

# NORTHVILLE BOARD BRIEFS

2006/07

January 10, 2007

## Board of Education Meetings

01/09/07 Old Village School  
01/23/07 Silver Springs Elementary  
02/13/07 Old Village  
02/27/07 Moraine Elementary  
03/13/07 Old Village School  
03/27/07 Thornton Creek Elementary  
04/17/07 Old Village (ECC Program)  
04/24/07 Ridge Wood Elementary  
05/01/07 Old Village School  
05/21/07 Amerman Elementary  
06/12/07 Old Village (Center Program)  
06/26/07 Old Village School

## Board of Education

Mr. Kenneth A. Roth, President  
Dr. Marilyn T. Price, Vice President  
Ms. Libby Smith, Treasurer  
Ms. Joan Wadsworth, Secretary  
Ms. Judy Handley, Trustee  
Dr. Karen M. Paciorek, Trustee  
Ms. Judith Wollack, Trustee

At a regular meeting of the Board of Education at Old Village School, 501 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, the Board took the following action:

- The Board approved the following consent agenda items: Minutes of the 12/12/06 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education; Minutes of the 12/19/06 Special Call Meeting of the Board of Education; Donation from Mr. & Mrs. Abrams for \$15,000 to Cooke School to purchase equipment and fund projects; High School Choir Field Trip request to Toronto, Canada on May 18-21, 2007; England and France Field Trip on July 24 – August 4, 2008 and Bill Warrants and Payroll totaling \$2,322,193.35.
- Old Village School distributed goodie bags (some contents donated from Starbucks) and Early Childhood provided a sweet treat to the Board trustees in recognition of School Board Appreciation Month. Dr. Rezmierski read the resolution from the State of Michigan and the Proclamation signed by Governor Granholm. City Mayor Chris Johnson, Township Supervisor Mark Abbo and Northville Chamber Executive Director Jody Humphries thanked the Board for their commitment to the community and students of the Northville Public Schools. Mr. George Kacan, Fanning/Howey, presented a check for \$500 to the Northville Educational Foundation in recognition of School Board Appreciation Month. Dr. Rezmierski presented a Certificate of Recognition and restaurant gift certificate to each Board member.
- Certificates of Appreciation were given to Meads Mill KMO Teams who took first place in the State. Certificates were also presented to Hillside's KMO Teams who took second place.
- Certificates of Appreciation were given to the Amerman and Hillside Lego Champs.
- Ms. Laurie Moore, Executive Director of the South Oakland Michigan Education Association/Northville Education Association, responded to the superintendent's letter that he sent out last week to the teachers regarding negotiations. She applauded him for wanting to represent the district's view; however, she stated that Northville Education Association (NEA) is capable of updating the teachers relative to negotiations. Ms. Moore stated that since the superintendent bargained in public, she wants to respond in public to the following:
  - Expedited negotiations took place in spring but the process was unsuccessful. Ms. Moore said the process was unsuccessful partly due to the District's Negotiating Team walking out on them.

- District offers new two-year agreement with two less work days. Ms. Moore responded that the teachers did not received two less work days, because the District added minutes to the day resulting in them working the same amount of time.
  - District is offering step raises in the first year for 2/3 of the teaching staff; 2% to those at top of scale with a proposed 2% salary increase for year two with steps frozen. Ms. Moore said teachers already got their steps in August 2006 averaging \$3,250. It takes 10 years to get at top of teacher schedule. If there is a freeze on the step raise in the second year, the NEA will have lost \$30,000 over a 10-year period. Ms. Moore also explained that the reason we have steps in our contract is to give the District an opportunity to bring in teachers at a lower rate of pay, even though all teachers deserve to be at the top of the pay scale.
  - Proposed new Health Plan. Ms. Moore said that, currently, teachers are paying a portion for health insurance. The District is asking NEA to go to Community Blue PPO2 which would double the office visit charges, Emergency Room charges, prescription charges and still pay more if they choose to stay with Community Blue PPO1. She said this package is the same package given to Central Office Administration (COA). However, to date, COA and building administrators have not moved to Community Blue PPO2.
  - District proposes to change student day and eliminate Block Scheduling at the High School and eliminate Middle School Concept. Ms. Moore stated that you expect our members to give up business days and take those days from sick bank? She added that the District also proposes that if a COA is suspicious of a number of teacher absences on any given day, they can ask for a doctor's note.
  - District proposes to have teachers pay full cost for the NEA president's release time which equates to an increase of \$114 per member. Ms. Moore said we applaud the superintendent's effort to bargain in public with our members, but we are not interested in settling the contract that is less than the original expired contract.
  - Ms. Moore concluded that the excellence of the Northville Public Schools is due to the excellent teachers—not administrators. In order to maintain that excellence, she asked the superintendent to pay the members equitably and stop treating them as second-class citizens.
  - Finally, Ms. Moore said the NEA met Monday, January 8, 2007 and gave the District their last, best and final offer. The District responded by sending in the Mediator to announce that the District is not interested in bargaining with the association. Ms. Moore said it is clear you don't respect teachers in this District. She asked that a fair and equitable contract be discussed and that the District Negotiating Team return to the bargaining table to try and reach an agreement that is fair and equitable.
- The Board reaffirmed Policy 6110 – School Improvement.
  - The Board approved Northville Township's request to construct a water main connection on the Northville High School site.
  - The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. Executive Session began at 8:35-9:40 p.m. Board reconvened at 9:41 p.m.

Meeting/Events	Date	Time	Location
Special Call Board Meeting	01/15/07	6:00 p.m.	COA 302
Board Study Session	01/15/07	7:30 p.m.	COA 302 (Focus Committee Review)
Instructional Services	01/16/07	7:00 p.m.	COA 302
Policy	01/16/07	8:15 p.m.	COA 302