

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

**Regular Meeting of March 4, 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, March 4, 2008.

Michael Cicero, President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

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

Special Meeting, January 31, 2008

**No. 08-03-033** It was moved by Mr. Register, seconded by Ms. Peppler, that the minutes be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

## **AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS**

### *Early Childhood Center's NAEYC Accreditation*

Superintendent Deborah Delisle recognized Sherry Miller, Lorene Varley and Judy Del'Aquila as an extremely dedicated group of educators, who have gone above and beyond each day for our pre-school students. In August 2006, the District's Early Childhood Center re-opened at its new site in the Gearity Professional School. The Early Childhood Center has received accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. This accreditation is the pre-eminent accreditation for pre-schools across the country and is the result of the tireless efforts of our educational team. The pre-school received incredibly high scores.

Superintendent Delisle remarked that on her walk-throughs and visits to the pre-school classes, she has noticed that every child is engaged, and more importantly, every adult in the building is connected to those young children. Ms. Miller, Ms. Varley and Dr. Del'Aquila were presented with a plaque on behalf of the District to honor their hard work.

Sherry Miller, Principal-Gearity Professional Development School, expressed thanks for the presentation. She acknowledged that it would not have been possible without the support of Superintendent Delisle, Assistant Superintendent Christine Fowler-Mack, Sally Levine, and Joe Micheller. They are very fortunate to be able to create new programming that aligns with the State of Ohio's early learning content standards and to adopt a new curriculum for the District's earliest learners. Ms. Miller also thanked Susan Schraff for her guidance and expertise in planning.

Lorene Varley and Judy Del'Aquila also expressed their thanks for the support and commitment of all of the families, staff, and administration during the journey to this accreditation.

Board President Michael Cicero applauded the educational team at Gearity for their efforts and expressed his appreciation for the new energy and quality in the building.

## **PUBLIC ADDRESS**

### Requested Audience

#### Name

Lita Gonzalez

#### Topic

Officer Jason West Scholarship

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### Approval of Cleveland Heights High School Varsity Boys' Lacrosse Spring 2008 Field Trip

It was recommended that the Board approve the Cleveland Heights High School Varsity Boys' Lacrosse Spring 2008 field trip to Chicago, IL, scheduled for March 27-30, 2008.

Approval of Cleveland Heights High School 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Biology Students' Field Trip

It was recommended that the Board approve the Cleveland Heights High School 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Biology Students' field trip to OSU Stone Lab & Old Women Creek, scheduled for April 17-19, 2008.

**No. 08-03-034**

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

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

Second Reading of New Policy #8510 – Wellness

There is no action required on the part of the Board on this matter. At the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, there will be a third reading, and the Board will be asked to take action at that time.

Approval of Grants

It was recommended that the Board approve the following Grants:

- *Target Field Trip Grant Request*, to the Target Foundation - \$1,000.00
- *HP Technology for Teaching Grant Application (Canterbury Elementary School)*, to the HP Foundation - \$40,000.00
- *HP Technology for Teaching Grant Application (Noble Elementary School)*, to the HP Foundation - \$40,000.00

**No. 08-03-035**

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

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

*Great News Around the District!*

Superintendent Deborah Delisle was excited to share that several students were engaged in the democratic process today, Primary Election Day. Approximately 36 Heights High students were poll workers for the Board of Elections. These students from each of the five small schools had to arrive at their assigned polling places at 5:30 a.m. and work until polls close.

Our own Monticello Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grader, George Paul III, along with his grandmother, had the distinct privilege of introducing Senator Barack Obama to 6,000 people at a campaign rally on February 23, 2008 at Cleveland Public Hall. The rally aired on CNN, MSNBC and other major news outlets. In a conversation before the rally, Senator Obama encouraged George to improve his math grades if he expected to realize his goal of becoming an engineer.

Superintendent Delisle congratulated Heights High Mosaic Experience 12<sup>th</sup> grader, Brandon Spring, for being named a finalist in the Scenarios USA Screenwriting Contest. Brandon is in TV Production II class and is a member of the TV & Media Production Club. Over 500 young people submitted scripts to the nationwide contest. Although Brandon was not named the contest winner, he has a powerful entry in his portfolio. Brandon will be given the opportunity to intern on the production team of the winning screenplay. We appreciate the encouragement of TV Production teacher, Jeff Glass, for seeking these opportunities for our students and for his work and for the development of this class.

Deborah Delisle also congratulated our Varsity Boys' Basketball Team on an outstanding season. The team won an incredible District Semi-Final game, but unfortunately fell last Saturday to Warren Harding in the District Finals. The team had an incredible season, with a 17-6 record. Superintendent Delisle said our student athletes are great ambassadors for our District and commended them for their "never give up" effort. The team participated in an advertisement about the importance of reading.

Heights High senior Samantha Price became the first girl in Ohio to win a wrestling match at the District level. Superintendent Delisle reported that Samantha beat a competitor from Mansfield, 2-1. No other girl has ever qualified for the District tournament in Division 1. We are pleased with Samantha's accomplishment.

Superintendent Delisle invited residents to the Vocal Music Concert at Heights High School on Friday, March 7, 2008, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Our student vocalists have been making their performing rounds. Recently, the A Capella Choir performed on Fox 8 News in the Morning as part of the station's choir contest. Through an on-line vote, the Heights High A Capella Choir won the competition.

The Northeast Suburban College Fair will be held on Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Cleveland Heights High School. Representatives from over 150 colleges, universities, and technical schools will be present at the fair. Students and their families are invited. The college fair is open to all local public, private and parochial students. Admission is free.

Kindergarten Information Night will be held on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Boulevard Elementary School. Families of pre-school aged children are invited to attend and learn about the opportunities provided in our full-day kindergarten program.

Middle School Conference Night had to be rescheduled due to a snow day on Wednesday, February 27. The new date for Conference Night is Wednesday, March 12.

Superintendent Delisle gave a reminder that Spring Recess begins and schools will be closed on Friday, March 21 and the week of March 24-28, 2008.

Board President Michael Cicero stated he received an e-mail regarding legislation on calamity days. He requested that Superintendent Delisle have someone put together an explanation of the usage of calamity days. Ms. Delisle responded that she and Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer, could bring that information to the next Board meeting.

## **PERSONNEL**

### **Approval of Retirement**

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

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Effective</u></b>
<b>a. <u>Certificated/Licensed Staff:</u></b> Kanner, Larry	Middle School - Art	7/1/2008

### **Approval of Resignation**

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

<b>b. <u>Classified Staff:</u></b> Jones, Tynika C.	Stepping Stones Lead (from Leave of Absence)	3/4/2008
West, Toni	Asst. Girls Track Coach	2/14/2007

### **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>
<b>a. <u>Classified Staff</u></b>		
Hicks, Gary R. Assignment: Bellefaire Effective 2/7/2008 90 Day Probation Ends 9/12/2008	Spec. Ed Aide – ED-R 195 Days	\$14.18/hr. Degreed
Manning, Robert Assignment: Wiley Effective 2/11/2008 90 Day Probation Ends 9/15/2008	Security Monitor - R 190 Days	\$16.89/hr. Step 1
Martin-Penn, Tonya Assignment: Fairfax Effective 2/20/2008 90 Day Probation Ends 9/23/2008	Lunchroom Aide – R 195 Days	\$11.13/hr. Step 1
Spain, Brian Assignment: Bellefaire Effective 2/19/2008 90 Day Probation Ends 9/22/2008	Spec. Ed Aide – ED-R 195 Days	\$12.55/hr. Step 1
<b>b. <u>Supplemental Assignments – Advisor-R</u></b>		
<b><u>District</u></b>		
Bradley, Tameka	Entry Year Mentor (Semester II)	\$1,058
<b><u>Oxford</u></b>		
Connelly, Jacqueline <i>(Note: replaces Jeannette Eichmuller)</i>	Ski Club Co-Advisor	602
<b><u>Roxboro Middle</u></b>		
Rood, Ted	Dramatics	1,203
<b>c. <u>Supplemental Assignments-Coaches-R</u></b>		
<b><u>Heights High</u></b>		
Klima, Sam*	Lacrosse Asst. Boys Coach	\$ 3,008
Petre, John*	Baseball Assistant Coach	3,008
Sprochi, David*	Baseball Assistant Coach	3,008
Trhlin, Andy*	Baseball Assistant Coach	3,008

**Wiley Middle**

Bell, Felecia	Basketball Head Girls Coach	3,008
Hoover, Brock	Track Head Girls Coach	2,406
Porter, William*	Basketball Head Boys Coach – 7	3,008
Provenzale, Anthony	Baseball Head Coach	2,406
Starks, Tim*	Basketball Head Boys Coach – 8	3,008

\* *Classified Staff*

**d. Substitutes - Classified**

Morgan, Shirley  
Thomas, Lanell G.

**Approval of Change of Status**

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

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>To</u></b>
<b>a. <u>Certified/Licensed Staff</u></b>		
Lewis, Melissa Effective 2/28/2008 Assignment: School Psychologist – Oxford & Canterbury	½ Time \$27,495	Full Time – R \$54,990
Vaynberg, Olga Effective 2/28/2008 Assignment: School Psychologist – Rox. Elem. & Boulevard	½ Time \$24,425	Full Time – R \$48,850
<b>b. <u>Classified Staff</u></b>		
Brown, Diane Assignment: Canterbury 90 Day Probation Ended 2/13/2008	Probation	Cleaner \$10.98/hr.
Butler, Tanisha Assignment: Roxboro Elementary 90 Day Probation Ended 2/13/2008	Probation	Cleaner \$10.98/hr.
Fuller, Shirley J. Assignment: Canterbury Elementary 90 Day Probation Ended 2/13/2008	Probation	Cleaner \$10.98/hr.
Jones, Edward Assignment: Oxford Elementary 90 Day Probation Ended 2/13/2008	Probation	Cleaner \$10.98/hr.
Kelley, Stephanie R. Assignment: Boulevard Elementary	Probation	Kindergarten Aide \$12.55/hr.

90 Day Probation Ended 2/28/2008

Krisby, Amanda S. Probation Spec. Ed Aide-MH  
Assignment: Gearity Staff Dev. School \$14.18/hr.  
90 Day Probation Ended 2/21/2008

Napier, Renata L. Probation Spec. Ed Aide – CD  
Assignment: Oxford Elementary \$12.55/hr.  
90 Day Probation Ended 2/28/2008

Washington, Crystal L. Probation School Bus Driver  
Assignment: District \$14.28/hr.  
90 Day Probation Ended 2/13/2008

**Approval of Name Change**

<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>To</u></b>
Colley, Sharolyn I.	Glenn-Colley, Sharolyn I.

**Approval of Leave of Absence**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Reason</u></b>
Acosta, Danielle Effective 2/22/08 – 8/26/08	Pregnancy

**No. 08-03-036** It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Mr. Zucker, that the above Personnel items be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

**BUSINESS SERVICE**

**Recommendation to Approve Bid for Fairfax Elementary School Roof Replacement and Award a Contract**

It was recommended that the Board approve the February 22, 2008 bid for the Fairfax Elementary School roof replacement (Project #08C-035-001) and award a Contract.



Board President Cicero invited Stephen Shergalis, Director of Business Services, to the podium to answer questions. Mr. Cicero asked if the roof replacement was a scheduled repair. Mr. Shergalis responded that the Fairfax roof has needed replacing for quite some time. This bid includes an ice barrier system.

**No. 08-03-037**

It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Mr. Cicero, that the above Business item be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

**Recommendation to Reject all of the February 6, 2008 Bids for the Heights High School North Elevator Modernization**

It was recommended that the Board reject all of the February 6, 2008 bids for the Heights High School North Elevator Modernization (Project #08C-010-001).

Stephen Shergalis, Director of Business Services, explained that all the bids exceeded the estimated amount for the project and thus, a contract could not be awarded.

**No. 08-03-038**

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

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

**Recommendation to Approve Bid for the Heights High School North Elevator Modernization and Award a Contract**

It was recommended that the Board approve the February 27, 2008 bid for the Heights High School North Elevator Modernization (Project #08C-010-001) and award a Contract.

Ron Register, Board Member, asked if there was a timeframe for notifying contractors of rejection of a bid before a project can be re-bid. Mr. Shergalis responded there was no timeframe. He explained that this project involves entirely replacing the north elevator, one of the oldest continuously riding elevators in the country. It is primarily used as a service elevator, but it is rated as a passenger elevator.

**No. 08-03-039**

It was moved by Ms. Pepler, seconded by Mr. Register, that the above Business item be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

**Recommendation to Approve Bid for the Canterbury Elementary Multi-Zone Rooftop Air Handling Unit Replacement and Award a Contract**

It was recommended that the Board approve the February 27, 2008 bid for the Canterbury Elementary Multi-Zone Rooftop Air Handling Unit Replacement (Project #08C-0333-001) and award a Contract.

Mr. Shergalis explained that this project consists of a major mechanical component and a major electrical component. We are awarding a combined bid for both components on this project.

**No. 08-03-040**

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

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

**Recommendation to Accept the Following Donation**

- Science CD Set to the District for Use in One Middle School and One Elementary School per License

**No. 08-03-041**

It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Mr. Cicero, that the Business item be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

**FINANCE**

Financial Reports

Nothing to report.

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	0961	Delving Deeper into Science	2,989.00
019	1214	KnowledgeWorks: OHSTI	6,000.00
452	1802	ePortfolios Grant	10,000.00
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		TOTAL	\$18,989.00

**No. 08-03-042**

It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Ms. Pepler, that the Finance item be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

**BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Cicero, Board President, stated, after receiving the Board Members’ schedules, that the next work session would be held on Monday, March 17 (St. Patrick’s Day), beginning at 5:30 p.m. The next regular Board Meeting will be April 1, 2008.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Cicero has sent a written invitation to Mayor Rothschild and members of University Heights Council asking for dates they are available to meet with the Board in April.

Michael Cicero expressed his hope that when everyone went out to vote that they were mindful of the Cleveland Heights tax issue and the Library issue. He thinks both issues are vital for the continued stability of our city government and our library system, which in his opinion are the finest in the county, if not the region.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None to report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None to report.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Eric Coble, Board Member, recently met with the 5133 Committee (Student Handbook) to further refine the bullying policy of the District. In upcoming meetings, they will continue to look at the discipline issues, dress code and other policies of the Handbook. Mr. Coble said the meeting was very productive.

Mr. Coble reported on the first Coventry Study Committee meeting held last evening. One of the things the committee has been charged with is to collect information from the communities (University Heights and Cleveland Heights) on what they wish to see done with the Coventry School property. Kal Zucker, Board Vice President, and Eric Coble, Board Member, are both on this committee. Mr. Coble urged the public to contact him as soon as possible with any useful ideas for the committee to explore.

Superintendent Deborah Delisle announced that the next meeting of the Coventry Study Committee is Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. at the Board of Education building. The meetings are open to the public.

Mr. Kal Zucker, Board Vice President, announced that the next meeting of the PTA Open Council is Friday, March 14, 2008, at Roxboro Elementary School.

Kal Zucker attended the *Power of the Pen Contest* hosted by Wiley Middle School. Mr. Zucker reported that all three of our middle schools won medals in these regional competitions.

Nancy Pepler, Board Member, stated that her first meeting with the Cleveland Heights Recreation Board was cancelled due to inclement weather.

## **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None to report.

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

It was recommended that the meeting be adjourned.

**No. 08-03-043**

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. Pepler,  
Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero

Nays: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

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Michael Cicero, President

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Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer