

**Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of the
Board of Education of Hawthorn Community Consolidated District Number 73, Lake County, Illinois held in the
Board Room at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, IL 60061
at 7:00 p.m. on the 26th day of February 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

Sonali Patil called the Regular Business Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Wes Polen, Board Secretary, called the roll with the following Board of Education members answering present: Jayson Tran, Julie Simpson, Jeff Bard, Robin Cleek, Wes Polen, Matt Jacobs and Sonali Patil. Also present was Superintendent Nick Brown and Abe Singh, CSBO, Director of Finance and Business Operations.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – No one from the public chose to comment.

STAFF RECOGNITION – None scheduled

PRESENTATIONS – Personalized Learning by Robert Collins, Principal of MSN and Rob Natale, Principal of MSS
Joining Mr. Collins and Mr. Natale in the LEAP presentation were the following teachers:

MSN 8th grade pilot team: Jennifer Harris, Dan Faust, Ali Athans, Alex Lobb and Erin Feinberg

MSS 6th grade pilot team: Anthony Dengler, Jacqui Ray, Laura Watkins-Ryner, Glennah McMahon, and
Audrey Dzhuraw

Instructional Coaches: Lauren Boardman and John Reid

LEAP stands for Learning Exponentially Advancing Potential which transforms the way students learn. The team presenting tonight is part of the pilot program for Hawthorn 73. There are four focuses of the learning framework: learner Focused, Learner Lead, Learner Demonstrated and Learner Connected. Students are empowered by learning through a one-to-one learning environment. Students have the ability to understand their needs, strengths, interests and approach to learning. Goals setting is an important strategy and students are required to set two MAP goals (math & reading) and one personal goal. Students utilize the ECRA system to revisit and adjust goals with guidance from their homeroom teachers. Students have the ability to set the pace of their learning and can choose a variety of ways to demonstrate mastery of a skill. This style of learning transcends location and allows the student to connect to families, educators, communities and networks. Co-designed project planning develops collaboration skills and builds student agency which gives the student a voice in the process. Students are able to stay connected even when out of the classroom. Informative writing projects about global citizenship for real audiences engage students in real-world writing experiences and create connections to the community. Looking to the future a second cohort of teachers will begin the LEAP Activate program. Classrooms will look differently with flexible seating and will highlight student interests and thinking. Teachers commented on their ability to move around the classroom and work with students. It was noted that at times, teachers still teach in the front of the classroom and students commented that they like the variety of teaching styles. Mr. Collins noted that teachers are able to view student activity on their devices and by using security software, teachers are able to shut down a device if the student is not using technology appropriately. For the most part, the kids have been great using the technology. Jeff Bard thanked the group for leading the way. Mr. Bard asked if the teachers found this learning environment not to be beneficial for every student and is it possibly beneficial for younger students? Teachers commented that in the beginning some students did not handle the process well and were pulled back into a group of more traditional teaching. The students got on board quickly and the teachers do not see as many issues. Elementary classrooms lend themselves to personalized learning because of the smaller classroom sizes. They are being given some of the tools to use. Robin Cleek expressed concern over mastery of concepts and wondered how students continued to build on concepts? Teachers explained that this is based on subjects. For example, in language arts rubrics set the standard and that

teacher assessment is key. The students can see the rubric and can see what they have met or exceeded or identified as developing. Having this information online allows student files to transfer from year to year to continue the path of learning. Math teachers still meet with students before, during or after school for extra help. This process now allows for more time on units and for the kids exceeding the standards it allows them to continue to advance their learning.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Educational Facilities Master Plan

Sonali Patil reviewed the community meeting that was held on Wednesday, February 21st at Middle School South. She asked board members to share information that they gathered during the small group session.

Wes Polen spoke with a small group and talked with community members who watched the presentation online. She heard that people liked the "Day in the Life" video. She was happy to learn that there are community members willing to help and move the project forward. Mrs. Polen thinks the next step is to hold another town hall meeting where the board can take more questions, not just Ms. Patil.

Jeff Bard said that he heard the community wants to hear what options or direction the board is heading. Mr. Bard thought the meeting was good and it was a good first step.

Matt Jacobs said transparency and communication were two topics he heard about. The board needs to come to the community with a plan, then a group will get behind the board. People are interested in a better break out of taxes and want operational costs for all buildings. The board needs to get a plan to the community.

Jayson Tran reported that people would like more information on finances and more transparency. The community wants the cost for all of the additions and what they are getting for their money. Mr. Tran expressed confusion about the point of the meeting because he thought the board was there to receive community feedback. To him it appeared that half of the community was looking to the board for a plan.

Robin Cleek was sort of pleased with attendance. Mrs. Cleek commented on the number of Hawthorn staff members present and wished that more people from the community attended especially those that do not have a student in the district. Mrs. Cleek commented that she heard no overarching themes. Community members felt the last plan was a band-aid approach that would only last 5-10 years and that the "fluff" needs to be removed from the plan. The community wants the board to address space issues, they want STEM to disappear, better impact fees from the villages, people do not believe in the numbers and are less trusting in the operational cost numbers for the buildings and kindergarten building. The community members she spoke to would like to see the board look at converting other spaces (Adaptive Reuse). Mrs. Cleek did like the town hall style meeting and would like to hold another to see if anymore themes come out. She thinks the board is still lacking the trust of the community.

Julie Simpson said some community members do not believe in the projections, but they do agree the middle schools are busting at the seams. They do not want to see any extras and believe the plans have "fluff". Mrs. Simpson noted the same trust issues and she does not know how the board will fix this issue. Community members felt that too much time was spent on the old referendum plan. Mrs. Simpson felt the purpose of this meeting was hear from the community and it was inappropriate to spend so much time on the previous referendum. She believes several more town hall style meetings are needed.

Superintendent Brown noted that community members want to support the district and they are looking for information. The video was eye-opening and the teachers received nice accolades that there is value to programs and what they do. Taxes and tax rates were addressed by Abe Singh through emails. Many community members were surprised to learn how the system is set-up and how other districts pull revenue. Most important is that people want to help and they understand that the board is not allowed to campaign and that the community needs to come together as a team. Some community members felt the last referendum was rushed.

Abe Singh fielded questions on district boundaries and the impact of bonds over time.

Sonali Patil thanked the administrators and teachers for their attendance. She heard many of the same things that the other board members reported. In the board packet is a list of proposed community engagement meetings; one at each building. Ms. Patil feels the board needs to start narrowing down to 2-3 plans and give the DLR Group a directive. The previous plan was presented because the board did not have anything else to show.

Mr. Tran asked board members what defines "fluff"? Mr. Brown requested that School Board members stop using this word. The Core Team put in over 2,500 hours of effort to develop the 10-year EFMP plan. Perhaps the word needs to be rephrased and the question asked how do you want to prioritize needs?

Ms. Patil would like to run some numbers and go into the town hall meetings with a few plans. She asked for board member feedback. Mrs. Cleek wants one more town hall meeting without a plan. She stated that there is a lot of negativity toward the Core Team that they worked behind closed doors and the plan was a take it or leave it issue. Mr. Jacobs leans toward another town hall style meeting but tighten up the presentation by hammering down the enrollment projection (better slides) and put groundwork down for 2-3 plans. Mr. Bard expressed concern that board members are not looking at the socio-economics of the district and it might be helpful to find out what amount of money people are willing to support. Mr. Bard said there is some confusion about increasing tax rates versus CPI. Mr. Tran suggested using a clicker system at the meeting to gather economic data. He also wants the community to tell the board what their budget is. Mrs. Cleek would like to show one plan with 3-4 different price points. Mrs. Cleek said the community supported Option A. Mrs. Patil feels the board needs to work with Option B since that was what the previous board felt was the best option for the community and was approved as the 10-year plan. Mr. Bard is concerned that community members are looking at this from their own priority and the board needs to change that perspective to a district-wide view. Ms. Patil asked board members to review the old plan prior to the next Board of Education meeting and to come up with a list. Mrs. Simpson stated that there is no reason to rush this process. Mr. Brown noted that DLR is putting together a full list of meeting notes. Mrs. Cleek told Mr. Singh that the community wants to see the future operating expenses and where the dollars are going per pupil and the day to day operating expenses.

Potential Future Community Engagement Dates

Ms. Patil presented a list potential future dates for community meetings. Wes Polen pointed out a conflict on April 5th; PTO will be hosting a Wacky Science Show at Aspen Elementary at 6:30 p.m. It was noted that the PTO family programming event was added to the district calendar after the list of meeting dates had been provided.

Kindergarten Building Update February 28th

Superintendent Brown provided a report from a meeting that was held with the Village of Vernon Hills and the

Victory Centre. No major concerns about the kindergarten building were expressed. A representative of the Victory Centre did have concerns about traffic speed. The construction bid documents are approximately 75% complete with a completion goal of March 12th.

Accounts Payable timing

Abe Singh discussed his concern with holding one Board of Education meeting per month and timing of approval of expenditures. There can be a six-week gap between approval and when vendors are getting paid. Mr. Singh provided information on an approval process that the Board would authorize the Superintendent to pay bills on the 4th Monday subject to Board receipt of the bills payable list for review on the 3rd Monday; any bills in question would be removed and held for approval at the following board meeting. Robin Cleek asked if this is allowed? Mr. Singh explained that this is a standard procedure in some districts. Jeff Bard would like to have legal counsel review since it would be a different procedure than what has been done in the past.

Proposed 2018-2019 Board of Education Meeting Calendar

Sonali Patil reviewed the proposed calendar in particular the four months that have only one meeting scheduled. Wes Polen suggested changing those meetings to the 3rd Monday of the month and asked Mr. Singh if this would help the accounts payable timing? Mr. Singh stated that it would lessen the gap. Meetings in the months of September, December and May were tentatively suggested to be moved to the 3rd Monday (9/17/18, 12/17/18 & 5/20/19). Jeff Bard expressed concern about the gap between the December and January meeting. Robin Cleek is concerned about having one meeting in the month of March because that is when the superintendent's contract will be up for renewal. No decision on a second meeting in March. The calendar will be discussed again at the Board of Education meeting on March 12th.

Staff & Administrator Survey

Robin Cleek has prepared a survey for staff and administrators who do not participate in the HUMANeX survey in the fall. Since the last Board of Education meeting, Mrs. Cleek has made revisions to the survey questions. Sonali Patil asked board members to share their thoughts. Discussion was held about specific questions as to whether School Board members were in agreement with the way a question was worded, if a question needed to be reworded or if a question needed to be deleted. The document was not finalized and will be reviewed at another meeting.

Press 96

Sonali Patil asked Board members if they had additional questions or comments regarding the Press 96 policies that were discussed on February 12th.

Ms. Patil continued discussion with the following Press 96 policies for Board review:

5:250 *Leaves of Absence*: the policy is unchanged. Footnote 2 is revised to eliminate the use of the term "ward".

5:330 *Sick Days, Vacation, Holiday and Leaves*: see policy 5:250 for same change.

6:235 AP1, *E1 Student Authorization for Access to the District's Electronic Networks*: the procedure is updated; the term "ward" is removed.

5:250 E, *Resource Person and Volunteer Information Form and Waiver of Liability*: the exhibit is updated for the reasons discussed in 6:235 AP1, E1.

7:60 AP2 *Establishing Student Residency*: the procedure is updated to allow a current bank statement to be used as

proof of residency while mail received at the new residence is eliminated.

7:275 Orders to Forgo Life Sustaining Treatment: the policy is updated for the term "ward".

7:300 E3: the exhibit is updated for reasons discussed in policy 6:235, the term "ward".

4:10 Fiscal and Business Management: policy is unchanged; footnote is updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/17-2A, amended by P.A. 100-465 which extended the time period during which a district may make interfund transfers from 7-1-16 to 7-1-20.

4:15 Identity Protection: the policy and footnotes are updated regarding greater protection on social security numbers. This policy will require legal counsel review before adopting the policy.

4:110 AP2 Bus Driver Communication Devices; Pre-Trip and Post-Trip Inspection; Bus Driving Comments: the policy is unchanged upon a 5-year review. Minor continuous improvements are made to the footnotes. The drivers cannot be on their cell phones unless the bus is stopped.

6:20 School Year Calendar and Day: the policy is unchanged, and the footnotes are updated to incorporate that districts are required to report their monthly average daily attendance figures, broken down by grade level to ISBE and allows a partial day of attendance to be counted as a full day when local or county authorities use a school facility to hold a memorial or funeral service in remembrance of a community member.

7:150 Agency and Policy Interviews: the policy is unchanged, and footnotes are updated prohibiting law enforcement agencies from enforcing civil immigration laws and prohibiting student booking stations.

7:30 AP Definition of Child Sex Offender: the procedure is updated; definition of child sex offender updated.

Student Civic Engagement Regarding Florida

Mr. Brown discussed civic planned events in support of the tragedy in Florida. A 17-minute student walk out has been planned nationwide for a date in March to honor the seventeen lives lost and another event is planned for April. Superintendent Brown is concerned about student safety going outside on a publically announced date/time however, he does not want to shut down student voices. The student walk out is a political event and schools are typically neutral. Mr. Brown has reached out to local legislators and asked them to come to the building to have a discussion with the students. Julie Simpson suggested that this be done only at the middle schools. Robin Cleek asked if parents could sign the student out of class and walk out with them? Mr. Brown and neighboring district superintendents are looking into the possibility of offering a "sit-in". Mrs. Cleek would like students to have the option to opt out. Jayson Tran added that an inside opportunity makes sense since it gives the students the chance to talk about why they are participating in the event. Mrs. Simpson asked for the building principals opinions. Mr. Collins and Mr. Natale declined to comment until the entire Administrative Team had the opportunity to discuss.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 2/26.74 Board Minutes 2/12/18
- 2/26.75 Closed Session Minutes 2/12/18
- 2/26.76 Closed Session Minutes 2/12/18
- 2/26.77 Press Policy 96 policies: 4:170, 5:200, 6:50, 6:150, 7:185, 7:190, 7:250, 7:270 & 7:305
- 2/26.78 AMEX January
- 2/26.79 Expenditure Report - February
- 2/26.80 Kindergarten Project Cost Log
- 2/26.81 Personnel: A-H
- Resignation:
 - A. Collin Hazlett – 6th grade math teacher, MSN
 - B. Anthony Dengler – 6th grade math teacher, MSS

C. Judy Gonzalez – 5th grade teacher, DL
D. Mary Donovan – LBS1, MSN
Leave of Absence:
E. Jaimie Whitehead – 3rd grade teacher, AS
F. Megan Ruffner – 1st grade teacher, TL
G. Genevieve Klein – music/chorus teacher, MSS
ESP: H.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Robin Cleek moved that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Wes Polen seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Jayson Tran, Julie Simpson, Jeff Bard, Robin Cleek, Wes Polen, and Sonali Patil voted aye. Matt Jacobs abstained.

Motion Carried: 6 ayes; 0 nay; 1 abstain

ACTION ITEMS

2/26.82 Lakeside Transportation, Inc.

Sonali Patil asked if anyone had further discussion? No one responded.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Julie Simpson moved that the Board of Education approve the Agreement for Transportation Services between the Board of Education Hawthorn School District #73 and Lakeside Transportation, Inc. as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Jayson Tran, Julie Simpson, Jeff Bard, Robin Cleek, Wes Polen, Matt Jacobs and Sonali Patil voted aye.

Motion Carried: 7 ayes; 0 nay

2/26.83 First Student, Inc., Contract Extension

Sonali Patil asked if anyone had further discussion? No one responded.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Julie Simpson moved that the Board of Education approve the contract extension for charter and summer scholar transportation services between the Board of Education Hawthorn School District #73 and First Student, Inc. as presented. Matt Jacobs seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Jayson Tran, Julie Simpson, Jeff Bard, Robin Cleek, Wes Polen, Matt Jacobs and Sonali Patil voted aye.

Motion Carried: 7 ayes; 0 nay

2/26.84 2018-2019 Board of Education Meeting Calendar

The action item was tabled until the March 12, 2018 Board of Education meeting pending additional information on the accounts payable timing proposal.

RESIDENT'S REPORT – Sonali Patil

Ms. Patil congratulated Middle South and Middle North teams on their performance at the Regional MathCounts competition. Also, congratulations to Mr. Anthony Dengler on his new position.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Brown highlighted Elementary North students for their participation in the Great Kindness Challenge which is a program that prevents bullying and promotes a positive school culture. Every child who completed their "Kindness Checklist" was entered into a raffle to win a special lunch with the principals. Congratulations to the Middle North 7th grade Girls' Volleyball team 2018 conference champions! Middle South Student Council held a food drive for the Vernon Township Food Pantry. They set a goal of collecting 500 items and surpassed their goal by collecting 835 items. Ten students attended the Regional MathCounts competition on Saturday, February 17th. The team took 2nd place out of 18 schools and earned a spot at the State Competition on March 3rd. Congratulations to the team and thank you to Coach Alexander. Congratulations to all Hawthorn South Wrestlers for an outstanding performance at the IESA Regional Wrestling Tournament held on Saturday, February 24th. 10 wrestlers will advance to the IESA Sectional tournament. Students in Ms. Howell's Integrated Math and Science class connected the Winter Olympics sport of curling to the science concept of physics by understanding the principals behind Newton's 3rd Law of Motion. No school on Monday, March 5th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None scheduled

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS – None scheduled

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Hawthorn in the News
2. FOIA Request: Christine Smith – 29 Park Avenue, Lake Zurich. Requests copies of all back flow inspection reports and invoices, all fire sprinkler inspection reports and invoices, all fire alarm inspection reports and invoices and all hood range reports (kitchen, fire suspension reports) and invoices for all school district 73.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

1. Jeff Bard would like Dual Language expansion operation costs
2. Jeff Bard would like an update on the 1:1 Personalized Learning initiative with ample time to review the budget for next school year
3. Robin Cleek would like a follow up on technology privacy policies

ADJOURNMENT – Sonali Patil asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Jayson Tran made a motion to adjourn the Business Meeting. Julie Simpson seconded the motion.

Sonali Patil called for a voice vote:

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nay

The Regular Business Meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Peterson*



Sonali Patil, President



Wes Polen, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: Mar 12, 18