

**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 14th day of April**

**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: George Fievet, Michael Engle, Sonali Patil, Karl Borchers, Wes Polen, 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. Joel Finfer was not in attendance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Anika Deshpande, a Junior at Vernon Hills High School, made a public comment to inform the community about her free online tutoring services. During the pandemic, Anika started her own tutoring program called "Mentor Center." High School students tutor students in grades K-8 on subjects such as Math, Reading, Spanish, Science and Social Studies. If anyone is interested, information can be found on the Hawthorn website.

**RECOGNITION**

Mr. Karl Borchers spoke on behalf of the Recognition Committee to formally recognize several exceptional Hawthorn students for their athletic achievements. The 6th-/7th-grade Hawthorn Middle North boys volleyball team placed first in the conference tournament. Mr. Borchers also congratulated Coach Lucas Maki for a great season. Team members were presented with a Hawthorn Medal of Excellence and a certificate.

Vice President Wes Polen recognized the 8th-grade boys volleyball team from Hawthorn Middle South for placing first in the conference tournament. Congratulations were made to the team and Coach Thom Koch for a great season. Team members were presented with a Hawthorn Medal of Excellence and a certificate.

Mr. Karl Borchers also recognized three Hawthorn wrestlers for their performance at the IESA State Wrestling Tournament. The committee also thanked Coach Steven Beck and Coach Drake Berman for a terrific season. The students were presented with a Hawthorn Medal of Excellence and a certificate.

In addition to the Hawthorn athletes that were recognized this evening, the recognition committee recognized an outstanding teacher-coach who is retiring at the end of this school year. Coach Deb Logan has taught at Hawthorn District 73 since 1987. She has consistently given her time to the student-athletes during her career at Hawthorn. In addition to serving as an Athletic Director and Assistant Athletic Director, she has also coached cross country, poms, boys/girls basketball, and volleyball. The recognition committee presented Coach Deb Logan with a brick engraved with the words "Big things are built one brick at a time."

President Cleek issued a recess at 7:11p.m. The meeting resumed at 7:13 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements at this time.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Cleek reminded the rest of the board to submit their economic statement of interest form and to be prepared for a group photo at the May board meeting for the website.

**ED-RED REPORT**

No report at this time

**SEDOL REPORT**

Mr. Michael Engle reported that SEDOL approved the school calendar for 2022-2023 and the ISBE Community Partnership Grant to support the mental health of students and educators. They extended their contract with Lakeside Transportation, which includes a 12% increase. The Heart of Gold Gala dance is scheduled for, May 6, 2022 and Pucks for Autism is scheduled for June 24, 2022. All of the events can be found at [www.sedolfoundation.org](http://www.sedolfoundation.org) under the events tab. The next executive board meeting will be held on April 28, 2022 and the next governing board meeting will be held on June 1, 2022.

## **KEY to 73 REPORT**

Mr. George Fievet reported that the 2nd Annual Key to 73 Golf Outing will be held on June 9, 2022 at White Deer Run. There are sign ups available online for foursomes, individual golfers and sponsorship opportunities. Check out the website for more information.

## **SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

Dr. Sonali Patil reported that there was a Site & Facilities meeting held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022. Some of the main topics that the meeting focused on were the updates on the current playgrounds and renovations. Director of Facilities, Mike Labbe showed the current status of the playgrounds and initiated discussion about updating the playgrounds to fix the wear and tear. Dr. Sonali Patil thanked the business department for seeking ways to fund the playground update. A school is not required to have playgrounds but when a school decides to have playgrounds on their property, there are a lot of safety codes that need to be met.

The construction projects are coming along in a timely manner. The construction at Elementary South is set on its completion timeline. They hope the graduating fifth grade students will be able to enjoy the updates before they leave. Aspen will most likely be finished in the summer and Middle South will be on schedule as anticipated.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Director of Innovative Learning Dr. Karen Maturo reviewed the MTSS Board Project Update. Dr. Maturo was accompanied by Coordinator of Student Services Jackie Schwartz and Coordinator of Teaching & Learning Lauren Boardman. There also were presenters from Aspen Elementary, which included Bill Fredricksen, Lauren Timony, Meghan Caby and Lisa Williamson. The HSYL team in attendance included Dr. Jill Martin, Stephanie Mihalka, Gerri Silver, and Rhonda Malina. The enrichment teachers that presented were Lisa Day and Michelle Pogachnik. The Assistant Principals from both middle schools were present, Ms. Jenna Stern and Ms. Natalie Mares. The board heard a progress report on the district's Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) implementation and the effect it is having on student learning. The presentation included a brief overview of the MTSS framework, its connection to Hawthorn's mission and vision statement, and the district's goals. The team presented evidence of MTSS in action and demonstrated the growth that is happening as a result. The different tier levels were explained and defined the qualifications to be considered tier 1, 2 or 3. The strategic actions of Hawthorn's MTSS teams include reviewing essential outcomes and mapping the instruction of learning targets throughout the units. Additionally, teachers measure the progress of students toward mastery and use the protected time in the students' schedule to provide interventions and extensions. The presentation was an opportunity to celebrate the impact of MTSS on Hawthorn students and to lay out a roadmap for the future of the program. Some of the celebrations mentioned included celebrating two years of laser-like focus on PLCs and the power they contain in Hawthorn's professional learning, accelerating student learning by providing the right instruction at the right time, and celebrating the building administrators who are true examples of learning leaders as they implement and maintain the systems to support all students. A timeline for future steps was presented to show the implementation and refining cycle.

## **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Business Ms. LeeAnn Taylor reviewed the Arbor Renewal Contract. Because of the pandemic, students have been receiving free breakfast and lunch over the past couple years. Next school year the breakfast and lunches will look similar to a pre-pandemic school year with free/reduced lunch programs and fees. The USDA waiver expires on June 30, 2022. The Arbor contract does include a 3% increase that previously was agreed to in prior board meetings to accommodate the minimum wage law. Additional staffing costs may be incurred as needed due to their staffing plan. More details will be explained in fall as the setting may look different compared to the last couple of years.

Ms. Taylor also reviewed the District Playgrounds. Director of Facilities Mr. Mike Labbe was also present to discuss the current playgrounds. Ms. Taylor provided a presentation to share the background information on all playgrounds, the current need, and the funding source for replacements. School playgrounds are inspected annually per school code and all are deemed safe for student use; however, replacement parts are becoming more difficult to find. According to the timeline presented, the Aspen/ES playground should be replaced this summer of 2022, Townline/Dual should be replaced in the summer of 2023, Elementary North should be replaced in the summer of 2024, and Hawthorn School for Young Learners would not need to be replaced until an anticipated 20 years from now.

The Aspen/ES playground is being prioritized at this time due to student enrollment and the current construction renovations on the Elementary South building. This playground surface also holds water, which impacts the use of the playground by the students. With the update, there will be a drain tile added to the playground so the water can drain more effectively. The new playground does not include swings to maximize space. The five-year facilities plan has been altered to including the funding for the playground. An updated five-year plan will be shared with the board after the Elementary North bid process is completed.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Hannigan reported the updates on the COVID-19 dashboard. As of last week, April 8, 2022, the district reported three students and two staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. The district reported six students and no staff members being placed under quarantine.

As of September 30, 2021 through April 11, 2022, a total of 9,009 samples have been submitted for COVID-19 screening through our partnership with U of I SHIELD. A total of 83 students have been found positive since the beginning of SHIELD testing.

Dr. Hannigan updated the board regarding the student lunch mitigation plan, which includes students eating 6 feet apart. The plan will continue for the remainder of this school year. The logistics of this project involves time and manpower to effectively set up all the buildings to a pre-pandemic setting. Mr. Labbe and his team are in the process of turning on the water fountains, which will take a couple of weeks to complete. He thanked everyone for their patience.

Dr. Hannigan also updated the board to make them aware that he and his team were invited to meet with Sauks Rapid Public Schools in Minnesota. The Sauk Rapids administration heard Dr. Hannigan speak at a conference and invited him and his team to meet with them to review Hawthorn's current HumanEx Cultural Assessment and how Hawthorn has embedded the assessment into the school improvement plans and PLCs. Dr. Maturo and Mr. Fredricksen joined Dr. Hannigan to meet with their leadership team to offer them feedback.

Dr. Hannigan informed the board that Hawthorn District 73 will be hosting its first Community Resource fair on April 23, 2022 from 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. at Elementary North.

Dr. Hannigan was proud to report that Hawthorn District 73 collected \$10,619.87 for Ukraine. This was in partnership with students and the Hawthorn Education Association. The money raised will be donated to Unicef.

Lastly, Dr. Hannigan reported that the district held its last Administrative Leadership Academy tonight. The board will be recognizing all the participants on May 19, 2022.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 7.1 Board Meeting Minutes from March 17, 2022
- 7.2 Closed Session Minutes from March 17, 2022
- 7.3 Closed Session Minutes from March 17, 2022
- 7.4 Expenditure Report from April 14, 2022
- 7.5 AMEX Report from March 2022
- 7.6 Amazon Expense Report from March 2022
- 7.7 Treasurer's Report from January 2022
- 7.8 Treasurer's Report from February 2022
- 7.9 Final Calendar for FY22
- 7.10 Approval of Administrative Salaries for FY23
- 7.11 Approval of the FY23 Salaries for Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3, and Tier 4 Personnel
- 7.12 Personnel Report

11 New Hires:

3 Resignations:

5 Leaves of Absence:

11 Change of Status:

Dr. Hannigan discussed the personnel report which included a number of administrative positions that he highlighted for board members. He reviewed the hiring process for the Building Assistant Supervisors and the two Teaching & Learning Coordinators. Dr. Hannigan recommended Bonnie Hayes, Megan Cahby, Lauren Brezeinski, Lauren Watts, and Stacie Brettner as the Building Assistant Supervisors. He also recommended Stephanie Sidawy as the Coordinator for Math, Science and Related Arts. Lastly, he recommended Ms. Patricia Luna for the Coordinator for ELL, Dual Language and Spanish position.

11 New Hires: Patricia Luna, Teaching & Learning Coordinator, DO; Joelle Rumoro, 5th Grade Teacher, TL; Julia Block, 7th Grade Teacher, MN; Megan Meyer, 8th Grade Teacher, MS; Colleen Kalsch, 7th Grade Teacher, MN; Benicia Colon, School

Psychologist, DO; Brittany Ullrich, 5th Grade Teacher, TL; Marissa Happ, Speech & Language Pathologist, MN; Alyssa Foro, 2nd Grade Teacher, DL; Kathleen Raupp, LOP Teacher, EN; Madeline Funderburg, Instructional Coach, DO.

3 Resignations: Leslie Herman, ELL Teacher, MN, 06/01/2022; Jessica Apgar, 5th Grade Teacher, ES, 06/01/2022; Ana Bautista Valdes, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, TL.

5 Leaves of Absence: Jennifer Powers, 4th-grade teacher, TL; Jessica Sanchez, EC Teacher, Lincoln; Katie Bartel, Music Teacher, EN; Melinda Korn, 2nd Grade Teacher, DL; Jennifer Binek, Speech Pathologist, EN.

11 Change of Status: Malia Stern, Library Assistant, EN; Carey Fennell, Instructional Coach, DO; Kathryn Pinkos, Instructional Assistant, DO; Jaelyn Wagner, Instructional Coach, DO; Lauren Watts, Building Assistant Supervisor, EN; Bonnie Hayes, Building Assistant Supervisor, ES; Stacie Brettner, Building Assistant Supervisor, HSYL; Meghan Caby, Building Assistant Supervisor, DL; Lauren Brzezinski, Building Assistant Supervisor, TL; Megan Faith, Building Assistant Supervisor, AE; Stephanie Sidaway, Teaching & Learning Coordinator, DO.

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RECOMMENDED MOTION: Wes Polen moved that the Board of Education approve the **Consent Agenda** items as presented; seconded by Karl Borchers.

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

**Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays**

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Vice-President Ms. Wes Polen reviewed the first action item listed on tonight's agenda. The third packet for Policy, PRESS Issue 108 included updates from the Business and Teaching & Learning Department. Once approved, the policies will be updated to reflect the board policy manual.

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning, & Innovation Ms. Allison Stein reviewed the ELA/SLA Foundational Resource Recommendation. At the board meeting on March 17, 2022, board members were presented with a proposal from Hawthorn's ELA/SLA pilot team. 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, the district will be able to provide professional development this spring and the resources will be implemented across the district beginning next school year (2022-23).

Dr. Hannigan reviewed the Assistant Superintendent Contracts. Dr. Hannigan recommended three-year contract extensions for Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Mr. Adam Palmer; Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, Ms. Allison Stein; Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Ms. Alicia Corrigan; and elevating Dr. Karen Maturo to Assistant Superintendent for Innovative Learning. All four individuals have met all expectations and have significantly contributed to the improvements being made across the Hawthorn system.

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### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Policy, PRESS Issue 108 (Packet 3)**

MOTION: Wes Polen moved that the Board of Education approve the Policy, PRESS Issue 108 (Packet 3); George Fievet seconded the motion.

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

**Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays**

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#### **ELA/SLA Foundational Resource Recommendation**

MOTION: George Fievet moved that the Board of Education approve the ELA/SLA Foundational Resource Recommendation; Karl Borchers seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

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Approval of Assistant Superintendent Contracts

MOTION: Wes Polen moved that the Board of Education approve the Assistant Superintendent Contracts; Sonali Patil seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

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GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Enrollment- Uploaded
  2. FOIA Log, Dr. Hannigan reported that the District received one FOIA request since the last board meeting and has been responded to as identified in Section 9.2 of the Board agenda.
  3. Board Email Log
  4. Media Clips
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TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

None at this time

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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. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).*

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, Karl Borchers *made a motion to adjourn to Closed Session, seconded by Wes Polen.* The meeting *adjourned at 8:24 p.m.* **All in favor? Yes.**

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

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Respectfully submitted,  
Jessica Flores

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Robin Cleek, President

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George Fievet, Secretary

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