

# NORTHVILLE BOARD BRIEFS

**2008/09**

**August 12, 2008**

## Board of Education Meetings

08/26/08	Old Village School
09/09/08	Old Village School
09/23/08	Northville High School
10/14/08	Old Village School
10/28/08	Hillside Middle School
11/11/08	Old Village School
11/18/08	Meads Mill Middle School
12/09/08	Winchester Elementary
01/13/09	Old Village School
01/27/09	Silver Springs Elementary
02/10/09	Old Village School
02/24/09	Moraine Elementary
03/10/09	Old Village School
03/24/09	Thornton Creek Elementary
04/07/09	Old Village School
04/28/09	Ridge Wood Elementary
05/12/09	Old Village School
05/26/09	Amerman Elementary
06/09/09	Old Village School
06/23/09	Old Village

## 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, Northville, Michigan, the Board took the following action:

- The Board approved the following consent agenda items: a) Minutes of the 07/08/08 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education; b) Minutes of the 08/05/08 Special Call Meeting of the Board of Education; c) Certified Staff – New hire: Ms. Jessica Hyatt, Speech-Language Pathology teacher, Cooke School; d) Bid Awards: FS E150 Van for \$15,675 from Varsity Ford, Eight Mile Stadium Fence Replacement for \$55,405 from Nationwide Fence, Transportation Fuel Pump for \$8,882.72 from Oscar Larson Co., and a Lift for \$14,150 from United Rentals; and e) Bill Warrants totaling \$2,375,224.21.
- School Election - Superintendent Rezmierski informed the Board and citizens that the filing deadline for the two Board seats for the November 4, 2008 election was today by 4:00 p.m. The following four candidates have completed the paperwork to run for office: Ms. Joan Wadsworth, Ms. Dorothy (Dottie) Garrity, Mr. Jacob Espinosa and Ms. Carol Grimmer.
- Lansing – School Aid Act Update - Superintendent Rezmierski informed the Board and citizens that the Foundation amount approved by the state is for \$56 per student. Administration is recommending that the district not use this funding until after the November election for fear that funds might be have to be returned to the State (as happened last year). Dr. Rezmierski said he received advice from the Michigan Association of School Boards and the Michigan Association of School Administrators to use caution in the execution of these funds until the middle of the school year.
- Dr. Rezmierski next informed the Board and citizens that \$15 million has been set aside by the state for new grants to districts with less than 70% graduation rate in order to plan and start-up new construction or newly configured smaller high schools designed to reduce the dropout rate. Fortunately for Northville, we don't qualify for this grant because we have a 99% graduation rate.
- Dr. Rezmierski reported that the State will receive \$5 million to support Early Childhood Programs (ECP).
- He spoke about Governor Granholm who has proposed that beginning in the 2009/10 fiscal year, half-day Kindergarten programs will be funded at 50% and fully funded by 2010/11 if district operate for 60% of a day and fully funded in 2011/12 if they operate for 70% of the day. Dr. Rezmierski said administration is monitoring this issue and will investigate the pros/cons of operating a full-time Kindergarten program in terms of space in the buildings, staff hires, etc.

- Adair Case Update - Superintendent Rezmierski provided a brief background how Northville Public Schools were part of 400 school districts who sued the state on Headlee Amendment. The purpose of suit is to protect schools from the state informing the state that they cannot direct more assignments to school districts without appropriating funding. With new Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) requirements, we felt this is an undue burden for many districts to keep providing data without compensation. He said that the district's attorney, Dennis Pollard, Thrun Maatch, reported that the judge viewed in favor of the school districts. However, Dr. Rezmierski would be surprised if there is any financial settlement given the poor economic conditions of the State of Michigan. Dr. Rezmierski will be attending a Michigan Association of School Administrators (MASA) conference at week's end and Headlee Amendment will be one of the major topics of discussion. The State has until the end of the week to appeal the judge's decision. Dr. Rezmierski will keep the Board up to date as he receives further information.
- Student Enrollment – Projections for 2008/09 - In the absence of Don Thomas, Human Resources Director, Dr. Rezmierski stated that administration is monitoring student enrollment numbers. He informed those citizens present that the principals and secretaries were back in the building yesterday and they are making calls to confirm enrollment and transfers numbers where class sizes are high. He added that the greatest growth is at the middle schools and Northville is anticipating a total student growth increase of 52 students. President Wadsworth said that Friday, August 15, 2008, is the target date to validate the number of families coming into Northville. Currently, the Board is looking at high numbers in Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades at Winchester. On behalf of the Board, Ms. Wadsworth wants verification that the enrollment numbers are there.
- Citizen Karen Cawley stated that the Board was sent many letters from Winchester parents expressing concerns with 5<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment numbers as well as other perplexities involving student learning and extenuating circumstances with a particular teacher. President Wadsworth assured Ms. Cawley that the numbers are there to warrant an additional 5<sup>th</sup> grade section and thus a new teacher hire. She also informed the parents present that there will be a Human Resources Subcommittee meeting on Friday, August 15, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 302 at the Board Office. (Third Floor conference room) Mrs. Wadsworth said that the Board recognizes that folks have other commitments and may not be able to attend; however, she will see that Mr. Thomas calls those parents who could not attend (if you give Ms. Wadsworth your phone number) to give them the results of that meeting. She assured those present that the Board and Administration are confident that the numbers are high in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and will more than likely add another section/teacher.
- Citizen Judi Petruska asked the Board how decisions were made to add a class and teacher when enrollment numbers are high. She wanted assurance if the Board would look where the highest numbers are in terms of Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades or will they look at all those grades. Mrs. Wadsworth said they do look at numbers and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade numbers are definitely high at Winchester. She feels confident that Administration will move forward and add another section and teacher for 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Ms. Wadsworth also stated that the Board is cautious with enrollment especially due to the concerns they have about budget.
- The Board approved the partnership agreement between Northville Public Schools and Livonia Public Schools.
- The Board approved the following Voting Delegates and Alternates to represent the Northville Public Schools at the Michigan Association of School Boards' Delegate Assembly in Traverse City on October 30, 2008: Voting Delegates: Dr. Karen Paciorek, Ms. Libby Smith, Ms. Judy Handley and Dr. Marilyn Price. Alternates: Mr. Ken Roth, Ms. Joan Wadsworth and Ms. Judith Wollack.

<b>Meeting/Events</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
*Special Call Board Meeting	08/19/08	6:30 p.m.	COA 302
HR	08/15/08	1:30 p.m.	COA 302
Instructional Services	08/19/08	7:00 p.m.	COA 302
Policy	08/19/08	8:15 p.m.	COA 302

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.