

Joel Chapman: Concern about bond money: Can we make the move without it?

John Knowles: How many additional rooms are needed at the former Middle School?

Tomissa Smittendorf: Can we get bid for work that needs to be done saving for one bus run?

Amy Weeks: Configuration of high school with 7-8 grades in the building with high school students?

John Knowles: What can we spend bond money on?

## 6. Public Comments.

Brad Keon: When is current bond expiring? New bond will not be on top of existing. How does this concept allow for future expansion; still K-12 service

Joanne Seymour: Do we have a plan if millage fails?

Angie Edwards: The one bus run – does this mean K-12 on the same run?

Jennifer Snyder: Student to teacher ratio?

- Brad Kenon: Cost comparison of bond election in November verses August, which is cheaper?
- Sharon Bard: Would we be redrawing district boundaries of Athens Schools?
- Tina Vaughan: We'll be eliminating technology director. Concern for lack of technology. We have a lot of equipment that will just sit.
- Evan Mesecar,Sr. Are we aware that Governor Granholm has passed a bill for high speed Internet expansion?
- Cary Palmiter: Regards to not bussing children in the village. Questions on safety.
- Judy Knowles: Happy that we are thinking out of the box and moving schools.
- Lucky Smith: Will have a zero fund balance; even with the changes we still are looking at a deficit. What are we looking at to help reduce this number? Like the plan and appreciate the time.
- Lucy Lamson: Any thought on what we are going to do in the future with the East Leroy building? Have we done anything with the Reservation in regards to receiving any funds from them?
- John Knowles: Not liking the idea of closing a building. But would like his children to be able to graduate from Athens also. Work to keep a school in Athens.
- Christina Robinson: Are we still going to have a young fives program? Will we still have an ISD program in the East Leroy building?
- Robert Hollingsworth: Concerns on maintaining an empty building. Outstanding bonding money on building. Do we have money budgeted for this?
- Jeff West: Thanks to the Board and Mr. Franklin for all their work and doing a good job.
- Mike Alverson: Glad to see what the plan looks like. Athens Village is working to promote the Athens Community. Would not like to see the community lose a school system.
- Judy Knowles: Concerned for band and music in the East Leroy School for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Dennis Stanton: Thanked all who were in attendance and thanked them for all their comments and questions.
- Brad Kenon: Will support system still be in place for special need kids?

## 7. Adjournment.

0830910 Mr. Knowles moved the meeting be adjourned.

Second: Mrs. Smittendorf.

Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Motion: Passed.

Time of Adjournment: 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Loew, Secretary, Board of Education