

**CRESTWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Crestwood School District held on **Monday, March 31, 2008** in the Crestwood High School library, located at 1501 N. Beech Daly Road, Dearborn Heights, Michigan, was called to order by President Donna Ancinec at 7:25 p.m.

Members Present: Donna Ancinec, Tony DeMarco, Ed Garcia,
Janey Golani, Colleen Krizanic, Ron Panetta,
Lynne Senia

Members Absent: None

PLEDGE

Mrs. Ancinec led the Board, administrators, and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF
CONSENT AGENDA**

Mrs. Krizanic requested Board of Education approval of the items on the Consent Agenda which included:

- the March 31, 2008 Board Agenda;
- the minutes from the Special Meeting - Study Session - on March 10, 2008; and
- the minutes from the Regular Meeting on March 10, 2008.

Moved by Mrs. Krizanic, supported by Mr. Garcia, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Ayes: Ancinec, DeMarco, Garcia, Golani, Krizanic, Panetta, Senia

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

BOARD BRIGHTENER

**JACOB JOHNSON
CHS WRESTLER
RECOGNITION**

Athletic Director Shelley Vollmar introduced varsity-wrestling coach John McCurdy, who introduced his assistant coach Doug Johnson (Jacob's father), as they honored CHS senior wrestler Jacob Johnson. Jacob placed second in the state wrestling finals in the 152-pound weight class. As a senior he took a record of 53-2 into the Division 2 title bout. Mr. McCurdy stated that Jake is the hardest-working and classiest guy he has ever coached. Board members praised Jacob for his accomplishments throughout his career at Crestwood and for representing the district in such a fine manner.

**CHS KEY CLUB ~ PASTA
RAMA**

Key Club members made a brief presentation regarding the upcoming Pasta Rama on April 3rd from 5-8 p.m. in the Crestwood High School cafeteria. Defensive End Cory Redding of the Detroit Lions will be on hand from 6-7 p.m. to serve spaghetti and sign autographs. There will be lots of games and prizes to keep children busy, and there will be live music from 6-8 p.m. They have a fundraising goal this year of \$15,000.

PERSONNEL REPORT
ACTION ITEMS

REQUEST FOR LEAVE –
CHRISTINA ABOJAMRA

Christina Abojamra, a teacher at Crestwood High School, requested an unpaid leave of absence from Wednesday, April 9, 2008 until Wednesday, April 16, 2008. Christina's husband was awarded an all-expense paid trip for two to San Juan, Puerto Rico as a result of being named "Manager of the Year" for his company. Mr. Baker supported Christina's request in order to accompany her husband.

Moved by Mrs. Krizanic, supported by Mr. Garcia, that the Crestwood Board of Education approve the unpaid leave of absence request for Christina Abojamra from April 9 through April 16, 2008.

Ayes: Ancinec, DeMarco, Garcia, Golani, Krizanic, Panetta, Senia
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 7-0

REQUEST FOR LEAVE –
KATHLEEN RUTZ

Kathleen Rutz, elementary Spanish teacher, requested an unpaid leave of absence from April 7-11, 2008. Kathleen's in-laws are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary with a family reunion ski trip to Colorado.

Moved by Ms. Senia, supported by Mr. Garcia, that the Crestwood Board of Education approve the unpaid leave of absence request for Kathleen Rutz from April 7 through April 11, 2008.

Ayes: Ancinec, DeMarco, Garcia, Golani, Krizanic, Panetta, Senia
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 7-0

REQUEST FOR LEAVE –
VIKI METRIC

Viki Metric, a special education teacher at Riverside Middle School, requested an unpaid leave of absence from April 7-25, 2008. Viki's leave is personal in nature due to an emergency medical condition of an immediate family member.

Moved by Mrs. Krizanic, supported by Mr. Garcia, that the Crestwood Board of Education approve the unpaid leave of absence request for Viki Metric from April 7 through April 25, 2008.

Ayes: Ancinec, DeMarco, Garcia, Golani, Krizanic, Panetta, Senia
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 7-0

SCHEDULE B –
WINTER COACHING
ASSIGNMENT

Shelley Vollmar reported that assistant hockey coach, Paul Fretter, stepped down after the fifth game of the season. Former head coach, Jeff Wiewiura, replaced Coach Fetter with Ron Sallade. Mr. Sallade finished out the 2007-2008 hockey season; however, he was not brought to the Board for approval. We sought that approval tonight in order to pay Ron Sallade from the Hockey Association account for services rendered as the assistant coach.

Moved by Mr. Panetta, supported by Mrs. Golani, that the Crestwood Board of Education approve Mr. Ron Sallade as an assistant hockey coach for the 2007-2008 season.

Ayes: Ancinec, DeMarco, Garcia, Golani, Krizanic, Panetta, Senia
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 7-0

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

RETIREMENT

Dr. VanValkenburg announced that on March 17th Mrs. Sandy Fitzgerald submitted her letter of retirement, which will be effective on Wednesday, April 30, 2008. Mrs. Fitzgerald, the transportation clerk at the bus garage, has been with the district since 1997. Prior to transferring to the bus garage, Mrs. Fitzgerald worked as an office assistant at Kinloch Elementary.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Kelly and Scott Brighton (and their already two girls) welcomed another family member to the world on Monday, March 17th. Jillian Kate was born at 4:26 p.m. Jillian weighed seven pounds, one ounce; she was 20" long. Everyone is doing great.

BUSINESS REPORT
ACTION ITEMS

PRESCHOOL & K-SACC
TUITION RATE
INCREASE

Mrs. Black reported that we have experienced declining enrollment in our preschool and K-SACC programs. We have made the necessary staffing changes, but in order to continue to operate the programs, we will need to generate additional revenue. We surveyed local districts for registration fees and tuition rates and discovered that our rates are significantly lower than the market for similar programs. A summary of the results is attached for your review. Currently, our registration fee is \$50. Our preschool tuition rate is \$10.75 per day, and our K-SACC tuition rate is \$13.00 per day. I recommend that the Board approve a rate increase for the 2008-2009 school year as follows: Registration fee of \$60, Preschool tuition rate of \$13.25 per day, and K-SACC rate of \$14.00 per day.

Moved by Mrs. Krizanic, supported by Mr. Panetta, that the Board of Education approve the district to run the SACC, K-SACC and 3 and 4-year-old preschool programs during the 2008-2009 school year with a rate increase for the preschool and K-SACC programs to a \$60 registration fee, preschool tuition of \$13.25 per day, and K-SACC tuition of \$14.00 per day.

Ayes: Ancinec, DeMarco, Garcia, Golani, Krizanic, Panetta, Senia
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 7-0

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

SCHOOL-AGE CHILD
CARE PROGRAM
CHANGES

Mrs. Black reported that the Riversdie Middle School School Age Child Care (SACC) program services nine students who are bussed from RMS to Highview each day. The SACC fees do not cover the expense of the program, which requires two staff members for only a few children on some days. Therefore, we will discontinue the RMS SACC program effective with the 2008-2009 school year.

We completed a survey of the SACC and preschool parents to gauge interest in the 2008 Summer Adventure Camp. The results showed that 27 families may use the program, but not all full-time, and that 47 families would not use the program. The tuition generated from the enrollment would not cover the costs of the program. Therefore, we will discontinue the Summer Adventure Camp program effective summer 2008.

CURRICULUM REPORT
ACTION ITEMS

There were no Action Items from the Curriculum Department.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

BIOLOGY TEXTBOOK & TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Klee reported that Diana Johns, Crestwood High School Science Department chair, brought a textbook and technology needs before Curriculum Council, which is in complete alignment with the National Science Standards and AAAS Benchmarks as well as the Michigan High School Science Content Expectations and it was approved. This proposal will be given to the Board of Education Curriculum Subcommittee along with all other curriculum proposals before the May 19th board meeting. A period for public examination of materials will take place before the curriculum purchases will be presented as action items.

BUSINESS/COMPUTING COURSE & SOFTWARE

Dr. Klee reported that Shawn Elliott presented two updated courses for approval by Curriculum Council, which were also approved. The two courses are Business Graphics and Business Web Design, which will require textbooks and software. Once again the Board Subcommittee along with public viewing will take place before the May 19th meeting. A period for public examination of materials will take place before the curriculum purchases will be presented as action items.

ELEMENTARY REPORT CARDS

Dr. Klee informed the Board that HE met with the Elementary Report Card Committee over the past weeks and they have reached the point where the WCRESA consultant just needs to format on Zangle. The goal is to make the report card reflect a standards-based curriculum that aligns with the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE's) and is still simple and straightforward for an ease of understanding for parents. Additionally, the report card will be accessed through the Zangle! software that the district already uses. It should be ready for board approval at the next board meeting.

K-8 SCIENCE & SOCIAL STUDIES GLCE ALIGNMENT

Dr. Klee stated that we have been able to assemble committees of teachers to align the curriculum to the newly released Science and Social Studies GLCE's. Two meetings have been held at each grade level and the goal is complete alignment for the upcoming school year. A proposal for resources including textbooks and other instructional materials is being prepared and will encompass all grades K-7 in Science and K-8 in Social Studies. Details about required purchases will come at the May 19th board meeting, after Curriculum Council approval, with action presented at the June 4th meeting.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Dr. Klee reported that the regular meeting of the Technology Steering Committee took place on March 13th and a great deal of open source software applications was discussed. These applications are user friendly and the details are included with the attached Technology Steering Committee minutes. The committee's hope is to focus more professional development opportunities on technology integration in the classroom. They were very appreciative of the continuing support of the Board to insure that Crestwood public schools remain current.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
REPORT**
ACTION ITEMS

There were no Action Items from the Special Education Department.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

**PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT – DR.
CONNIE MARKS**

Mr. Misiak reported that Dr. Connie Marks was in the district on March 18th and 19th to follow up on the Project Read training that she provided in August and September. She spent the time at Riverside Middle School working with 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Language Arts teachers demonstrating how to teach informational text and reinforcing the teaching methods they learned through her training. Finally, she spent a half-day at Hillcrest working with Mrs. Seidel observing and demonstrating the use of the techniques. She will return in September to work with the elementary staff as well as re-visit the middle school for a refresher and to answer any questions they may have.

**AUTISM – DECEMBER 1
COUNT INFORMATION**

The Board is aware that we are experiencing an increase in the number of students identified as students with Autism or as being on the autism spectrum. There is no single reason that explains this phenomenon. There have been many theories posed but non proven to be the primary one. Attached, please note the chart indicating the growth rate of students with autism in Wayne County from December of 1993 (395) through December of 2007 (2628). The number of students identified with autism as of the December 2007 count accounted for 5.1% of all special education students in Wayne County. There is no comparison for Crestwood during that same time frame. Over the past three years we have seen an increase in the number of students with autism. We currently have approximately 15 students from pre-school through grade 12 or about 5%. Please know that this growth is not unique to our county; it mirrors a national trend that is creating new challenges for the world of education.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**
ACTION ITEMS

**TRIP REQUEST –
CRESTWOOD
MARCHING BAND**

Crestwood High School Band Director, Matt Ridenour, sought approval to take the high school band to Cedar Point on May 22, 2007. The band has participated in the past and wanted to perform again for the guests at Cedar Point amusement park. A charter bus would be used to transport our students and their equipment. Mr. Jim Baker, Crestwood High School Principal, supported this opportunity and requested approval from the Board of Education.

Moved by Mr. Garcia, supported by Ms. Senia, that the Crestwood Board of Education approve the trip request from the Crestwood Marching Band to perform at Cedar Point, Ohio on May 22, 2007.

Ayes: Ancinec, DeMarco, Garcia, Golani, Krizanic, Panetta, Senia
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 7-0

**2008-2009 DEARBORN
HEIGHTS VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION PARTNER-
SHIP AGREEMENT**

Dr. VanValkenburg sought approval of the agreement between Career Tech partners -- Crestwood School District, Dearborn Heights School District No. 7, and Westwood Community Schools -- for the 2008-2009 school year. This agreement is brought annually to the Board of Education of each district. Approval must be sought when School Aid 3 monies are transferred between districts. The agreement details the vocational partnership terms and costs that are shared equally between the three districts.

2008-2009 DEARBORN HEIGHTS VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Moved by Mrs. Krizanic, supported by Mr. Garcia, that the Board of Education approve the Dearborn Heights Vocational Education Partnership Agreement between Career Tech partners Crestwood Schools, Dearborn Heights School District No. 7, and the Westwood Community Schools for the 2008-2009 school year.

Ayes: Ancinec, DeMarco, Garcia, Golani, Krizanic, Panetta, Senia
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 7-0

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

The kindergarten enrollment for Fall 2008 continues to grow. We have two full classes of kindergarten at Kinloch and are starting on a third. The numbers as of Thursday, March 20, were as follows:

Hillcrest	35
Highview	28
Kinloch	76

Dr. VanValkenburg encouraged parents to enroll their children at the Board of Education office as soon as possible to secure placement in their neighborhood school. Registration information is available on our district website, in our school buildings, and at the Board of Education office.

Mr. Panetta asked Dr. VanValkenburg about the status of the all-day kindergarten program. Dr. VanValkenburg informed Mr. Panetta that the proposal is 'on hold' at the moment and the proposal is being revised.

MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Dr. VanValkenburg reported that the teacher being honored had a family medical emergency; this will be on the agenda at a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Rosemary Riley-Mondro, a representative of the Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee, addressed the Board regarding the 2008 WCPAC's Student Mini Grant Program.

Mrs. Cathy Simons, a representative from Planet Aid, addressed the Board about placing receptacles in our parking lots for clothing donations.

Mrs. Kristy McGrath addressed the Board regarding the district's weapons policy.

MISCELLANEOUS BOARD COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATORS

Mr. Garcia invited members of the community to attend the 3rd annual golf invitational on Saturday, May 3rd at the Dearborn Hills Golf Club. This event is sponsored by the Crestwood Athletic Department. Tickets are \$75.00 per person, which includes 18 holes of golf, breakfast, lunch at the turn, a steak dinner, with awards, prizes and raffles. Anyone interested in participating should contact Shelley Vollmar, our Athletic Director, at 313-274-6955. Mr. Garcia recognized student athletes in all-area hockey, swimming and wrestling.

**MISCELLANEOUS
BOARD COMMENTS OR
QUESTIONS FOR
ADMINISTRATORS**

Mrs. Golani congratulated six district employees who were recently nominated by their peers and will be participating in Wayne RESA's annual Celebration of Excellence in Education Awards Program on May 7th at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Dr. VanValkenburg indicated these employees would be honored during an upcoming board meeting. Mrs. Golani also announced that a \$50 admission will be charged this year to attend the Senior All Night Party, which is put on by the parents. The parents decided to charge admission this year in lieu of future fundraising. They want all seniors to attend; and if any student has financial difficulty they should see a class sponsor or a counselor for assistance. She encouraged parents to sign up their seniors to attend the Senior All Night Party. Finally, Mrs. Golani will arrange for a Board Curriculum Subcommittee meeting between May 14-19 to review textbooks.

Mrs. Ancinec encouraged people to attend Crestwood's golf outing on May 3rd; it's a scramble and you don't need to be a great golfer to participate. Entry forms are available in the Board Office and at all school buildings.

Mrs. Krizanic asked Dr. VanValkenburg about the overages in class size at the elementary buildings; Dr. VanValkenburg indicated that we lost five students at Hillcrest after Easter, although not all of them were at the 4th grade level. Mrs. Krizanic is also desirous of a Personnel Subcommittee Committee meeting to discuss class size overages.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Ancinec requested a motion to adjourn.

Moved by Mr. Garcia, supported by Ms. Senia, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Ayes: Ancinec, DeMarco, Garcia, Golani, Krizanic, Panetta, Senia
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Krizanic, Secretary