

**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 16th day of November 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. of Student Services Ms. Alicia Corrigan; Asst. Supt. for Human Resources Mr. Adam Palmer; and Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan.

RECOGNITION

Vice President Wes Polen, and board member Karl Borchers, spoke on behalf of the Recognition Committee and recognized Hawthorn District 73 student-athletes. The recognized student-athletes have demonstrated excellence by representing Hawthorn at the State level of competition in either golf or cross country. The students were presented with a Medal of Excellence and a certificate.

In addition to these students, the recognition committee also formally recognized staff member Ms. Lisa Frazier-Sweeney. Lisa is the school nurse at Hawthorn Elementary North and was nominated by her colleagues. Lisa Frazier-Sweeney has served and cared for Hawthorn students for six years and has shown compassion, kindness, and help to all students and staff. She was presented with a certificate of achievement.

President Robin Cleek issued a two-minute recess.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made or sent in.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Member Mr. Joel Finfer congratulated the Hawthorn Middle School South 8th grade basketball team on their victorious game tonight.

PRESENTATIONS

Director of Innovative Learning Dr. Karen Maturo and Director of Assessment and Language Services Dr. Art Abrego presented the Assessment and School Improvement Update. The administration team and staff members from Hawthorn Middle School South were present, as well as Ms. Svetlana Popovik from Humanex Ventures. The presentation emphasized the importance of using assessment data to inform instruction. To achieve the District goals, Middle South has implemented Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) and Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) to enhance the quality of education students receive.

Svetlana Popovik from Humanex Ventures reviewed Hawthorn District 73's school culture and climate assessments. The results demonstrated that 78% of the staff participated in the survey. A slideshow was presented with the data of the results.

One of the questions asked was from Vice President, Ms. Wes Polen, to gain clarification regarding the Humanex DreamBox percentage from individual schools versus an overall percentage. Svetlana Popovik will provide a 3x3 graph to the board to display the individual school's dream box data.

Board President, Ms. Robin Cleek, ended the discussion by reminding the community that the Strategic Plan goal to reach 90% achievement is not for the end of 2022. The district is seeking progress on this goal over the next five years.

Discussion Items

Vice President, Ms. Wes Polen, reviewed Public Comment Policy 2:230. The policy committee met and reached out to the district attorney for legal advice. The district's attorney's recommendation is for the public to make in-person comments

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instead of submitting electronic comments. There is also an option to submit public comments electronically and will be uploaded to the minutes and the website in a separate column. Board President, Ms. Robin Cleek, would like to clarify if the board would like to continue to receive electronic public comments or stop accepting electronic public comments. She explained that the board needs to subject the electronic public comments to the same standards as the in-person public comments. There could be a possibility that the board receives electronic public comments that are pages long, which wouldn't be fair to the in-person public comments. President Cleek would also like to review the current public comment policy, specifically regarding the 20-minute limit to one subject. The board will have another discussion regarding public comments with a revised recommendation and clarification on the current public comment policy scheduled for a future meeting.

CSBO, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor, reviewed the FY21 Audit Presentation, Public Hearing for Tax Levy, and Appropriation of Funds for Summer Project Engineering. Ms. Taylor introduced Kathy Naughton, a representative from Eder Casella, who gave a brief overview of the FY21 audit report. The board members were also given a copy of the audit report for future reading.

CSBO, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor, reviewed the procedure and timeline regarding the public hearing for the tax levy. Because the tax levy increase is less than 5%, the district is not required to hold a public hearing; however, the public hearing was held during the board meeting for transparency purposes and good practice. The tax levy hearing closed without any questions or comments.

As part of the five-year facility plan discussed early in the fall, the Townline/Dual Language parking lot and playground have been scheduled for renovations this summer 2022. In order to prepare for bid documents and planning, the business office is seeking approval of appropriation of funds not to exceed \$40,000 and the engineering costs with Arcon and Associates with this project.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hannigan reported the updates on the COVID-19 dashboard. Last week, Friday, November 12, 2021, the district reported four students who tested positive for COVID-19. The year-to-date number of students who have tested positive is 74. Last week, November 12, 2021, the district reported four staff members who tested positive for COVID-19. The year-to-date number of staff members who tested positive for COVID-19 is 11. Since the beginning of the school year, the overall number of positive cases is 85. The number of students who have been placed under quarantine as of last Friday is 12. The year-to-date number of students placed under quarantine is 109. 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 114.

As of last week, November 12, 2021, no students or staff tested positive from participating in "Test-to-Stay." Since the start of the school year, 85 students and staff members across the district have participated in "Test-to-Stay" rather than quarantine.

From September 30, 2021, through November 12, 2021, 3,242 samples have been submitted for COVID-19 screening through the partnership with U of I SHIELD. Three students have been found positive since the beginning of SHIELD testing. Dr. Hannigan commends the administrative team, staff members, and Hawthorn families for their hard work and doing their part inside and outside of school, which is a testament to the data and keeping our students safe.

The student vaccination clinic is scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2021, at Hawthorn Middle School North. The second dose vaccination clinic is scheduled for Thursday, December 9, 2021. A reminder was sent out to families to sign up by noon on Wednesday, November 17, 2021.

Dr. Hannigan addressed the inquiries regarding mitigation. Since the onset of the pandemic, the district has committed to following the guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health, The Lake County Health Department, and the Illinois State Board of Education. If the guidance changes in the future, the district would adjust its protocols to reflect the updated guidance. As soon as the district can successfully implement the recommendations, communication will be sent out to Hawthorn families, but as of right now, there are no discussions about mitigation.

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Dr. Hannigan discussed the inclement weather procedures. As the board is aware, the district has five additional days built into the calendar to make up any cancellation days due to inclement weather. Communication regarding inclement weather procedures will be shared with families in the Friday updates shared by the building principals.

Dr. Hannigan ended his report by recognizing the board of education this evening. National School Board Appreciation Day was on November 15, 2021. Each board member received flowers from Dr. Hannigan and the administration team. Dr. Hannigan thanked the board for their continued support, especially the past 2 ½ years, to ensure the success of all students at Hawthorn District 73.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board President, Ms. Robin Cleek, would like to wish everyone a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving Break. She hopes everyone has the opportunity to spend more quality time with their families this year than the previous year and can't wait to see everyone back on November 29, 2021.

ED-RED REPORT

Board member, Mr. Joel Finfer, reported that the ED-Red Legislation Dinner is scheduled for January 31, 2022. ED-Red has also welcomed a new member to their communication committee, the district's very own Vice President, Wes Polen. It is significant to note the importance of advocacy, and District 73, at this point, is well-positioned to advocate for both public education and the district as a whole.

SEDOL REPORT

Board member, Mr. Michael Engle, reported that SEDOL held its executive board meeting on November 11, 2021. Some mentioned discussion items included that beginning Monday, November 15, 2021, substitute teachers/ substitute paraprofessionals who have worked in SEDOL for ten consecutive days will receive a \$50 per day increase beginning on day 11. On December 8, 2021, there will be a legal update to go over current legal trends for all SEDOL districts. The following governing board meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2021, and the next executive board meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2021.

KEY to 73 REPORT

No report at this time

SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Board member, Dr. Sonali Patil, reported that the Sites and Facilities committee met on November 15, 2021. The main topics discussed are the summer projects, which consist of the Townline/Dual Language parking lots and construction at Hawthorn Middle School South and Aspen. Hawthorn Elementary South's project should meet the completion date as expected even with the supply shortage we are facing.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 7.1 Board Meeting Minutes 10/21/2021
- 7.2 Expenditure Report, 11/16/2021
- 7.3 AMEX Report, October 2021
- 7.4 Amazon Expense Report, 11/16/2021
- 7.5 Personnel Report

7 New Hires: Drake Berman, Instructional Assistant, MN; Sandra Morales, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, EN; John Casey, Tier II Tech Support Specialist, DO; Bailey Cabrales, Nurse, HSYL; Ana Bautista Valdes, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, TL; Daisy Morales, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, HSYL; Marlene Lippert, Office Clerk, TL

5 Resignations: Stephanie Rusk, 5th-grade teacher, EN, 10/20/2021; Barbara Francart, Health Clerk, MN, 11/1/2021; Teresa Meggs, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, HSYL, 11/3/2021; Sandra Garcia, Instructional Assistant 1:1, MN, 11/3/2021; Sadaf Rahman, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, HSYL, 11/9/2021

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10 Leave of Absence: Rachel Calacci, LBS1 Teacher, ES; Kellie Meyer, Speech/Language Teacher, ES; Anna Paprocki, Resource Teacher, MS; Samantha Zak, LBS1 Teacher, EN; Allysen Johnson, Kindergarten Teacher, HSYL; Jeanne Dimick, Instructional Assistant, EN; Deborah Geib, Nurse, Lincoln; Elizabeth Palid, Instructional Assistant, ES; Kelsey Curran, Instructional Assistant, HSYL; Karolina Borka, Payroll Specialist, DO

3 Retirements: Lisa Gosen, Technology Database Administrator, DO; Gail Silverberg, Instructional Assistant, EN; Susan Poprocki, Instructional Assistant, Aspen

2 Change of Status: Krystian Krzyzak, Interventionist, DL; Latanya Richards, Office Clerk, ES

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

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

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

The Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Mr. Adam Palmer, explained the action items on tonight's agenda. The district is seeking approval for the substitute salary compensation. As previously discussed at the last board of education meeting, Hawthorn District 73's has proposed increasing the daily rate from \$102 to \$120, maintaining the long term rate to \$228 a day to align with the neighboring districts, changing the eligibility from 26 consecutive days to 15 consecutive days for the long term rate, and making the long term rate retroactive to the beginning of the assignment.

ACTION ITEMS –
Substitute Salary Compensation

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the Substitute Salary Compensation; 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

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Enrollment- Uploaded
2. FOIA Log, Dr. Hannigan reported that there was one FOIA request received since the last board meeting that has been responded to as identified in Section 9.2 of the Board Agenda.
3. Board Email Log
4. Media Clips

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Board member, Mr. Joel Finfer, would like to continue the conversation regarding the substitute compensation salary. Karl Borchers agrees to continue the conversation. An idea of creating a committee was discussed and will be brought back to a

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future agenda. President Cleek received consensus from the board to continue the conversation of substitute compensation after collecting data from Human Resources.

Vice President, Ms. Wes Polen, would like to discuss the communication process with the community. Some ideas she discussed were conducting town hall meetings or hosting an open Q&A session before a board meeting every quarter. She would also like to discuss how and when the board can communicate their progress with the community. President Cleek received consensus from the board to have a discussion regarding the open communication opportunities and will work with Dr. Hannigan to add to an upcoming board agenda. The Coordinator of District Communications, Mr. Michael McFarlin, will help brainstorm different ideas for a January or February board meeting.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), President Cleek *read the motion(s) to adjourn to CLOSED SESSION for the purposes of:*

The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act.

With no further business to discuss, Wes Polen made a motion to adjourn to Closed Session, seconded by Karl Borchers. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m. to the Closed Session. **All in favor? Yes.**

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 naves

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Flores

Robin Cleek, President

George Fievet, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: _____