

# NORTHVILLE BOARD BRIEFS

2007/08

March 11, 2008

## Board of Education Meetings

|          |                           |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 03/18/08 | Thornton Creek Elementary |
| 04/08/08 | Old Village (ECC Program) |
| 04/22/08 | Ridge Wood Elementary     |
| 05/13/08 | Old Village School        |
| 05/27/08 | Amerman Elementary        |
| 06/10/08 | Cooke (Center Program)    |
| 06/24/08 | Old Village School        |
|          |                           |

## Board of Education

Joan Wadsworth, President  
Libby Smith, Vice President  
Ken Roth, Treasurer  
Karen Paciorek, Secretary  
Judy Handley, Trustee  
Marilyn Price, Trustee  
Judith Wollack, Trustee

At a Regular meeting of the Board of Education at Old Village School, 405 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, the Board took the following action:

- The Board received two communications: Response to Mr. James Austin regarding mid-winter break/5-year Common Calendar and Northville Youth Assistance Program Report – March 2008.
- The Board approved the following consent agenda items: a) Minutes of the 2/26/08 Regular Second Meeting of the Board of Education; b) Approve the following policies for second reading: 1100 – Philosophy of Education; 1101 – Quality Education & Program Effectiveness; 5400 – Transfer of Credit; and 6100 – Service Learning; c) Para Educators' Contract for 2006/07; d) Donation from Mr. & Mrs. Scott Lowery for \$1,520 to Old Village Schools' Music Therapy Program and e) Bill Warrants & Payroll totaling \$2,103,246.03.
- Dr. Rezmierski talked about the district's involvement with Khris Nedom's "Kids for Afghan" and the close relationship that has developed with the Japanese Fulbright Scholarships. He said assisting disabled children at the Pazapa School in Haiti and his close relationship working with this organization's Executive Director Jane MacRae is another project that the district would like to become involved in. Old Village Building Supervisor Art Fischer spoke about Pazapa's mission, which is to provide support to disabled children and their families and to help the children integrate into the community. He and Cooke Building Supervisor Marilyn Bachorik presented a brief PowerPoint presentation explaining the district's Vision and Values, What They Do, and How They can Help. Three handouts were distributed to the Board: Tri-fold with a picture of the Pazapa School's door with the children's handprints on it; Letter to Dr. Rezmierski from Jane MacRae explaining the current activities offered through this program; and an Article from the Associated Press regarding Haiti's poorest people eating dirt cookies. Ms. Bachorik explained that this program began two years ago with Superintendent Rezmierski asking for special needs equipment from Cooke and Old Village Schools that they were not using anymore. Now staff at both schools and K-12 Special Education teachers is interested in getting involved. A group of teachers would like to share their time and talent and set up student contacts with the Pazapa School as well.

- Mr. Fischer, Ms. Bachorik, Ms. Mossoian and Dr. Rezmierski would like to send a team this summer to just listen to the Haitians and find out exactly what they need from us. The staff involved knows it is a long-term commitment, and they would like the support from the Board of Education to approach funding agencies and begin writing grants to send some staff to Haiti. Dr. Rezmierski spoke to Congressman McCotter and his staff is sending the district grant information. Ms. Mossoian noted that the Haitian teachers do not have a high school diploma, but the volunteers would like to establish a framework on how Northville Public Schools can help. On behalf of the Board, President Wadsworth thanked the staff for their leadership and will definitely support this effort. They are looking forward to hearing future updates. Ms. Wadsworth also said that the staff should read the book entitled, Mountains Beyond Mountains, by Tracy Kidder, which is a book that looks at that culture.
- Dr. Rezmierski updated the Board on the Governor's Summit, which was held on Tuesday, March 4, 2008. He said it was an opportunity to see Governor Granholm, State Superintendent Mike Flanagan, Michigan State University Professor Zhao, et al., regarding the importance of funding for the schools. The governor reiterated the Foundation Allowance per student at \$108-\$216 range. She reported three charges: 1) Have smaller high schools; 2) Elevate mandatory school age for students from 16 years of age to 18 years of age; and 3) Early Childhood Intervention, Full-Day Kindergarten/Mandatory Kindergarten. Dr. Rezmierski said the governor spoke about the financial difficulties facing the state and the schools.
- Citizen Comments: Mr. Bob Sochacki, Chairman, Northville District Library Board of Trustees and Ms. Suzanne Schimanski-Gross invited the Board to attend "Battle of the Books" event to be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., Northville High School Cafeteria. Ms. Schimanski-Gross, Team Services Librarian, said that approximately 200 middle school students have signed up to participate. Of these students, there are 44 teams of 2-6 students on a team. They will read an assortment of books and get together to brainstorm. At this event, Ms. Schimanski-Gross said they will give each team 56 questions from the books that they have to answer. The team that scores the highest--wins! Mr. Sochacki thanked Teachers Robert Stover and Sue Spaniol who created this program last year and to the many teachers who allowed the students to read the books as extra credit or assigned reading.
- The Board awarded a contract to Toshiba Business Solutions and Canon Business Solutions for multiple copiers.
- The Board awarded a contract to Interkal LCC for Meads Mill Middle School bleacher removal and replacement.
- The Board approved a contract to Hoekstra Transportation, Inc. for three 77 passenger school buses.
- The Board approved a contract to SCI Floor Covering, Inc. for Main Street carpet removal and replacement.
- The Board amended the 2007/08 Budget.
- The Board approved the hiring of Northville High School's Boys' Assistant Track Coach George Browne.
- The Board moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations.

| Meeting/Events         | Date     | Time      | Location                  |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Policy                 | 03/12/08 | 7:00 p.m. | COA 302                   |
| Instructional Services | 03/12/08 | 8:15 p.m. | COA 302                   |
| Board Meeting          | 03/18/08 | 7:30 p.m. | Thornton Creek Elementary |

Meeting adjourned at 10:11 p.m.