

The Board Report

Monday, November 8, 2021



Disclaimer: The Board Report is a synopsis of the Hampton Township School Board meetings and is not intended as a replacement for any official Board minutes.

~ A Tradition of Excellence ~

The Hampton Township Board of School Directors

Bryant Wesley II, Esq.	Board President
Mrs. Jill Hamlin	Board Vice President
Ms. Denise Balason	Board Secretary/Facilities Chair
Mr. Matt Jarrell	Transportation Chair
Mrs. Joy Midgley	Personnel Chair
Mr. Robert Shages	Board Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair
Mr. Greg Stein**	Technology Chair
Mr. Larry Vasko	Finance Chair
Mrs. Trisha Webb	Student Affairs Chair

** absent*

*** attended remotely*

This Hampton Township School Board Meeting was held in the Hampton Middle School Auditorium. The meeting was audio/video simulcast so that community members could watch remotely, and was also audio/video recorded.

Members of Administration in Attendance

Dr. Michael Loughead	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Rebecca Cunningham	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Jeff Kline	Director of Administrative Services
Dr. Ed McKaveney	Directory of Technology
Mr. Josh Kellogg	Network Administrator
Mr. Don Palmer, GRB	Solicitor

November 8, 2021

Voting Meeting

A video recording of the meeting can be viewed [here](#). The time within the video that each section begins is indicated below.

Call to Order

(4:44)

Mr. Wesley called the Voting Meeting to order. He announced that there would be two opportunities for Public Comment at the beginning and end of the meeting. Roll call was taken; all Board members were present, with Mr. Stein participating remotely.

There were no comments at this time.

The Board approved the minutes from the October 11 Work Session.

Treasurer's Report

(6:11)

The following items were unanimously approved by the Board:

- October 2021 General Fund 10 disbursements totaling \$3,656,555.41.
- October 2021 High School Construction Fund 35 disbursements totaling \$1,305,815.61.
- September 2021 Cafeteria Fund 50 disbursements totaling \$16,308.59.
- September 2021 Treasurer's Report.
- September 2021 Student Activities Fund Report.

President's Report

(7:27)

Mr. Wesley announced that the Board held one executive session since the last meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters. He highlighted the incredible success of Hampton's fall athletics, including boys and girls cross country, boys and girls soccer, girls volleyball, and football. He underscored the amazing support from students and the community throughout the fall sports season and playoffs. Further, he spotlighted the boys soccer team for winning the WPIAL championship and then leaving Highmark Stadium to go and support the girls volleyball team in the district final.

Superintendent's Report

(9:00)

Dr. Loughead continued Mr. Wesley's celebration of Hampton's fall athletics by describing how the

student athletes have conducted themselves and competed throughout the season. He acknowledged how the football team fought back and persevered to win its first-round playoff game last Friday. Over his long educational career, Dr. Loughead said he has never seen a fall sports experience as successful as this one. He, too, commended the student body and community for their support of the Talbots this fall.

Additionally, Dr. Loughead encouraged everyone to celebrate the Hampton Heroes program that Hampton Middle School was hosting at Fridley Field on Tuesday. This long standing tradition honors local veterans for their service. He noted that there would be performances by the High School Marching Band, and the Middle School band, orchestra, and chorus. Dr. Loughead said he is honored to be a part of this event that speaks to the spirit of the Hampton community in honoring those who have served their country.

Student Affairs

(13:26)

There were no action items this evening, but Mrs. Webb asked Dr. Loughead about the athletics and marching band booster's request to change the District's banner policy. Dr. Loughead said he has directed the Athletic Director and High School Principal to study the request and present him some options on how to proceed forward. He acknowledged that the request would change some of the traditions at Hampton, but he stated that this is an important request to understand what can be done to better honor student athletes. Ms. Balason said that she is in favor of the request, adding that students and parents would love having banners around Fridley Field and fencing at the baseball and softball fields.

Facilities

(13:49)

There was no report this evening.

Personnel

(13:58)

Mrs. Midgley presented and the Board unanimously approved the following items:

Resignations

- Mrs. Becky Wright who is resigning effective November 5, 2021. Mrs. Wright is a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School.
- Mrs. Ellen Bollinger who is resigning after over 6 years with the District effective November 5, 2021. Mrs. Bollinger is a Paraprofessional (Class II) at Hampton High School.

Teachers

- The following as Guest Substitutes for the Hampton Township School District, effective October 27, 2021. Salary is \$100 per day for day 1-30 and then \$120 per day thereafter. These substitutes will be utilized on an as-needed basis.

Michael Barton	Ken Guity
Danielle Cieply	Michelle Kline
Jennifer Colwell	Christine Larson
Jill Fanuele	Nicole Mishko
Sara Farrokhzad	Jennifer Retsch
Noelle Fleischmann	

- Miss Casey Edwards as a Building Substitute at Hampton High School effective November 5, 2021. Salary is \$22,000, pro-rated. This is an annual position.

Other

- Ms. Laura Arledge as an additional Club Sponsor for the Poff Kids Care Club for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Paraprofessional/Paraeducator/Administrative Assistant

- Ms. Angela Sciuolo as a Paraprofessional (Class I) at Central Elementary School effective October 25, 2021. Hourly rate is \$16.10 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$16.35 per hour thereafter. Ms. Sciuolo is replacing Ms. Trista Interthal's position.
- Ms. Jina Coleman as a Long-Term Substitute Administrative Assistant to the Special Education/Transition Coordinator (Class VII) effective November 5, 2021. Salary is \$21.63 per-hour for the 60 day probationary period and \$21.88 per hour thereafter. Ms. Coleman is a substitute for Mrs. Darlene Howell.

Supplementals

- The following conditional appointments for 2021-2022, each at a rate of \$139 per point, with each such appointment being conditioned on the District making a subsequent determination that the supplementary position and work associated with such position is needed and approved and will continue during the coronavirus pandemic following future guidance from the Commonwealth. Each appointment shall be effective only where the position is approved and operational and where the work associated with such position is actually being performed. This conditional appointment does not obligate the District to approve some, all or any of the supplementary positions for 2021-2022 and does not guarantee any of the persons listed below that his or her supplementary position will be needed and in place, or that it will continue uninterrupted, in 2021-2022:

NAME	POSITION	BUILDING	POINTS	RANGE	TOTAL STIPEND
Kim Masarik	Assistant Coach Winter Track & Field	HHS	20	18/20	\$2,780
Titus Murray	Middle School Assistant Wrestling Coach	HMS	26	26/34	\$3,614

Addendum

- Mr. Jeffrey Kline to continue as the Director of Administrative Services for the District for a five-year term commencing July 1, 2022 and ending on June 30, 2027 and approve the Contract for Employment for the Director of Administrative Services.
- Resignation of Ms. Jeanine Burkes who is resigning effective October 27, 2021. Ms. Burkes was a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School.

Ms. Hamlin said she is thrilled that Mr. Kline will continue as the Director of Administrative Services for the District for another five years. She said he is such a valuable asset to the District and community and his expertise is greatly appreciated.

Finance

(16:01)

Mr. Vasko recommended and the Board unanimously approved the 2022-2023 Joint Purchasing Agreement and Resolution with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit.

Technology

(19:30)

There was no report this evening.

Policy and Legislative Affairs

(19:33)

Mr. Shages recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following:

- First Reading of Policy #103: Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students.
- First Reading of Policy #104: Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff.
- First Reading of Policy #124: Alternative Delivery Methods for Instruction.

Mr. Shages thanked Dr. Cunningham for serving as the District's Title IX Coordinator.

Also, Mr. Shages addressed the District's policy on vaccinations. He cited Policy #203 which states that no student will be admitted to school who has not been immunized against diseases enumerated by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. He added that HTSD abides by these guidelines from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and will continue to do so moving forward.

Transportation

(22:34)

There were no action items this evening.

Educational Programs

(23:20)

There were no action items this evening, but Mrs. Hamlin asked Dr. Loughead to provide an overview of the District's relationship with the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, a national network that connects and supports the most forward-thinking school districts in education.

Dr. Loughead explained that Digital Promise is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that was authorized by Congress in 2008 and signed into law by President George W. Bush in an effort to promote digital innovation and to ensure all students had access to innovative teaching and learning strategies using digital tools. In 2011, a network of school districts was founded through Digital Promise called the League of Innovative Schools. Dr. Loughead explained that HTSD was asked to join in 2019 and that many schools in the region are also members, in part because of partnerships with schools like Carnegie Mellon University and museums in Pittsburgh. Those partnerships allowed for school districts to actually deliver innovative teaching and learning strategies using a variety of tools. Dr. Loughead said HTSD was pleased to join the League of Innovative Schools at that time. A powerful benefit of joining the group was the ability to visit and communicate with other school districts to learn about how digital learning is implemented in those particular classrooms.

However, Dr. Loughead stated that he was concerned to hear about the equity statement on the Digital Promise website. He spoke with regional superintendents who are a part of Digital Promise and learned that they, too, are concerned. Dr. Loughead said the equity statement was posted within the past few months. He said HTSD did not ascribe to the equity statement when joining Digital Promise two years ago. He said he plans on meeting with regional superintendents to discuss their relationship with Digital Promise and how to move forward with the concerning equity statement. Dr. Loughead will share feedback from that meeting with the Board and community. Further, Dr. Loughead explained that individual school districts, including HTSD, are not involved with Digital Promise's executive board that would make decisions about equity statements. Dr. Loughead said a superintendent with the League of Innovative Schools has reached out to the director of Digital Promise to express concerns over the equity statement.

Also, Mrs. Hamlin asked Dr. Loughead to provide an overall COVID-19 update. Dr. Loughead noted that weekly case numbers have leveled off. There has not been a significant spread or dropoff of cases within the school community. Allegheny County remains in the High Level of community transmission. Also, the county has seen a decrease in cases among the child-age population as compared to September. Fortunately, he said that HTSD's masking and social distancing policies have contributed to a very low number of quarantines, which has allowed in-person instruction to continue.

With news that Pennsylvania's masking order in schools could expire in January, Dr. Loughead said HTSD will continue to carefully monitor cases in Allegheny County. Universal masking is required under the District's Health and Safety Plan while the county's transmission levels are in the High or Moderate levels. HTSD will continue to be in communication with the Allegheny County Health Department for guidance on mitigation strategies. Dr. Loughead emphasized that the District's goal is to minimize quarantines and cases while keeping students and staff safe.

A.W. Beattie Career Center Board Report

(33:52)

Mr. Vasko shared that A.W. Beattie has a mobile application for parents or students who are interested in learning more about the programs offered at the Career Center. He encourages those who are interested to download the application. Additionally, Mr. Vasko said A.W. Beattie is hosting a holiday craft show on Saturday, November 13, from 10 AM to 4 PM. Proceeds from this event will support students in competitions this year. Admission is free and the first 100 attendees will receive a free wooden holiday ornament. Also, the Hampton Band Association is hosting a Holiday Extravaganza at the High School on Saturday, December 4, from 10 AM to 3 PM, with vendors, holiday activities, and performances by the band.

HAEE Report

(36:20)

Mrs. Midgley reported that the HAEE race on October 9 raised \$29,000. With that funding, HAEE was able to approve six mini grants — requests of \$500 or less. Additionally, HAEE recently welcomed two new board members, bringing the total to 19. Mrs. Midgley said there is room for 24 total board members if anyone is interested in joining. HAEE also recently launched a more user-friendly website: www.hamptonalliance.org.

Adjournment

(37:28)

There were no comments at this time, and Mr. Wesley adjourned the meeting. A brief executive session was held to discuss legal and personnel matters.