

**Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of Hawthorn Community Consolidated District #73, Lake County, Illinois conducted In-Person in accordance with Tier 3 Mitigation Requirements imposed through Executive Order 2020-73—reissued by Executive Order 2020-74
Meeting Location: Hawthorn District Office: 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, IL 60061**

7:00 p.m. on the 21st day of October 2021

CALL TO ORDER

President Robin Cleek called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The Board Secretary called attendance, and the following members attended in person: Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Michael Engle, Sonali Patil, Wes Polen, Karl Borchers, and Robin Cleek. Also in attendance were the Asst. Supt. of Business & Finance, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor; Asst. Supt. of Teaching, Learning & Innovation, Ms. Allison Stein; Asst. Supt. for Human Resources, Mr. Adam Palmer; Asst. Supt. of Student Services, Ms. Alicia Corrigan, Director of Instructional Technology, Mr. John Reid, and Superintendent, Dr. Pete Hannigan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff Fougerousse, Vernon Hills Park District Executive Director, and David Doerhoefer, Vernon Hills Park District Board President presented a video clip to showcase the Vernon Hills Park District National Park District of the Year Award. Mr. Doerhoefer took the opportunity to thank Hawthorn District 73 for their continued relationship and partnership with the Vernon Hills Park District (VHPD). Mr. Fougerousse emphasized the comments that Mr. Doerhoefer made and also thanked the Board of Education and staff for their commitments and partnership. He explained the process for the National Park District Year of Award. VHPD competed against 40 different park districts in their classification that were narrowed down to four park districts that competed at a national level. The final four park districts were VHPD, Deerfield Park District in Illinois, Fountain Hills Park District in Arizona, and New Goshen in Pennsylvania. Mr. Fougerousse ended their comments by thanking Dr. Hannigan for his continued support and leadership.

Public Comments Submitted via Hawthorn Website:

Sarah Grover

Lori Dougherty

RECOGNITION

Karl Borchers spoke on behalf of the Recognition Committee and recognized the Vernon Hills Park District for their continued support with the Hawthorn School for Young Learners building and all they do for the Hawthorn Community. In honor of their support, the recognition committee presented the VHPD with a brick that has the engraving "Big Things Are Built One Brick At A Time."

Vice President Wes Polen recognized Director of Facilities Mike Labbe and his team for their hard work. This past summer, a community member reached out to Dr. Hannigan regarding some bushes on the district property that were coming through the community member's fence and property. Mr. Labbe and his team went over to the property as soon as possible to clear the bushes. Shortly after, the recognition committee received an email from the community member commending and praising Mr. Labbe and his team for immediately springing into action and appreciating how the matter was handled. Wes thanked Mr. Labbe and his team for cleaning and maintaining the Hawthorn buildings and for their dedication to our community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

PRESENTATIONS

Asst. Supt. for Human Resources Mr. Adam Palmer presented the substitute compensation report. Mr. Palmer recognized the critically important roles that the substitutes serve each day in Hawthorn schools. When staff are unable to be at work with their students, the talented members of Hawthorn's substitute team step in and provide uninterrupted instruction to the students. As mentioned, portions of the educational workforce are being challenged to fill vacant positions such as transportation, health care workers, lunch/recess supervisors, instructional assistants and substitutes. Because of substitute shortages, Hawthorn conducted a substitute compensation review. In conducting this review, Hawthorn surveyed surrounding school districts and it was determined that Hawthorn is on the lower end of the daily substitute rate.

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Mr. Palmer also presented the substitute job fill rates over the last four years. This year shows a decline in filling the vacancies each day at the same rate as previous years. Based upon the data presented, Hawthorn recommends increasing the daily rate for substitutes from the current \$102 per day to \$120, decrease the number of days needed to begin earning the Long-Term Rate from 26 days to 15 days, and make the Long-Term Rate retroactive to the beginning of the assignment.

CSBO, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor, presented the 2021 Levy Presentation. Ms. Taylor introduced Hawthorn District 73's new business office and payroll supervisor, Mrs. Jennifer Akin, who assisted with the preparation of the 2021 tax levy. The Board of Education was presented with the timeline to process and certify the levy with the county clerk. Ms. Taylor reminded the board that the tax levy is the district's annual request for property tax money needed to support the operation of the district. Once the levy is certified, the county presents the extension to the business office in the Spring of 2022. A chart was shown to display the property values for Hawthorn District 73. For the second year in a row, property values remained relatively flat, which is why the overall levy presented is relatively flat. Property values dipped slightly in 2020 because of reassessment and are projected to rebound in 2021. Ms. Taylor summarized that the 2020 levy proposal was \$46,925,000 and the actual extension received was \$46,187,686. The 2021 levy includes an increase of 3.43%, which includes a tax cap on existing property values and an equalized assessed value for new construction.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hannigan reported the updates on the COVID-19 dashboard. The updated COVID-19 dashboard has been uploaded on the website to indicate school buildings and grade levels. As of last week, October 15, 2021, the district reported four students who have tested positive for COVID-19. The year-to-date number of students who have tested positive is 61. As of last week, October 15, 2021, the district reported one staff member who tested positive for COVID-19. The year-to-date number of staff members who have tested positive for COVID-19 is seven. The number of students who have been placed under quarantine as of last Friday is four. The year-to-date number of students placed under quarantine is 87. There were no staff members placed under quarantine as of last Friday. The year-to-date number of staff and students who have been placed under quarantine is 91.

As of last week, October 15, the district has one student across the district participating in "Test-to-Stay" and two staff members. Since August 23, 2021, we have had 68 students and two staff members across the district participate in "Test-to-Stay" rather than quarantine. All students and staff to date have tested negative.

Between October 13, 2021, and October 15, 2021, 451 students were SHIELD tested. Of the 451 students, two students were found positive.

Hawthorn District 73 participated in an early release day on Thursday, October 21, 2021. Staff worked in their PLC's and specifically worked through the MTSS acceleration and intervention model. English Language Arts and Spanish Language Arts pilot teams had training on how to implement the resource materials that are being evaluated for potential recommendation and implementation for next year. Building secretaries and building nurses had breakout sessions.

Mr. Adam Palmer facilitated the Leadership Academy this afternoon. The aspiring administrators are working through "The Advantage" by Patrick Lencioni. The aspiring group had the opportunity to hear Mr. Palmer's inspiring leadership story. Svetlana Popovic from Humanex Ventures facilitated chapter 1 from the book study.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Robin Cleek discussed the possibility of sending or not sending a Hawthorn D73 Board of Education representative to the IASB Delegate Assembly. President Cleek reached out to IASB in an attempt to learn more about their COVID-19 safety mitigations. There is a mask mandate and they have expanded the space to ease congestion. The board did receive some emails from community members about certain resolutions that they would like the board to vote on. Many of the resolutions will likely be a part of a consent agenda and there will be no argument. The two resolutions that people have asked the board to go and vote on are giving local districts control on whether or not to arm their teachers and whether or not districts should include in their curriculum about safe firearm storage kept at home. The board decided not to send a member to the IASB Delegate Assembly.

ED-RED REPORT

There is a member meeting on November 5. It is significant to note that Mr. Finfer spoke to the Executive Director of ED-RED regarding the two resolutions mentioned and it is on their radar.

SEDOL REPORT

No report at this time.

KEY to 73 REPORT

No report at this time.

SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

No report at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 6.1 Board Meeting Minutes 10/07/2021
- 6.2 Expenditure Report, 10/21/2021
- 6.3 AMEX Report, August 2021
- 6.4 Amazon Expense Report, 10/21/2021
- 6.5 Treasurer's Report July 2021
- 6.6 Treasurer's Report August 2021
- 6.7 Personnel Report

2 New Hires: Anesu Bumhira, Nurse, DO; Sujatha Kavuri, Instructional Assistant, ES

2 Resignations: Rebecca Dugan, Instructional Assistant 1:1, MS, 10/07/2021; Sandra Makosch, Office Clerk, ES, 10/29/2021

3 Leave of Absence: Erin Feinberg, 8th-grade teacher, MN; Victoria Minarik, STEAM teacher, MS; Carrie Young, 3rd Grade ELL Teacher, ES

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the **Consent Agenda** items as presented; seconded by Wes Polen.

Roll Call Vote: Wes Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Michael Engle and Karl Borchers.

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

CSBO Ms. LeeAnn Taylor explained the action items on tonight's agenda that relate to the business department. The district is seeking approval to grant the resolution to issue the last \$15.5 million for the purpose of financing certain capital projects approved by the referendum. At the last board meeting, Ms. Taylor was asked to ensure what the abatement process looked like. After checking different sources, the process would entail the board giving the county clerk authorization to abate those taxes and the tax rate would change on tax bills moving forward. The second agenda item explained was the copier service and purchase agreement. The district looks forward to a new relationship with Proven Printer Co.

Director of Instructional Technology John Reid, explained the third action item from tonight's agenda. Mr. Reid reminded the board regarding the SOPPA policy update that was discussed in the September 23 board meeting. The SOPPA policy that

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went into effect in July 2021 governs the use of educational technology and deals with student data and privacy laws. There were also updates to the administrative procedures detailing the designation of district employees authorized to be entered in the written agreements that are part of the SOPPA data privacy laws that currently include the Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Director of Instructional Technology, Technology and Integration Administrator and the Technology Support Supervisor. Exhibits were also included to provide parent communication templates when there is a security data breach and other notifications such as parent rights that are posted on the website.

Vice President, Wes Polen, explained the last action item from tonight's agenda. Ms. Polen reminded the board that the Press 107 issue was discussed during the September 23 board meeting. The majority of the issue contained updates to legal references and footnotes. Four main policy updates were discussed, which were the conviction records related to employment decisions, SOPPA policy, school district governance and how board meetings are held, and finally changing Hawthorn's language to include general neutral pronouns.

ACTION ITEMS -

Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$15.5 Million General Obligation School Building Bonds for the purpose of financing certain capital projects approved by referendum, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the execution of a Bond Purchase Agreement with Raymond James & Associates, Inc., in connection with the proposed sale of said bonds.

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$15.5 Million General Obligation School Building Bonds for the purpose of financing certain capital projects approved by referendum, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the execution of a Bond Purchase Agreement with Raymond James & Associates, Inc., in connection with the proposed sale of said bonds; Karl Borchers seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Wes Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Michael Engle, and Karl Borchers.

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

Copier Service and Purchase Agreement

MOTION: George Fievet moved that the Board of Education approve the Copier Service and Purchase Agreement; Michael Engle seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Wes Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Michael Engle, and Karl Borchers.

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

Student Data Privacy Policy

MOTION: Wes Polen moved that the Board of Education approve the Student Data Privacy Policy; George Fievet seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Wes Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Michael Engle, and Karl Borchers.

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Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

Policy, Press Issue 107

MOTION: Wes Polen moved that the Board of Education approve Policy, Press Issue 107; Michael Engle seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Wes Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Michael Engle, and Karl Borchers.

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Enrollment- Uploaded
2. FOIA Log, Dr. Hannigan reported that there were two FOIA requests received since the last board meeting that have been responded to as identified in Section 8.2 of the Board Agenda.
3. Board Email Log
4. Media Clips

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Vice President Wes Polen brought up the current toner shortage. She proposes to stop using paper copies for board materials to save toner for the district. President Robin Cleek and Karl Borchers agreed since the majority of the materials are uploaded into BoardDocs or projected on the TVs. Dr. Sonali Patil requested to only have paper copies provided when it is hard to read information or data on a screen.

President Robin Cleek would like to discuss the public comment policy to gain clarity in regards to reading or not reading public comments out loud during board meetings.

ADJOURN SESSION – With no further business to discuss, Karl Borchers made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Sonali Patil. *The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m. All in favor? Yes.*

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Flores

Robin Cleek, President

George Fievet, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: _____



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You've got a new form submission!

Email BOE Members

Submission ID: 1717

Submission Date: 10/20/2021 2:51 PM

Name - First Name: Lori

Name - Last Name: Dougherty

Email Address: doughertyl56@gmail.com

Subject: Substitute Pay

Message:

I am very pleased to read of the discussion item being brought forth tomorrow about sub pay. I appreciate the document that Mr. Palmer presented to all of you. I might add: Mundelein District 75 sub daily rate is \$135. Fremont District 79 pays subs a day's pay for completing the required videos and sub training. As a 73 sub since retiring in 2013 from Hawthorn, I can obviously see the daily sub needs. The part that worries me most, when subs cannot be obtained ELL, Reading Specialists...are pulled from their positions to sub. The students counting on this extra help do not receive anything then. There have been days this year

with 22 or more sub jobs not filled. I know your main focus is for every child to get the best possible education and I am thrilled this is your continued priority. Thank you for ALL you do.

[View Submission](#)



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You've got a new form submission!

Email BOE Members

Submission ID: 1679

Submission Date: 10/19/2021 2:22 PM

Name - First Name: Sarah

Name - Last Name: Grover

Email Address: sarah.grover21@gmail.com

Subject: IASB Resolutions / gun safety

Dear D73 School Board, Thank you for your continued service to our schools. I'm writing to urge the Board to attend the IASB conference in November, and to vote in support of gun sense on two resolutions. I have lived in D73 for 10+ years. I am also a member of Moms Demand Action - a non-partisan group focused solely on gun violence prevention. I'm writing on behalf of my own 2 children, all of the children in D73, and also for all of the children across Illinois. First, please vote No on Resolution #2. Res #2 would allow IASB to support & advocate for legislation in which individual school districts could move toward a

concealed carry program for district employees. In other words, supporting legislation allowing local districts to opt in to arming teachers. Right now, schools are gun-free zones in the state of Illinois. Firearms are prohibited in schools under the Firearm Concealed Carry Act effective July 2013. Resolution #2 would be opening a door towards arming teachers that does not exist. The school board that proposed Res #2 is advocating for rural communities - and looking to gain local control with regards to arming teachers. The idea of arming teachers is largely centered around breaking up an active shooter situation, and responding more quickly than local law enforcement could. However, there is no supporting data to back up this as an effective strategy. Instead, when guns are introduced, new daily risks are introduced that far out-weight any imagined benefits. The risk of an active shooter situation happening at any given school is actually quite low. The risks of introducing guns to Illinois schools on a daily basis by way of arming teachers are much greater. Local control might be appropriate for certain topics. But, in the case of arming teachers, keeping guns out of schools, as is currently law, is the safest choice. More guns in schools does not make teachers nor students safer. One - Students will access teachers' guns. Intentionally or unintentionally. Two - the overall risk of shootings increases. Also intentionally or unintentionally. Additionally, through academic and athletic competitions, students from different school districts across the state compete and share facilities and venues. The presence of firearms in any of these spaces makes all participants less safe. The Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence has been tracking every case of a gun being mishandled in a school since 2014. According to Giffords, the most common problem is that staff forget guns when using the bathroom. Even off-duty police officers and school resource officials have experienced this issue. Here are a few examples of incidents that have occurred regarding guns in schools. March 2020, Tennessee - A school resource officer unintentionally discharged his firearm in his office at the school. March 2019, Ohio - In an elementary school, a director left her pistol in an unlocked case in her office when she went to the restroom. This person was trained as part of the district's concealed carry program and allowed to have a gun on school property. Two first-graders who were left alone in the office accessed the gun. April 2019, Wisconsin - A janitor's gun unintentionally discharged. One student was bruised by falling debris caused by the bullet hitting a wall. April 2019, Florida - A school resource officer was leaning against a cafeteria wall

Message:

when his agency-issued weapon fired a round into the wall while still in the officer's holster. Sept 2014, Utah - A teacher placed a weapon on top of a toilet paper holder and it unintentionally discharged, hitting the toilet and injuring the teacher when fragments of the bullet and the shattered toilet hit her leg. Nov 2016, Michigan - A sheriff's deputy unintentionally discharged his gun while alone in a classroom. A teacher in an adjacent classroom was struck; the injuries were non-life threatening. March 2018, California - A teacher giving a presentation about gun safety fired his weapon believing it was not loaded. The loaded gun had been aimed at the ceiling. Bullet fragments ricocheted off the ceiling, injuring a student in the neck. There are many more like these. Introducing guns to schools brings far too much risk than is fair for our teachers or our students to absorb. Please vote No on Res #2. Arming teachers is not appropriate here at D73, or anywhere else in Illinois. It appears I'm out of space for the second Resolution I wanted to bring up (#15) so I will send a separate email. I'm sorry to double-up your inboxes, but I feel this is important. The next one will be shorter, I promise. Thank you again. Sarah Grover 3 Huntington Court Mundelein, IL

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You've got a new form submission!

Email BOE Members

Submission ID: 1680

Submission Date: 10/19/2021 2:25 PM

Name - First Name: Sarah

Name - Last Name: Grover

Email Address: sarah.grover21@gmail.com

Subject: IASB Resolutions / gun safety email #2

Here I am again. The second IASB Resolution I wanted to write about is Resolution #15. Please vote Yes on Resolution #15 Resolution #15 advocates for strengthening safe gun storage in Illinois, and increasing the safe storage requirement from age 14 up to age 18, in which firearms must be stored in a locked container. 41% of adolescents in gun-owning households report having "easy access" to those firearms. The majority of active school shootings, 91% of them, have a connection to the school (meaning current/former students). And, 80% of the guns used in school shootings were obtained from the shooter's

home or the home of a friend/relative. When families
Message: are not storing their firearms properly, the risk to the larger community increases. There is also the tragic fact that youth suicides are on the rise. When a firearm is used in a suicide attempt, it is nearly always successful (as compared with other methods). When a child is struggling with suicidal thoughts, the biggest gift we can give them is the gift of time. When a barrier like a locked firearm gets in their way, the child's chances at living increase. Please vote Yes on Resolution #15. I appreciate you reading my email(s)!! I hope you will send a delegate to the IASB conference, and vote in support of gun safety for all our communities. Sincerely, Sarah Grover 3
Huntington Court Mundelein, IL

[View Submission](#)