

The Board Report

Monday, May 2, 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

This Hampton Township School Board Meeting was held in the Hampton Middle School Auditorium. The meeting was held in person and also audio/video recorded so that members of the community could view after the meeting concluded.

Members of Administration in Attendance

Dr. Michael Loughhead	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	Manager of Network and Cybersecurity
Dr. Marlynn Lux	Hampton Middle School Principal
Dr. Marguerite Imbarlina**	Hampton High School Principal
Dr. Jackie Removcik	Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

** absent*

*** attended remotely*

May 2, 2022

Work Session

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

(5:40)

Mr. Wesley opened the meeting and announced that there would be opportunities for public comment at the end of the Work Session.

Student Affairs

(9:20)

Mrs. Webb introduced Alex Broderick and Kai Herchenroether to provide a Student Council update.

Alex reported that Hampton High School's Prom will be held on May 6. He noted that juniors and seniors are looking forward to attending the event, which has not been held at full capacity since 2019. This year's Prom theme is Moulin Rouge. Alex also shared that tickets are currently being sold for the Senior Dinner Dance and Cedar Point trip. Also, he noted that Monday, May 2, was Decision Day at the high school. Students wore apparel representing the college or university they plan on attending next year. Alex will attend Point Park University, while Kai will attend Carnegie Mellon University.

Kai reported that the Senior Scholars Banquet will be held on May 18 for the top 25 students in the graduating class. There will also be a senior picnic taking place after graduation practice organized by the PTO. Finally, the Academic Awards Night will take place on Thursday, May 5, coinciding with the Senior Art Exhibit on the same night.

In response to a Board question, Alex shared that it appears a large number of students signed up for Prom. However, this year's Prom will not feature a Prom Walk or After Prom events.

Mrs. Webb then presented the following item to be considered for Board approval at the May 9 meeting:

- HHS Girls' Basketball Field Trip to the Pensacola Beach Basketball Tournament in Pensacola, Florida, December 26-30, 2022 at no cost to the District.

Facilities

(10:20)

Mr. Jason Day of PJ Dick provided an update on the Hampton High School renovation project, which included the following information:

- The general contractor continued working on the storm water management system, installing two detention systems in the rear of the building and began backfilling. They continued on the new addition, completing exterior framing and sheathing – with roof blocking completed. The high roof is also dried in. Slab-on-grade work continued in the addition and, once ready, the interior contractor will begin metal framing. Brick masonry has been completed at the new storage building, which is awaiting the crew to install metal paneling and the roof.
- The electrical contractor continued inside the building in the boiler room. The data center is ready for the technology contractor to install equipment. Exterior work has also begun.
- The plumbing contractor had a significant month of April, completing site sanitary storm work in the rear of the building. They have also started sprinkler and overhead storm system work in the new addition.
- The mechanical contractor is waiting on the new addition and will hit the site in late-May or early-June.
- Roof replacement work is ahead of schedule. Mr. Day said that if the roofing contractor finishes by the beginning of summer and removes the dumpsters and equipment on site, it will help the site contractor and the project overall.

Mr. Day also displayed photos of work being completed on bulk fill, storm water systems, storage building masonry, site sanitary sewer work, roofing, and the new addition.

Mr. Day also commented on the following change orders that will be considered for Board approval on May 2:

1. R.A. Glancy Change Order #06 for the High School Renovation Project in the total amount of \$8,095 for the labor, equipment and materials for the following:
 - a. RA Glancy – Omission – Add — For the interior glass changes. Value = \$7,028. Mr. Day explained that after reviewing the submittal, the team decided to opt for thicker glass in the new Library Media Center.
 - b. RA Glancy – Omission – Add — To plasma cut two holes in structural steel beams from the overflow roof drains. Value = \$1,067. Mr. Day explained that after consultations with the structural engineer and design team, it was determined this was the best option to get the overflow drain out of the new addition.

In response to Board questions, Mr. Day said he expects the contractors to have site, paving, and concrete work — including sidewalks — completed ahead of the 2022-23 school year.

Educational Programs

(29:35)

Ms. Hamlin presented the following action item to be considered for approval at the May 9 meeting:

- Flexible Instruction Day Renewal Application

Dr. Removcik discussed the Flexible Instruction Day Renewal Application process through the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), which would allow the District to use up to five flexible instructional days per year during the course of the school year for the next three years. The District will continue to have two built-in inclement weather days before calling a flexible instructional day — which would operate similarly to remote learning days with a combination of synchronous and asynchronous instruction. Dr. Removcik explained that remote learning days which were offered previously occurred due to the pandemic, while flexible instructional days may be used any time and for different reasons.

- Proposal for Addendum to Hampton High School Program of Studies

Dr. Removcik explained that this proposal is for an additional “Core” class at the high school in the engineering department which would give students the opportunity to participate in relevant, work-based experiences their senior year. Dr. Imbarlina reported that the “Core” course was introduced during a meeting with Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) to discuss the creation of enhanced internship and job shadowing opportunities for HHS students. ABC introduced the “Core” course which could be offered as an elective course and prerequisite for level one courses taught in apprenticeship programs for careers in the trades (electrical, sheet metal working, HVAC, etc.). Dr. Imbarlina noted that this program could benefit students who did not attend A.W. Beattie and who entered their senior year unsure of their future plans, and who wanted to explore next steps to prepare for a career in the trades.

The course would not require additional staffing and would be taught in the spring of the 2022-23 school year. In response to Board questions, Dr. Imbarlina said it has not yet been determined whether the course would count as a science credit. She estimated that 15-20 students would be enrolled in the program.

Dr. Loughhead said he is excited about this program as Dr. Imbarlina and Dr. Removcik had been discussing these types of opportunities for several years. He said the high school has been working to provide students with more externships, internships, and opportunities during their junior and senior year.

Projected Staffing and Course Enrollment at Hampton High School and Hampton Middle School

Dr. Imbarlina reported that Hampton High School does not have a change in its staffing requirement for the 2022-23 school year. She noted that the projected range of class sizes for each department is higher than in previous years due to the ending of certain pandemic-related mitigation measures. She stated she was happy to report that two courses with typically low enrollment (2-4 students) — CSH Mathematics and CSH Linear Matrices — have 10-12 students, respectively, next year. Regarding world languages enrollments, the largest number of students elected to take Spanish. Enrollment at

A.W. Beattie has increased to 103 students and is increasing; all students who applied to A.W. Beattie have been accepted.

Dr. Lux reported that the incoming sixth-grade class at Hampton Middle School has a class size of 218 students, which is slightly larger than the seventh and eighth grade classes. The average classroom size has 22 students. HMS has strategically planned to accommodate those students who are ahead in math by one or more grade levels. She noted that music and physical education have typical class sizes at the sixth-grade level, while band has a larger class size with 35 students. Dr. Lux reported that the incoming seventh grade class has 215 students, with an average classroom size of 21 students.

At the eighth grade level, Dr. Lux noted that there are more offerings for students — including world languages, elective courses, and additional core classes. She reported that students continue to show interest in challenging themselves by taking honors classes. Dr. Lux also discussed the Algebra 1 Essentials and Reading 8 courses, which offer an alternative to Algebra 1 and World Language, respectively. Similar to world languages at HHS, the large majority of HMS students are taking Spanish (115). There are 27 students enrolled in French (two sections); 17 in German, and 12 in Mandarin. All students will take the Career Awareness course next year, which will include a Personal Finance component. Additionally, there are 45 students who will continue with band.

There are three teachers retiring from Hampton Middle School at the end of the 2021-22 school year. Through discussions with Dr. Loughead and Dr. Removcik, Dr. Lux said they believe this will be a great opportunity to align HMS programming with its staffing. She recommends taking one of the positions (of a retiring teacher) and breaking it into a .4 and .6 position. She said there are some part-time contracted teachers currently working at HMS that could be interested in a full-time position. Dr. Lux recommends posting the .6 as an external STEM teacher position for HMS.

Mr. Stein asked about the decline in music course enrollment from sixth to eighth grade. Dr. Lux noted that the middle school has taken great interest with this concern. She and Dr. Removcik have met with the music department several times over the course of this school year to think deeply about why they are seeing this decline. Dr. Lux believes the pandemic has affected enrollment in music courses as students did not have the opportunity to enjoy playing music together, despite HMS teachers doing a wonderful job teaching via Zoom.

Mrs. Webb asked about the possibility of requiring students to take music in eighth grade. Dr. Lux said that while the middle school has considered that possibility, it would eliminate the other elective offerings such as engineering/architecture, robotics, painting, etc. that HMS provides to students prior to entering high school. She also noted that the middle school has an approved club called “Show Choir.” Though it is currently inactive, Show Choir would provide students with an additional opportunity to fulfill their interest in music.

Dr. Loughead noted that the District added additional staffing last year to accommodate teachers going back and forth between the middle school and high school for technology education. With the number of students enrolled in music increasing again, Dr. Loughead said the District is proposing for a part-time teacher to be increased by one period per day to meet the needs of all students.

Finance

(1:00:24)

Mr. Vasko introduced the following action items to be considered for Board approval at the May 9 Voting Meeting:

- The 2022-2023 Consumable Supply Bids at a total amount of \$111,980.26.

Mr. Kline said the bid total amount decreased by \$19,134 from the 2021-22 bid amount of \$131,114, primarily because there were no bids on regular white paper, and the District is investigating other avenues for purchasing the regular white paper. He noted that the current “asking” price for white paper is currently twice the amount from last year.

- The Budget Transfer totaling \$530.00 for the following:
 - Track and Field dues and fees — \$530.00.
- The 2022-2023 A.W. Beattie Career Center Budget with Hampton’s share as follows:

Capital Budget	\$0
Operating Budget	\$690,485
Debt Service	\$119,363
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$809,848</u>

Mr. Vasko noted that Hampton’s 2022-23 share of the AW Beattie Budget is \$809,848; an increase of \$56,094 or 7.4% from the 2021-22 amount of \$753,754. Hampton’s increase is due to increased HTSD enrollment at A.W. Beattie. Five years ago, there were 53 students from Hampton enrolled at A.W. Beattie compared to nearly 97 this year. Mr. Vasko also noted that the AW Beattie board is working on reducing the CTC’s fund balance to a reasonable level.

- 2022-23 Lunch Prices

Metz Culinary and Mr. Kline recommend an increase of 10 cents to the elementary and secondary lunch prices for the 2022-23 year. The increases are necessary due to increased food costs.

- The Food Service Management renewal contract with Metz Culinary Management for the 2022-23 school year

Mr. Kline referenced the renewal proposal for the 2022-23 year. He noted that the proposal shows an anticipated surplus of \$5,623. Without the 10 cent per lunch increase, there would be a projected deficit of \$13,577.

- Renew the Senior Citizens Tax Rebate Resolution for 2022-2023
 - 2022-23 Senior Citizen’s Property Tax Rebate:
 - The current and proposed guidelines for the HTSD Senior Citizen’s Property Tax rebate are as follows:

Adjusted Income	\$
Up to \$8,000 –	\$400
\$8,001 to \$15,000 –	\$325
\$15,001 to \$18,000 –	\$225
\$18,001 to \$28,000 –	\$175

The recent history of approved applicants and dollar amount of rebates is as follows:

Year	Applicants	Rebate \$ amount
2021-22	29	\$7,150
2020-21	26	\$6,225
2019-20	36	\$9,125
2018-19	39	\$9,200
2017-18	40	\$9,950
2016-17	38	\$9,444

- The 2022-2023 HTSD Preliminary Budget #2

Mr. Kline said an updated budget will be available prior to the May 9 Voting Meeting. He noted that there have been some changes incorporated into the updated budget from the first preliminary budget that was presented in April. The proposed final budget must be approved by the Board at the May 9 Voting Meeting or 30 days prior to when the final budget is approved.

Mr. Kline presented a local tax revenue update as of April 30, 2022. He noted that real estate tax collections are in line with the budgeted amount. The budgeted increase was 5.08% and the current increase is 4.97%. Earned income tax collections are up 7.1% from 2020-21. Real estate transfer taxes are up 12% from last year, and delinquent real estate and earned income taxes are both up significantly. Delinquent tax collections fell short of the budget last year, so this is an anticipated increase and hopefully will lead to full-year collections meeting the budgeted amounts.

Mr. Vasko commented that the preliminary budget for 2022-23 still contains an Act 1 tax increase. The District is still projecting a deficit and is working to reduce it to zero.

Personnel

(1:13:07)

Mrs. Midgley presented the following action items to be considered for approval at the May 9 Voting Meeting:

Resignations

- Mrs. Karen Taylor who is retiring after over 31 years with the District effective June 30, 2022. Mrs. Taylor is a World Language Teacher at Hampton High School.
- Mr. Timothy McLain who is retiring after 34 years with the District effective June 30, 2022. Mr. McLain is a Grade 6 Teacher at Hampton Middle School.
- Mr. Charles Ceccarelli who is retiring after 26 years with the District effective June 30, 2022. Mr. Ceccarelli is a Chemistry Teacher at Hampton High School.
- Mrs. Kathleen Dickensheets who is retiring after 35 years with the District effective June 30, 2022. Mrs. Dickensheets is a Math Teacher at Hampton High School.
- Mrs. Pauline Spring who is retiring after 22 years with the District effective June 30, 2022. Mrs. Spring is a World Language Teacher at Hampton Middle School and Hampton High School.
- Mrs. Ann Lieberman who is retiring after 29 years with the District effective June 30, 2022. Mrs. Lieberman is a Math Support Teacher at Central Elementary School.
- Mr. Hartley Kennedy who is retiring after 26 years with the District effective June 30, 2022. Mr. Kennedy is a Computer Science Teacher at Hampton Middle School.
- Mr. Donald Howell who is retiring after over 32 years with the District effective June 30, 2022. Mr. Howell is the Head Custodian at Wyland Elementary School.
- Ms. Mary Chraska who is retiring after over 19 years with the District effective June 9, 2022. Ms. Chraska is a Food Service Worker at Wyland Elementary School.
- Mrs. Elizabeth Whiteman who is resigning after three years with the District effective June 13, 2022. Mrs. Whiteman is a Biology Academic Support Teacher at Hampton High School.

Teachers

- Approve Mrs. Kristy Long as a Building Substitute at Hampton High School effective May 2, 2022. Salary is \$22,000, prorated. This is an annual position.

Technology

(1:15:15)

There were no action items on the agenda.

Mr. Stein reported that a technology council meeting scheduled in April was postponed. They intend to meet prior to the Remake Learning events later this month. Mr. Stein also reported that the Rotary Club of Hampton Township received 21 scholarship applications. Dr. Cunningham said the District is grateful to the Rotary for providing Hampton seniors with an opportunity to apply for three Rotary

Scholarships for \$2,500. She noted that the committee which reviewed the applications was delighted with the strengths of all Hampton students who applied. The three awardees will be honored at the Academic Awards Night on May 5.

Policy and Legislative Affairs

(1:14:01)

Mr. Shages presented three policies to be considered for approval at the May 9 Voting Meeting:

- First Reading of Policy #249: Bullying/Cyberbullying

Mr. Shages reported that this is a policy that needs to be reviewed every three years, with changes proposed by the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) policy group.

- Second Reading of Policy #610: Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
- Second Reading of Policy #611: Purchases Budgeted

Transportation

(1:16:48)

There were no action items on the agenda.

Public Comment and Adjournment

(1:16:56)

There were no public comments at this time. Mr. Wesley announced that the meeting was adjourned, and the Board entered an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters.