



**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
TROY, MICHIGAN**

**BOARD MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**JUNE 7, 2011  
ATHENS HIGH SCHOOL**

President Philippart called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

In addition to Ms. Philippart, present were Board members Edmunds, Hauff, Fleming, Malven, Miletti, and Underwood. Also present were Superintendent Fowler; administrators Birmingham, Dziatczak, Goss, Fulcher, Gebbie, Keeling, Machesky, Rajter, and Witt; and approximately 140 members of the audience.

**RECOGNITION**

**All State Athletes - Winter Sports**

Mike Jolly and the Board recognized high school students who received the distinction of being named All-State athletes in their respective sports: Merna Abdou, Troy High School; Erika Barker, Troy High School; Caitlyn Berard, Athens High School; Jennifer Chuang, Troy High School; Katie Cox, Troy High School; Jacob Duzey, Athens High School; Ashley Garrett, Athens High School; Darwin Hsu, Jr., Athens High School; Karen Hug, Troy High School; Joyce Jih, Troy High School; Ah Young Kwak, Troy High School; Vivien Lee, Troy High School; Jennifer Liu, Troy High School; Miles McDonald, Troy High School; Nicole McAllister, Athens High School; Manisha Munasinghe, Troy High School; Haley O’Hora, International Academy; Christina Shabet, Troy High School; Amanda Sliney, Athens High School; Jacquelyn Stewart, Athens High School; Annie Xiao, Troy High School; Kaylin Youn, International Academy; Anna Young, Troy High School; James Young, Troy High School; Carlie Zitkus, Troy High School

**Senior Scholar Athletes**

Mike Jolly and the Board acknowledged 66 senior scholar athletes from winter and spring sports who maintained a 3.5 cumulative grade point average while participating in an athletic program.

**Chess Championship – Barnard  
Elementary/Baker Middle School**

A team of Barnard students competed in a Michigan Chess Championship. 5<sup>th</sup> grader Pranav Ramesh and 3<sup>rd</sup> grader Sid Byrapeneni won Gold medals and 4<sup>th</sup> grader Aaron Glueck and 3<sup>rd</sup> grader Madhav Rameesh won Bronze medals. Paarth Desai won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Michigan Children’s Young Chess Championship.

Baker Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> grader, Apurva Virkud competed in Chicago, Illinois at the 2011 All Girls National Chess Championship. She won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Blitz section.

**Destination ImagiNation/Troy  
Creative Minds – Leonard  
Elementary/Larson Middle  
School**

Five 4<sup>th</sup> grade Leonard students competed in the elementary school division of Destination ImagiNation, Improvisational Challenge called Mythology Mission. The Leonard students competed against 39 teams statewide and the team took 1<sup>st</sup> place in the State Finals.

Seven Larson students competed in the middle school division of Destination ImagiNation, Fine Arts Challenge called Triple Take Road Show. They competed against 35 teams statewide and the Larson team took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the State. Both teams competed at the Global Finals in Knoxville, Tennessee in May.

**Michigan Green School Awards**

Schools in the state of Michigan are eligible to receive a “Green School” designation if the students and staff support conservation activities, such as implementing recycling and energy savings programs, participating in earth day activities, developing habitat restoration and projects, and having ecology projects and clubs. This year the Board recognized 14 of our schools who received one of the three designations.

**Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl –  
Barnard Elementary/ Baker/  
Boulan Park Middle Schools**

Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl is a scholastic team competition challenging team knowledge in math, geography, government, sports, spelling, science, literature, English, history, general information and trivia. The Board recognized eleven Barnard Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who were winners at the state level.

Baker Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> grade students achieved 1<sup>st</sup> place in the state Quiz Bowl and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the nation in America Answers. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade Boulan Park Middle School team achieved first in the state in Quiz Bowl and 1<sup>st</sup> in the nation in American Answers. The Boulan 8<sup>th</sup> grade team achieved 1<sup>st</sup> in the state and 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation.

**Midwest Talent Search – Barnard  
Elementary/Baker/Boulan Park/  
Larson/Smith Middle Schools**

The Board congratulated sixteen Troy School District students who were honored at Northwestern University by the Midwest Talent Search for being among the top

21,000 students in the nation to take the challenging SAT or ACT tests that are annually administered to high school students.

**Perfect ACT/Explore Score  
Baker/Boulan/Larson/Smith  
Middle Schools**

The Board recognized sixteen Troy middle school students who achieved a perfect score of 25 on the national ACT Explore exam. The Explore exam serves as the middle school version of the high school college admission test.

**2011 MSBOA All-State Honors  
Band – Baker/Boulan Park/Smith  
Middle Schools**

The Board recognized Kyle Katynski and Scott Voytush from Baker Middle School, Mark Elinski, Steven Cheng, David Thiede, and Ellen Zhang from Boulan Park Middle School and Kyle Allevato and Benny Gregory from Smith Middle School were selected to perform in the 2011 All-State Middle School Honor Band in Grand Rapids last January.

**Michigan Color Guard Circuit –  
Baker Middle School**

Six Baker Middle School students competed at the Michigan Color Guard Circuit at Athens High School this spring. Jaden Carlson, Colleen Powell, Jenna Schade, Lauren Daniels, Courtney Hahn, and Isabella Longo took first place in the competition for their performance in “Bicycle Race”.

**Boulan Park Advanced Orchestra**

The Board recognized the Boulan Park Middle School Advanced Orchestra, under the direction of Kathleen L. Griffith, for achieving a straight First Division Rating at the 2011 Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association State Festival.

**Celebration of Young Poets  
Contest – Boulan Park Middle  
School**

Creative Communications is a national publication that sponsors a fall poetry contest for middle school students called “Celebration of Young Poets”. Nearly fifty students had their works published by Creative Communications during the 2010-2011 school year.

**American Mathematics  
Competition 8 – Boulan  
Park/Smith Middle Schools**

The American Mathematics Society sponsors a competition to increase interest in mathematics and develop problem-solving abilities. The Board recognized two Smith students and four Boulan Park students who took highest honors in the competition.

**Michigan Mathematics League  
Competition – Boulan Park  
Middle School**

The Board also recognized students from Boulan Park who earned honors in the Michigan Mathematics League competition, which was designed to encourage student interest and confidence in mathematics through solving problems.

**National MATHCOUNTS  
Competition – Boulan Park  
Middle School**

MATHCOUNTS is a national enrichment, coaching and competition program that promotes middle school mathematics achievement. The Board congratulated Dhruv Medarametia who achieved second place in the nation.

**National Anthology of Poetry by  
Young Americans – Boulan Park  
Middle School**

Seventeen Boulan Park students had their poems selected for publication by the National Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans. The Anthology of Poetry is the forum that recognizes writing excellence in students from kindergarten through grade 12.

**National Language Arts League –  
Boulan Park and Larson Middle  
Schools**

The Board congratulated teams from Boulan Park and Larson Middle School who earned top honors in the national Language Arts tournament. The contest consists of 50 questions from the areas of vocabulary, punctuation, capitalization, grammar, spelling, reading comprehension and word relationships. More than 130 schools participated in the contest from across the United States.

**2011 Scholastic Challenge –  
Boulan Park Middle School**

Boulan Park sixth and eighth grade teams scored in the top half of the country in a national competition called the Scholastic Challenge 2011. 8<sup>th</sup> grader, Whitney Zhou and 6<sup>th</sup> grader, Allison Feng placed first in the state. Allison Feng, Jack White, Sai Pentaparthi and Aditi Mahajan placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation in the American Scholastic league.

**Science Olympiad – Troy High  
School**

The Board recognized five Troy High students who earned first place at the state level in the Science Olympiad competition. The Science Olympiad is a national non-profit organization dedicated to increasing interest and skills in science education.

**WordMasters Challenge –  
Boulan Park, Larson and Smith  
Middle Schools**

The WordMasters Challenge is a national competition for students in grades 3-8 that encourages growth in vocabulary and verbal reasoning. This competition addresses higher-level comprehension and logical relationships. The Board honored the Troy School District students who received Highest Honors for their perfect scores and students and teams that received national honors.

**Larson 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra**

The Board congratulated the Larson Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra, along with director Claire Murphy, for achieving straight First Division Ratings at the 2011 Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association State Festival.

**Future Problem Solving  
Competition – Larson Middle  
School**

The Board recognized Emily Wroebel, Tanvi Deshmukh, and Mitchell Wochoski from Larson Middle School who were honored by the Michigan Future Problem Solving Program for their performance at the State Bowl on their topic of Genetic Testing. These students also went on to compete in the International Competition.

**Ford Freedom Essay Contest –  
Smith Middle School**

The Ford Freedom Award program was launched in 1999 to celebrate and recognize individuals in various career fields whose achievements brought forth lasting and positive change for African Americans and the world. The Board congratulated Julia Alaimo, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Smith, who won 1<sup>st</sup> place and received a \$5,000 savings bond, a Ford Freedom Award medal and certificate of merit for her essay on the Women's Suffrage Law and how it impacted her rights as a young woman.

**Federal Challenge – Athens High  
School**

The Board congratulated seven Athens High School students who earned first place in the Michigan Fed Challenge competition sponsored by the Detroit Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Students had to give an analysis and forecast of the U.S. economy and make a monetary recommendation to the Federal Reserve. As a result of the state championship, the students participated in the regional finals in Chicago and took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the nation.

**Japanese Quiz Bowl – Athens High School**

Two Athens High School students received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Michigan's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Japanese Quiz Bowl Division 5. Seniors Kelsey Kuhl and Stefan Gavrilovski were recognized by the Board.

**Japanese Speech Contest – Athens High School**

The Board recognized Kelsey Kuhl who took 1<sup>st</sup> place at the Michigan Annual Japanese Speech Contest, High School Division.

**Japanese Video Contest - Athens High School**

The Board also congratulated Kelsey Kuhl who took 1<sup>st</sup> place at the Michigan Annual Japanese Video Contest,

**Model UN Competition - Athens High School**

The Model UN is an academic simulation of the United Nations that aims to educate participants about world issues, civics, effective communication, globalization and diplomacy. Five Athens High School students were honored by the Board for their participation as part of the statewide Model UN competition.

**Scholastic Arts Awards – Athens High School**

The Board recognized Athens High School students who earned honors in the prestigious 2011 Scholastic Arts Awards competition this year. The Awards recognize student achievement in the visual arts.

**National Merit Scholarships – Athens and Troy High Schools**

The Board congratulated the 42 merit semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship program. These students are among the top one percent of all high school students nationally in terms of academic ability. Eight students were finalists for scholarships offered through this prestigious program.

**Advanced Placement Scholars**

More than 350 Troy students were honored for their outstanding performance on Advanced Placement exams during the past school year. Troy students were honored by the College Board in four award categories: AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Honors, AP Scholar with Distinction and National AP Scholar. The Board recognized students from Athens and Troy High.

**DECA Career Development Conference – Troy High School**

DECA is a student organization that encourages free enterprise, economic awareness, career development and studies in marketing. Nine Troy High School students

received a 1<sup>st</sup> place trophy, which qualified them to proceed to the International Career development Conference in Orlando, Florida. Rosenberg. The Board recognized nine students along with their advisor, Ms. Heide Rosenberg.

#### **French Exam – Troy High School**

The Board congratulated ten Troy High School students who earned honors in the Grand Concours of the National French Contest. The students were among the top-ten nationally for their respective divisions in this rigorous competition, which is managed by the American Association of Teachers of French.

#### **Intel International Science & Engineering Fair – Troy High**

The Board congratulated three Troy High students, Xiao Zhu, Lawrence Kim, and Goutham Kapa, who were grand award winners of the Detroit Science fair. This award made them finalists for Intel’s Science Fair in Los Angeles, the world’s largest international pre-college science competition.

#### **Troy High School Gladiator Yearbook Awards**

The Board honored the 2010 Troy High School yearbook staff and their advisor, Christina Vettraino, for winning the Spartan Award from the Michigan Scholastic Press Association, the Silver Crown from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association and the Pacemaker finalist award from the National Scholastic Press Association. This award has placed the yearbook staff as one of the top 50 in the nation.

#### **China Quiz Bowl – Troy High School**

The Board recognized students from Troy High School for their awards in the 2011 Michigan China Quiz Bowl. This event was organized by Confucius Institute, Wayne State University, and Chinese Studies at the University of Michigan. Troy High had students who won 1<sup>st</sup> place in Division 1 and 2, and Chinese poster and painting contests. Students were coached by Sue Lin and Meiyu Chang.

#### **Michigan Brain Bee Competition- Troy High School**

The Brain Bee is a live question-and-answer competition that tests the neuroscience knowledge of high school students and is open to all students in grades 9 to 12. Students compete to determine who is the “best brain” on such topics as intelligence, memory, emotions, sensations, movement, stress, aging, sleep, addiction, Alzheimer’s, and stroke. The Board congratulated Annie Xiao, of Troy High, who took first place in the “Michigan

Brain Bee” and 4<sup>th</sup> place in the National Brain Bee Competition.

**MSVMA State Solo and Ensemble – Troy High School**

The Michigan School Vocal Music Association’s State Solo and Ensemble is an event where students are asked to sing two solos, memorized for a judge, and then rated. The Board congratulated Luciana Piazza who received a First Division Rating at the festival which was held at Avondale High School this year.

**Michigan Association of Student Councils and Honor Society – Troy High School**

The Board recognized students from the Troy High Student Councils and Honor Society for hosting the 2011 Michigan Association of Student Councils and Honor Society State Conference. The 2011 MASC/MAHS State Conference was the largest one in history.

**NASA DIME Competition – Troy High School**

The Board recognized four Troy High physics students who won on a national level in a NASA contest; Dropping in a Microgravity Environment (DIME). Students, Sara Guenther, Nick Krajewski, Mason Liang, and Mihir Pande, built a device to test bubbles under micro-gravity conditions and were invited to the NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio to work with NASA engineers for three days. In the end they were able to drop their device in the NASA drop tower and get real data on bubbles in microgravity.

**National Biology Competition – Troy High School**

Annie Xiao was congratulated by the Board for her accomplishment in the National Biology Competition. Annie placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the nation out of 4,538 competitors. She also took home the 5<sup>th</sup> place prize for the school with the highest number of top scoring students out of 317 schools.

**Siemens Challenge – Troy High School**

Siemens “We Can Change the World” High School Challenge is the only national challenge that empowers students at every grade level to develop and share solutions to environmental problems. The Board recognized Aparajith Sivaraman, Nitin Chandra, Dorothy Chen, and Phillip Yang for their winning project of a wind turbine used to harness wind power by a moving vehicle to power the battery of the car and decrease the amount of gasoline required.

**Southeastern Highland Games -  
Troy High School**

The Board recognized Troy High student, Victoria Lines, who flew to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida in January to compete in the Southeastern Highland Games. She won the Premier Level National Trophy with three Gold Medals, two Silver, and a Bronze. She also placed third in Original Choreography.

**Troy High School Symphonic and  
Marching Bands Superior Ratings  
2011 Dixie Classic Music Festival**

Troy High School bands earned a Top Honors for their performances at the Dixie Classic Music Festival competition in Atlanta, Georgia. The Symphonic band received a Superior Rating. In addition, they received the Judges Award for Outstanding Woodwind Section and two Symphonic Band members received Outstanding Soloist Awards, Steven Liu on clarinet and John Pop on trumpet. The Concert Band received an Excellent Rating as well as the Judges Award for its Outstanding Performance Section. The Board recognized members of these bands along with their director, Brian Nutting.

**Troy High School Band and  
Orchestras Michigan Youth Arts  
Festival**

The Michigan Youth Arts Festival is an annual showcase of Michigan's most talented high school students held at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. The Board recognized the students who were chosen by judges as outstanding soloists and ensembles at the Michigan State Band and Orchestra Association State Solo and Ensemble Festival. The students were also nominated as Michigan Youth Arts Festival participants.

**Troy High School Orchestras  
National Honors Dixie Classic  
National Music Festival**

Based on the high level of the orchestra program, the Troy High School's Philharmonic Orchestra and the Symphony Orchestra competed among schools from throughout the United States at the Dixie Classic National Music Festival in Atlanta, Georgia in April. The Philharmonic Orchestra received a Superior Rating and the Symphony Cellos were awarded an Honor Award for the Best String Section at the Festival. The Symphony Orchestra received a Superior Rating and earned the highest ratings at the festival, the Honor Award for Best Ensemble at the Festival. The Board recognized members of the orchestras and their director, Alan MacNair.

**Troy High School Orchestra  
Students First Division Ratings  
2011 Michigan School Band and**

**Orchestra Association State Solo and Ensemble Festival**

The Board recognized Troy High students who participated in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association State Solo and Ensemble Festival. These students were not only invited to the State Festival but also received the highest scores at the State Festival, which is a First Division Rating.

**ADDITIONS & DELETIONS  
11-055**

It was moved by Ms. Malven and supported by Mrs. Fleming that **be it therefore resolved** that Item 5.A., TESPAs Contract Ratification be added to this evening's agenda under the PERSONNEL section.

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION  
(AGENDA ITEMS)**

None.

**PERSONNEL  
11-056**

It was moved by Mr. Hauff and supported by Mrs. Edmunds that **be it therefore resolved** that the Troy Board of Education hereby ratifies and adopts the tentative agreement reached on May 25, 2011, between representatives of the Troy Board of Education and the Troy Educational Support Personnel Association/MEA/NEA (TESPA) for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012.

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0

**CURRICULUM**

None.

**BUSINESS  
Food Service Management  
Contract for 2011/2012  
11-057**

It was moved by Mrs. Fleming and supported by Mr. Milette that **be it therefore resolved** that the Troy Board of Education authorize administration to approve the contract renewal with Sodexo Management, Inc. to provide Food Services for the 2011/2012 school year once the approval has been received from the Michigan Department of Education.

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0

**Resolution to Hold a Public  
Hearing on the Proposed**

**2011/2012 School Year Budget  
11-058**

It was moved by Mrs. Fleming and supported by Mr. Miletti that

**WHEREAS**, Michigan law provides that every local unit of government, including a school district, shall hold a public hearing on its proposed budget, with notice of such at least six (6) days before the hearing; and

**WHEREAS**, such notice is required to include the time and place of the hearing and also state the place where a copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection; and

**WHEREAS**, the statutory provision also requires that the notice include in 11-point bold faced type, the following statement:

**THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE  
LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A  
SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.**

**WHEREAS**, each local unit is required to hold the public hearing prior to final adoption of its budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. A public hearing shall be held on June 21, 2011 at a regular Board meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Troy School District's Services Building, 4420 Livernois Road, Troy 48098, for the purpose of receiving testimony and discussing the proposed 2011/2012 budget.
2. The Secretary of the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice of such public hearing, said notice to be in substantially the form of attached Exhibit A, in a newspaper of general circulation within the School District. The notice shall be published at least six (6) days before the public hearing and shall comply with all requirements of the applicable statutory provisions.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION  
(Non-Agenda Items)**

Mr. Bruce Bloomingdale addressed the Board to offer his congratulations on the successful negotiation of the contracts. He commended Superintendent Fowler, Mr. Witt, the district negotiating team and representatives from the TEA on coming to an acceptable agreement. He also commented on how pleased he was to know that the Troy School District is completely dedicated to the children of this community.

Ms. Julie Oberheide addressed the Board regarding the possible outsourcing of secretaries in the District. Ms. Oberheide shared her thoughts and commented about how important secretaries are to the District and that they are the first representatives of each building. She asked the Board to please not privatize the secretaries.

**OTHER**

An announcement was made to members of the audience that graduation ceremonies for both Athens and Troy High Schools would be held on Saturday at the Oakland University's O'Rena. Also, the International Academy East and Niles Community High School commencement ceremonies will be held on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Negotiations**

**11-059**

It was moved by Ms. Malven and supported by Mr. Hauff that **be it therefore resolved** that, as permitted in the Michigan Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267, Section 8(c), the Troy Board of Education shall go into closed session to discuss negotiations.

Roll Call Vote:

Miletti	Yes
Philippart	Yes
Underwood	Yes
Edmunds	Yes
Fleming	Yes
Hauff	Yes
Malven	Yes

Motion carried 7– 0

The Board moved to closed session at 9:27 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:45 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Ms. Malven and supported by Mrs. Fleming that the meeting be adjourned.

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

PF/jh

Paula Fleming, Secretary