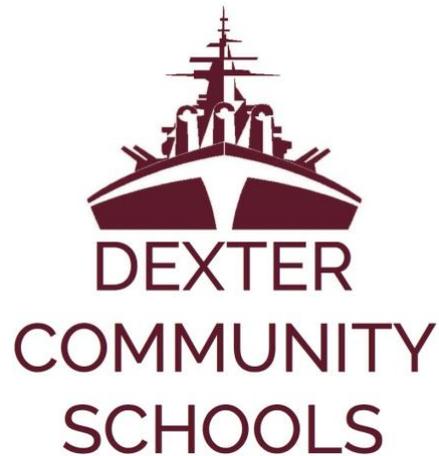


BOARD MEETING PACKET

April 12, 2020

7:00pm

BATES BOARDROOM



This meeting will be broadcast using Zoom.
Webinar ID: 879 2096 4406

Our Vision:
Champion Learning –
Develop, Educate, and Inspire!

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda below. Upon request to the Superintendent the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in this meeting.

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

- A. CALL TO ORDER
 - 1. Roll Call
- B. MINUTES (3/8/2021)
- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- D. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS – none
- E. ADMINISTRATIVE & BOARD UPDATES
 - 1. Superintendent Update
 - a. [Data Update](#)
 - b. Return to Buildings Progress
 - c. Update on Tents
 - d. State Testing Update
 - 2. Board President Update
 - 3. Student Representative Update
- F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
(up to ~30 minutes/max 5 per person) *See below*
- G. CONSENT ITEMS
 - 1. Personnel - Retirements
 - 2. Personnel - Resignations
 - 3. Personnel - New Hires
- H. ACTION ITEMS
 - 1. [Reconfirmation of Learning Plan](#)
 - 2. DHS Tennis Courts
 - 3. MASB Behind the Scenes Conference
April 26
- I. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - 1. MASB Spring Institute
- J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
(up to ~15 minutes/max 3 per person) *See below*
- K. COMMITTEE UPDATE
 - 1. Finance
 - 2. Facilities
- L. BOARD COMMENTS
- M. INFORMATION ITEMS
 - 1. Board Bulletin 3/8/2021
 - 2. Nice Job Notes
 - 3. Finance Committee Draft Minutes
- N. CLOSED SESSION – none planned
- O. ADJOURNMENT

CALENDAR

- *Monday, April 26 – 7:00pm – Board Meeting - Bates School
 - *Wednesday, April 28 – 5:00pm Board Workshop location TBD
-

Public Participation Policy 0167.3: *Those interested in making a public comment will be asked to raise their hands so the time may be divided equally. Each speaker will be asked to announce his/her name and address and indicate if he/she represents any organization or agency. No person may speak more than once on the same subject during a single meeting.*

BOARD NOTES

APRIL 12, 2021

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call. This meeting is being held in person. Due to recent rising COVID numbers, we will also be streaming this meeting on Zoom.

B. MEETING MINUTES

- * An appropriate motion might be, "I, _____, move that the Board of Education approve the regular meeting minutes from 3/8/2021 as presented/amended."

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Agenda. Board policy provides that the Superintendent of Schools shall prepare an agenda for all board meetings as directed by the President of the Board of Education.

- * An appropriate motion might be, "I, _____, move that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented/amended."

D. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS – none planned

E. ADMINISTRATION & BOARD UPDATES

1. Superintendent Update
 - a. Data Update
 - b. Return to Buildings Progress
 - c. Update on Tents
 - d. State Testing Update
2. Board President Update
3. Student Representatives Update

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (up to ~ 30 minutes/max 5 per person)

Each speaker is allotted a maximum of 5 minutes for a total of approximately 30 minutes unless otherwise notified. At this point in the meeting, those interested in making a public comment will be asked to raise their hands so the time may be divided equally. Each speaker will be asked to announce his/her name and address and indicate if he/she represents any organization or agency. No person may speak more than once on the same subject during a single meeting.

G. CONSENT ITEMS

- * Consent Items are typically approved in bulk. An appropriate motion might be, "I move that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda items in bulk."
1. Personnel – Retirements. Your packet includes a retirement letter from Jeff Dagg.
 2. Personnel – Resignations. Your packet includes an acceptance of resignation for Joshua Friendly.
 3. Personnel – New Hires (if separated). Your packet includes a resume and memo from Superintendent Dr. Timmis recommending that the District hire Melanie Nowak as principal of Dexter High School for the opening created by Kit Moran's June 2021 retirement.

BOARD NOTES

APRIL 12, 2021

- * An appropriate motion might be, "I move that the Board of Education offer Melanie Nowak a probationary administrator contract for the 2021-2022 school year."

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. Reconfirmation of Learning Plan. The State Aid Act requires each district to, at least monthly, reconfirm the method of instructional delivery and requires the district to report the student engagement data per month. Your packet includes the latest Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan Reconfirmation report for review and action this evening.

- * An appropriate motion might be, "I, _____, move that the Board of Education reconfirm the attached ECOL Instructional Delivery report as presented/amended."

2. DHS Tennis Courts. The facilities committee met Thursday April 8th to review bids for the DHS Tennis Courts. Your packet includes a bid tabulation and memo from Facilities Director Brian Schuler.

- * An appropriate motion might be, "I, _____, move that the Board of Education award the contract for DHS Tennis Courts to Best Asphalt, Inc. for the base contract of \$425,140."

4. MASB Behind the Scenes Conference April 26, 2021. The MASB Behind the Scenes Conference will be virtual this year, to be held on April 26, 2021 from 9am-12pm at a cost of \$90 per registrant. The Board has traditionally invited interested community members to join them for this conference to learn about school governance.

- * An appropriate motion might be, "I, _____, move that the Board of Education approve registration for up to ten community members and any interested board members to attend the MASB Behind the Scenes at the Capitol conference on April 26, 2021."

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. The MASB Spring Institute. At its January 11, 2021 meeting, the Board approved registration costs for up to six MASB classes for each Board Member through June, 2021. The MASB Spring Institute is April 16 - 18th. Any Board Members interested in attending should contact Hope ASAP to register.

J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (up to ~ 15 minutes/max 3 per person)

Each speaker is allotted a maximum of 3 minutes for a total of approximately 15 minutes unless otherwise notified. At this point in the meeting, those interested in making a public comment will be asked to raise their hands so the time may be divided equally. Each speaker will be asked to announce his/her name and address and indicate if he/she represents any organization or agency. No person may speak more than once on the same subject during a single meeting.

K. COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. Finance

BOARD NOTES
APRIL 12, 2021

2. Facilities

L. BOARD COMMENTS

M. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Board Bulletin (3/8/21 meeting)
2. Nice Job Notes - January/February, March
3. Finance Committee Draft Minutes (3/26/21)

N. CLOSED SESSION – none planned

O. ADJOURNMENT

DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 8, 2021 7:00pm

via Zoom due to COVID-19, Webinar ID 848 7562 0390

A. CALL TO ORDER - 7:03pm

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Brian Arnold (Dexter Township), Elise Bruderly (Dexter), Mara Greatorex (Dexter Township), Jennifer Kangas (Lodi Township), Dick Lundy (Orange County, Florida), Julie Schumaker (Webster Township)

Members Absent: Daryl Kipke

Student Representative: Aidan Naughton, Anna Shehab

Administrative & Supervisory Staff: Kit Moran, Sharon Raschke, Barb Santo, Mollie Sharrar, Christopher Timmis, Hope Vestergaard

DCS Staff: Melanie McIntyre

DEA Representative: John Heuser

DESPA Representative: none

Guests: Amy Grant, Amy Lamb, Amy Raus, Amy Vimawala, Ashley Plichta, Beau Kimmey, Candice Brown, Denise Dutcher, Eileen McCallum, Holly Gullekson, Jacob Roberson, Jane Montero, Jen Arnold, Jen Collins, Jodi Helmholtz, Julia Arbour, Kerri Hudson, Kevin Troncalli, Lauren Straub, Luis Orellano, Macy Selecman, Matt Deloria, Murphy Hansen, Paula Palmer Burns, Samantha Kempf, Sarah Hunt, Sarah Redman, Sharon Norris, Sheetal Kothari, Tammy Reich, Tanya Tassin, Terry Williams, Tracy Lambert, Victoria Huffman

Press: Lonnie Huhman (Sun Times News)

B. MEETING MINUTES

Elise Bruderly made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 2/22/2021 as presented. Mara Greatorex seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Brian Arnold made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jennifer Kangas seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

D. SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

1. Research & Development Presentation - Spark Learning. Dr. Timmis shared an introductory video about the Spark learning path option being developed. A pilot program with randomly selected students will occur during the second half of March and will be documented for a formal proposal at a future board meeting.
2. Dexter High School Celebrations. DHS Principal Kit Moran shared with the Board some of the challenges running year-end celebrations for high school students with COVID precautions being what they currently are, as well as tentative plans for honors night, commencement, and prom.

E. ADMINISTRATION & BOARD UPDATES

1. Superintendent Update. Dr. Timmis:
 - a. Updated the Board on district and county COVID data;

DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 8, 2021 7:00pm
via Zoom due to COVID-19, Webinar ID 848 7562 0390

- b. Summarized the ECOL plan;
 - c. Shared attendance info;
 - d. Described the summer enrichment program currently being planned;
 - e. Discussed DHS summer school credit recovery options.
2. Board President Update – none
 3. Student Representatives Update.
 - a. Aidan Naughton noted that DHS student council will be doing Senior Survivor this year, with details to be determined.
 - b. Anna Shehab noted that the DHS school hours will change to 9:15am-2:45pm March 15 when the Y5-6 students return to daily in-person instruction.

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none

G. CONSENT ITEMS

1. Brain Arnold made a motion that the Board of Education accept the resignations of Stephanie Coy, Leanne Engle, Joanne West, and Colleen Winder. Mara Greatorex seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. Reconfirmation of Learning Plan. There was extensive discussion on this topic due to pending legislation that links approximately \$840,000 of Dexter student funding to students having at least twenty hours per week of in-person instruction by March 22nd.

Elise Bruderly made a motion to extend discussion on this item for up to thirty minutes. Mara Greatorex seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).** Discussion continued.

Dick Lundy made a motion that, beginning March 22, 2021, the District will offer in-person learning a minimum of twenty hours per week for all K-12 students who choose that option, subject to administrative confidence that this plan is doable. Elise Bruderly seconded the motion. **Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried (unanimous).**

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS – none

J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none

K. COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. Finance Committee. Committee chair Dick Lundy shared that the finance committee met February 24th for an educational session for the two new board members on the committee. Topics covered included budget approval,

DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 8, 2021 7:00pm
via Zoom due to COVID-19, Webinar ID 848 7562 0390

and monitoring. He also noted that the recently approved bond refunding saved taxpayers approximately \$1.5 million.

L. BOARD COMMENTS

1. Mara Greatorex noted that the Educational Foundation of Dexter delivered treats to all district staff on Monday March 8, with a reminder that spring grant applications are due March 15.
2. Brian Arnold shared that the MHSAA calendar shows that almost every spring sport has season-end events on the weekend of June 4 & 5, which was one of the issues for DHS celebration scheduling.

M. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Board Bulletin
2. Nice Job Notes – February

N. CLOSED SESSION – none

At approximately 9:36pm, President Julie Schumaker adjourned the meeting.

MINUTES/hlv

Daryl Kipke
Secretary
Board of Education

March 18, 2021

Dear Board of Education, Chris Timmis, Mollie Sharrar, and Barb Santo,

It doesn't seem that long ago that an Ergonomics Consultant without a teaching certificate drove to Dexter High School on a late August afternoon to interview for a drafting position. I was surprised to be invited to take part in the second task of the interview process that was to occur the following day. The task was to teach a drafting lesson using a chalkboard. Instead, I lugged in my "portable" LCD projector and my laptop computer and taught a lesson on Computer Aided Drafting using a demo version of the school's software that I had downloaded and learned overnight. For the third interview task, I was sent into the video production studio (that would be part of my teaching responsibility) to produce a video of myself describing where I thought my job would be in 5 years. Now, 25 years later, I find myself writing a retrospective of that job.

I have had many exciting and challenging experiences during my time with DCS, including:

- creating, and teaching, Computer Aided Drafting, Engineering, Architecture, Video Production, Topics in Technology, and Chemistry classes
- serving as Department Chair and School Improvement Chair
- coaching regionally, and nationally, recognized "Build Your Dream Vehicle" teams
- coaching state level Science Olympiad teams
- mentoring teams of students that won the University of Michigan's Mars Rover challenges, a team of students that entered the MATE ROV underwater vehicle competition, and a team of students that entered a Micro-Electric Vehicle competition
- serving as the teacher sponsor of the original FIRST Robotics Dreadbots team
- helping to design and launch the Freshmen House, IB, Summit, and Spark programs
- being a founding leader of several countywide networks on Adaptive Leadership, Assessment Literacy, and the Next Generation Science Standards
- organizing a group of educators and community members to further science and technology in the district (STEM Winders)
- coaching teachers in the Place-Based Education practices that lead to the creation and dedication of the Frederick Pelham Bridge signage and the #4CommuniTREE project

Through it all, I have been supported by many wonderful colleagues, students, families, and community members. I've attended graduation parties for my students, been to their weddings, watched them become parents, teachers, and administrators in the district. Recently, I have found myself teaching their children.

I realize it is time to pass the torch to a new generation of teachers. I will be retiring in June. I am confident that Dexter Community Schools will continue to be a place where students, and educators, can have life changing experiences too.

Sincerely,



Jeff K. Dagg



DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Christopher Timmis, Ed.D., Superintendent
Bates School 2704 Baker Road, Dexter, Michigan 48130
(734) 424-4100 ext.1001 fax (734) 424-4112
timmisc@dexterschools.org

Mr. Joshua Friendly
(contact info redacted)

Re: Acceptance of Resignation from Dexter Community School District

Dear Mr. Friendly:

On August 10, 2020, the Dexter Community Schools' Board of Education ("the District") took official action to grant you a leave of absence for the 2020-21 school year. Correspondence informing you of this fact was submitted that same day. The correspondence also contained a reminder that you were required to notify the School Board of your intentions to return or not return no later than March 1, 2021.

Per Article IX.B.3.f. of the District's Master Agreement with the Association:

Teachers on leaves of absence during the second semester of the school year who are due to return from such leaves by the following September must notify the Board of their intent to return or not to return by March 1, by certified mail. Provided the Board has notified the teacher of this clause by February 15, by certified mail, failure to properly notify the Board under the above condition shall constitute resignation from the District.

On January 4, 2021, the District sent you correspondence via certified mail that informed you, among other things, that "you must provide the district your intent to return or not to return to work for the 2021-2022 school year in writing by March 1, 2021." The District did not receive any communication from you with regard to your intent to return to the District. Accordingly, per Article IX.B.3.f, the District understands that you have resigned from your position.

As authorized by the Policy 3140, I accept your resignation as a District teacher. This letter serves to confirm that you are no longer a District employee.

On behalf of the District's Board of Education, myself, and the entire school community, I thank you for your years of service and dedication to Dexter Community Schools. I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Timmis, Ed. D
Superintendent of Schools

cc: Barb Santo
Principal
DEA President
Personnel File

Dexter Community Schools

To: Dexter Community Schools
Board of Education

From: Christopher Timmis,
Superintendent

CC:

Date: April 12, 2021

Re: Recommendation to Hire

It is my recommendation to hire Melanie Nowak as Principal of Dexter High School. After an extensive search that yielded nearly 40 qualified applicants and multiple interview rounds involving students, parents, teachers, and administrators, Ms. Nowak is the right leader for Dexter High School.

Melanie Nowak has a B.A. from Siena Heights University in Secondary Education (Mathematics and English). She also holds a Masters of Science in Administration and Leadership from Concordia University. Ms. Nowak brings with her an outstanding educational leadership background and a passion for kids. Ms. Nowak currently serves as the Career and Innovation Coordinator for Farmington Public Schools providing leadership of the district's Career Technical Programming. Prior to her work in Farmington, Ms. Nowak served as the principal of multiple STEAM program buildings at Tecumseh Public Schools. As a former high school Mathematics and English teacher and a statewide Competency-Based Education Consultant, Ms. Nowak brings a wealth of experience and skills to lead the transition of Dexter High School to continue implementing the DCS Vision of Champion Learning: Develop, Educate, and Inspire!

Later this spring, Ms. Nowak will have the opportunity to visit the school, meet the students, the staff, and the Dexter High School families. I am recommending the approval to hire Melanie Nowak as the Dexter High School Principal starting July 1, 2021 on Level D of the DAA agreement.

Melanie Marie Nowak

(contact info redacted)

Objective

To obtain a position in which I would utilize my talents in communication, public relations, teamwork, cooperative and collaborative leadership, curriculum, data collection and analysis, classroom management, and instruction.

Education

Master of Science - Education, Concordia University, Ann Arbor, MI July 2014

- Education Administration and Leadership
- GPA: 4.0

Bachelor of Arts, Secondary Education, Siena Heights University, Adrian, MI December 2007

- Major: Mathematics
- Minor: English
- GPA: 3.58

Certification

State of Michigan Administrative Certification July 2014

State of Michigan Teaching Certification - Professional August 2013

State of Michigan Teaching Certification - Provisional December 2007

State of Michigan Test for Teacher Certification in Mathematics and English July 2006

Professional Education Positions

Farmington Public Schools, Farmington Hills, MI August 2020-present

- Career and Innovation Coordinator
 - Oversee District CTE Programming
 - Deliver PD to teachers and admin on Innovative Practices
 - Plan and Execute K-12 Career Readiness plans

Tecumseh Public Schools, Tecumseh, MI July 2017-July 2020

- Compass Learning Center Principal, July 2017-March 2018
- East STEAM Center Principal, March 2018-July 2020
- West STEAM Center Principal, August 2019-July 2020

Competency-Based Education Consultant, Michigan March 2020-present

- Provide Professional Development Workshops for schools exploring C-BE
- Consult with District Leadership on how to implement C-BE

Ida Public Schools, Ida, MI February 2008-July 2017

- 9-12 Mathematics and English Teacher, February 2008-July 2017
- Afterschool Mathematics and English Tutor, September 2008-October 2014

Ypsilanti Community Schools, Ypsilanti, MI June 2009-August 2011

- Summer School Mathematics Teacher, three summer school sessions: 2009, 2010, 2011

Siena Heights University, Adrian, MI

August 2003-May 2006

- Student Support Services Mathematics Instructor, July 2006-August 2006
- Mathematics Tutor, September 2003-May 2006
- Summer Conference Coordinator, May 2006-August 2006
- Dispatcher for the Department of Public Safety, May 2005-August 2006

Professional Memberships

Pi Mu Epsilon

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

Kappa Gamma Pi

Leadership and Professional Experiences

Strategic Planning Future Committee Member, January 2021-present

- Participated in discussions surrounding vision and mission of the district
- Gathered information on different discussion items

Building Policies and Facilitation Team Member, August 2010-July 2017

- Helped develop policies and make decisions for the building
- Assisted in the creation of the master schedule
- Represented the staff and shared staff concerns, comments, and suggestions regarding school policies and decisions

Math Department Co-Chair, August 2012-July 2017

- Created an alignment document for the Common Core Standards as they are covered in each of the high school math courses
- Analyzed standardized test scores in math, shared these results with the department, and discussed methods for improvement
- Wrote grant applications for calculators and other resources for the department

Junior Class Grade Group Committee Chair, August 2012-July 2017

- Created a list of struggling students and discussed possible interventions for these students with the committee
- Wrote and filed minutes of each meeting
- Discussed standardized test schedule, coordination, and changes with other core junior teachers

Multi-Tiered Support Systems Team Co-Chair (HSSIT), July 2013-October 2014

- Attended numerous professional development workshops on the Multi-Tiered Support System for students
- Created and presented several professional development presentations and activities for the high school staff
- Organized a book study group for the high school teachers
- Met with other educational professionals in the district and high school to discuss strategies that would assist our struggling students
- Participated in the creation of the “Be the One” campaign in the high school

Union Association Representative – Grievance Chairperson, May 2012-July 2017

- Bought flowers, cakes, cards, and gifts for staff members in the event of a celebration or loss with the organization and treasury of the Flower Fund
- Attended monthly union meetings
- Discussed possible grievance issues with other union officers and school administrators
- Counseled staff members about contractual issues
- Acted as a liaison and counselor between teachers and the high school administrator
- Filed grievances with administrators when contract language was violated

Data Analyst for Standardized Testing in the High School, September 2010-July 2017

- Created the “Data Wall” in the high school
- Organized and analyzed standardized test scores
- Created presentations for the high school staff to explain our test scores and what improvements need to be made
- Created standards based breakdowns of strengths and weaknesses for each core department
- Calculated student growth percentages for the teacher growth and evaluation model
- Attended professional development sessions and conducted research regarding the use and analysis of standardized test scores

New Teacher Mentor, 2013-2014 School Year

- Guided a new teacher through her first year at Ida by teaching her the technology we use, our grading system, and school policies
- Met with this new teacher regularly throughout the year to check her progress and development in the district
- Counseled this teacher on various topics that arose throughout the year: scheduling, grading, parent concerns, student referrals and behavior, curriculum changes

Junior Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, October 2007-October 2014

- Assisted the team from October 2007-February 2010
- Received the head JV coaching position for the Winter 2011-2013 seasons
- Outside of practices and games, attended other events that were important to the players: award ceremonies, funerals, celebrations, and team meetings/gatherings
- Counseled the players athletically and academically throughout the entire school year
- Assisted the varsity coach and players each season

High School Quiz Bowl Coach, September 2011-December 2013

- Participated in the organization and direction of practices and competitions
- Met with the other coaches to discuss team composition and strategy

Afterschool Tutor, February 2008-June 2014

- Assisted students with homework and study skills
- Participated in the organization of a teacher rotation schedule for tutoring
- Taught lessons for students who were absent from class

Student Council Advisor, May 2008-June 2010

- Communicated with the teaching staff about upcoming events
- Met with the administrator regularly for the approval of events
- Assisted students in leadership growth and organization
- Researched and emphasized the importance of a Leadership course

Students Against Destructive Decisions Advisor, May 2009-June 2010

- Organized and conducted a mock accident for the student body before the prom and graduation season
- Organized and conducted a “Grim Reaper Day” to emphasize the dangers of driving while distracted and under the influence of mind altering substances
- Organized and conducted “Awareness Week” in which each day of the week students and staff members were presented with statistics and facts about various dangers in our society

Junior Varsity Softball Assistant Coach, March 2009-June 2010

- Assisted the coaching staff in the team selection process after tryouts
- Attended all practices and games throughout the season
- Assisted players during practices and games to help them improve their skills

Moody’s Mega Math Challenge Coach, September 2012-June 2014

- Organized practice schedules and selected advanced mathematics and science students for the team for each year
- Created practice objectives and activities for the team in preparation for the competition
- Guided team members through researched based math and science modeling solutions



High achievement by all students,
where learning is our most important work

February 26, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Ms. Melanie Nowak for the High School Principal position at Dexter Community Schools. I have had the honor to know and work with Ms. Nowak over the past four years, most recently in her role as Career and Innovation Coordinator at Farmington Public Schools. Ms. Nowak's experience as a High School educator, elementary and secondary building administrator and K-12 Career and Innovation Coordinator in a large district makes her an excellent candidate for this position.

Melanie is a knowledgeable, confident leader who puts the needs of students and student learning at the forefront. She builds strong relationships within the school community that support student growth and achievement. She is creative and a great problem-solver. She does not shy away from situations that require a new solution. She brings people together in a way that all feel valued and part of the problem solving process. She seeks input continuously, yet is decisive in her decision making once she has the information needed. Melanie's servant leadership style paired with her exceptional knowledge of teaching and learning would be an asset to any organization.

Melanie is a caring and compassionate educator. She is driven by student success and works tirelessly to ensure that each learner has access to high-quality, rigorous learning opportunities. She builds excellent relationships with students, staff and families. She is viewed as a trusted leader and provides support for those she serves before, during and after the school day. As a building level leader, she demonstrates her commitment to learners through setting high expectations for herself as well as the educators she supports. She understands the importance of balancing support and accountability; capitalizing on the strengths of the teaching staff. Melanie is a loyal and dedicated team member and brings experience and expertise on implementing innovative system-wide change that supports a personalized, competency based learning model.

It is without hesitation that I recommend Ms. Nowak for the Dexter Community Schools High School Principal position. Her strong commitment to student growth and achievement, paired with her strong work ethic and integrity as a leader would make her an excellent addition to any leadership team. Her ability to build solid relationships that leverage improved outcomes for learners is a key component of her strong leadership. I would be happy to share additional information regarding Ms. Nowak's leadership. Feel free to contact me on my cell phone at 517.918.8735 or via email at kelly.coffin@fpsk12.net.

Respectfully,

Kelly M. Coffin, Ed. D.
Assistant Superintendent for Innovation and Strategic Initiatives
Farmington Public Schools
kelly.coffin@fpsk12.net

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Dr. Kelly Coffin - Assistant Superintendent of Innovation and Strategic Initiatives

32500 Shiawassee Street
Farmington, MI 48336

Phone: 248.489.3305
Fax: 248.489.3314

kelly.coffin@fpsk12.net
www.farmington.k12.mi.us

Jennifer M. Landstrom
(contact info redacted)

February 20th, 2021

Chris Timmis
2704 Baker Rd.
Dexter, MI 48130

Dear Superintendent Timmis,

I am extremely pleased to recommend Melanie Nowak for the position of building principal at Dexter High School. I have known Ms. Nowak for several years in both a professional capacity and as a parent in the Tecumseh Public Schools district where she was previously employed. I know she would prove a dynamic addition to the Dexter Schools community.

I first had the pleasure of meeting Ms. Nowak through the IEP process while she was the building principal at Tecumseh Compass Learning Center. As a special education advocate it was refreshing to witness her welcoming and flexible team approach. Often by the time I am asked to attend a meeting with a family the relationship has already broken down in some capacity between the school and family. Ms. Nowak impressed me with her ability to circle school staff back to meaningful team dialogue in order to find common ground with the respective families we worked with. I have seen her passion for advocating for special populations including learners of color, LGBTQA+ identifying learners, and learners with disabilities many times. I have to believe that her ease in doing so shows heart and compassion beyond any job description.

Several years after our first encounter I became deeply involved with the strategic planning Tecumseh Public Schools undertook in order to move the district towards an updated 10-year plan. This planning concluded with the desire to move TPS towards a Competency-based grading system and transition several buildings to a STEAM model. Ms. Nowak was chosen as lead principal at Tecumseh East STEAM Center. You could not have asked for a better fit for that position. She shined in that role as she was able to showcase her abilities to champion both her learners and staff to achieve their personal best. I saw previously struggling learners blossom through their passion projects and feel success where they once felt defeat. I saw educators who, seemingly, had lost their passion come anew with excitement over exciting, innovative ways in which they were reaching learners all while learning new things about themselves. All of this was possible because of the top-down leadership Ms. Nowak brought to Tecumseh East. She is not just a school administrator... She is heart, she is integrity, she is community over self, and she has the ability to build the therapeutic relationships necessary to foster a positive school environment for all concerned.

It had once been my hope that Tecumseh Public Schools could one day be the “Dexter Community Schools of Lenawee County.” This dream was not to be given the relatively conservative area we reside in. TPS experienced a total board of education recall that resulted in a new board comprised of non-educator parents determined to return the district to more “traditional” learning. We lost a wonderful superintendent as a result and many who she had cultivated and mentored with her departure. Ms. Nowak stayed on for her learners and staff with the steadfast belief that doing what was right and good for community children would ultimately be accepted by their parents. Through five superintendent hires, in fewer than five months, Ms. Nowak was an ever-present force. She stayed the course with her learners in the STEAM and CBE models while thoughtfully advocating to the board and community to gain support. She was unwavering in her commitment and not deterred by the troubling dissent in the district. She spoke frequently for the good of her learners and for her colleagues too afraid to voice their own concerns for fear of being targeted. Throughout all of the unfolding district trauma you would have never known how it took its toll on her personally as she appeared steady and brave the entire duration.

Though I will never see our little district become what was once possible I do take some satisfaction that the very best and brightest continue to make great additions to surrounding schools. I have no doubt that Melanie Nowak would make Dexter shine even brighter. She would revel in the opportunity to use all of her talents and skills in a building where innovation is encouraged. I look forward with much anticipation to seeing her inspire a whole new set of learners and educators.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Landstrom

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Landstrom", written in a cursive style.

February 22, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

I had the privilege of working with Ms. Melanie Nowak for two years at Tecumseh Public Schools. Ms. Nowak understands the importance of her role in shaping the lives of students, and displays genuine care for all people around her.

One of Ms. Nowak's greatest strengths is the quality of relationships she builds with students and teachers. Coming into the district as a new administrator, Ms. Nowak worked to develop positive, trusting relationships with colleagues, teachers, students, and families. Ms. Nowak has a natural ability to connect with others, and she understands that those relationships serve as the foundation for new learning.

As the Principal of our middle school STEAM Centers, Ms. Nowak was charged with transforming the traditional middle school experience into a learner-centered environment focused on raising student achievement through project-based learning, best research-based practices and intentional structures to support the social-emotional learning of each child. While change is difficult, Ms. Nowak consistently demonstrated her strength and perseverance by continuing to lead her team through collaborative conversations, data analysis, and professional development. Mrs. Nowak is a continuous learner, both for herself and the team she leads.

While working on a collaborative administrative team, Ms. Nowak was receptive to learning from others and valued feedback from her colleagues. She truly displays a growth mindset and makes an effort to continually improve her practices. Her honesty and compassion for adults and students alike build trust and loyalty within the organization.

Ms. Nowak genuinely cares for the education and well-being of all children, and advocates to ensure all voices are heard. I believe that Ms. Melanie Nowak would be a valuable asset to any organization. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (contact info redacted).

Sincerely,

Stacy Bailey

Stacy Bailey
Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
Okemos Public Schools



February 22, 2021

Dexter High School
2200 N Parker Rd.
Dexter, MI 48130

To whom it may concern:

I am honored to write this recommendation for Melanie Nowak. I had the pleasure of working with Melanie in a number of capacities as the Executive Director for Community Learning Connections (CLC), a non-profit organization working in partnership with the Tecumseh Public School (TPS) District to help students succeed and graduate on-time. My staff and I had the opportunity to work closely with Melanie as the district implemented a customized learning approach to education. I was extremely impressed with her ability to help remove barriers and seek out innovative programming all in support of her students. I also appreciated how quickly Melanie would respond and I truly enjoyed collaborating with her on projects because I knew I could count on her to follow through with her commitments no matter how busy she was.

As the Principal at the STEAM East and West Centers in Tecumseh for 7th and 8th graders, she worked with a number of businesses and human services agencies to help expand learning from the classroom out into our community. She created flexible block schedules for students to allow time for enrichment activities including promoting service learning projects, developing assets and life skills, and creating opportunities for career exploration/development. She promoted "Passion Projects" in which students were encouraged to find something they were passionate about and spend time researching, exploring, and interviewing people. There was a group of at-risk students she helped connect to a local non-profit who refurbished bicycles and then donated them to disadvantaged kids. The students volunteered there and decided they wanted to take what they learned and go further by promoting a greener, healthier way for kids and adults to spend time outside enjoying our community. They developed the first bike share program in Tecumseh and created an APP to allow people to pick up bikes and drop them off after use. The students learned math, engineering and marketing skills, how to write a grant, and had the opportunity to work with a local lawyer who helped them determine any liability and create a viable business model. To see the pride they felt as they shared what they had created and to watch them develop such a strong sense of community was overwhelming. I cannot overstate how transformational this was for these students and there are many more stories like this I could share where Melanie went above and beyond to help her students find their path and thrive.

Melanie understands the importance of using data to inform decision making and was one of our biggest advocates when it came to providing evidence-based programming. She would allocate her staff's time for ongoing training and helped with facilitating programs including but not limited to Restorative Practices, Sources of Strength (SOS) Suicide Prevention, Ruling Our eXperiences (ROX) Girl Empowerment, Getting Ahead Financial Stability Classes for families living in generational poverty, Fuel Up to Play 60, and Building Healthy Communities. In addition, she championed our efforts to provide social-emotional supports to students and worked beside us to find resources for families. Each of these had a positive impact on students and helped improve the school climate.

Melanie was also the only administrator I have worked with who would consistently go that extra mile for kids and families in need, day or night and on the weekend as well. She was extremely vested in

Community Learning Connections • P.O. Box 68 • 212 N. Ottawa St. • Tecumseh, MI 49286
(517) 423-7574 • Email: clc@tps.k12.mi.us • website: communitylearningconnections.org



ensuring kids' basic needs were met and she helped us identify areas where there was a lack of support. Melanie is responsible for helping us develop a partnership with Child Protective Services to provide more preventative services for families, as well as a connection to free formula and other needed items to ensure students and their younger siblings were not food insecure.

Melanie has a passion for helping students succeed that is unmatched. She also possesses an ability to find innovative solutions and effectively lead her team in a challenging climate. I highly recommend Melanie Nowak for the position of High School Principal and believe she would be an asset to the Dexter Community School District and your community. I can be reached at (redacted) or via email at clc@tps.k12.mi.us with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Perez".

Heather Perez
Executive Director



PERRY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Lori A. Haven, Ed.D., Superintendent
2665 W Britton Rd., Perry, MI 48872
www.perry.k12.mi.us
Phone: (517) 625-3108
Fax: (517) 625-6256

To Whom It May Concern:

February 22, 2021

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Ms. Melanie Nowak for the position of principal at Dexter High School. When the pandemic closure in March of 2020 occurred, I wanted to take the opportunity of additional time to provide meaningful professional learning to Perry Public Schools staff around competency based education. Alongside Dr. Kelly Coffin, Ms. Nowak provided weekly professional learning for our secondary staff around this topic for six weeks during the months of April and May. In addition, she provided support and professional learning opportunities to our building leaders so that they become comfortable and have a basic understanding of the content prior to their dedicated staff training days.

Topics that Ms. Nowak focused on included identity, drivers for educational change, identifying our why, and how our mindset supports this work. Perry Public Schools as an organization had not been provided any prior development around competency based education, and, prior to the 2019-2020 school year, had been provided very few meaningful professional learning activities in which to engage. In order to leverage the pandemic crisis as an opportunity to rethink education and support and flexibility for our staff moving into the next school year, I knew that I had to find facilitators who knew the content very well, believed in the power of competency based education, and had previously engaged in the work. Melanie was the perfect fit to begin the discussion of this work within our district.

In six short weeks, Ms. Nowak built meaningful relationships with my secondary staff, facilitating discussion that they continue to use as a foundation to learn and grow within the realm of competency based education. Because Ms. Nowak has been actively engaged in this work in her other professional roles, she is in a unique position to not only facilitate these discussions, but also challenge the status quo in respectful ways that are credible to educational professionals. All of the development provided by Ms. Nowak was tailored for our district's needs. In addition, she has an awareness of the educators with whom she is working, knowing when additional discussion was necessary, and when it was time to transition to the next topic. I could not have provided a more appropriate professional learning opportunity for our staff.

It is without hesitation that I recommend Ms. Melanie Nowak for this position. She will be an excellent asset to your organization. Melanie understands how secondary schools function, as well as how secondary educators learn. She has demonstrated her ability to build strong relationships and trust with those around her, even in a short amount of time. These attributes, coupled with her background in curriculum, instruction, assessment, and building level leadership, makes Melanie an ideal fit for this role. Please contact me if you would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Lori A. Haven, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Perry Public Schools



Farmington Central High School

February 21, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter of recommendation on the behalf of Melanie Nowak. Ms. Nowak is the Career and Innovation Coordinator for Farmington Public School District. In my role as the Principal of Farmington Central High School, I have found Ms. Nowak to be resourceful and collaborative.

My professional relationship started with Mrs. Nowak four months ago during the implementation process of a new career readiness program at my school. Even though Ms. Nowak is new to our district, she immediately demonstrated an inquisitive perspective towards program implementation and strong communication skills. Her insight was instrumental in adding Business Administration Management Operation during the same implementation cycle. This dynamic move will add funding and another opportunity for students to earn college credit.

It is clear that she has an instructional compass that is driven by her passion for students to think outside of the box to create the best learning environment possible. I truly felt supported working with Ms. Nowak during the program implementation process. She is knowledgeable of teaching and learning and thinks broadly about how her leadership most influences success for both students and staff. She is always prepared and presents herself professionally on every occasion.

Mrs. Nowak has also demonstrated an eagerness to learn in her current role as Career and Innovation Coordinator. Her administrative background before joining Farmington Public Schools was one of a traditional building administrator. I have had the pleasure to watch her grow since our first conversation on Career Technical Education legislation to a confident and knowledgeable coordinator. She has developed the skills needed to lead a quality CTE program for the District, and I look forward to watching her impact on programming.

It is my pleasure and privilege to write this letter for Ms. Nowak's behalf. If I can provide further information, feel free to contact me at (redacted).

Sincerely,

David Reese, Principal
Farmington Central High School

David Reese- Principal
30175 Highmeadow Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

248.489.3827
david.reese@fpsk12.net
www.farmington.k12.mi.us



March 3, 2021

Dexter Community Schools
Christopher Timmis, Ed.D. Superintendent
2704 Baker Rd.
Dexter, MI 48130

Dear Mr. Timmis,

I am writing in regards to Melanie Nowak's application for employment with Dexter Community Schools. I would highly recommend Melanie for the High School Principal position. While I have not worked side by side as an educational professional, I had the honor to have our children under her guidance and leadership. When Tecumseh Public Schools introduced STEAM learning systems into the district, Melanie was at the forefront and was an amazing leader for our children and community! I watched as my own child excelled and blossomed with this type of programming and educational practices. It was then I knew project-based learning would be instrumental for the continued growth of our youth in the ever changing world of technology and workplace environments.

I do believe my favorite project the learners completed was to build a city from scratch. They worked with area government officials, state representatives, planning commissioners, local businesses, farmers etc., all in preparations to build a successful plan from infrastructure to where neighborhoods and businesses would fit best. When they were all done, each group presented their plans to the community for approvals. It truly was an amazing project!

As an area business women, hiring the next round of banking leaders, it was extremely exhilarating to see the possibilities this type of learning model could offer. The benefits to this programming will allow this generation added advantages throughout their careers, no matter the path they choose!

Melanie has an extensive background in competency-based learning as well as innovative practices and project-based learning. She is extremely energetic and is up for any challenges your district may throw her way. Throughout the TPS transition she consistently worked with learners and parents to ensure they were successful and no one was left behind.

Because I've seen this first hand, I am extremely confident Melanie would be an amazing asset the Dexter Community Schools Team! If you have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Katie E. Mattison'.

Katie E. Mattison

AVP, Treasury Management Sales
1449 W. Chicago Blvd., Tecumseh, MI 49286
o: 517.423.7969 c: 517.260.3040

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Brian Schuler, Director of Facilities
DATE: April 9, 2021
RE: Dexter High School Removal and Replacement of Tennis Courts Bid Recommendation

The High School Removal and Replacement of Tennis Courts bids were due April 7, 2021. We received three bids. Attached is the bid tabulation.

Post-bid meetings were held via video conference with the apparent low bidders, Best Asphalt, Inc. and Nagle Paving Company. Brian Barrick, from Beckett & Raeder and Jerry Brand participated in the meetings. We reviewed the scope of work, bidder's proposal, and timeline. Both Best Asphalt, Inc. and Nagle Paving Company included all that was called out in the Scope of Work and agreed to the schedule.

The Facilities Committee met April 8, 2021 to review the bid and proposals. The Facilities Committee recommends that the Board award a contract to Best Asphalt, Inc.

Funding for the project will be from the 2017 Bond.

An appropriate motion would be, "I recommend awarding a contract to Best Asphalt, Inc. for the base contract of \$425,140."



[Register Online Here](#)

Schedule

All courses \$90 each; except CBA 101, which is \$180.

Friday, April 16, 2021

Back to Basics: School Law Primer for Board Members and School Law Hot Topics

Be prepared for your next legal challenge by attending the Michigan Council of School Attorneys School Law Workshop. Leaders in education law will share valuable information on crucial issues important to school officials. In a time when so many things are changing at lightning speed and the future is impossible to predict, the role of the board of education is even more important. Whether you are newly elected or a veteran board member, you are invited to spend the day with colleagues from across Michigan as we focus on school law topics.

9 a.m. - noon: AM Session (\$90)

- 9 a.m. Welcome and Overview of Program**
William Blaha, MCSA President
Collins & Blaha, P.C.
- 9:05 a.m. School Boards: Members, Meetings and Authority**
Charyn Hain, Varnum LLP
- Conflicts of Interest
 - Open Meetings Act Overview
 - Legal Role of a School Board
- 10 a.m. Student Issues**
Robert Schindler, Miller Johnson
- Student Discipline
 - Special Education Services

10:50 a.m. Break

11 a.m. School Boards as Employers
Jeremy Chisholm, John Kava and Amberly Brennan, Collins & Blaha, P.C.

- Contracts and Evaluations
- Role in Negotiations
- Teachers Tenure Act Overview

1 - 4 p.m.: PM Session (\$90)

1 p.m. Welcome and Overview of Program
William Blaha, MCSA President
Collins & Blaha, P.C.

1:05 p.m. School Board Members and Social Media: The Legal Pitfalls
Jennifer Starlin, Thrun Law Firm, PC

2 p.m. The School Board's Title IX Role
Kara Rozin, Clark Hill, PLC

2:50 p.m. Break

3 p.m. School Law Update: What School Board Members Need to Know Today!
Timothy Gardner, Thrun Law Firm, PC and Sharron Pitts,
Grand Rapids Public Schools

4 p.m. Conclusion and Adjourn

Board Member Certification (CBA) Classes

6 – 9 p.m.

CBA 105: Curriculum and Instruction

CBA 226: Exercising Political Judgement

CBA 259: Creating Trust: Key Ingredient in School Improvement

CBA 381: Focus on Student Achievement

[View CBA descriptions here.](#)

Saturday, April 17, 2021

Board Member Certification (CBA) Classes

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

CBA 260: Public Speaking

CBA 290: Advanced School Law

CBA 360: ISDs/RESAs/RESDs/ESAs: What Can They Do for My District?

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

CBA 101: Fundamentals of School Board Service

12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

CBA 258: Conflict Resolution—Techniques for School Boards

CBA 303: Overseeing the Superintendency

CBA 327: Ethics in Action

6 – 9 p.m.

CBA 108: Navigating the Legislative Process

CBA 214: Open Meetings Act

CBA 297: Effective Board Meetings

CBA 341: Data First: Foundations 1

[View CBA descriptions here.](#)

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Board Member Certification (CBA) Classes

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

CBA 106: Community Relations Leadership

CBA 107: Labor Relations

CBA 261: Advocacy for Public Education

CBA 310: Anatomy of a School Budget

12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

CBA 268: Leadership Styles

CBA 278: Dealing With Difficult People

CBA 343: Data First: Teacher Quality

CBA 375: Board Leadership: A Case Study Approach

[View CBA descriptions here.](#)

SCECHs

Administrators and educators will receive a total of five-and-a-half contact hours for attending the whole conference.

Location

All courses will be done virtually with live instructors. Attendees will receive links in advance of their course days/times.

Generously Sponsored by:



<https://www.masb.org/springinstitute>

The Monday, March 8, 2021 Board of Education meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

DCS Spark Innovative Learning Environment

Superintendent Chris Timmis presented a video describing a new pilot program potentially to be launched this fall. DCS Spark is an innovative learning environment intended to provide students K-12 with another option for personalized learning. Using the metaphor of Dexter's arched bridge, Dr. Timmis explained that the District has a set number of hours with students and sometimes, like truck drivers who misjudge the tunnel's size, try to squeeze too much into those hours and some students struggle. To address this, the DCS Research and Development team, composed of teachers and administrators from all buildings, took advantage of the pause created by COVID to step back and reassess instruction methods.

Using principles defined in the book "Dark Horse" by Todd Rose, DCS Spark will focus on the learning journey while supporting the competencies of the DCS Learner Profile and the District's strategic vision. The program will feature:

- Mixed age learning bands
- Interdisciplinary projects with community connections (e.g., CommuniTree & Frederick Pelham bridge projects)
- Narrative feedback focused on competencies and skills
- Topics & content are dynamic with student interests
- Teachers are guides and mentors

A pilot program will run March 15-26 for randomly selected students in grades 3-6, the results of which will be analyzed for a formal presentation to the Board in April. More information about DCS Spark can be found in the [presentation video](#).

DHS Celebration Plans

DHS Principal Kit Moran updated the Board on tentative plans to celebrate 2021 seniors, including Commencement, Honors Night and Prom. Prefacing his remarks with, "COVID...nothing is the same," Moran shared they are planning for the worst and hoping for the best. The biggest consideration is that these three events cannot legally be held indoors with their typical capacity.

Commencement is tentatively planned for the evening of Friday, June 4 (rain date: Sunday, June 6) at Al Ritt, after taking into account state and district sports meets, previous communication with senior families regarding this particular weekend and CDC/state COVID restrictions. There will be as few ceremonies as allowed by law (last July, there were 4 sessions), and the entire event will be live-streamed and recorded.

Honors Night is tentatively planned for the evening of Tuesday, June 1 at Al Ritt, and will be live-streamed as well (rain date: Thursday, June 3). The **Senior Celebration** (in lieu of Prom) is tentatively scheduled for the evening of Saturday, May 22nd at Al Ritt, rain or shine. This event will be seniors only and, depending on capacity restrictions, seniors may be permitted to invite one guest each. This will not be a traditional prom, and Mr. Moran and a student committee are working on what the event will look like, dependent on CDC guidelines (masks, social distancing, no close dancing, etc.). After not holding a senior celebratory event last year, DHS is committed to having some kind of event for seniors with as many friends as possible.

January 13, 2021

All these dates are tentative and subject to change. Final confirmed dates will be shared with DHS students and families.

COVID Data & Reconfirmation of Learning Plan

Dr. Timmis next shared the most recent data from the [DCS COVID Dashboard](#) and [Return to School Data Review](#); the number of local cases and infection rates continue to decrease, but we do have a number of students (mostly athletes) quarantining. As of March 1st, DCS has had 34 students and 15 staff members test positive for Covid since the beginning of the school year. In Washtenaw County, there are 11.5 cases per 100,000 with a 2.1% positivity rate.

Each month, the Board of Education must reconfirm the District's Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan. This month's reconfirmation summary outlined a dilemma created by the passing of HB 4048, which in essence states that for Dexter to receive approximately \$850,000 of state stimulus money, the District must offer in-person learning at least 20 hours per week to all students K-12 by March 22, 2021. Further discussion was postponed until after public participation to allow for community comment.

DCS Summer Plans

Dr. Timmis shared plans for a summer learning lab entitled Dread Strong Summer, an educational adventure designed to Educate, Develop, and Inspire students through friendships and engaging experiences. This program is intended to allow students to enjoy the summer and reconnect with peers, in order to return refreshed in the fall. Tentative plans are to allow students Y5-8th grade to attend weekly from June 21-August 6, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., for no charge. More information will be announced in April.

There are also plans for a DHS Summer School Credit Recovery program, scheduled for June and July, which will allow students to catch up, receive course credit, and focus on key content needed for future classes. Run by DHS teachers, Phase 1 will run June 21-24 and Phase 2 is scheduled for July 12-30. More information is forthcoming.

Student Representative Update

Aiden Naughton reported that the DHS Student Council will be holding their Senior Survival fundraiser again this year, date TBA. Anna Shehab noted that DHS hours will shift later when the Y5-Grade 6 students return to full in-person to accommodate busing.

Reconfirmation of Learning Plan Discussion

No community members chose to speak during public participation time and, after unanimously approving the consent items in bulk, Trustees began an extended discussion regarding the learning plan reconfirmation. In particular, talk focused around the aforementioned HB 4048 and whether or not the District should expedite plans to bring Creekside, Mill Creek and DHS students back into buildings at least 20 hours per week by March 22 (Y5-4 were already scheduled to begin 5 days/week before that deadline).

Multiple school-day scenarios and logistics were considered, as well as pros and cons of not pursuing the stimulus money. Trustees expressed their displeasure with the state legislature for tying school stimulus dollars to public health decisions. Discussion ranged from student COVID testing, staff safety and the impact

January 13, 2021

of another schedule change on DCS families to what the money could fund and the rushed timeline to implement the needed changes.

The Board unanimously approved a motion that, “Beginning the week of March 22nd, the District will offer in-person learning a minimum of 20 hours per week for all K-12 students who choose that option, subject to administration confidence that it is doable.” DCS families will continue to have the choice to send their students to school or remain virtual, but the option for more in-person learning will be available.

Wrap Up

No members of the public commented during the second opportunity for participation. During committee updates, Dick Lundy reported that the finance committee met last week and brought their two new members up to speed, walking them through the budgeting process and starting plans for the upcoming school year.

During board comments, Mara Greatorex shared that the Educational Foundation of Dexter delivered Dexter Bakery cookies to all staff from Jenkins to DHS to show appreciation for their hard work this year, as well as provide information about the spring grant cycle. Brian Arnold noted that the MHSAA website indicates that most spring sports have games/competitions the weekend of graduation. He also mentioned that CFO Dr. Raschke recently refinanced the District’s bonds at a favorable interest rate, saving approximately \$1.5M for taxpayers.

The full Board of Education meeting video can be found on the DCS website at <https://www.dexterschools.org/district/board-of-education/meetings/videos>.

Upcoming Board Schedule:

- ~~Monday, March 22 – 7:00pm – Board Meeting canceled due to light agenda~~
- March 29-April 2 – Spring Break
- Monday, April 12 – 7:00pm – Board Meeting
- Monday, April 26 – 7:00pm – Board Meeting

Dexter Community Schools
Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2021

via Zoom due to COVID-19, Webinar ID 83223610857

Board Committee Members Present – Brian Arnold (Dexter Township), Jennifer Kangas (Lodi Township), Dick Lundy (Sarasota, Fl)
Other Board Members Present - None
Staff Committee Members Present – Jessica Baese (City of Dexter), John Heuser (City of Dexter), Sharon Raschke (City of Dexter), Chris Timmis (City of Dexter)
Community Committee Members Present – Daniel Alabré (City of Dexter)
Others Present – Robert Bowden, Larry Padgett (Tattnall County, GA)

Meeting convened at 10:00 am.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by John Heuser to approve the finance committee meeting minutes of February 24, 2021. Jennifer Kangas seconded the motion. Motion Carried (unanimous).

Audience Participation

None

Discussion Items

1. The Committee reviewed and discussed a preliminary budget scenario for 2021-22. The scenario carried forward the current year program expenses as of the November 2020 revision. Revenue parameters included a conservative student count and currently anticipated increase in foundation. However, due to the uncertainty in Federal and State emergency relief funding, spending requirements, and timeline, the preliminary budget scenario does not include those items. The budget will become clearer as more information becomes available. There is nothing to present to the Board at this time.
2. Sharon Raschke informed the Committee that a June budget amendment to 2020-21 fiscal year will likely be necessary to realign COVID and grant funding expenditures with the appropriate expense functions.

Meeting adjourned at 10:33 am.



Dexter Community Schools

Nice Job Notes

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021

Vicki Allie
Joel Anderson
Tara Basso
Barb Bishop
Betsy Bluhm
Jen Boyce
Matt Brown
Ryan Bruder
Isabel Cude
Jeff Dagg
Julie Darling
Melanie Dever
Ashley Dorr
Jennifer Driscoll
Lisa Dunn
Krista Early
Deb Eber (2)
Jessica Elkin
Val Eninsche
Building & Grounds
Murphy Hansen
Leslie Hite (2)
Vicki Juback
Amara Karapas
Susan Kemble
Mollie Kemp
Ashley Kerns
Beau Kimmey
Emily Kissick
DeAnna Kjos

Anthony Koch
Anna Kokmeyer
Cassandra Korinek
Dave Kozakiewicz
Pam Krebs
Mary Leach (2)
Fred Ligrow
Yolanda Lou
Ryan Maki
Aric Manly
Anna Marron
Jennifer Mattison
Craig McCalla
Jane Montero
Rick Munir
Meredith Nickerson
Kim Pardo
Alison Pomerantz
Megan Porterfield
Amy Sadler
Barb Santo
Maggie Scheurer
Kathryn Schmid
Betsy Schmidt (2)
Angela Scott
Katie See (2)
Andrea Sellman
Mollie Sharrar
Janine Shoner
Pam St. Charles

Kim Steptoe
David Teddy (2)
Chris Timmis
Annabel Van Noord (2)
Hope Vestergaard (2)
Donna Wahr
Anouk Weiss
Jenny Whipple
Stacey Wing
Dave Yon
Sherry Zuver

JAN-FEB 2021 = 79
RUNNING TOTAL = 38604



Dexter Community Schools

Nice Job Notes

MARCH 2021

Vicki Allie
Angela Anderson
Jess Baese
Britnie Bell
Gina Benson
Betsy Bluhm
Annette Bowen
Kris Bowman
Jill Breitag
Kevin Cislo
Kara Constable
Isabelle Crude
Jeff Dagg
Melanie Dever
Ellen Doss
Lisa Dunn
Deb Eber
Laurie Farmer
Todd Fry
Jill Fyke
Deb Gallaher
John Ganas
Patrick Glynn
Amy Grant (2)
Samantha Haidl
Murphy Hansen
Jay Harshe
Alex Heidtke
Leslie Hite
Abby Holland
Annette Jones
Vicki Juback (2)

Stacey Keeler
Mollie Kemp (2)
Ashley Kerns
Beau Kimmey
DHS kitchen staff
DeAnna Kjos
Ken Koenig
Dave Kozakiewicz (2)
Elizabeth Kur
Megan LaBarre
Nate Lamb
Fred Ligrow
Paige Lumpiescz
Chris Mackinder (2)
Wendy Martin
Jennifer Mattison
Roxanne Maze
Craig McCalla (2)
Joanne McGinnis
Melanie McIntyre
Brian Morey
Rick Munir (2)
Meredith Nickerson
Stephanie Nolan
DHS Paraprofessionals
Natalie Park
Jennifer Porcaro
Sarah Redman
Anna Romano
Martin Ruhlig
Jason Rushton
Sarah Russell (2)

Barb Santo (2)
Brian Schuler
Angie Scott
Adam Sedgeman
Katie See
Macy Selecman (2)
Deneen Smith (2)
Lyndsey Staebler
Paula Staebler
Patrick Stolkey
Karen Sullivan
Jameson Taylor
Tech Team
David Teddy
Chris Timmis
Hope Vestergaard (2)
Karen Walls
Rod Whitlock (2)
Dale Willett
Angie Williams (2)
Nancy Willis
Jess Wolma

MARCH 2021 = 100
RUNNING TOTAL = 38704