

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular
Meeting

Held **at the M.L. Steele Creative Learning Center at 5:30 p.m.** **July 13,**
20 20

Each meeting of the Amherst Board of Education is held in public for the purpose
of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public
community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting
as indicated on the agenda.

President Valerie Neidert presided. Called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call vote:

Valerie Neidert, present; Teresa Gilles, present; Rex Engle, present; Ron
Yacobozzi, present; Marc Zappa, present.

Steven A. Sayers, Superintendent, present; Amelia R. Gioffredo, Treasurer/CFO,
present.

2020-07-01

It was moved by Yacobozzi, seconded by Gilles to adopt the agenda as presented,
including any addenda.

Roll call vote:

Yacobozzi, aye; Zappa, aye; Gilles, aye; Neidert, aye; Engle, aye;

Hearing of the Public:

The Public Participation section of the Board of Education's agenda is specifically
designed for the public to address the Board with their compliments and/or
concerns. The Board welcomes and appreciates your comments. If you wish to
address the board regarding a problem, please consider the following:

- First, your comments should be factual and respectful of the rights of others.
- Second, before addressing the Board with a specific problem, it is the
Board's hope that you have first addressed the problem with the appropriate
teacher, staff member or administrator. Individual statements should not
exceed five (5) minutes and total time shall be a maximum of thirty (30)
minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Mrs. Amelia Gioffredo

- Closed FY20 on July 2nd
- Recap of Financials

2020-07-02

It was moved by Yacobozzi, seconded by Gilles to approve the treasurer's
recommendations:

- A. Amend and/or approve the board minutes of the May 11, 2020 Regular Board
Meeting and June 8, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.
- B. Approve the treasurer's financial reports for the month of June 2020.

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C. Approve the then-and-now invoice(s), thus certifying that both at the time the contract was made and at the time of the certificate, the amount of the contract was lawfully appropriated for such purposes of the contract. That the appropriation remains unencumbered and the available resources to pay the obligation are on-hand, or in the process of collection to the credit of the appropriate fund, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code §5705.41. (See Exhibit 7D)

- FTG of Greater Ohio, LLC - \$12,905 – PO 20210065 and Frontline - \$10,144.72 – PO 20210078

Roll call vote:

Yacobozzi, aye; Gilles, aye; Engle, aye; Zappa, aye, Neidert, aye.

2020-07-03

It was moved by Engle, seconded by Zappa to approve the following:

- Amend and/or approve the board minutes for the 5/27/2020 and 6/20/2020 Special Board Meetings.

Roll call vote:

Engle, Abstain; Zappa, aye; Gilles, aye; Yacobozzi, aye; Neidert, aye.

2020-07-04

It was moved by Gilles, seconded by Engle to approve the following:

Approve a **RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF BONDS IN THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$5,000,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING TO, REMODELING, RENOVATING, FURNISHING, EQUIPPING AND OTHERWISE IMPROVING THE EXISTING PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING AND CLEARING, EQUIPPING AND IMPROVING THE SITE THEREOF** as per Exhibit 7E.

Roll call vote:

Gilles, aye; Engle, aye; Yacobozzi, aye; Zappa, aye; Neidert, aye.

Superintendent's Report, Mr. Steve Sayers

Notes:

- Welcomed Sarah Walker
- Reopening of schools:
Collaborative – surveys from families/community – offer choices – online option being developed.
- Guidance by Lorain County Health Commissioner who is very involved w/Superintendent's meeting.
- Additional guidance will be coming from Health Commissioner

Comments/Questions:

Mr. Engle – “If I say I want to do online and then I choose to go to school – what then?”

Mr. Sayers – “We are looking at 9 weeks or a semester commitment”.

Mr. Yacobozzi – Would we consider putting up plexi-shields in our atrium and office areas?”

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Mrs. Walker – “Focus on things we have control over. Appreciate the staff for collaborative leadership, teamwork and problem solving”

Mrs. Gilles – “Would we consider changing the school calendar?”

Mrs. Neidert – “Consider limiting the number of visitors?”

Mr. Yacobozzi – “Are we going to “test”, such as take temperatures, etc.?”

(There was discussion about some of the preceding comments/questions, but the plan for re-opening is being developed.)

Administrative Committee Reports:

Mr. Mike Molnar, Assistant Superintendent

Mrs. Sarah Walker, Director of Pupil Services

Notes:

- Amherst Online Academy Handbook – Separate from reopening schools
- Alternative Programs – credit recovery, discipline options – different from Online Options for reopening.
- Food Drive – Second Harvest at AMH, Police Dept, Schools, ESC, National Guard
- Mr. Engle asked about college credit plus/Parent concerns that their students will be able to take as many college courses.
- Working with partners

Ms. Jenny Walker-Noyes from Heritage Presbyterian was present.

Mr. Rex Engle JVS Representative**Notes:**

- JVS is “working through many of the same issues, but different.” Labs are a concern.
- Vote on Levy (.66 mills/Nov/PI)

Other Reports – Administrative Standing Committees

Notes: - None

2020-07-05

It was moved by Engle, seconded by Gilles to approve the following:

A. Accept the following resignations as indicated and authorize the Superintendent and/or Treasurer to execute any necessary documents relating to separation of employment:

- **Kristen “Nikki” Campbell**, Assistant Principal, M.L. Steele, effective end of day 7/31/2020.
- **Joanne Carnabuci**, Guidance Counselor, AJH, effective end of day 7/31/2020.
- **Chelsea Dubbert**, Monitor, Powers, effective 6/26/2020.
- **Thomasina Houston**, Intervention Specialist, AJH, effective end of day 7/31/2020.

B. Employ the following individual(s), as indicated on a 30 or 60-day probationary contract, for the 2020-2021 school year pending completion of all employment requirements, including but not limited to a background check. Proper placement on the negotiated salary schedule pending verification of all prior experience:

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- **Carol Palacios**, 30-day probationary contract, Assistant Cook, effective 8/19/20.
- C. Approve the hiring of **Nicholas Toney**, as **Assistant Principal**, M.L. Steele High School, on a two (2) year, 210 day administrative contract as per the administrative salary schedule, effective 8/1/2020, pending completion of all employment requirements, including, but not limited to licensure and a BCI & FBI background check.
- D. Employ **Jacob Schneider**, as a summer student worker for the Technology Department, at a rate of \$8.70 (minimum wage) per hour, effective 6/18/2020.
- E. Approve **Christine Costilow** to be paid for hours worked in July 2020 and to attend training for the Transfinder Software on 7/20/2020 and 8/3/2020, (4) hour hours each day, and to be paid at her hourly rate.
- F. Authorize the Superintendent and Treasurer to negotiate and execute a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Amherst Teachers Association (ATA) regarding the granting of supplemental contracts for the **2020-2021** contract year in light of the pandemic and, further, to issue said contracts in accordance with any agreement upon resolution of same.

Discussion:

Mr. Engle – “What is going to be done to control the crowd? Is band going to be “a go”? Are we busing band and flag corps? Three (3) buses? “Arts cannot be forgotten...”

Roll call vote:

Zappa, aye; Gilles, aye; Engle, aye; Yacobozzi, aye; Neidert, aye.

2020-07-06

It was moved by Yacobozzi, seconded by Zappa to approve the following:

- A. Approve the contract with **ABA Outreach Services** for an individual Amherst student for the **2020-2021** school year as per **Exhibit 11A**.
- B. Approve the contract with **ABA Outreach Services** for district services for the **2020-2021** school year as per **Exhibit 11B**.
- C. Enter into a service agreement with the **Educational Service Center of Lorain County** to participate in the **Project Search Program** for the **2020-2021** academic school year (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021), as per **Exhibit 11C**.
- D. Enter into an agreement with the **Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio for the Positive Education Program (PEP) Willow Creek**, for the **2021-2021** school year, as per **Exhibit 11D**.
- E. Enter into a contract with the **Cleveland Clinic Lerner School for Autism** to provide specially designed instruction for two (2) Amherst students with special needs for the **2020-2021** school year as per **Exhibit 11E** and **11F**.
- F. Enter into a contract with **Education Alternatives** for the purpose of providing day treatment for students with special needs for the **2020-2021** school year as per **Exhibit 11G**.
- G. Enter into a **Service Agreement** by and between **St. Joseph and psi Affiliates, Inc./psi Associates, Inc.** as per **Exhibit 11H**.

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H. Approve the one-year agreement (2020-2021 school year only) for school pictures with **Ripcho**, as per **Exhibit 11I** and with **LifeTouch** for senior pictures, commencement, and sports photos, as per **Exhibit 11J**.

I. Approve the **Amherst Online Academy Handbook** as per **Exhibit 11K**.

J. Enter into a contract with **Education Alternatives** for the purpose of providing day transportation for students with special needs for the **2020-2021** school year as per **Exhibit 11L**.

Roll call vote:

Yacobozzi, aye, Zappa, aye, Engle, aye Gilles, aye; Neidert, aye.

2020-07-07

It was moved by Gilles, seconded by Engle to approve the lease agreement with **Pitney Bowes** for the postage meter as per **Exhibit 12A**.

Roll call vote:

Gilles, aye; Engle, aye; Yacobozzi, aye; Zappa, aye; Neidert, aye.

2020-07-08

It was moved by Gilles, seconded by Yacobozzi to adjourn to executive session at 6:48 p.m. to discuss: the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of public employees, with no action to be taken.

Roll call vote:

Gilles, aye; Yacobozzi, aye; Engle, aye; Zappa, aye; Neidert, aye.

Returned from Executive Session at 7:25 p.m.

2020-07-09

It was moved by Engle, seconded by Gilles to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Board President, Valerie Neidert adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Board President

Treasurer/CFO