

# The Board Report

*Monday, December 6, 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.**

**Mrs. Jill Hamlin**

**Ms. Denise Balason**

**Mr. Matt Jarrell**

**Mrs. Joy Midgley**

**Mr. Robert Shages**

**Mr. Greg Stein**

**Mr. Larry Vasko\***

**Mrs. Trisha Webb**

**Board President**

**Board Vice President**

**Board Secretary/Facilities Chair**

**Transportation Chair**

**Personnel Chair**

**Board Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair**

**Technology Chair**

**Finance Chair**

**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 Loughhead**

**Dr. Rebecca Cunningham**

**Mr. Jeff Kline**

**Mr. Don Palmer, GRB**

**Superintendent of Schools**

**Assistant Superintendent of Schools**

**Director of Administrative Services**

**Solicitor**

**December 6, 2021**

## **Reorganization Meeting**

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

### **Student Awards Presentation**

(6:31)

Before the meeting commenced, the Board honored Hampton's student athletes for a very successful fall sports season. Dr. Loughhead said the state championship-winning Boys Soccer team will be recognized at the January School Board Meeting.

The Board offered congratulations to the following members of the Varsity Football team for winning the WPIAL Class 5A Greater Allegheny conference with an undefeated regular season:

Michael Bagley, II	Liam Martin
Braeden Ballantine	Joseph Mayer
Keegan Berzonski	Seamus McLaughlin
Brock Borgo	Adrian Midgley
Joshua Carr	Liam Mignogna
Adam Davis	Michael Morgano
Matthew DeMatteo	John Morris
Adam Dembowski	Kevin Morris
Joshua Dunmire	Robert Oliver
Osmerie Efetie	Aiden Petry
Devon Fritsche	Joseph Posteraro
Gabriel Gannelli	Carson Potter
Nathaniel Glock	Jacob Premick
Logan Grondwalski	Liam Reed
Gabriel Harris	Kole Reiser
Nolan Harris	Jayden Resch
Benjamin Haselrig	Ethan Risnear
Kaden Hoolahan	Dylan Rubenstein
Zachary Jacob	Joseph Rubenstein
Gryffin Keller	Logan Rutledge
Jake Killian	Michael Santorello
Raymond Kirsopp	Charles Schuit
Canden Kuskie	Logan Schwartz
Aidan Lewis	Mason Stebler
Christian Liberto	Eric Weeks
Brady Long	Austin Williams
	Michael Witherup

The following individual Varsity Football all-conference honors were also recognized:

- **First Team:** Christian Liberto (running back), Michael Witherup (tight end), Ben Haselrig (wide receiver), Logan Rutledge (tackle), John Morris (tackle), Logan Schwartz (defensive end), Jayden Resch (inside linebacker), Joe Mayer (defensive back), and Matt DeMatteo (defensive back).
- **Second Team:** Brock Borgo (running back), Charlie Schuit (guard), Keegan Berzonski (down lineman).
- **Honorable Mention:** Kole Reiser (center), Matt DeMatteo (quarterback), Jake Premick (running back), and Bobby Oliver (outside linebacker).

The Board also recognized Hampton Township School District for being selected as a 2021 WPIAL Sportsmanship Award Winner — capturing its sixth honor in 13 years, collecting them in 2008, 2009-10, 2011-12, 2017-18, and 2019-20. HTSD was recognized during the WPIAL Sportsmanship Summit in November at the Heinz History Center and Sports Museum, and was bestowed with a “Sportsmanship: The Only Missing Piece is You” 4x6 banner, a PIAA Board of Directors resolution acknowledging their selection, and a distinctive paperweight with the miniature banner embedded inside. Mrs. Webb congratulated Mr. Bill Cardone, Athletic Director, and the Athletic Department for this award. The Board also acknowledged Addison Gindlesperger, Benjamin Haselrig, Lucy Interthal, and Brennan Murray who were also selected to represent the school district at the Sportsmanship Summit.

The Board recognized the members of the Girls Soccer team, who qualified for the WPIAL playoffs, in addition to the following players who received individual honors:

- Jillian Antol, All-Section Team
- Nicole Fortes, All-Section Team
- Ava France, All-WPIAL and All-Section Team
- Madison Hurst, All-WPIAL and All-Section Team
- Sofia Kelly, All-Section Team

The Board then offered congratulations to the Girls Varsity Volleyball team for an amazing season, and for being the WPIAL and PIAA runner-up. The following members of the team were recognized, in addition to head coach Annie Bozzo:

Claudia Braun	Avery Koontz
Hayley Duchnowski	Kendall Kozel
Brooklyn Eastly	Kaitlyn Laffin
Anabel Fazzini	Teagan Nolan
Taylor Fiscus	Maya Obendorfer
Taylor Frankel	Emma Rick
Lauren Gale	Elizabeth Saponsky
Payton Galietti	Allison Schepner
Caitlyn Garrett	Emersen Schrom
Addison Gindlesperger	Abigail Stevens
Anna Hensberger	Kassidy Thompson
Kai Herchenroether	Sterling Thompson
Eva Hughes	

Additionally, the Board congratulated the following athletes who were selected to the All-Section Team and/or All-WPIAL teams:

- Claudia Braun, All-Section First Team and the All-WPIAL Third Team
- Kai Herchenroether, All-Section First Team and the All-WPIAL First Team
- Emmy Schrom, All-Section First Team and the All-WPIAL First Team
- Taylor Fiscus, All-Section Second Team
- Addy Gindlesperger, All-Section Second Team
- Avery Koontz, All-Section Second Team
- Emma Rick, All-Section Third Team

The following members of the WPIAL championship winning Boys Cross Country team were recognized as well:

Jacob Barton	Layne Haught
Chris Belch	Zach Krills
Michael Belch	Ryan Leyes
Jacob Bonnar	Patrick Light
Liam Butler	Jackson McGrath
Brendon Capsembelis	Myles McKinney
Tyler Fitzgerald	Ian Rayko
Nathan Gardner	Quentin Romero-Lauro
Nathan Garrett	Tyler Welch
Greg Gropeli	Blaise (William) White
Dale Hall	Alan Wolfe

The Board congratulated Christopher Belch, Jacob Bonnar, Nathan Gardner, Dale (David) Hall, Nathan Garrett, Zachary Krills, Jackson McGrath, Quentin Romero-Lauro, Tyler Welch and Alan Wolfe, who all ran in the WPIAL and PIAA Championships.

Also, the following members of the Girls Cross country team were recognized:

Lydia Bailey	Sofia Fraccalanza
Leah Beam	Adrianna Grimm
Elin Boyce	Teresa Grimm
Katherine Cafaro	Abby Hall
Maya Daugherty	Kendall Solkovy
Rachel Dolan	Liana Suski
Samantha Eaton	Elizabeth Twomey
Kevyn Fish	Ava Vitiello
Madison Fitzgerald	Hope Walton

Competing at the WPIAL Championships were Lydia Bailey, Leah Beam, Katherine Cafaro, Samantha Eaton, Kevyn Fish, Madison Fitzgerald, Teresa Grimm, Abigail Hall, Kendall Solkovy, Liana Suski and Ava Vitiello. Ava Vitiello and Kevyn Fish also qualified for the PIAA Championships.

### **Call to Order**

(31:08)

Mr. Wesley called the Reorganization Meeting to order. Roll call was taken; Mr. Vasko was absent; all other Board Members were present.

The Board took the following actions:

- Mr. Shages was nominated and elected as Temporary Chairperson.
- Mrs. Hamlin, Ms. Balason, and Mr. Stein — recently elected Board members — took the Oath of Office, while Mr. Vasko was sworn in earlier this week.
- Mr. Wesley was nominated and elected as President.
- Mrs. Hamlin was nominated and elected as Vice President.

Mr. Wesley congratulated the Board members who were sworn in. He said they have done a great job, and the community is fortunate to have such conscientious people serving on the School Board.

Next, the Board approved establishing meeting times and places. Meetings will continue to be held on consecutive Mondays at the beginning of each month in the HMS Auditorium. The last Monday of each month is reserved in the event that holding a Special Meeting is necessary.

There were no public comments at this time.

### **President's Report**

(33:08)

Mr. Wesley once again congratulated the parents, coaches, administration, and staff for Hampton's unprecedented fall sports season. Despite students coming off a challenging year with the pandemic, he is proud that they have excelled in the classrooms and in athletics.

### **Superintendent's Report**

(34:08)

Dr. Loughhead echoed Mr. Wesley's remarks by praising the student athletes, families, and community for a successful fall sports season. He highlighted that Hampton won the WPIAL's annual Sportsmanship Award for a second consecutive year and sixth time overall. He stated that "sportsmanship" means dignity and respect for yourself and your fellow athletes — which is what Hampton stands for.

Also, Dr. Loughhead recognized the Hampton football team for responding to help the community clean up after a tornado hit the area in October. He said he could not be prouder of Hampton's student athletes and their character.

## Facilities

(36:31)

Mr. Jason Day of P.J. Dick provided an update on the Phase I portion of the Hampton High School renovation project.

His presentation included the following information:

- Phase I is now completed, which included installing a new northern drive to Topnick Drive for temporary use, and installing a new main entrance with a four-way intersection that is now open to traffic. There were not any problems transitioning from the existing entrance to the new entrance.
- The general contractor has continued bulk excavation and fill activities in the rear of the site at the new storage building location. Construction of the storage building may begin in late December or early January.
- The electrical contractor has continued and completed the work for the rear site fiber line relocation, which connects the High School to the Middle School and Poff Elementary. Fiber line splice and cutover occurred on November 26, with some help from Hampton's IT department.
- The plumbing contractor is mobilizing onsite, and will begin the underground work within the addition for stormwater and sanitary.
- The mechanical contractor will likely be on site over the holiday break to work on chilled water lines for the interior building infrastructure.
- The roofing contractor has not been onsite in the past two weeks due to weather conditions, but has completed Phase I as planned, with the exception of a small portion. Some work has begun on Phase II of the roof replacement project. Work will continue this winter, weather permitting.
- Some foundational work began earlier in December on the new addition after the LGI was torn down. Structural steel is expected to be delivered in mid to late January.

Board Members asked several questions about the renovation project, and the following answers were provided:

- P.J. Dick does not have any major concerns or comments regarding the project at this time.
- Dr. Loughhead said he will follow up with the Township regarding snow removal plans for the pathway that high school students walk on from the student parking area to the building.

## Personnel

(50:18)

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

### Resignation

- Ms. Emily Grus' resignation effective December 16, 2021. Ms. Grus is a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School.



## Teachers

- Ms. Kaitlyn Hamlin as a Long-Term Substitute Family and Consumer Science Teacher at Hampton High School from November 24, 2021 to a date to-be-determined. Salary is \$33,500, prorated. Ms. Hamlin is a substitute for Mrs. Susan Perry.
- Paraprofessional/Paraeducator/Administrative Assistant
- Ms. Jillian Schwartzmier as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School effective November 24, 2021. Hourly rate is \$17.52 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$17.77 per hour thereafter. Ms. Schwartzmier is replacing Ms. Jeanine Burkes at the High School.
- Ms. Lisa Anderson as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Central Elementary School effective November 30, 2021. Hourly rate is \$17.52 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$17.77 per hour thereafter. Ms. Anderson is replacing Ms. Christine Raimondi who replaced Mrs. Becky Wright at the High School.
- Ms. Rebecca Blough as a Clerical Paraprofessional (Class II) at Hampton High School effective November 30, 2021. Hourly rate is \$16.10 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$16.35 per hour thereafter. Ms. Blough is replacing Mrs. Ellen Bollinger.

## Other

The following amendment to the Middle School Club Sponsors for the 2021-2022 school year:

Position	Sponsor	2nd Teacher Sponsor
Helping Hands	Elizabeth Bright	
Chinese Club	Jun Angelini	Pauline Spring

## Supplementals

The Administration's recommendation of 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
Dan Franklin (replacing Lucky Munro)	School Play Technical Director	HS	5	5	\$695
Jeff Brown (replacing Keith Hart)	Swimming Assistant Coach (Diving)	HS	29	23/29	\$4,031
Dean Longwell (replacing Titus Murray)	Assistant Wrestling Coach (MS)	MS	34	26/34	\$4,726
Titus Murray	Volunteer Wrestling Coach				
Nicole Bova	Gymnastics Coach	HS	15	13/15	\$2,085



Mrs. Hamlin asked if HTSD was experiencing any staffing shortages. Dr. Cunningham said there is a shortage of day-to-day substitute teachers in the area as well as in the nation. She complimented the substitute teachers who have been with HTSD for a long period of time, as well as the Guest Substitute Teachers, for their remarkable efforts. She shared that HTSD is hosting another Guest Substitute Teacher Program in January for anyone who might be interested.

## Finance

(55:03)

Mr. Kline presented and the Board unanimously approved the proposal from Vogel Disposal Service for the refuse and recycling services from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024 as follows:

- Refuse/Recycling 2022 \$27,433.00
- Refuse/Recycling 2023 \$28,255.00
- Refuse/Recycling 2024 \$29,098.00

The expiring 2021 annual rate was \$27,147. Mr. Kline said the proposal includes a 1% increase in 2022 from the expiring rate, with a 3% increase in years two and three.

The Board also approved Huntington National Bank as an additional investment option for district funds. Mr. Kline said HTSD that having an additional option will be advantageous to the District. Huntington National Bank is now the third investment option for district funds, joining PNC Bank and Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF).

Also, Mr. Kline provided a local tax revenue update as of November 30, 2021:

- Real estate tax collections are still well ahead of last year, due to the 2-month extension permitted in 2020-21. Mr. Kline also compared the annual percentage of budget for real estate collections through November 30th and HTSD is a bit behind on its percentages through November 30, but Mr. Kline said that could be affected by changes in assessments as well.
- Earned income tax collections are up 8.3% from last year, which Mr. Kline said was unexpected.
- Real estate transfer tax collections are up 16.8%, which has been a two-year trend.
- Delinquent real estate taxes and delinquent earned income taxes are also up significantly from last year — but Mr. Kline noted that both collections were down last year.

Dr. Loughhead presented Hampton Township School District's Proposed Grant Proposal Stakeholder Feedback Plan for ARP ESSER 7% Set Aside Grant Funding. Last April, the Board held an extensive budget meeting to discuss how ESSER funding should be spent. In November, HTSD was notified of additional set aside funding that required stakeholder input.

The table below shows HTSD's ESSER I, II, and III funding summary.

## ESSER/ARP ESSER SUMMARY



ESSER I	\$113,309 (2020-21)
ESSER II	\$433,008 (2020-21)
ARP ESSER III	\$875,851 (2020-21)
ARP ESSER 7% Set-Aside III	\$ 68,073 (2021-22)
GRAND TOTAL ESSER/ARP ESSER FUNDING	\$1,490,241

At the previous meeting in April, the Board had discussed how funds had been spent to maintain HTSD's extensive in-person instruction during the pandemic. Dr. Loughhead said HTSD was successful in operating in-person instruction, in addition to the robust Hampton Online Academy (HOA), and the costs associated with that program. The total funding for ESSER I, II, and III was dedicated to the 2021-2022 budget. While the ESSER funds were helpful, Dr. Loughhead said that the District spent significantly more than the allotted ESSER amount in order to maintain in-person instruction and run its effective programs. He explained that the majority of these funds are distributed to school districts based on the Title I formula, which relates to poverty levels. HTSD received significantly less funding compared to some of the neighboring districts in Allegheny County.

The most recent allotment of \$68,073 is the final portion of ESSER III. Dr. Loughhead noted that while many school districts are receiving millions of dollars, HTSD is thankful to have this amount, which will help the District in the short-term without having a significant impact on the budget. Tonight, he explained the District's proposal to spend this round of funding. Over the next two months, the District will gather stakeholder and community input. This input will give the District an opportunity to revise its proposal and to determine the best way to utilize the funds. Mr. Kline commented that while other school districts may still be looking for ways to spend their original ESSER funding, HTSD has already spent its allotted amount.

Additionally, Dr. Loughhead explained that there are specific guidelines for how school districts must spend the set aside funds. Below is a breakdown of these specific spending requirements.

## ARP ESSER 7% Set Aside HTSD Grant Funding Specific Spending Required Domains



<b>Total Grant Amount</b>	<b>\$68,073</b>
<b>Learning Loss Allocation for SEL</b>	<b>\$14,587</b>
<b>Learning Loss Allocation for SEL PD</b>	<b>\$4,862</b>
<b>Learning Loss Allocation for Reading</b>	<b>\$3,890</b>
<b>Remaining Learning Loss Allocation</b>	<b>\$25,284</b>
<b>After School Programming Support</b>	<b>\$9,725</b>
<b>Summer School Programming Support</b>	<b>\$9,725</b>

The District is proposing to use \$25,284 of the grant funding to purchase a digital instructional resource for teachers to use with students who would benefit from skill-building in reading, written language, and mathematics. The District will use \$3,890 of the grant funding to also support students with skill development delays in reading. The District has selected these digital resources as they align with its curriculum and with the standards for evidence-based interventions. Dr. Loughead said Dr. Jacquelyn Removcik, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, has reviewed a number of different resources and found one that meets the needs of HTSD's students.

HTSD will use \$9,725 of the grant funding for instructional resources to support an elementary school summer program during August 2022 focusing on supporting students experiencing academic delays. HTSD will use the additional \$9,725 of the grant funding for instruction resources to support an after-school program focused on supporting students with academic delays during the 2022-2023 school year.

Additionally, HTSD will use \$14,587 of the grant to purchase a universal screening tool, in which students can self-report comments and concerns that will be used by school-based data teams to provide support for students. HTSD is currently piloting this tool, and if it is determined to be effective it would be implemented in the 2022-2023 school year. HTSD will use \$4,862 of the grant funding to coordinate and provide professional development for district staff related to mandated mental health related topics.

Dr. Loughead noted that the District will seek input with a survey on its website ([www.ht-sd.org](http://www.ht-sd.org)) for community members to provide feedback. Additionally, he will be speaking with Key Communicators and PTO representatives to gather more information. Over the next two to three months, HTSD will amend its proposal and make necessary adjustments.

### **Adjournment**

(1:11:28)

Mr. Wesley adjourned the meeting. A brief executive session was held to discuss legal and personnel matters.