



REGULAR BOARD MEETING
City Council Chambers

14400 Dix Toledo Rd, Southgate MI 48195

(Due to construction in City Council Chambers, the meeting was held in the lobby of City Hall. Meeting could not be recorded or live streamed.)

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

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VICE PRESIDENT

ANDREW A. GREEN

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DR. DARLENE L. POMPONIO

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SHAWN SAGE

ADMINISTRATION

SUPERINTENDENT

SHARON IRVINE

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

DIRECTOR

BARBARA WILSON, CFO

CURRICULUM/FEDERAL

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

DR. MICHELLE BAKER-

HERRING

DATE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2021 7:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Irvine, Baker-Herring, Wilson

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Estheimer read the District Mission and Vision Statements.

REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2021/22-2 Mr. Green made a motion to revise the agenda by removing Items N and F and approve the August 10 Regular Board Meeting Agenda, supported by Dr. Pomponio

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

NO:

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Stephanie Kenney-Dearborn Heights resident with students in the district, addressed the board regarding giving parents the choice about mask wearing.

Eric Reiss-Southgate resident with students in the district, addressed the board asking for updates on the Fordline playground and the money that will be spent on it.

Jessica Gilley-Southgate resident with students in the district, urged the board to not follow the CDC mandates and say no to masks, no to testing and no to mandatory quarantines.

Dane Ziemba- Southgate resident with a student in the district, addressed the board about getting back to in-person school, mask wearing, mandating vaccinations and social distancing.

Robert Pawlowski- Southgate resident and student, addressed the board about vaping in the schools and why nothing is being done about it.

Beth Ann Kierczak-Southgate resident with a student in the district, asked the board to respect parents' autonomy and allow them to choose what is best for their students and allow masks to be optional.

PRESENTATIONS

Postponed until a future meeting, due to council chambers construction.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

Ms. Irvine thanked everyone for their flexibility as we adjusted to having the meeting outside of council chambers in the lobby area. Band Camp will be onsite at AHS this year and noted that the bon fire has been approved. Seasons are off to a great start. Compliments to the summer school administrators.

FINANCE UPDATE

Ms. Wilson reminded board members they received the letter of engagement from the auditors. Board members can contact the auditors with questions.

CONSENT

2021/22-3 It was moved by Mr. Craig supported by Dr. Pomponio, the board approve the June 29, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, HR Update and the Disbursements for June and July 2021.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

NO:

ACTION

1. Approval of the Employment and/or Contract of Personnel in Accordance with MCL 380.1230(9): Ms. Irvine presented this action item; pursuant to the information provided in this evenings closed session, the District recommends the employment and/or hire of the identified individual pursuant to MCL 380.1230(9).

Mr. Green commented that he takes this seriously and asks himself would he put his child in front of this employee when he makes his decision.

Dr. Pomponio commented this person already volunteers and has been approved of by administration before.

2021/22-4 It was moved by Mr. Green supported by Dr. Pomponio, the board approve the employment and/or contract of employee number #265744 in accordance with MCL 380.1230(9).

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

NO:

2. Approval of the Mode of Instruction for 2021-2022: Ms. Irvine presented this action item. In the spring, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services eliminated mask-wearing requirements for schools, regardless of vaccination. Accordingly, the Board of Education made mask-wearing optional for summer school. So far, in six weeks of summer school, there have been no COVID cases.

On August 2, MDHHS came out with recommendations for safer operations for schools, including a recommendation for mask-wearing, without any underlying requirement.

As we approach the 2021-2022 school year, the District recommends virtual and in-person instruction. It also recommends a temporary remote instructional option in accordance with a written plan of action. The District recommends compliance with the mandatory requirements of MDHHS but maintaining optional measures, such as mask-wearing, to the extent that MDHHS and Wayne County allows measures to be optional.

Discussion took place regarding the monthly approval of the mode of instruction, mask wearing and when the decision would be made for the upcoming school year, optional vs mandatory.

2021/22-5 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Mr. Craig, the board approve the Mode of Instruction for the 2021-2022 school year to be virtual or in -person instruction with a temporary remote option in accordance with a written plan of action. And move that the District maintain flexibility in mitigation measures to retain options insofar as MDHHS and Wayne County allow measure to be optional.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

NO:

3. Approval of the GSRP Contract with Wayne RESA for 2021-2022: Ms. Irvine presented. In the spring of 2021 the District engaged in a contract with Wayne RESA to offer 72 GSRP preschool slots at Asher Community Center.

As a strategy for building enrollment and early academic intervention the District recommends offering 90 GSRP preschool slots distributed across elementary schools. The number of available slots was adjusted from the spring of 2021 to accommodate the interest that was generated from fall preschool recruitment. Two preschool classes would be located at Grogan Elementary, while one preschool class would be located at each of the other elementary schools.

A revised contract and budget was given to board members reflecting the additional costs and revenues. An additional line item for preschool aides was added to maintain the required 1:8 ratio. With the carryover last year, the District expects to end the 2021-2022 GSRP grant year with approximately \$200,000 to carry over to the 2021-2022 school year.

Discussion; the level of interest and eligibility for GSRP, retention after the preschool year and the commitment of parents to stay in Southgate schools.

2021/22-6 It was moved by Dr. Pomponio supported by Mr. Sage, the board approve the GSRP contract with Wayne RESA for the 2021-2022 school year.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Pomponio, Sage

NO: Lamos

4. The approval of the Transfer of Funds to Capital Projects: Ms. Irvine presented this item. This year, the District received nearly \$200,000.00 in custodial credits based on low custodial staffing. Because this savings represents one-time money rather than operational space, the District recommends transferring \$200,000.00 to Capital project for future facility repair or replacement such as track repair or Astroturf repair. One transferred, the money will be considered restricted revenue and will not appear in fund equity.

Discussion; the need to maintain our newly improved facilities and having a plan in place to do so.

2021/22-7 It was moved by Mr. Craig supported by Mr. Green, the board approve the transfer of \$200,000.00 from fiscal year 21 to capital projects.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

NO:

5. Approval of the 2021-2022 Pizza Bid: Mark Rodriguez presented this item. As Food Service Director each year he bids out the pizza contract for each of the district's he manages. This comes before the Board for approval. The District currently has a contract with Cottage Inn Pizza. After the RFP, Cottage Inn Pizza came in as the low bidder. They quoted \$6.65 for a pepperoni pizza and \$6.40 for a cheese pizza. Hungry Howie's quoted \$7.25 for both pepperoni and cheeses pizza. Dominoes quoted \$8.00 for both pepperoni and cheese pizza. The District recommends that the contract with Cottage Inn Pizza be extended for another year.

2021/22-8 It was moved by Mr. Green supported by Dr. Pomponio, the board approve the contract extension with Cottage inn Pizza for the 2021-2022 School Year.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

NO:

DISCUSSION

1. Board Workshop Schedule: Board members agreed to set their workshop date for Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES

None

INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Green commented that he appreciates everyone's passion and welcomed students back. Many students are already back with clubs and sports. He wished Mr. Furkas and his son good luck with the Little League World Series.

Dr. Pomponio is excited about the new way we are branding and the school spirit it promotes. She wished good health and sent prayers to former board member, Sue Murray who recently had a liver transplant. She wished good luck to all students.

Mr. Craig thanked everyone for attending the meeting and maintaining civility. He encouraged everyone to come to more meetings and appreciates the participation.

Mr. Lamos thanked everyone for coming out and those that got up to speak.

Mr. Sage commented that everyone wants what is best for our kids. The board does not take anything lightly when it comes to the best interests and safety of our students.

Mr. Estheimer reminded board members they are invited to Band Camp which begins Monday and runs each day from 5:30 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. at AHS.

ADJOURNMENT

2021/22-9 It was moved by Mr. Lamos supported by Mr. Green, the board adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

YES: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

NO:

Respectfully submitted by: Theresa Grzechowski

Dr. Darlene Pomponio-Secretary
Board of Education

For detailed conversation, Board meetings may be viewed in their entirety on our website: www.southgateschools.com