

The Board Report

Monday, February 14, 2022



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	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	Director of Technology
Mr. Josh Kellogg	Network Administrator
Mr. Don Palmer, GRB	Solicitor

February 14, 2022

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

(13:36)

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

There were no comments at this time.

The Board approved the minutes from the February 7, 2022, Work Session.

Treasurer's Report

(14:35)

The following items were unanimously approved by the Board:

- January 2022 General Fund 10 disbursement totaling \$3,351,940.63.
- January 2022 High School Construction Fund 35 Disbursements totaling \$1,098,249.14.
- January 2022 Capital Fund 39 disbursements totaling \$12,627.26.
- January 2022 Cafeteria Fund 50 disbursements totaling \$281,096.37.
- December 2021 Treasurer's Report.
- December 2021 Student Activities Fund Report.

President's Report

(16:30)

Mr. Wesley announced that the Board held one executive session since the last meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters. He also thanked Mr. Eric Heasley, Executive Director of A.W. Beattie Career Center, for hosting the Hampton Township School District Board of School Directors for the February 7 Work Session and for providing a tour of the facility. Mr. Wesley noted that A.W. Beattie continues to offer excellent programs that address needs in the job market.

Board Secretary's Report

(17:03)

Ms. Balason recommended and the Board unanimously approved Mr. Shages as a candidate for the Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Board to serve a three-year term from July 2022 to June 2025.

Superintendent's Report

(17:43)

Dr. Loughead provided a brief update on the District's academics, athletics, and the arts.

Dr. Loughead highlighted that the Hampton boys' soccer team was honored in Harrisburg on February 9 for their achievements in athletics (winning the PIAA Class 3A state championship) and for the District's commitment to sportsmanship. Players and coaches were provided a tour of the Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex and received recognition during sessions of the PA House of Representatives and State Senate. The team also met with Representative Lori Mizgorski (30th Legislative District) and Senator Lindsey Williams (38th Senatorial District) during their visit, each receiving special citations for their state-title-winning accomplishment. Dr. Loughead commended the players for both their demeanor and deportment during the Capitol visit. He said their leadership is representative of what Hampton stands for. He thanked Representative Mizgorski and Senator Williams for recognizing the team's accomplishments as this was the first time Hampton's student athletes were ever honored at the Capitol.

Also, Dr. Loughead reported that Hampton High School is holding a Spirit Week (February 14-18) to provide some fun activities for students during a long stretch of the school year. He said the District appreciates opportunities to combine academics and hard work into some fun activities.

Dr. Loughead shared that during a School Board meeting in March, the District will be recognizing some of Hampton's visual artists who have recently won prestigious awards.

Student Affairs

(21:08)

There were no action items this evening.

Educational Programs

(21:16)

Mrs. Hamlin recommended and the Board unanimously approved the 2022-2023 Proposed Middle School Program of Studies.

Covid-19 Update

Dr. Loughead reported that he met with Dr. LuAnn Brink, the Allegheny County Health Department's Chief Epidemiologist, along with other superintendents in Allegheny County during their weekly Covid-19 briefing. He reported that the meeting on February 10 was one of the more positive meetings with the ACHD in some time. He said that Dr. Brink shared that Omicron rates are falling more quickly than anticipated. While Allegheny County remains in the "High" community transmission rate, the ACHD is anticipating that Allegheny County will have a "Moderate" rate in March. A "Moderate" rate under the District's Health and Safety Plan would warrant Board discussions around revised mitigation strategies, including procedures for optional mask wearing.

Further, Dr. Loughead shared some encouraging news that the ACHD agrees with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance that states masking requirements change when a

community moves from “High” to “Substantial” and then “Moderate.” Dr. Brink supports school districts considering a transition to optional masking under a “Moderate” transmission rate.

Dr. Brink will continue to work with school districts over the next 2-3 weeks to closely monitor transmission rates. While Dr. Brink is encouraged with the Omicron rates falling, she indicated that the pandemic is not over. She said that while overall rates are improving, hospitalizations among children under age 5 are peaking at UPMC Children’s Hospital in Pittsburgh. She also reminded superintendents that deaths from Covid-19 far exceeded deaths from the flu in Allegheny County over the past year. She also indicated that there have been children who have died from Covid-19 in our region over the past two years.

Dr. Loughead anticipates providing additional guidance and recommendations during the March board meetings for how the District can quickly pivot once entering “Moderate” and to begin addressing specific transition plans. Ms. Balson asked if the District would need to update its current Health and Safety Plan at that time. Dr. Loughead shared that once a “Moderate” level is reached, the District would consider alternate mitigation strategies in the high school and middle school. He suggested authorizing a plan for the superintendent to be able to enact a transition to an alternate mitigation strategy should the county enter “Moderate” in between Board meetings.

Facilities

(26:45)

Ms. Balason recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following items:

- R.A. Glancy Change Order #02 for the High School Renovation Project in the total amount of \$24,796 for the labor, equipment and materials for the following:
 - Code Review (Add) – For the work associated with ASI-001 including, but not limited to, loading zone work, added bollards, added detectable warning mats, added ADA ramps, added sidewalk at Storage Building, deletion of a restroom E236d, added grab bars in various restrooms in the amount of \$6,954.)
 - Field Condition (Add) – For the work associated with ASI-002 including added signage and relocating the pathway to align with the township crosswalk and path in the amount of \$4,702.)
 - Omission (Add) – For the work associated with RFI #021 including the demolition and removal of the existing plaster/drywall ceiling in Room E111 and to provide a new acoustical tile and grid ceiling in the amount of \$2,556.
 - Omission (Add) – For the work associated with RFI #044 to add the receptor deflection headers for the aluminum storefront systems as required for the deflection of the exterior cold-formed metal framed walls and parapets in the amount of \$13,033.
 - Credit (Deduct) – To change the specified W8 windows to aluminum storefront windows per RFI #035 in the amount of (\$2,449).
- Merit Electrical Group Change Order #01 for the High School Renovation Project in the total amount of \$8,171 for the labor, equipment and materials for the following:
 - Code Review (Add) – For the electrical changes in ASI-001 including deletion of restroom

E236d and the adjustment of the panelboard amps interrupting capacity (AIC) in the amount of \$671.

- Field Condition (Add) – For the additional lineal footage of the completed electrical work for the fiber conduit and duck bank routed around the future location of the storm water detention system tank in the amount of \$4,037.
- Credit (Deduct) – For deleting the associated fused disconnect and branch circuit shown on Drawing E603 per ASI-004 in the amount of (\$1,081).
- Credit (Deduct) – For deleting SEP-1 and SEP-2, deleting the associated fused disconnect, and deleting branch circuit referenced by code note 1 shown on Drawing E603 per ASI-005 in the amount of (\$5,077).
- Omission (Add) – For the electrical changes in RFI #021 including removing existing light fixtures, replacing the fixtures with new Type G13 light fixtures, and replacing the existing toggle light switch with a wall sensor switch in Data Rm E111 in the amount of \$1,100.
- Owner Generated (Add) – For the electrical changes in ASI-007 including adding power receptacles and data outlets in the new Library Area in the amount of \$8,521.

Finance

(29:08)

Mr. Vasko recommended and the Board approved the Resolution to Authorize the Incurring of Nonelectoral Debt. Mr. Shages commented that this approval gives the Board the option to select either a Bank Qualified (BQ) or Non Bank Qualified (NBQ) bond. Mr. Vasko reported that the resolution authorizes the incurring of nonelectoral debt in an amount not to exceed \$15 million.

Personnel

(30:23)

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

Resignations

- Ms. Suzanne Streiff who is retiring after 19 years with the District effective February 25, 2022. Ms. Streiff is a Paraeducator (Class III) at Wyland Elementary School.
- Ms. Casey Edwards who is resigning from the District effective January 28, 2022. Ms. Edwards is a Building Substitute Teacher at Hampton High School.
- Ms. Abigail Wentling who is resigning from the District effective February 11, 2022. Ms. Wentling is a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School.

Mr. Shages commented on Ms. Streiff's retirement, stating that she has been a fantastic paraeducator at Wyland for many years. He wishes her success in retirement.

Teachers

- Mrs. Erika Yigdall as a Long-Term Substitute Health & Physical Education Teacher at Hampton High School effective January 28, 2022 through the remainder of the 2021-2022 School Year. Salary is \$33,500, pro-rated. Mrs. Yigdall is a substitute for Ms. Emily Onik.

- Ms. Tara Harvan as a TPE Special Education Teacher at Hampton High School effective February 21, 2022. Salary is Bachelor's Step 3, \$62,547, pro-rated. Ms. Harvan is replacing Ms. Sarah Rassau.
- The following as teacher mentors for the 2021-2022 School Year:
 - Derek Brinkley
 - Amy Faith

Paraeducator/Paraprofessional/Administrative Assistant

- Ms. Marla Kohan, moving from a Paraprofessional (Class I) at Wyland Elementary School to a Paraeducator (Class III) at Wyland Elementary School effective February 1, 2022. Salary is (Year 1) \$18.68 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.93 per hour thereafter. Ms. Kohan is replacing Mrs. Renee Longo.
- Ms. Linh Nguyen to continue as a Long-Term Substitute Class I Paraprofessional at Central Elementary School for the second semester of the 2021-2022 School Year. Hourly rate remains \$16.35 per hour. This position is to accommodate additional lunchroom supervision needs.
- Ms. Kimberly Meyer as a Paraprofessional (Class II) at the High School effective February 1, 2022. Salary is \$16.10 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$16.35 per hour thereafter. Ms. Meyer is replacing Mr. Russell Baranowski.

Other

- Mrs. Tara Gongaware-Busch as a Long-Term Substitute Health Office Nurse in the District effective February 4, 2022, through the remainder of the 2021-2022 School Year. Hourly rate is \$22.45 per hour.

Custodial

- Mr. Jonathan Trout, moving from a 10 month/8 hour custodian at Hampton High School to a 12 month/8 hour custodian at Hampton High School effective January 17, 2022. There is no change in the hourly rate. Mr. Trout is replacing Mrs. Patricia Garrow.
- Ms. Jessica Boehm, moving from a 10 month/5 hour custodian at Hampton High School to a 10 month/8 hour custodian at Hampton High School effective February 1, 2022. There is no change in the hourly rate. Ms. Boehm is replacing Mr. Trout's 10 month position.

Supplementals

The Administration recommends approval 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
Kellen Wheeler	Head Baseball Coach	HHS	47	35/47	\$6,533
Steve Swierczynski	Assistant Baseball Coach	HHS	38	30/38	\$5,282
Mike Susi	JV Baseball Coach	HHS	38	30/38	\$5,282
Corey Casper	JV Baseball Assistant Coach	HHS	30	24/32	\$4,170
Gary Wilson	MS Baseball Coach	MS	32	24/32	\$4,448
Bruce Steckel	Volunteer Baseball Coach				
Ben Vay	Volunteer Baseball Coach				
John Benca	Volunteer Baseball Coach				
Sam Evans	Boys' Lacrosse Assistant Coach	HS	20	16/20	\$2,780
Justin Mayfield	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach				
Chris DeMichiei	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach				
Connor Flynn	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach				
Kelsey Viets	Girls' Lacrosse Head Coach	HS	31	23/31	\$4,309
Christine McGrath	Girls' Lacrosse Assistant Coach	HS	20	16/20	\$2,780
Nate Meade	Volunteer Girls' Lacrosse Coach				
Breanne Vodde	Volunteer Girls' Lacrosse Coach				
Connor Hagins	Volunteer Girls' Lacrosse Coach				
Ron Fedell	Girls' Softball Head Coach	HS	47	35/47	\$6,533
Lynn Zdinak	Girls' Softball Assistant Coach	HS	38	30/38	\$5,282
Scott Breen	Girls' Softball JV Coach	HS	38	30/38	\$5,282
Elizabeth Bright	Girls' Softball MS Coach	MS	24	20/28	\$3,336
Nick Panza	Track 1 st Assistant Coach	HS	37	29/37	\$5,143
Joe Cangilla	Track – Assistant "A" Coach	HS	29	21/29	\$4,031
Heather Dietz	Track – Assistant "B" Coach	HS	29	21/29	\$4,031
Kim Masarik	Track – Assistant "C" Coach	HS	22	18/22	\$3,058
Mary Bukovac	Track – MS Head Coach	MS	34	26/34	\$4,726
Greg Shumaker	Track – MS Assistant "A" Coach	MS	19	15/19	\$2,641
Mary Davis	Track – MS Assistant "B" Coach	MS	19	15/19	\$2,641
Jesse Belitz	Track – MS Assistant "C" Coach	MS	19	15/19	\$2,641
*Steve Sciallo	Football Head Coach	HS	70	58/70	

*This position is for the 2022-2023 School Year and the total stipend will be at the new rate in accordance with the new CBA (currently \$139 per point.)

Dr. Loughhead expressed thanks to former head coach of the Hampton varsity football team Jacque DeMatteo for his many years of dedication to the team and his level of sportsmanship. He said he has been a wonderful mentor to Hampton's students over the years, and he will continue to teach physical education at the high school. Mr. Wesley echoed Dr. Loughhead's remarks, adding that Mr. DeMatteo had been an incredible role model for the students. Mr. Steve Sciallo was hired as Hampton's new head football coach.

Addendum

- Addition of the Manager of Network and Cybersecurity position to the Non-Tenured Act 93 Agreement effective March 1, 2022.
- Change in status for Mr. Joshua Kellogg, moving from the District's Systems Network Administrator to the Non-Tenured Act 93 position of Manager of Network and Cybersecurity position effective March 1, 2022.
- Mr. Jerrod Cumberland moving from the 10 month/40 hour per week Custodial Substitute to a 10 month/5 hour Custodian initial assignment at Hampton High School effective Monday, February 14, 2022. Hourly rate is \$23.68 per the current CBA. Mr. Cumberland is replacing Ms. Jessica Boehm's position.
- Ms. Hannah Hart as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Wyland Elementary School effective February 28, 2022. Hourly rate is \$17.52 for the 60-day probationary period and \$17.77 thereafter. Ms. Hart is replacing Ms. Suzanne Streiff.

Technology

(40:19)

There was no report this evening.

Policy/Legislative Affairs

(40:24)

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

- First Reading of Policy #146: Student Services.
- Second Reading and Adoption of Policy #920: Use of District Name, Color, Insignia or Logos.

Transportation

(41:36)

There was no report this evening.

A.W. Beattie Career Center Board Report

(41:48)

Mr. Stein reported that the A.W. Beattie Board does not meet in February. Mr. Vasko remarked that February is Career and Technical Education Month. He reminded the Board that A.W. Beattie is hosting a spring open house for interested students on March 24 from 5:15-8 p.m.

HAEE Report

(42:54)

Mrs. Midgley reported that HAEE recently approved a \$7,500 EITC grant to purchase 23 Apple TVs. These TVs will allow teachers more movement around the classroom, in addition to the opportunity for student-teacher collaboration and creativity.

Additionally, HAEE will meet Thursday, February 17, at 7 p.m. in the HMS library. Mrs. Midgley said HAEE needs volunteers. A minimum of 15 members are required in order to make a vote. She encouraged anyone who is interested in joining to attend Thursday's meeting.

Public Comment

Mr. Wesley opened the meeting to Public Comment and asked that everyone keep their comments to 3-5 minutes.

44:40

A community member shared her gratitude to the Board for continuing to serve through the many challenges associated with the pandemic. She acknowledged that all parents and community members who have addressed the Board in recent months want to know that their children are safe, including herself as the mother of two children who are too young to be vaccinated. She noted that the District is working to solicit parent-feedback through initiatives such as Parents as Allies,

and hopes those discussions continue. Last, she brought up how ongoing tactics are aimed at undermining public education, such as misinformation, and urged Board members to know that many community members support their efforts.

49:22

A community member with three children in the District raised concerns about critical race theory, acknowledging that it is not currently part of the curriculum at Hampton Township School District. He cited several occurrences on other matters that have happened in schools that he did not agree with. Additionally, he stated that he and his family did several activities over the weekend that did not require masks. He also took issue with masks, noting that they can cause difficulty hearing for students, in addition to having to wear them when playing an instrument. He said the District should conduct a survey about mask-wearing preferences.

55:13

A community member claimed that more children have died from pneumonia in the United States than from Covid-19. He also asked the Board if the submittal of the District's Health and Safety Plan was required in order to receive ESSER funding. Dr. Loughead explained that the District's Health and Safety Plan that was approved by the Pennsylvania Departments of Health and Education existed before and during the submission of the application for ESSER funding. Further, Dr. Loughead said that the Health and Safety Plan was submitted as required by the Department of Health and was in place for the procedures that exist for mitigation under a range of conditions. The community member said it appears to him that a school district would not receive funding if it did not abide by the CDC's recommendations.

59:50

A community member with two children in the District reminded everyone that the school board is part of a representative democracy. He said this means that Board members represent the entire community when making decisions, not just the loudest voices. He urged Board members to make decisions they think are right and to stick to their ideals as representatives of the entire community.

Adjournment

(1:03:47)

The meeting was adjourned, and Mr. Wesley announced that the Board would enter a brief executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters.