

**MINUTES OF THE CLEVELAND HEIGHTS-UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Regular Meeting of February 19, 2008

The Board of Education of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, Cuyahoga County, held its Regular meeting in the public meeting room of the Board Building at 2155 Miramar Boulevard, University Heights, Ohio, on Tuesday, February 19, 2008.

Michael Cicero, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present at Roll Call: Mr. Michael Cicero, President
Mr. Kal Zucker, Vice-President
Mr. Eric Coble, Board Member
Ms. Nancy Pepler, Board Member
Mr. Ron Register, Board Member

Also Present: Mrs. Deborah Delisle, Superintendent
Mr. Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer
Members of the Central Office Staff
Patrons of the School District
Representatives of the News Media

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was recommended that the Board approve the following minutes:

Organizational Meeting, January 14, 2008
Regular Meeting, January 14, 2008

No. 08-02-018 It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Mr. Coble,
that the minutes be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cicero, Mr. Register, Ms. Pepler,
Mr. Zucker, Mr. Coble

Nays: None

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

Patty Kelly, Outgoing Kindernet Chairperson

Superintendent Deborah Delisle recognized the extraordinary contributions to the District by parent, Patty Kelly. Ms. Kelly is our outgoing Kindernet chairperson, who has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to provide a positive impact in our schools. Deborah Delisle expressed the District's sincere gratitude to Ms. Kelly for her efforts and investment of countless volunteer hours. Superintendent Delisle presented Ms. Patty Kelly with a token of appreciation. Ms. Kelly and her family will be moving out of state.

Ms. Kelly expressed her thanks for the opportunity to have been a part of such a great school district.

Ms. Lorene Varley, Early Childhood Department Program Specialist, also expressed her appreciation to Ms. Patty Kelly for her outstanding efforts.

Junior Lake Erie League Middle School Wrestling Champions

Superintendent Deborah Delisle invited Kristin Hughes, Athletic Director, and Christopher Cook, Middle School Athletics, to help her introduce the honorees of the Junior Lake Erie League Wrestling Championship. The honorees were middle school athletes from Monticello, Roxboro and Wiley Middle Schools. These students finished the season with a phenomenal 8-1 record. Superintendent Delisle thanked these students for being outstanding ambassadors of our District and presented each of the following students with certificates and trophies and the following coaches with plaques.

Coaches

Brock Hoover
Jason Young
Bob Gambatese
Doug Higham

Cortez Alexander
Chase Bell
Ben Campbell
Blake Evans
Bryan Geiter
Sylvester Byers
Ryan Gibson
Stephen Griffin
Jordan Griffin
Nigel Harper
Nick Holmes
Jacob Holzhauser
Antonio Johnson
Mario Lightfoot
Alex Lowe
Brandon McNeal

Students

Tramell Patterson
Denzel Pillers
Andrew Pollock
Alic Radivoyevitch
Matthew Reed
Johnathan Robinson
Montell Russ
Dionte Saffo
Tyler Sancho
John Sheets
Stedman Smith
David Torres
Terry Turk
Aaron Tyson
Stanley Williams

Board President, Michael Cicero, thanked all the student athletes and their coaches.

PUBLIC ADDRESS

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Approval of Cleveland Heights High School Varsity Girls' Lacrosse Spring 2008 Field Trip to Palo Alto, CA

It was recommended that the Board approve the Cleveland Heights High School Varsity Girls' Lacrosse Spring 2008 field trip to Palo Alto, CA, scheduled for March 21-27, 2008.

No. 08-02-019

It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Mr. Register, that the above field trip be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Register, Mr. Coble, Ms. Pepler,
Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero

Nays: None

Approval of Cleveland Heights High School A Cappella Choir and Singers, 10th-12th Grade, Field Trip to New Orleans, LA

It was recommended that the Board approve a field trip for the Cleveland Heights High School 10th – 12th Grade A Cappella Choir and Singers to New Orleans, LA, scheduled for April 2-7, 2008, which includes a Habitat for Humanity program.

No. 08-02-020

It was moved by Ms. Pepler, seconded by Mr. Zucker, that the above field trip be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Coble, Ms. Pepler, Mr. Zucker,
Mr. Cicero, Mr. Register

Nays: None

First Reading of New Policy #8510 - Wellness

Deborah Delisle, Superintendent, presented new policy information on *Wellness*, #8510, for the first reading. New policy information goes through three (3) readings, and on the evening of the third reading, the Board takes action.

Adoption of New High School Courses

It was recommended that the Board approve the new high school courses that were presented at the last Board meeting.

Nancy Pepler, Board Member, asked when the new Advanced Placement Language and Composition course would begin. Superintendent Delisle responded that the course would be offered in the Fall of 2008.

Ms. Pepler also asked if there were best practice models that we have looked at for the new Forensic Science course being offered at Cleveland Heights High School. Superintendent Delisle stated that we have looked at other models.

Eric Coble, Board Member, asked if these new courses would be offered to all the Small Schools. Superintendent Delisle responded in the affirmative.

No. 08-02-021

It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Mr. Register, that the new high school courses be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Ms. Pepler, Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero,
Mr. Register, Mr. Coble

Nays: None

Deborah Delisle, Superintendent, clarified that the proposed courses would be offered in the 2008-2009 school year.

Pyramids of Support and Intervention

Christine Fowler-Mack introduced presentations on the following student support and intervention programs (see official minutes):

Integrated Systems Framework – Jeffrey Johnston
Success Connections – Mary Kay McDade
CHHS Transition Program – Crystal Maclin

Ron Register, Board Member, posed a question about how parents get involved in the Pyramids of Support. Dr. Jeffrey Johnston, Coordinator-Student Support Programs, responded that parents are surveyed through the parent conference nights. A parent information night is planned for Roxboro Elementary and Roxboro Middle School to present information on positive behavioral supports. Christine Fowler-Mack also noted that parents receive information about these programs through school newsletters.

Board President Michael Cicero asked when we could expect the other three elementary schools and high school to have these programs implemented. Mrs. Fowler-Mack replied that the information is shared at the K-12 meetings and each building is engaged in the work in some way.

Kal Zucker, Board Vice President, asked how does modeling of good behavior by the adult population work. Dr. Jeffrey Johnston responded that this is addressed in the Foundations training. He commented that staff is expected to model the same behavior and expectations. Mr. Zucker noted that these support programs seem to be a very proactive approach to preparing our students for success.

Ms. Pepler asked how the program extends to students who may come into the District for the first time in the 10th or 11th grade. Christine Fowler-Mack answered that students are observed upon enrolling, based on their history, to determine scheduling and whether they would be a candidate for the transition program or any of the other support programs.

Additional questions were posed regarding the selection process and workings of the transition and support programs. Christine Fowler-Mack, Crystal Maclin, Mary Kay McDade and Superintendent Delisle responded to the questions.

Exciting News

Superintendent Deborah Delisle shared that on February 6, 2008, the Heights High Auditorium was turned into a set reminiscent of ESPN. Nine of our student athletes signed letters of intent to continue their education and play the sports they love in college next year. Ms. Delisle applauded Athletic Director Kristin Hughes on the professional and impressive style of this program. It was a wonderful and very meaningful program for our student athletes and their families.

Also on February 6, 2008, Superbowl champion and Heights High graduate, Barry Cofield, received special recognition at a football boosters fundraiser. Mr. Cofield's Heights High jersey was retired. This was believed to be the first time the District has retired a football jersey.

Deborah Delisle also reported that student, Alex Krause, Cleveland Heights High School senior, received one of the highest honors in the country for a graduating senior. He has been named a candidate in the Presidential Scholars Program. Alex scored a perfect 36 on the ACT.

The Heights High A Cappella Choir performed last week on Fox 8 News in the Morning in a special competition the station is running. Viewers can vote for the best choir.

Gearity Professional Development School is being recognized as a model school based on the school's innovative approaches and success surrounding student achievement. Gearity is one of eight schools in the nation to receive this recognition. Gearity will be showcased at the International Centers Model Schools Conference in June 2008. Superintendent Delisle congratulated the Gearity team.

Superintendent Delisle reported that the District's Early Childhood Center received accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The preschool team will be honored at the regular Board meeting in March.

Deborah Delisle, Superintendent, delivered the annual State of the Schools address on February 7, 2008. The address airs daily on Channel 22 at 3:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. A DVD copy of the address will also be available at the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Main Library.

Superintendent Delisle remarked on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's recent nation-wide recall of 143 million pounds of frozen beef from a California company. Our District had a very limited supply of inventory from this company which was immediately removed from use in January. The recall was considered a low health risk and defined as having a remote possibility of adverse consequences from use of the product. Ms. Delisle was pleased to report that our Food Service programs are in full compliance with government safety, sanitation and health codes.

Finally, according to Ms. Delisle, the first meeting of the Coventry Study Committee will be held on Monday, March 3, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. at Coventry Elementary School.

PERSONNEL

Approval of Retirement

It was recommended that the retirement of the following named personnel be accepted, effective on the date indicated:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
a. <u>Certificated/Licensed Staff:</u>		
Artino, Frank	Reading Teacher	July 1, 2008
Epstein, Lauren	Elementary Teacher	July 1, 2008
Kohn, Betty	Elementary Teacher	July 1, 2008
Lavik, Paul	School Psychologist	March 1, 2008
Yappel, Barbara	Intervention Specialist	July 1, 2008

Approval of Resignation

It was recommended that the resignation of the following named personnel be accepted, effective on the date indicated:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
a. <u>Certificated/Licensed Staff:</u>		
Ferguson, Leslie	Elementary Teacher	June 8, 2008
b. <u>Classified Staff:</u>		
Rechner, Kimberley M. (Corrected Date Change)	Ed Aide-CHAMPS Grant	January 11, 2008

Approval of Termination

It was recommended that the termination of the following named personnel be accepted, effective at the close of the day on the date indicated for the reason stated:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Thompson, Jeffrey Effective 1/7/2008	Special Ed Aide	Unsuccessful Probation

Approval of Appointments

It was recommended that the Board of Education offer employment pursuant to ORC Section 3319.02 to the following individuals, for the positions listed, for the period of time identified, and at the rate of pay specified. It was recommended that the following appointments to the staff of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City Schools be approved, pending successful completion of the pre-employment procedures including criminal history checks, effective on the dates indicated, with limited contracts and with the understanding that such personnel are subject to all the rules and regulations of the Board of Education and to all of the provisions of law pertaining to their employment.

If the pre-employment procedures are not successfully completed, it was understood that, pursuant to Board policy, the Board of Education may immediately release the employee from employment and rescind a conditional offer of employment.

Key: N=New R=Replacement T=Transfer

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>
a. <u>Certificated/Licensed Staff</u>		
Muthersbaugh, David Effective 2/4/08 Assignment: Heights High – Mosaic School	High School Math-N 3/5 Time; 190 Days	\$34,680 6M4, p.r.
b. <u>Classified Staff</u>		
Abdow, Victoria M. Assignment: Gearity Professional Development School Effective 1/14/2008 - 3/2/2008 90 Day Probation Ends 5/29/2008	Preschool Lead Instr.-R Temporary	\$12.66/hr. Degreed

Brown, Yvonne J. Assignment: Board of Education Effective 1/14/2008 90 Day Probation Ends 3/18/2008	Cleaner-R 260 Days	\$10.98/hr. Step 1
Colston, Laura V. Additional Assignment: Fairfax Effective 12/17/2007 90 Day Probation Ends 5/14/2008	Lunchroom Aide-Bkfst-R 195 Days	\$11.13/hr. Step 1
Cutright, Kenneth R. Assignment: Noble Effective 1/16/2008 90 Day Probation Ends 5/22/2008	Assistant Custodian-R 260 Days	\$40,200 Step 1
Frazier, Corey M. Assignment: Fairfax Effective 1/14/2008 90 Day Probation Ends 5/20/2008	Cleaner-R 260 Days	\$10.98/hr. Step 1
McElrath, Priscilla L. Assignment: Roxboro Middle Effective 1/14/2008 90 Day Probation Ends 5/29/2008	Ed Aide-CHAMPS-R 195 Days	\$14.18/hr. Degreed

c. Supplemental Assignments-Coaches-R

Heights High

Beckman, Ben*	Head Boys Lacrosse	\$ 4,511
Black, Aaricka*	Asst. Girls Track	3,008
Johnson, Mark	Asst. Girls Track	4,511
Klima, Sam*	Asst. Boys Lacrosse	3,008
Saylor, Terry*	Head Girls Lacrosse	4,511
Sulzer, Marnie*	Head Boys Tennis	3,008
West, Toni*	Asst. Girls Track	3,008

Wiley Middle

Gambatese, Robert	Asst. Wrestling	2,105
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District

Bradley, Tameka	Entry Year Mentor (Semester II)	1,058
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d. Cancellation of Supplemental Assignment-Coach

Littlejohn, Kevin* Effective 1/30/08	Head Coach Track-Girls	
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* *Classified Staff*

e. Substitutes - Classified

Frierson, Cameron
Buckhalter, Lawrence

f. Success Connections - \$38.00/Hour

Orenic, Brian - Algebra

Approval of Change of Status

It was recommended that the following change be made in the contract status of the following personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
a. <u>Classified Staff</u> Solomon, Ebony Effective 1/28/2008 Assignment: 45 Day Probation Ends 4/8/2008	Food Service \$10.56/11.14 Wiley	Special Ed Aide-ED-R \$12.55/hr. Fairfax
Brown, Diane Assignment: Fairfax 90 Day Probation Ended 1/15/2008	Probation	Lunchroom Aide \$11.13/hr.
Davis, Tanya Assignment: Gearity Prof. Dev. School 90 Day Probation Ended 1/17/2008	Probation	Preschool Associate \$10.69/hr.
Gantt, Phyllis A. Assignment: Bellefaire School 45 Day Probation Ended 2/4/2008	Probation	Food Service, II \$13.32/hr.
Mapson-Nickerson, Trina Assignment: Fairfax 90 Day Probation Ended 1/21/2008	Probation	Lunchroom Aide \$11.13/hr.
Porter, William D. Assignment: Heights High 90 Day Probation Ended 2/6/2008	Probation	Security Monitor \$17.64 Step 1 (\$16.89+.75) (training differential)
Wright, Aiesha Assignment: Canterbury 90 Day Probation Ended 1/21/2008	Probation	Lunchroom Aide \$11.13/hr.

Approval of Change in Salary

The following personnel are eligible for a change in salary effective January 22, 2008 (Semester II of the 2007-08 school year) in accordance with regulations contained in the negotiated agreement. It was recommended that salary changes be approved as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
a. <u>Certificated/Licensed Staff</u>		
Hoang, Angela	\$48,000 (6B2)	\$52,900 (6M)
McDonald, Elizabeth	\$48,900 (7B1+500)	\$49,900 (7B2+500)
Talbert-Salter, Taura	\$39,600 (2B1+500)	\$42,000 (2M+500)

No. 08-02-022 It was moved by Ms. Pepler, seconded by Mr. Register, that the above Personnel items be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero, Mr. Register,
Mr. Coble, Ms. Pepler

Nays: None

Resolution to Suspend Administrative Contract

(In hands of Board Members only)

No. 08-02-023 It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Mr. Zucker, that the Resolution to Suspend Administrative Contract be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cicero, Mr. Register, Mr. Coble,
Ms. Pepler, Mr. Zucker

Nays: None

BUSINESS SERVICE

Recommendation to Approve Bid for District Bus Purchases

It was recommended that the Board approve the purchase of three 71-passenger buses with funds from the 2008 Permanent Improvement fund. The purchase of these vehicles is in conjunction with the Ohio Schools Council bus purchasing program, which is competitively bid.

Recommendation to Accept the Following Donations

- \$8,806.00 for Bi-Annual Trip for Students to France
 - From the Estate of Ariane Simone Vardon, c/o I. James Hackenberg, Baker, Hackenberg and Henning, 77 North St. Clair Street, Suite 100, Painesville, OH 44077
- 1996 Jeep to the Auto Technology Program at Cleveland Heights High School
 - From John Baker, 13605 Shaker Boulevard, Apartment 4A, Shaker Heights, OH 44120

Ron Register, Board Member, expressed concern about the lag in the projected rate of replacement school bus purchases. Steve Shergalis, Director of Business Services, stated that it may not be financially possible for the District to get right on track with the replacement projections.

Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer, commented that he learned at a recent Cuyahoga County Treasurer's Meeting, financing for transportation was an area that would be cut from the state budget.

Eric Coble, Board Member, asked if three of our older buses would be taken off line when we purchase the three new school buses. Mr. Shergalis responded that they would be taken off line unless the condition of the buses allows us to keep them in use. Mr. Shergalis stated that we would receive between \$2,000 - \$4,000 for salvaged buses.

No. 08-02-024

It was moved by Ms. Pepler, seconded by Mr. Coble, that the Business items be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Register, Mr. Coble, Ms. Pepler,
Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero

Nays: None

FINANCE

Financial Reports

It was recommended that the Board of Education confirm the Cash Position Report and Budget Transfers for January 1, 2008 through January 31, 2008 (see official minutes).

Acceptance and Appropriation of Grants

It was recommended that the Board of Education accept and appropriate the following grants:

<u>FUND</u>	<u>SPCC</u>	<u>NAME OF GRANT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
019	0950	GED Testing reimbursement	3,775.00
019	1214	KnowledgeWorks: OHSTI	37,500.00
516	0143	Javits Experimental Project, 3 rd year	4,777.00
TOTAL			\$46,052.00

No. 08-02-025

It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Ms. Peppler, that the Finance items be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Coble, Ms. Peppler, Mr. Zucker,
Mr. Cicero, Mr. Register

Nays: None

BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Cicero, Board President, asked that each Board member submit his/her schedule for the month of March to the Superintendent no later than Monday, March 3, 2008.

Mr. Cicero stated that there are two work sessions that must be held in March: 1) the Board training and 2) communication and public engagement.

A letter will be sent to University Heights Mayor Rothschild requesting dates that she will be available along with University Heights Council to meet some time in March. Mr. Cicero indicated he wants to meet with University Heights before meeting with the City of Cleveland Heights again in April.

Board President Cicero congratulated Superintendent Delisle and the team that accompanied her on January 17, 2008 to the Ohio Department of Education to participate in the Ohio Leadership Advisory Council.

Mr. Cicero indicated that the Board met with Cleveland Heights City Council on January 30, 2008 in a productive, informal session discussing facilities, discipline, and the Cleveland Heights tax issue on the ballot. Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education will host a meeting with Cleveland Heights City Council scheduled for April 2, 2008. On the Cleveland Heights City Council meeting agenda was a letter of agreement to share salt storage between Cleveland Heights and University Heights. Mr. Cicero applauded Mayor Rothschild and Mayor Kelley for coming to some sort of accord. It is not known at this time whether Council approved the agreement.

Michael Cicero, Board President, said he reviewed Amended Sub. S.B. 117. He stated that the legislature basically did away with the ability of any municipality to govern its rights of way, whether cable television or AT&T. Historically, cable companies were able to give in-kind or cash contributions to the municipality. Mr. Cicero stated that much to the city of Cleveland Heights' credit, they were very instrumental in getting the District video equipment or cash contributions in lieu of so we could develop video and other broadcasting facilities. By Ohio law, that has now been prohibited.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

At the January 14, 2008 Regular Board Meeting, scheduling of the regular Board meetings was TABLED. Discussion was held to possibly move the regular Board meetings to the first Tuesday of each month and move the work sessions to the third Tuesday of each month.

No. 08-02-026

It was moved by Ms. Pepler, seconded by Mr. Coble, that the approval of the dates of the regular Board meetings be REMOVED FROM THE TABLE.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Ms. Pepler, Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero,
Mr. Register, Mr. Coble

Nays: None

It was recommended that the dates of the regular Board meetings be amended to the first Tuesday of every month and the dates of the work sessions to be held on the third Tuesday of each month.

Board President Cicero pointed out the only problem with the proposed dates of the Board meetings would be Tuesday, November 4, 2008, due to Election Day. Superintendent Delisle commented that school may be closed on Election Day due to the potential large voter turnout for this particular election. Mr. Cicero stated we should proceed to change the proposed meeting date to Monday, November 3 instead of Tuesday, November 4, 2008.

No. 08-02-027

It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Mr. Coble, that the dates of the regular and special Board meetings be amended to the first and third Tuesdays of each month, respectively, with the exception of November 3; that the December regular Board meeting be moved to December 16, with the Library Board Interviews being on December 2; that there be no special Board meeting in July; and that the dates of the Board training and the special Board meeting in March are to be determined.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero, Mr. Register,
Mr. Coble, Ms. Pepler

Nays: None

No. 08-02-028

It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Mr. Coble, that the amended dates of the regular and special Board meetings be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cicero, Mr. Register, Mr. Coble,
Ms. Pepler, Mr. Zucker

Nays: None

NEW BUSINESS

None to report.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None to report.

MOTION TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was recommended that the Board move into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) for the purpose of considering personnel matters; and pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(4) to prepare for negotiations or bargaining sessions with employees concerning compensation and other terms and conditions of employment; and pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(2) for the purpose of considering the sale or disposition of property.

No. 08-02-029

It was moved by Mr. Register, seconded by Ms. Pepler, that the Board move into Executive session.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cicero, Mr. Register, Mr. Coble,
Ms. Peppler, Mr. Zucker

Nays: None

The Board moved into Executive session at 9:04 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

It was recommended that the meeting be adjourned.

No. 08-02-030 It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Mr. Register, that
the meeting be adjourned.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Register, Mr. Coble, Ms. Peppler,
Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero

Nays: None

The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 p.m.

Michael Cicero, President

Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer