



Mission Statement

The mission of Detroit Community Schools is to awaken our students' highest aspirations and develop the capabilities they need to lead purposeful and productive lives. We believe that all students should be prepared to enter college, pursue a career or engage in other forms of meaningful work in our ever-changing global society. Therefore, we offer a rigorous educational program that integrates academic, artistic and experiential learning within a supportive community characterized by encouragement, collaboration and mutual respect.

**Detroit Community Schools
12675 Burt Rd.
Detroit, MI 48223
2013 – 2014 Budget Hearing
Thursday, June 13, 2013 - 6:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The 2013 -2014 Budget Hearing of Detroit Community Schools was called to order at 6:40pm by President Norman LoPatin.

ROLL CALL

Present: President LoPatin, Members Brown, Robinson and Tobier
Absent: Member Mayes

DISCUSSION

President LoPatin requested that all Board Members provide requested Biographies, pictures, contact information to Secretary to the Board, Cori Howell, as soon as possible.

At the June Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, there will be nominations to Board Positions, as required by Saginaw Valley State University.

Superintendent McPhail presented 2013-2014 Budget Initiative – The Vision, to address Member Mayes' request for a curriculum plan for the District.

The Board Retreat will be held August 24, 2013 from 10am – 2pm.

BUDGET HEARING

Walter Esaw presented Budget Proposal and advised that all changes will be made as a budget amendment. The budget was prepared using the year-end enrollment of 919 students and a Student Foundation Allowance of \$7,111. 67% of State Aid Funds are used toward instruction.

Member Brown asked if the food vendor will be changing and Superintendent stated that it is under consideration and that a Request for Proposals will be required unless Detroit Public Schools is used as food service vendor. Member Robinson asked about a non-profit being brought in as food service vendor. Superintendent McPhail advised of the \$400,000 cost to convert the kitchen to be full-service and enable food to be prepared on-site. Member Robinson requested that Superintendent McPhail research food service being provided by a non-profit organization.

President LoPatin used Mr. Esaw's Middle School Budget figures to ensure that new programs are reflected. K- 8 Principal, Angela Kemp indicated that the new programs were taken into consideration when she worked with Mr. Esaw to develop the Elementary and Middle School Budgets.

William Coleman presented the Capitol Projects Proposed Budget. President LoPatin requested that detail be provided for each line item and recommended contacting EMOD in the event that repairs to the modules are covered under contract. Member Robinson suggested contacting labor unions an inquiring about services being volunteered or offered at a discounted rate. President LoPatin requested that the graffiti removal be added to the General Fund Budget and completed expeditiously. Dr. Robinson offered that graffiti artists paint over the graffiti on the building as it will employ local talent and students' input can be used in design. President LoPatin stated that there is possible power and conduit at the current Detroit Community Schools sign and be accessed when installing the proposed electronic signs. President LoPatin warned that the new electric sign cannot be larger than the current sign and cannot extend any further towards Burt Rd. based on City code. President LoPatin stated that there is power to the area and existing conduit that can be used for the new sign. President LoPatin recommended purchasing used lockers at a significant savings over new lockers. Mr. Coleman informed the Board that a flagpole is required and will need to be raised and lowered each day school is in session.

Member Brown expressed her concern about some salaries in the budget. She stated that the Building Substitute salary is too low and offered that low salaries does not build a stable community of teachers and learning and recommended paying teachers more rather than creating more positions. Member Brown connected the high turn over at Detroit Community Schools with the low pay and suggested that a higher salary requires more accountability and teachers are more dedicated and have more longevity in their positions when they are paid a higher wage.

Member Tobier suggested that Merit Pay in future years and was shown the Merit Pay line item in the proposed budget. Member Tobier agreed with Member Brown that instructional staff salaries should be reviewed and a higher rate of pay should be considered.

Member Robinson supported Member Brown and Member Tobier's opinions regarding higher salaries and merit pay and applauded the proposed budget.

President LoPatin wanted line items added for grant funds for all three schools, marketing, professional development, and a Board Budget of \$50,000 for professional development, Board Scholarships, and program support. President LoPatin stated that he assumed eRate was covered in the Technology Budget and that he would like to see line items listed under each Function Code. President LoPatin asked Mr. Esaw about the necessity to have two resolutions; one General Fund and one Special Appropriations. Mr. Esaw will check and inform Board at the June meeting. President LoPatin wanted to make sure that the amount listed for Security is necessary and that the staff listed is MMI/DCS staff. President LoPatin stated that the budget is the best he has seen in 7 years at Detroit Community Schools.

Member Robinson asked if there is money budgeted for Professional Development and Superintendent McPhail assured him that Professional Development funds are included in the proposed budget.

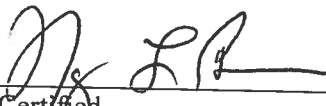
Member Tobier made a motion to close the Budget Hearing at 8:30pm, Member Robinson seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 27, 2013, in the Chemistry Lab located at Detroit Community Schools High School beginning at 6:30p.m

ADJOURNMENT

Member Tobier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm, Member Robinson seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.



Certified
Nancy Brown
Board Secretary