

**Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of  
Hawthorn Community Consolidated District #73, Lake County, Illinois  
841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, IL 60061  
7:00 p.m. on the 17th day of March 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Robin Cleek called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken prior to the meeting during the closed session portion of the meeting. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**RECOGNITION**

Mr. Karl Borchers spoke on behalf of the recognition committee to recognize several exceptional Hawthorn students for their athletic achievements. The poms team was recognized for placing first at the IRCA State Tournament. Coach Eileen Duhig-Larson thanked everyone for their hard work and support. She presented the Board of Education with the winning trophy. The poms team members were presented with a medal of excellence and a certificate.

Vice-President, Ms. Wes Polen, spoke on behalf of the recognition committee to recognize the Hawthorn South cheer team for placing eighth at the IESA State Cheerling competition in Peoria. Coach Alexa Dounis and Amy Flanagan spoke on behalf of the cheers team and thanked the parents, students, and staff for all their hard work and dedication. The cheers team members were presented with a medal of excellence and a certificate.

In addition to recognizing the student athletes, Ms. Wes Polen, spoke on behalf of the recognition committee to formally recognize Mrs. Lauren Watts, a third-grade teacher at the School of Dual Language. Mrs. Watts was nominated for board recognition by one of her co-workers. In the nomination, her co-worker described Mrs. Watts as, "An outstanding example of dedication to our students, staff and program. She has consistently shown herself to be a leader and not shied away from multiple responsibilities." Mrs. Watts was presented with an award by the Board of Education.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

HEA President, Ms. Erin Roche, announced the new scholarship opportunity being offered to Hawthorn District 73 alumni sponsored by the Hawthorn Education Association. Ms. Roche reviewed the criteria for the scholarship and asked the community to encourage Hawthorn alumni to apply for the scholarship.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements at this time.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Vice-President, Ms. Wes Polen, reviewed section three of Policy, PRESS Issue 108 along with Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance Operations, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor, and Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning, and Innovation, Ms. Allison Stein. Ms. LeeAnn Taylor reviewed seven policy updates related to the business department. Ms. Allison Stein reviewed 16 policy updates related to the Teaching and Learning department. There were four policies related to the Teaching and Learning department that require a response from the Board of Education. The policy updates discussed will be voted on at the next board meeting.

Ms. Allison Stein reviewed the ELA/SLA Foundational Resources. Ms. Stein was accompanied by some members of the pilot team, which included; Lauren Boardman, Nichole Petersen, Estee Edelman, Rachel Boehm, Jaclyn Wagner, Lauren Brzezinski, Lauren Watts, Kelli Burke, Kristin Wagner, Bethany Dahm and Stephanie Mahalka. The ELA/SLA presentation included an update on the current pilot and details regarding the district's proposal. Ms. Stein and the team shared data on student learning, provided a framework for choosing a foundational resource for ELA/SLA, and explained what criteria were used to select the resources to pilot. Teachers piloted two different resources at the elementary level and two more at the middle school level. The pilot team members will continue to serve as leaders throughout the proposed adoption process by working together to accomplish various tasks. Ms. Stein thanked the pilot team members for their dedication and perseverance to learn and implement comprehensive foundational resources. They spent countless hours exploring their assigned resource, planning for implementation of lessons and assessments, participating in formal training, responding to feedback requests, and much more. The pilot team recommended moving forward with Into Reading/*Arriba la Lectura!* at the elementary level. At the middle school level, they recommended myPerspectives. If approved, these foundational resources will be implemented across the district beginning next school year.

Board President, Ms. Robin Cleek, facilitated a discussion about communication opportunities for the board moving forward. Some ideas that were discussed consisted of web-based communication, educational opportunities during board meetings and informational events to share what progress has been made regarding the 2018 referendum. President Cleek asked for a volunteer

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to work with Dr. Pete Hannigan and Mr. Michael McFarlin to establish a board communication plan based on these recommendations.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Hannigan reported the updates on the COVID-19 dashboard. As of last week, March 11, 2022, the district reported 11 students and 2 staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. The district reported 3 students and no staff members have been placed under quarantine.

As of September 30, 2021 through March 11, 2022, a total of 7,803 samples have been submitted for COVID-19 screening through our partnership with U of I SHIELD. A total of 81 students have been found positive since the beginning of SHIELD testing.

The district held its Superintendent Communication Council earlier this evening. There were a lot of great conversations happening across the system. The feedback and considerations that were received during the Superintendent Communication Council are used for steps for improvement.

Dr. Hannigan also discussed the board's future topic related to substitutes. The Human Resources department has been working on creating a survey to identify what is working well and opportunities for improvement. The goal is to recruit new substitutes and retain current substitutes. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Mr. Adam Palmer, will share the results from the surveys in the fall.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Board President, Ms. Robin Cleek, reminded the members of the board to submit their statement of economic interest form, reply to her email for board retreat dates, notify her and Dr. Hannigan if they are attending 8th-grade graduation, and to notify her if they are interested in participating in the 4th of July parade.

### **ED-RED REPORT**

Board member, Mr. Joel Finfer, reported that the state legislatures are very busy but hoping once the session ends in April, there will be more information to share with the Board of Education. He also reminded the members of the board about the ED-RED Legislative Dinner.

### **SEDOL REPORT**

Board member, Mr. Michael Engle, reported that the SEDOL foundation hosts five major events each year, which raise funding to help students and families with technology equipment, summer camps, support services, and building renovations. The Heart of Gold dinner is taking place on May 6. The 7th Annual Pucks for Autism will be on June 24- June 26 located at the Glacier Ice Arena in Vernon Hills and other surrounding arenas. They are looking for volunteers. SEDOL is taking summer camp scholarship requests. The applications are open until April 18. The next executive board meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2022 and the next governing board meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2022.

### **KEY to 73 REPORT**

No report at this time.

### **SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

Dr. Sonali Patil reported that Site and Facilities met and had four agenda items for discussion at the last committee meeting. Due to the changes the district experienced from the pandemic, the district has invested a lot of time and funds into its disinfection efforts. The committee will be looking into what those efforts and staffing will look like going forward. The next topic that the committee discussed was garbage disposal. It is the recommendation of the committee and CSBO, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor, to extend the district's current contract. The last item discussed was the current playgrounds. The playgrounds were not part of the referendum but some of the playgrounds need updates. The playgrounds will be discussed at the next board meeting.

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### **CONSENT AGENDA**

8.1 Board Meeting Minutes February 24, 2022

- 8.2 Closed Session Minutes February 24, 2022
- 8.3 Expenditure Report from March 17, 2022
- 8.4 AMEX Report from February 2022
- 8.5 Amazon Expense Report from March 17, 2022
- 8.6 Treasurer's Report from December 2021
- 8.7 Personnel Report

5 Resignations: Arturo Abrego, Director of Assessment & Language Services, DO, 6/30/2022; Kerrie Hartnett, 8th grade Science Teacher, MN, 03/11/2022; Terry Nelson, PE Teacher, AE, 06/01/2022; Jaqueline Jordan, 4th Grade Teacher, EN, 06/01/2022; Debra Schuldt, Instructional Assistant, EN, 03/04/2022

3 Leaves of Absence: Lauren Marra, 5th Grade LOP Teacher, EN; Caroline Wethekam, 2nd Grade Teacher, ES; Katie Bartel, Music Teacher, EN

1 Change of Status: Maureen Santi, Payroll Clerk, DO

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Karl Borchers requested to remove section 8.2 Closed Session Minutes from the consent agenda.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the **Closed Session Minutes from February 24, 2022**, as presented; seconded by Wes Polen.

**Roll Call Vote:** Wes Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, George Fievet, Michael Engle, and Joel Finfer. Karl Borchers abstained.  
**Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays; 1 abstain**

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

**Roll Call Vote:** Sonali Patil, Wes Polen, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Michael Engle and Karl Borchers.  
**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

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The first action item listed on the agenda was reviewed by Dr. Hannigan. The 2022-2023 Board of Education calendar was presented to the Board of Education, which included 14 proposed meetings. The calendar was driven by the Business Department to make payments in a timely manner. There is one board meeting on a Tuesday to accommodate the Triple I Joint Conference in November. Dr. Hannigan also took into consideration the election year coming up. A new board would have to be seated by April 28, 2023, so Dr. Hannigan is requesting two board meetings in April instead of one.

The next action item was section two of policy updates from PRESS issue 108 that was reviewed by Vice-President, Ms. Wes Polen.

The following action item was the 2022-23 Staffing Plan. Mr. Adam Palmer summarized the plan and proposed the new plan would help maximize the learning opportunities for our students while also allocating district resources in a fiscally responsible manner.

The last six action items listed on the agenda were reviewed by CSBO, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor. The annual consolidated district plan for federal grants was completed thanks to the collaboration between the district leaders. Once the plan is approved, the business department can start developing the budgets for next year's expenditure grants. The ARP-ESSER III Funds plan was next on the agenda seeking approval. The plan is required to be housed on the district website and can be located under the business department. The contract for the Townline/Dual Language parking lot is seeking approval from the board. The base bid and the alternate bid were included in order to do a thicker layer of asphalt on higher traffic zones. Student fees were the next action item

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seeking approval from the board, which included a decrease in its fee to accommodate the change in heart monitors. The summer school fees relate to the different summer programs that the district offers to Hawthorn families. The Hawthorn Enrichment Institute and the Music Camp would be the only summer programs requiring a fee for registration. The last action item seeking approval is the disposal of surplus technology. There are several items from the technology department that need to be recycled, which the district has coordinated with a company to pick up the supplies after board approval.

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**ACTION ITEMS –**

**2022-2023 Board of Education Meeting Calendar**

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the 2022-2023 Board of Education Meeting Calendar; George Fievet seconded the motion.

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

**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

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**Policy, PRESS Issue 108 (Section 2)**

MOTION: Wes Polen moved that the Board of Education approve section 2 of Policy PRESS Issue 108; Joel Finfer seconded the motion.

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

**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

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**2022-23 Staffing Plan**

MOTION: Karl Borchers moved that the Board of Education approve the 2022-23 Staffing Plan; Joel Finfer seconded the motion.

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

**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

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**Annual Consolidated District Plan**

MOTION: Wes Polen moved that the Board of Education approve the Annual Consolidated District Plan; Michael Engle seconded the motion.

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

**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

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**ARP-ESSER III Funds Plan**

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the ARP-ESSER III Funds Plan; George Fievet seconded the motion.

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

**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

Townline/Dual Language Parking Lot Contract

MOTION: Karl Borchers moved that the Board of Education approve the Townline/Dual Language Parking Lot Contract; Joel Finfer seconded the motion.

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

**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

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Student Fees

MOTION: Michael Engle moved that the Board of Education approve the Student Fees; Wes Polen seconded the motion.

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

**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

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Summer School Fees

MOTION: Karl Borchers moved that the Board of Education approve the Summer School Fees; Wes Polen seconded the motion.

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

**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

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Disposal of Technology Surplus

MOTION: Sonali Patil moved that the Board of Education approve the Disposal of Technology Surplus; Joel Finfer seconded the motion.

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

**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

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**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 10.2 of the Board Agenda.
3. Board Email Log
4. Media Clips-Uploaded

**TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

No future topics at this time.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

The Open Session of the meeting adjourned to a Closed Session pursuant to OMA exemption 10 section C. President Cleek *read*

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*the motion to adjourn to CLOSED SESSION for the purposes of:*

*The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).*

President Cleek mentioned that the board does not anticipate taking any action following the closed session portion of the meeting.

With no further business to discuss, George Fievet made a motion to adjourn to Closed Session, seconded by Joel Finfer. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. to the Closed Session. **All in favor? Yes.**

**Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jessica Flores

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Robin Cleek, President

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George Fievet, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_