

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
4591 SCHOOL DRIVE
ALLISON PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 15101
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 MINUTES

The Hampton Township Board of School Directors met on Monday, September 9, 2019, in the Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library at Hampton Middle School, 4589 School Drive, Allison Park, PA.	Meeting
Attendance: Ms. Denise Balason, Mrs. Jill Hamlin, Mrs. Mary Alice Hennessey, Mrs. Pam Lamagna, Mrs. Gail Litwiler, Mr. Robert Shages, Mr. Greg Stein, Mr. Larry Vasko, Mr. Bryant Wesley, Dr. Michael Loughhead and Dr. Rebecca Cunningham, Messrs. Patrick Clair and Jeffrey Kline, along with a number of Hampton Township residents.	Attendance
The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Wesley, President of the Board, served as Chairperson of the meeting. Mrs. Michelle Ambrose served as Recording Secretary.	
Mr. Wesley opened the floor for Public Comment.	Public Comment
Dr. Drew Hall, District parent and Township resident addressed the Board regarding the District's Wellness Program. Dr. Hall stated he acknowledged and appreciated the efforts put forth by District Administration and the Board to improve the Wellness Program. However, Dr. Hall stated, that he opposed the implementation and practice of "Mindfulness" as part of the Wellness Program.	"Mindfulness" Concerns
Dr. Hall reiterated his previous comments made at the March 11, 2019 Voting Meeting. He noted that "Mindfulness" is a direct correlation to Buddhism as publically quoted by many professionals including Dr. Romero, the District's consultant on "Mindfulness." Dr. Hall stated the religious ties to the "Mindfulness" techniques should be prohibited in public schools due to the laws governing separation of church and state. Dr. Hall indicated that many of the "professionals" such as Dr. Romero have been quoted as saying there are no proven, long-term studies on the benefits of Mindfulness or the effectiveness of the techniques. Dr. Hall stated that with no evidence of long term effectiveness then this was another reason for discontinuing the program in the schools.	
Upon motion by Mr. Vasko, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Minutes from the August 12, 2019 Board of School Directors Voting Meeting were approved and incorporated into the official Minute book.	August 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes Approved
Upon motion by Mr. Shages, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• August 2019 General Fund 10 Disbursements totaling \$4,649,341.27• August 2019 Capital Fund 39 Disbursements totaling \$508,557.71• August 2019 Cafeteria Fund 50 Disbursements totaling \$6,175.06	Payment of Bills
Upon motion by Mr. Shages, seconded by Mrs. Hennessey and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the July 2019 Treasurer's Report.	Treasurer's Report
Upon motion by Mr. Shages, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice	Student Activities

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
 4591 SCHOOL DRIVE
 ALLISON PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 15101
 SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 MINUTES

vote, the Board approved the July 2019 Student Activities Report.	Report
The following information was presented and/or action taken on items submitted by Mr. Wesley during the President's Report.	President's Report
Mr. Wesley stated that, since the last meeting, the Board had met twice in Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.	Executive Session
There was no Board Secretary's Report.	Board Secretary's Report
There was no Solicitor's Report.	Solicitor's Report
The following information was presented and/or action taken on items submitted by Dr. Loughead during the Superintendent's Report.	Superintendent's Report
Dr. Loughead focused his report on the District academics, arts and athletics.	
Under the umbrella of academics, Dr. Loughead was proud to announce that the District has been a participant in the #BeTheKindKid campaign. He reminded the Board that the program was initiated within the Avonworth School District, but it quickly spread across the region. Dr. Loughead stated that the program has reached international status and will be recognized in Helsinki, Finland later this year. The campaign is being recognized for the positive message and the bluegrass roots origins of the campaign.	"#BeTheKindKid" Campaign – International Recognition
Dr. Loughead stated in regard to the arts, he was impressed with the Marching Band and their halftime show. He noted the months of hard work the Band invested under the direction of Mr. Chad Himmler. Dr. Loughead noted the next home game on September 20, 2019 was Homecoming. He stated that Band would perform their half-time presentation prior to the game due to the Homecoming activities. Dr. Loughead encouraged the Board and public to attend.	Marching Band Highlighted for Half-time Show
Dr. Loughead announced that the District's Fall athletic season was underway with all Fall Sports teams having had an opportunity to play on the new field. He noted the District had received positive feedback regarding the new turf. He noted the track was currently being installed.	New Track and Turf – Fridley Field
The following information was presented and/or action taken on items submitted by Mrs. Hennessey of the Student Affairs Committee.	Student Affairs
Upon motion by Mrs. Hennessey, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the Middle School Fellowship and Fun Club.	HMS Fellowship and Fun Club
Upon motion by Mrs. Hennessey, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the Wyland Elementary Garden Club.	Wyland Elementary Garden Club
The following information was presented and/or action taken on items submitted by Ms.	Facilities

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
4591 SCHOOL DRIVE
ALLISON PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 15101
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 MINUTES

Balason of the Facilities Committee.

Ms. Balason introduced Ms. Cassandra Renninger, VEBH Architects, to provide an update to the Board regarding PlanCon process and how it relates to the High School Renovation Project. Ms. Renninger stated that she is optimistic over the new PlanCon system.

PlanCon Update
Presentation – Ms.
Cassandra
Renninger

Ms. Renninger stated the new system simplifies both the application process and how reimbursements are calculated. Ms. Renninger noted that reimbursement expectations for the High School Renovation Project are projecting between 15 – 18 %. She indicated that the implementation of the new PlanCon system is broken down into two phases which are lining up with the Hampton High School Renovation project. She stated that District Administration and VEBH have communicated with Mr. Vogel from PDE about the District working with PDE to “test” or help pilot the new program with the HHS Renovation Project.

The following information was presented and/or action taken on items submitted by Mrs. Litwiler of the Educational Programs Committee.

Educational
Programs

Upon motion by Mrs. Litwiler, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the District applying for the Flexible Instruction Day.

Flexible Instruction
Day

Dr. Loughead stated that this evening the Board would receive an update on the “Mindfulness” training received by District personnel. He noted that the update would provide insight on the training, techniques and implementation of the program in the buildings. Dr. Loughead introduced Dr. Jay Thornton, School Psychologist and Dir. Of Student Services to lead the presentation.

“ Mindfulness”
Update/
Presentation

Dr. Thornton began his presentation identifying those faculty and administrators who were selected to participate in the professional development training of “Mindfulness.” He noted that these individuals were selected due to their direct involvement with students who require social, emotional assistance. Dr. Thornton stated that he along with the school guidance counselors, nurses and a few special education teachers received the “Mindfulness” training.

Dr. Thornton stated that the District personnel received over 30 hours of professional development. He indicated that their “Mindfulness” training began by working on methods and techniques geared toward the education professionals and not students. Once the professionals were trained on the techniques for self-improvement and care, then the training centered on methods to aid students.

Dr. Thornton highlighted the definition of “Mindfulness” as “a state of awareness and practice; it involves attending to the present moment and cultivating an attitude of curiosity, openness and acceptance of one’s experience. It is a secular (non-religious) practice and is backed by compelling scientific evidence.” He stated “Mindfulness” focuses on attention, presence, intention and openness of any given situation and he highlighted methods such as controlled breathing as means to achieve these.

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
 4591 SCHOOL DRIVE
 ALLISON PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 15101
 SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 MINUTES

Dr. Thornton noted “Mindfulness” has been researched and professionals have found benefits between those who have practiced the techniques compared to those who have not. He stated the increased popularity of the program has come from the documented benefits it holds for students and faculty. He stated the program is being instituted within the District on a one to one basis or in small groups. That the program is to aid students in having focus, being able to emotionally self-regulate themselves, hold empathy for those around them, reduce stress and increase impulse control.

The following information was presented and/or action taken on items submitted by Mrs. Hamlin of the Personnel Committee.

Personnel

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board accepted the resignation of Mr. Matthew Pokusa, who is resigning after two years with the District effective August 22, 2019. (Mr. Pokusa was an Academic Support Language arts Teacher at Hampton High School.)

Resignation, Mr. Matthew Pokusa

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board accepted the resignation of Ms. Amy Alexander, who is resigning after 28 years with the District effective November 15, 2019. (Ms. Alexander is a Language Arts Teacher at Hampton Middle School.)

Resignation, Ms. Amy Alexander

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved a change in status for Ms. Kristin Baker, moving from a full-time Academic Support Math Teacher (TPE) to a 83% Academic Support Math teacher (TPE) and a 17% Long-Term Substitute Math Teacher at Hampton High School effective August 19, 2019. Salary is pro-rated to \$29,167 for the 2019-2020 School Year.

Change in Status, Ms. Kristin Baker, Academic Support Math Teacher and LTS Math Teacher, HHS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Ms. Rachel Davis as a Long-Term Substitute Grade 7 Math Teacher at Hampton Middle School from August 21, 2019 to approximately November 21, 2019. Salary is \$32,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Davis is a substitute for Mrs. Rebecca Heller.)

Ms. Rachel Davis, LTS Grade 7 Math Teacher, HMS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Ms. Rachel Davis as an Elementary Building Substitute at Central Elementary School from approximately November 22, 2019 through the remainder of the 2019-2020 School Year. There is no change in salary. (This is an annual position.)

Ms. Rachel Davis, Elementary Building Substitute, Central

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Ms. Stephanie Witt as a Long-Term Substitute English Teacher at Hampton High School from August 22, 2019 through approximately November 11, 2019. Salary is \$32,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Witt is a substitute for Mrs. Erin Marron.)

Ms. Stephanie Witt, LTS English Teacher, HHS

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
 4591 SCHOOL DRIVE
 ALLISON PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 15101
 SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 MINUTES

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Ms. Makenna Krebs as a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School for the 2019-2020 School Year effective August 19, 2019. Salary is \$21,500 (This is an annual position.)

Ms. Makenna
 Krebs, Building
 Substitute, HMS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Mrs. Meghan Marcello as an Elementary Building Substitute (Floater based at Central Elementary) for the 2019-2020 School Year effective August 21, 2019. Salary is \$21,500, pro-rated. (This is an annual position.)

Mrs. Meghan
 Marcello,
 Elementary
 Building Substitute,
 Floater (Central)

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Ms. Hannah Swartz as a Building Substitute at Hampton High School for the 2019-2020 School Year effective August 19, 2019. Salary is \$21,500. (This is an annual position.)

Ms. Hanah Swartz,
 Building Substitute,
 HHS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Mr. Charles (Max) Weiss as a Building Substitute at Wyland Elementary School for the 2019-2020 School Year effective August 20, 2019. Salary is \$21,500, pro-rated. (This is an annual position.)

Mr. Charles (Max)
 Weiss, Building
 Substitute, Wyland

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Mr. Thomas Schweers as a Building Substitute at Hampton High School for the 2019-2020 School Year effective August 22, 2019. Salary is \$21,500, pro-rated. (This is an annual position.)

Mr. Thomas
 Schweers, Building
 Substitute, HHS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the following list of mentors for the 2019-2020 School Year:

2019-2020 Mentors

Kylie Harding (McCracken)	Amy Baxter	Catherine Spencer
John Lee	Lisa Oliveira	Amy Rein
Dina Dunmire	Marilyn Adams	Mark Gartner
Katie Wagner	Brittnee Stepanik	Sheree Lucas
Sean Desguin	Angela Lamers	Alison McBee
Amy Holtz	Brian Molinero	Amy Faith
Jen Lavella	Christine Ruffner	Andrew Halter
Devon Byrne		

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Mr. Carlos Smith as a Class III Paraeducator at Wyland Elementary School effective August 28, 2019. Salary is \$16.61 per-hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$16.86 per hour thereafter. (This is a new position due to increased student needs and special education enrollment at Wyland Elementary School.)

Mr. Carlos Smith,
 Class III
 Paraeducator,
 Wyland

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Ms. Christina Piskula as a Long-Term Substitute Class III

Ms. Christina
 Piskula, LTS Class

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
 4591 SCHOOL DRIVE
 ALLISON PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 15101
 SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 MINUTES

Paraeducator at Hampton Middle School effective August 21, 2019 and then accept her resignation effective August 30, 2019. Salary is \$16.61 per-hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$16.86 per hour thereafter. (Ms. Piskula was a substitute for Mrs. Jansen Jamison.)

III Paraeducator,
HMS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Miss Jessica Sinicrope as a Class III Paraeducator at Hampton Middle School effective August 21, 2019. Salary is \$16.61 per-hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$16.86 per hour thereafter. (Miss Sinicrope is replacing Mrs. Anne Martinez.)

Miss Jessica
Sinicrope, Class III
Paraeducator, HMS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved a change in status for Mr. Joseph Sulkowski, moving from a 10 month/8 hour Custodian at Hampton Middle School to a 12 month/8hour Custodian at Hampton Middle School, effective August 15, 2019. There is no change in hourly rate. (Mr. Sulkowski replaced Mr. Randy Yester's position.)

Mr. Joseph
Sulkowski,
12m/8hr Custodian,
HMS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Vasko and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Ms. Amanda Filutze as a substitute Paraeducator effective August 27, 2019.

Ms. Amanda
Filutze, Substitute
Paraeducator

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the following Building/Coaching Supplemental positions for the 2019-2020 School Year, at a rate of \$136 per point:

2019-2020
Building/Coaching
Supplemental
Positions

NAME	POSITION	BUILDING	POINTS	RANGE	TOTAL STIPEND
Charles (Max) Weiss	Elementary Bus Monitor	Wyl	12	12	\$1,632
Sean Gally (replacing Sam Flowers)	Football Middle School Assistant Coach	MS	27	23/31	\$3,672
Joseph Gally	Volunteer Golf Coach	HS			

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board accepted the resignation of Mr. Daniel Lipnitz who is resigning from the District effective September 13, 2019. (Mr. Lipnitz is a class III Paraeducator at Hampton High School.)

Resignation, Mr.
Daniel Lipnitz

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mrs. Hennessey and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Mr. Joseph P. Sebestyen, III as an Assistant Principal at Hampton High School effective date TBD. Salary is \$87,000, pro-rated. (Mr. Sebestyen is replacing Dr. Michael Amick.)

Mr. Joseph P.
Sebestyen, III, Asst.
Principal, HHS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Vasko and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Ms. Lisa Riddell as a Class V – Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Principal at the Middle School effective September 20, 2019. Salary is \$21.55

Ms. Lisa Riddell,
Class V –
Administrative

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
 4591 SCHOOL DRIVE
 ALLISON PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 15101
 SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 MINUTES

per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$21.80 per hour thereafter. (Ms. Riddell is replacing Mrs. Robins Machuga.)

Asst. to the Asst.
Principal, HMS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mrs. Litwiler and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Mr. Frederic Wheeler as a 10 month/7 hour Custodian at Central Elementary School effective September 16, 2019. Hourly rate is \$21.58 per hour. (Mr. Wheeler is replacing Ms. Dawn Mesnar's position.)

Mr. Frederic
Wheeler, 10m/7hr
Custodian, Central

Upon motion by Mrs. Hamlin, seconded by Mrs. Hennessey and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved Ms. Mary Balsamico as a 10 month/8 hour Custodian at Hampton Middle School effective September 16, 2019. Salary is \$21.58 per hour. (Ms. Balsamico is replacing Mr. Joseph Sulkowski's position.)

Ms. Mary
Balsamico,
10m/8hr Custodian,
HMS

The following information was presented and/or action taken on items submitted by Mr. Vasko of the Finance Committee.

Finance

Upon motion by Mr. Vasko, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board authorized the Eric Ryan Corporation to secure bids for the District's electricity commodity for a 12-month period and authorize Dr. Loughead and Mr. Kline to lock-in the bid at a rate not to exceed 6.5 cents per kwh.

Electricity Bids
through Eric Ryan
Corp.

The following information was presented and/or action taken on items submitted by Mr. Shages of the Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee.

Policy and
Legislative Affairs

Upon motion by Mr. Shages, seconded by Mrs. Litwiler and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved and adopted the second reading of Policy No. 006 "Local Board Procedures"

Second Reading
and Adoption,
Policy No. 006

Upon motion by Mr. Shages, seconded by Mr. Stein and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved and adopted the second reading of Policy No. 249 "Bullying/Cyberbullying"

Seconded Reading
and Adoption,
Policy No. 249

Upon motion by Mr. Shages, seconded by Ms. Balason and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the election of the following candidates for the 2019 PSBA Officer Election:

2019 PSBA Officer
Election

- President-Elect: Art Levinowitz
- Vice President: David Hein
- Section 5 Advisor: Marsha Pleta
- PSBA Insurance Trust Trustees: Kathy K. Swope & Mark B. Miller
- School Board Secretaries Forum Steering Committee: Bethanne Zeigler, Jaime Lynn Zimerofsky, and Jennifer Davidson

There was no Technology Report this evening.

Technology

There was no Transportation Report this evening.

Transportation

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
4591 SCHOOL DRIVE
ALLISON PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 15101
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 MINUTES

The following information was presented by Mr. Vasko during the A. W. Beattie Career Center Report.	A.W. Beattie Career Center
Mr. Vasko provided an updated enrollment for A.W. Beattie. He noted current enrollment was at 837 students.	Enrollment 2019- 2020
Mr. Vasko stated a school police officer was hired. He noted the individual is from the North Hills Police Department.	Resource Officer at Beattie
The following information was presented by Mrs. Hamlin during the HAEE Report.	HAEE
Mrs. Hamlin stated that HAEE has held multiple meetings in September in preparation for the upcoming race.	Meetings
Mrs. Hamlin stated HAEE is hoping for 100% faculty participation in the race this year. She noted a spirit day could be held on Friday, October 4, 2019 with all faculty wearing their race shirts.	District Faculty Presentation
Mrs. Hamlin reminded the Board that registration is open and can be completed online. The race will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 5, 2019 at Hartwood Acres.	Annual 5K Information
Mr. Wesley opened the floor for public comment.	Public Comment
Dr. Drew Hall addressed the Board questioning if the District still had a professional relationship with Dr. Romero.	Hampton Employees Featured on Other Website
Dr. Loughhead addressed Dr. Hall stating the professional development contract ended and training was complete.	
Dr. Hall stated that Dr. Romero has photographs of District employees on her website, and that the District should contact her office to have those photos taken down.	
Upon motion by Mrs. Litwiler, seconded by Mr. Shages and carried unanimously by voice vote the meeting was adjourned.	



Denise Balason, Secretary