

# NORTHVILLE BOARD BRIEFS

2006/07

February 27, 2007

## Board of Education Meetings

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  
05/08/07 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 second meeting of the Board of Education at Moraine Elementary School, Northville, Michigan, the Board took the following action:

- The Board approved the following consent agenda items: a) Minutes of the 02/13/07 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education; b) Donation of \$1,000 to Old Village School to be used toward construction of a climbing wall; c) District administrators corrected vacation days schedule; and d) Northville High School Physics field trip to Sandusky, Ohio, on May 17, 2007.
- Dr. Rezmierski read a "Special Tribute" from State Representative Marc Corriveau and Governor Jennifer Granholm recognizing Northville Public Schools' Board of Education members for January Board Recognition Month. State Representative Corriveau announced that he is hosting a Town Hall meeting to discuss "Strengthening Education in Michigan" tomorrow, 2/28/07 at 7:00-8:00 p.m. at the Northville Public Library. Superintendents Rezmierski, Ryan (Plymouth-Canton) and Baracy (Wayne-Westland) will be guest speakers. Two more Town Hall meetings are scheduled for 3/15 at Plymouth Library and 3/26 at Wane Library beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Interim Human Resources Director Don Thomas will be sending out the posting for a permanent principal for Moraine Elementary school this week.
- Board candidate Steve Lomske spoke about the district purchasing McDonald Ford property in hopes of enlarging and adding an addition to the Transportation Garage. He felt the district could centralize Maintenance in one building instead of being scattered between 3 buildings. He also suggested that the old bus garage be converted to a weight room facility. Property is \$4 million but could be split. President Roth said this might be a potential issue when the district next looks at Bond elections.
- Board members attended a tour at 7:00 p.m. of Moraine's "World Class Citizens" where they chatted with students regarding Meals on Wheels, valentines for Senior Citizens, Chores for Charity, Kids' Against Hunger, Recycling Penguins and Initiating Partnership with Roberto Clemente.

Interim Principal Dr. Lynn Babcock welcomed the Board and pointed to a map of the world on the back wall of the Multi-Purpose Room which symbolizes that Northville is part of a global society with a great learning opportunity. She provided books to be donated to their

Media Center in recognition of School Board Month and asked each member to sign the book plate before they leave. She next introduced her PTA officers and staff members in attendance. Dr. Babock prepared a slide presentation of the School Improvement Process. She cited Moraine's Initiatives, Goals, Projects, Vision, Leadership Capacity Survey Results, staff responsibilities, Parent and Community Connection, Professional Learning Community 2006/07 Writing Goals, Core Democratic Values and a summary how Moraine continues to grow.

President Roth thanked the PTA and Moraine staff for the books. Secretary Wadsworth commended staff and PTA for bringing goals and projects that are well thought out and carefully implemented into the Moraine community. She said that the staff always finds time to complete whatever task they want to implement. She and the Board appreciate their dedication and commitment to the students and community. Dr. Rezmierski echoed Ms. Wadsworth's sentiments and shared that Moraine's goals and values epitomize the Graduate Profiles/Adult Roles.

- Assistant Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher presented a PowerPoint presentation and Business Director Street provided an introduction and overview of how "Managing our Growth" meetings began. He shared that the Board met May – November, 2006 to determine four scenarios. They invited the community to attend these meetings where the Board and Administration could discuss their plans concerning student growth. Mr. Street stated that community forums were held at each elementary building and Cooke School.

Assistant Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher shared positive feedback from the community regarding these meetings pertaining to content, format, questions, and small group environment. She indicated that 250 parents attended one of the forums and 247 completed feedback forms by February 14, 2007. She then stated that the data ranked 4 short-term scenarios in order of community preference. Most citizens preferred Scenario 1 which maintains current class size target and keep schools at maximum of 29 classes. Next preferred was Scenario 3 which states to maintain current class size targets and exceed 29 classes at 2 elementary schools. Third preference was Scenario 2 which raised class size but kept schools at 29 classes. Mrs. Gallagher stated that the data revealed Scenario 4 as the least preferred and, in that particular scenario, class sizes would be raised and the number of classes per building would exceed 29.

Mrs. Gallagher also shared Short-Term Options: 81% preferred to use portables; 68% wanted to use Early Childhood Center (ECC) classrooms; 23% said to exceed 29 classes; and 16% wanted to increase class size. Long-Term Options: 62% said expand use of Short-Term Options; 44% said to build a new elementary school; and 40% wanted to remodel Cooke School.

Mrs. Gallagher said citizens wanted to know if cost of portables is paid out of the General Fund. Portables could be paid for out of Contingency Funds remaining in the 2004 Bond issue. Mrs. Gallagher said the district currently owns 7 portables; 2 are being used at Amerman now. She wanted the citizens to realize that it takes several months to install portables and obtain permits, so a decision for their use will have to be determined in early summer.

Superintendent Rezmierski said, after a thorough review of feedback from the community, as well as from building principals, Administration is asking the Board to consider the following recommendations:

- ❖ Maintain current class size targets within our budget.
- ❖ Maintain 29 classes per building.
- ❖ If class size increases are necessary as a result of State funding level considerations, then we will keep class size lower in Kindergarten through second grades.
- ❖ Utilize portable classrooms as necessary funded out of the 2004 Bond Contingency funds.
- ❖ Utilize Early Childhood classrooms to the extent necessary.
- ❖ Develop boundary plan that won't exceed a maximum of 29 classes per building and allows for maintaining current class size targets to the extent possible within budget.
- ❖ Utilize the following criteria as boundary plan is developed:
  - Keep families together (K-5 children attend same school)

- Develop plan that will last for as long as possible
- Keep neighborhoods together to the extent possible
- Minimize length of bus rides/transportation costs
- Students who live close enough to walk to a school should be assigned to that school.
- Maintain middle school feeder system to extent possible (3 elementaries feed each middle school)

- The Board approved the district's "Managing our Growth" recommendations. (Please visit the district website and/or ListServ to see full report.
- The Board approved Policy 6164 – Section 504 The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Educational Services
- The Board approved the Northville Education Association contract extension.
- President Roth received a communication for the Board to attend the Clark Hill 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Labor and Employment Conference scheduled for 3/27/07 – 7:30-4:00 p.m. at St. John's Conference Center in Plymouth. Unfortunately, he feels that it is not necessary for any board member to attend.

<b>Meeting/Events</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Strengthening Education in MI (State Rep. Marc Corriveau	02/28/07	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Northville Library
Finance Subcommittee	03/06/07	7:00 p.m.	COA 302
Administrative Services	03/06/07	8:15 p.m.	COA 302

- Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

gj  
022707 briefs