

OCTOBER 19, 2020

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF SOUTH LYON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT #63-240 COUNTIES OF
OAKLAND, LIVINGSTON AND WASHTENAW
HELD VIRTUALLY IN SOUTH LYON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

CALL TO ORDER

President Hanshaw called the October 19, 2020 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Anthony Abbate, Randy Clark, Craig Dashner, Carrie Hanshaw, Eric Kennedy, Dan Schwegler, Jennifer Urtel

Absent: None

Administration Present: Steve Archibald, Superintendent, Lisa Kudwa, Asst. Superintendent, Stacy Witt, Asst. Superintendent

Administration Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board, administration and the audience joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Hanshaw offered an opportunity for public comments. There were no comments at this time.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Hanshaw asked the Board to approve the agenda as presented, unless they had any additions or deletions.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, supported by Mr. Schwegler to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call: Mr. Clark-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes, Mr. Dashner-yes, Mr. Abbate-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Ms. Hanshaw-yes. Motion carries 7 – 0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, supported by Mr. Abbate to approve the following minutes:

- October 5, 2020 Regular Meeting
- October 12, 2020 Special Meeting

Roll Call: Mr. Abbate-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Dashner-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes, Ms. Hanshaw-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Clark-yes. Motion carries 7 – 0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

- *September 2020 Prepays*
- *October 2020 AP Board Run*
- *October 2020 Bond Bills*
- *September 2020 Wires & ACH Transactions*
- *September 2020 Cash Receipts Report*

Moved by Mr. Dashner, supported by Mr. Schwegler to approve the bills as presented.

Roll Call: Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Clark-yes, Ms. Hanshaw-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Dashner-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes, Mr. Abbate-yes. Motion carries 7 – 0.

TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HIRE

Mr. Archibald stated that the following educators have been hired for the 2020-21 school year:

- *Sara McHalpine – Dolsen Virtual 1st grade (10/12/20)*
- *David Morrow – Middle School Science (10/26/20)*
- *Amber Shepherd – Speech & Language ECC (11/02/20)*

He asked the Board to approve the hiring of the educators and their effective dates as listed.

Moved by Mr. Abbate, supported by Ms. Urtel to approve the hiring of the educators and their effective dates as listed.

Roll Call: Ms. Hanshaw-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Abbate-yes, Mr. Dashner-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Clark-yes. Motion carries 7 – 0.

ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

Mr. Archibald noted that a gift of 30 XP-Pen Star G640 6" x 4: Graphite Tablets were donated to South Lyon East High School. The anonymous donation is valued at \$1,271.70.

He added that South Lyon Community Schools also received a donation for recess supplies for the eight elementary schools. The South Lyon Educational Foundation donation is valued at \$4,000.00.

He asked the Board to accept the gifts in accordance with Policy 7003.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, supported by Mr. Clark to accept the gifts in accordance with Policy 7003 as presented.

Roll Call: Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Abbate-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Clark-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes, Ms. Hanshaw-yes, Mr. Dashner-yes. Motion carries 7 – 0.

UPDATES TO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL HEALTHY SEXUALITY UNITS OF STUDY

Mrs. Kudwa stated that the Middle School Health Subject Area Curriculum (SAC) Committee, under the leadership of CITA, has been working this fall to make updates to the Middle School Healthy Sexuality Units. These changes stemmed from the need to make the materials accessible to teachers and students in the remote teaching and learning environment, as well as provide students with electronic copies of reading materials during the unit.

She indicated that any new or updated Healthy Sexuality curriculum and/or materials must go through the district's Healthy Sexuality Advisory Committee (HSAC) before being brought to the district's Board of Education. The advisory committee reviews the updates or changes and votes on whether they endorse the suggested revisions.

Ms. Kudwa explained that the HSAC meetings took place this fall. The advisory board consists of 14 voting members and 4 non-voting members which includes eight parent representatives from all three building levels, one community clergy member, one community health professional, one central office administrator, one high school student, and three teacher representatives: one from 5th grade, 7th grade or 8th and 9th grade. One assistant principal from high school, one from middle school and one elementary principal represent building administration as non-voting members.

These updates were also shared at two public hearings on October 7, 2020 and October 14, 2020.

On October 8, 2020, the recommendations were also shared with the Curriculum and Communications Committee.

Due to the need to begin teaching the updated units of study this trimester in 6th and 7th grade, the changes are being brought for information and approval. She asked the Board to approve the updates to the Healthy Sexuality units of study, for students in grades 6-8, to be implemented immediately as presented.

Moved by Mr. Dashner, supported by Mr. Kennedy to approve the updates to the Healthy Sexuality units of study, for students in grades 6-8, to be implemented immediately as presented.

Roll Call: Ms. Hanshaw-yes, Mr. Clark-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Abbate-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes, Mr. Dashner-yes. Motion carries 7 – 0.

SLCS EXTENDED COVID-19 LEARNING PLAN RECONFIRMATION

Ms. Kudwa explained that the Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan was presented to the Board of Education on September 21, 2020. The Oakland ISD approved the district's Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan on September 30, 2020. She indicated that we are required to reconfirm, once every thirty days thereafter, the instructional delivery method, along with reviewing the weekly two-way interaction rates. At this time, the administrative team is not recommending any changes to the instructional delivery method. Our weekly two-way interaction rates are included in the report and are well above the required 75%. She asked the Board to approve the continuation of the instructional delivery method as described.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, supported by Ms. Urtel to approve the continuation of the instructional delivery method as described in the Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan as presented.

Roll Call: Mr. Clark-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes, Mr. Dashner-yes, Mr. Abbate-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Ms. Hanshaw-yes. Motion carries 7 – 0.

2019-20 FINANCIAL AUDIT PRESENTATION

Ms. Witt stated that the Plante & Moran auditors are in attendance to present the 2019-20 audit. Members of Plante & Moran include Jamie Essenmacher, Blake Jobkar and Quinton Trudell. Plante & Moran provided the Board with a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report that is the District's audited financial statements, the Federal Awards Supplemental Information, which represents the separate audit of the federal programs administered by the school district and finally the report to the Board of Education. This report provides information on the audit process and results and is intended to provide more transparency into the audit process itself. Ms. Essenmacher began by stating they are providing an unmodified opinion on the district's financial statements. This is the highest level of an opinion that a CPA firm can provide. She noted that the district will again apply for the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) Certificate of Excellence financial reporting award for June 30, 2020. The district has received this award since 1997. This is considered a very prestigious award. Not many districts in Michigan that apply get this award. Ms. Essenmacher, Mr. Trudell and Mr. Jobkar each narrated a section of a PowerPoint presentation that summarized pertinent details in key areas and numbers relative to the budget. The PowerPoint presentation can be found on the district's website.

Mr. Jobkar thanked Ms. Witt, Ms. Papanastasopoulos and the Business Office for all their time and efforts in helping them get through the remote audit in a timely and efficient and clean manner.

The Board also thanked the Business Office and Plante & Moran for all their help and support in this audit work.

IDS/BARTON MALOW CONTRACTS

Ms. Witt stated that in their packet, she provided the Board with copies of Bond 2020 contracts for Integrated Design Solutions and Barton Malow. She indicated that the contracts will be on the November 2, 2020 meeting agenda for board approval. She invited questions from the Board regarding the contracts. Mr. Dashner asked if the fee percentages in the Barton Malow contract that they submitted at the time of the proposal review when they were selected by the Board are the same as what is in the current contract. Ms. Witt will check again and noted that Thrun Law received both proposals that were submitted by Barton Malow and compared them to the submitted contracts. Ms. Witt added that our attorneys reviewed the contract with the proposals for both IDS and Barton Malow.

LEGISLATION

Mr. Archibald stated that there was no new legislation to share.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Hanshaw acknowledged the following board committee reports:

- **Legislative** – Nothing new to report.
- **Policy** – The committee hasn't met since the last meeting.
- **Finance** – They went over the audit results at an earlier meeting today. Ms. Witt is working on Amendment 1 for the budget which should come in December.

- **Facilities & Grounds** – They are working with stakeholders throughout the district to bring people together to go over schematic designs. A better interest rate was received, so they are able to get more money, have more projects moving forward and won't have to overlap projects. Ms. Witt clarified that it has more to do with the coupon rates and the way they decided to sell the bond with the market that day. Typically, South Lyon will be looking to refund these bonds in about 10 years, but they were able to capture more money for the capital projects selling them to bonds.
- **Curriculum & Communications** – They met recently and discussed updates on the middle school Healthy Sexuality units of study.
- **Oakland County Health Department School Board Update** – The Health Department is providing updates on COVID-19 and what the trends are county wide. He noted that everything that they discuss is published on the Oakland County Health Department website and it gives essentially letter grades for how the county is doing in various metrics. Another meeting is scheduled next week.
- **Oakland Schools Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee** – The next meeting is scheduled tomorrow night. Ms. Hanshaw and Ms. Urtel plan to attend the meeting.

OTHER

Congratulations to the South Lyon girls golf team. They won their first Division 2 state title at Forest Akers West in East Lansing. They beat the three-time defending state champion Forest Hills Northern by three points. Congratulations to proud head coach Dan Skatzka for leading the ladies to a victory!

Ms. Hanshaw asked the Board how they want to hold their board meetings in the future. The governor passed Public Act 228 on Friday afternoon, which authorizes all Boards of any kind to hold their meetings virtually, hybrid or in person. She stated that the district can hold virtual meetings through the end of December 31, 2020 for any reason. In January, there will have to be a reason to hold them virtually. Ms. Hanshaw noted that our district does not have the capability to do a hybrid meeting meaning the Board would be in person and have the community be virtual. This would mean that the district would have to hold our board meetings in a larger location in order to accommodate any public that would want to attend. The Board room in the administration building can only fit 13 people with the current required guidelines. With the entire board and administration, it doesn't leave enough space for any public to attend. She noted that if the meetings were held at the middle school, they cannot be live streamed.

Mr. Dashner stated that he would prefer to be in person with the meetings, but also likes the accessibility that the virtual meetings have been providing the community. More people have been watching the live streams on YouTube, and thus we are reaching more people. Ms. Hanshaw agreed that we don't have the technology to handle a hybrid meeting at this time. Ms. Hanshaw welcomes any thoughts from the other board members and asked them to contact her.

REPORTS

South Lyon Educational Foundation – Mr. Abbate reported they have been pretty active with some amazing go-getters in the group. The *South Lyon Stronger* apparel fundraiser is closed. It did very well. They sold 130-140 apparel items. Our elementary schools have each received \$500 from the Foundation. He emphasized that every dollar that goes into the Foundation flows right back into our kids and schools. The Foundation folks will be at the South Lyon Recreation's trick or treating event on Saturday, Oct. 24 at the high school. They will have a Harry Potter themed booth and TNT Orthodontics has donated lots of candy for the kids. The Foundation continues to grow. Olive is already at EHS and Oakley should be arriving in the next couple months.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Hanshaw offered a second opportunity for public comments. There were no comments.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence for Ms. Hanshaw to acknowledge.

MEETING DATES

Ms. Hanshaw noted the following meeting dates.

- November 2, 2020, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- November 16, 2020, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- December 7, 2020, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- January 19, 2021, (Tuesday) Organizational/Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- February 1, 2021, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- March 1, 2021, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- March 15, 2021, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- April 19, 2021, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- May 3, 2021, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- May 17, 2021, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- June 7, 2021, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- June 21, 2021, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

BOARD COMMENTS

- *Mr. Schwegler* congratulated Ms. Witt and Ms. Papanastasopoulos for the great job with the audit. It is two straight years in a row at least since he has been on the Board. Plante & Moran did not have issues and were also very complementary working with these two ladies in terms of preparing the audit. On a sad note, he is very sorry to hear of the passing of a young former student. He offered his deepest condolences to the family.
- *Mr. Clark* extended a thank you to the Finance Department. There has been a fantastic turnaround in that department, which has been nice to see. Plante & Moran was very complimentary regarding their ability. He offered his congratulations to the golf team.
- *Mr. Kennedy* welcomed the new teachers. He thanked Ms. Witt and Ms. Papanastasopoulos for doing such a wonderful job. He also thanked the Finance Committee for putting forth all the effort to right the ship. In the past few years, we have had some ups and downs financially, and he believes things are back on track. He stated that he has worked with Dan & Jackie Skatzka for as long as he has been in the district, and they have been longing for that state title. He offered his heartfelt congratulations to them. Well deserved.
- *Mr. Abbate* also thanked the Finance Department for all their hard work. He offered his congratulations to the golfers. It's a great accomplishment they have been working toward for quite some time. Thank you to the Foundation. Those checks to the elementary schools are a big deal. He also thanked everybody who has supported the Foundation both in their efforts and financially. The money goes back to our kids and is a nice boost for our schools. He thanked the staff mentioning that his own two sons are loving being back in school. He is also very appreciative to the staff across the district in every way to support and keep our kids safe.

- *Ms. Urtel* congratulated the golf team on their big win. Her daughter has been under Coach Skatza's wing on the golf team the last four years. She congratulated the golf team for taking first place. The coach has taken the team to States the last 12 years. This is the first time that we have taken the state championship. She went to the competition and received permission from the families to identify the girl's names publicly. There are two seniors, Katie Potter and Bella Campbell. Two juniors, Sophia Joseph and Logan Foust and a sophomore, Gabby Tapp. The two coaches are Dan Skatzka, and assistant coach Priscilla Harding. Ms. Harding played under Coach Skatzka when she was at South Lyon High School many years ago. Katie Potter individually took second place for the competition. Congratulations to all! She welcomed the new teachers and complemented the Finance Department for their great work with the finances.
- *Mr. Dashner* thanked Ms. Witt and Ms. Papanastasopoulos and the rest of the Finance Department that support their activities. Tonight's presentation is about as glowing as you will get out of Finance type people. He thanked all of the district employees in getting through the first week of the hybrid learning. He asked the community to be diligent and make sure that they are screening their kids before they are being sent to school. He congratulated the golf team and wished the swim seniors at SLEHS as well. They are going to have their first senior night meet on Thursday.
- *Ms. Hanshaw* thanked Ms. Witt and the whole Finance Department. She stated that we have always won finance awards, and she is glad that we're back with the glowing reviews from the auditors again. She offered her congratulation to the golf team. She welcomed the new teachers. She also asked everyone to stay diligent and screen their children. We need to do what we can to let our students meet in person and hopefully continue to be successful.

ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Dashner, supported by Ms. Urtel to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Roll Call: Ms. Hanshaw-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Abbate-yes, Mr. Dashner-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Clark-yes. Motion carries 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony Abbate, Secretary
Board of Education