

**NOVEMBER 2, 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 November 2, 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. The following comment was shared with the Board.

- *Jennifer Gomori spoke to the Board regarding the thresholds for returning to remote learning versus 25%, 50% or a 100% in-person. She noted that as parents, they should know when it is safe to progress to higher attendance levels before they are asked to decide on in-person instruction for second semester. She also asked what is preventing the district from offering the current remote in-person platform to students who are virtual only.*

**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. Dashner to approve the agenda as presented.

**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.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Mr. Dashner, supported by Mr. Clark to approve the following minutes:

- October 19, 2020 Special Meeting
- October 19, 2020 Regular Meeting

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

**BOND 2020 OWNER/ARCHITECT AGREEMENT**

Ms. Stacy Witt stated that IDS has been the District's Architect for many years, and the District has been happy with their services. She noted that she worked with IDS and the Thrun Law Firm to negotiate a contract for services for the 2020 Bond. This contract was presented to the Board at the October 19, 2020 regular meeting. No changes were requested. She asked the Board to approve the contract with IDS as presented.

Ms. Witt noted that this contract was thoroughly reviewed by the Thrun Law Firm, herself and IDS.

Moved by Mr. Dashner, supported by Mr. Kennedy to approve the Bond 2020 Owner/Architect agreement 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.**

**BOND 2020 OWNER/CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AGREEMENT**

Ms. Stacy Witt stated that the Board previously approved a resolution on May 6, 2019 that named Barton Malow as the construction manager for the new bond issue and directed the superintendent or designee to negotiate a contract for services. This contract was presented to the Board at the October 19, 2020 regular meeting. No changes were requested. She asked the Board to approve the contract with Barton Malow as presented. She also noted that she reviewed the contract with Thrun Law, herself and Barton Malow as well.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, supported by Ms. Urtel to approve the Bond 2020 Owner/Construction Manager agreement as presented.

Mr. Clark commented that going forward, it would be a good idea that these contracts and amendments to the agreements in the future or change orders get in front of the Facilities Committee prior to the full Board.

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

**2020-21 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE CHANGE**

Mr. Archibald noted that as part of recent legislation, the South Lyon Community Schools Board of Education must recertify monthly the Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan. It is necessary to add two Board of Education meetings to fit these timelines. It is suggested that additional meetings on December 14, 2020 and January 11, 2021 be added.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, supported by Mr. Schwegler to approve the additional Board of Education meeting dates for December 14, 2020 and January 11, 2021 to better match the timelines required by legislation related to the Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan 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.**

**LEGISLATION**

Mr. Archibald stated that there was nothing to report on this evening.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Ms. Hanshaw acknowledged the following board committee reports:

- **Legislative** – Mr. Clark indicated that the November 18, 2020 OCSBA dinner meeting has been postponed until spring 2021 due to a recent increase in COVID-19 cases throughout the County and State.
- **Policy** – The committee has not met recently.
- **Finance** – Today's meeting was canceled.
- **Facilities & Grounds** – They have a meeting scheduled tomorrow.
- **Curriculum & Communications** – They have a meeting scheduled next week.
- **Oakland Schools Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee** – Michigan's Teacher of the Year was a guest speaker at the meeting and spoke on diversity in the schools. Most of the meeting consisted of different philosophies and thoughts about diversity and equity in the schools and how different schools are handling it.
- **Oakland County Health Department School Board Update** – Mr. Dashner attended an online meeting. They went through the metrics of COVID in Oakland County where caseloads are going up. Healthcare remains strong, but the County's grade level did go down from a 'C' to a 'D'. Mr. Dashner indicated that countywide Oakland County's Health Department is seeing very little spread within the schools. Most of the cases they have are coming from the outside. He added that any spread that has happened within Oakland County schools has been kids sitting in close proximity to each other during lunch and not wearing masks. There has been very little contact that they could trace back to getting it from surfaces within the school.

**OTHER**

Mr. Archibald stated that in his own personal opinion, everyone needs to continue to monitor things going on in our community and continue to behave in a responsible manner so that we can maintain as much in-person instruction as we can. We continue to learn more and more about the COVID virus and its transmission and spread.

Ms. Sue Toth was asked to join the meeting as she leads the district's COVID-19 response team. She shared additional information regarding the process of what happens when the school is informed that someone has tested positive for COVID-19 in the district. She identified the step by step guidelines that are being followed in the district including a communication that is sent out to everyone with updated information. Information is sent to the Oakland County Health Department regarding school related or school associated cases. A Frequently Asked Questions document is available on the school website.

**REPORTS**

**South Lyon Educational Foundation** – Mr. Abbate reported that the South Lyon Recreation Department put out a great Trick or Treat event for the community the weekend before Halloween. The Educational Foundation was there and provided a Harry Potter backdrop to take pictures of all the kids coming through collecting candy. Those pictures are available online to look at and to purchase in high quality if they choose. The Educational Foundation will be teaming with local photographers for a holiday fundraising event benefitting our schools. The holiday front porch photo shoot begins this weekend. Families will have the convenience of having their holiday photo shoot at the comfort of their own front porch. The \$100 family holiday package includes a 10-15-minute photo shoot with 3 – 5 digital images. \$75 of each shoot will be donated to the South Lyon Educational Foundation. The SLEF website will have more information.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Hanshaw offered a second opportunity for public comments. She shared the following questions and comments with the Board.

- *Jim Mikola was interested in what metrics would be used in the decision to go back to school 100%. When going back to school 100%, having no classroom video would create problems for students in quarantine. There would be no way for students to participate from home for the extended period. Many students at the secondary level struggle even with one day missed. Now they decide between missing 10 days or attending. Would the block schedule or remote Wednesday be maintained at 100%?*
- *Christina Reeve, HS student, heard on the news that we are at Level E and wanted to know why we are not going to full remote learning when all surrounding communities are. She also wanted to know how a student is supposed to choose to go full virtual or in person with no metrics to tell them when the district will go full in person, 50%, 25% or full remote. This is a fluid situation and they deserve the right to choose when the time is at hand. Everyone knows kids are having parties and not taking precautions. This is a fact. If kids go back to in person, things will spread whether or not the 1<sup>st</sup> contact is in school, it will spread through the school.*

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence for Ms. Hanshaw to acknowledge.

**MEETING DATES**

Ms. Hanshaw noted the following meeting dates.

- November 16, 2020, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- December 7, 2020, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- December 14, 2020, Special Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- January 11, 2021, Special 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. Dashner* offered his congratulation to all the sports. He asked the community to please be diligent and complete the screener questions. The more we can keep COVID out of the school, the more we can keep kids in school. He also thanked Oakland County for providing the nurses in our district. He has heard good things on how helpful they have been. He shared his appreciation to the County for using some of the special COVID funding for getting them in our district.
- *Mr. Clark* did not have any comments.
- *Mr. Abbate* reiterated on the responsibility we all have in our community to do our best to limit the spread of COVID. When cases that are contracted outside of school come into the building or have contact with people in the buildings, it is creating quarantine situations and is going to be significant disruptions to student learning because they will be missing 10 – 14 days. He hopes that everyone will do their best to keep it contained. Have a safe and successful election day. Get out and vote!
- *Ms. Urtel* hoped that everyone will try to be as healthy as they can outside of school. If you are feeling sick, stay home. We want to try to keep the schools open. She offered her congratulations and good luck to all current sports now and for try outs for upcoming winter sports.
- *Mr. Kennedy* had nothing more to add that hasn't already been said. Keep diligent!
- *Mr. Schwegler* noted it has been well said by everybody else. There is an election tomorrow. He encouraged everyone to get out and vote.
- *Ms. Hanshaw* hopes the community understands that nobody has any experience with COVID. There is no standard playbook. Every district is handling it to the best of their abilities in making decisions in their own communities' best interest and will continue to do so. They are doing their best. She asked everyone to be patient, wear their masks and do their part; and hopefully, we can get everyone back in school as quick as possible.

**ADJOURN**

Moved by Mr. Dashner, supported by Mr. Kennedy to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 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