

**Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of  
Hawthorn Community Consolidated District #73, Lake County, Illinois  
430 Aspen Drive, Vernon Hills, IL 60061  
7:00 p.m. on the 20th day of October 20, 2022**

**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, Joel Finfer, Wes Polen and Robin Cleek. Also in attendance were Asst. Supt. of Business & Finance Ms. LeeAnn Taylor; Asst. Supt. of Teaching & Learning Ms. Allison Stein; Asst. Supt. of Student Services Ms. Alicia Corrigan; Asst. Supt. for Human Resources Mr. Adam Palmer; and Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment at this time.

**RECOGNITION**

Mr. Karl Borchers spoke on behalf of the recognition committee to formally recognize an exceptional Hawthorn student-athlete for his outstanding performance at the IESA State Boys Tournament held on September 16. Ethan placed 10th out of 74 golfers with a score of 77. Ethan was presented with a Hawthorn Medal of Excellence and a certificate.

Ms. Wes Polen also spoke on behalf of the recognition committee to formally recognize Ms. Gabriela (Gaby) Cervantes, Hawthorn's Family Liaison. Gaby has consistently contributed to the Hawthorn community in impactful and meaningful ways that have directly improved the lives of multiple Hawthorn students. She has partnered with organizations throughout the community to participate in and host numerous events. Over the last summer, Gaby partnered with the Vernon Hills Police Department to help with the 25th National Night Out celebration in August, and her efforts were noticed by Vernon Hills Police Chief Patrick Kreis, who sent a letter to the district recognizing Gaby's contributions. He described the role Gaby played in the event as "unbelievable," and that her energy contributed greatly to the success of the event. She was presented with a brick with the words "Big Things Are Built One Brick At A Time" and a Certificate of Recognition.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements at this time.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Cleek reminded the Board to RSVP their attendance to the Veteran's Day breakfast taking place at Hawthorn Middle South on Friday, November 11. She also thanked the building administrators for their hard work and dedication to all Hawthorn students in honor of Principal Appreciation Day on Friday, October 21. There will be a collaborative meeting on December 6 with the Village of Vernon Hills, the Vernon Hills Park District and Hawthorn District 73 at the village hall. President Cleek will be in attendance and if there is another board member interested in attending, she asked to please connect with her.

Over the past couple of months President Cleek, along with Ms. Goldman and Ms. Dubin, have been participating in D128's mental health sub-committee along with other feeder districts. The sub-committee focuses on examining what other entities are doing to support and improve mental health all around the community. She wanted to remind the community that Hawthorn has been and will continue to be active in supporting and promoting mental health and so far the work has been progressing very nicely. It is important to note that the Vernon Hills Police Department and Countryside Fire Department are also part of the committee and provide helpful feedback as the first responders are having to respond to a tremendous amount of mental health calls.

President Robin Cleek concluded her report by reminding the Board that she'll attend the Delegate Assembly at the upcoming Illinois Association of School Board Triple I conference in November. She said she'll follow IASB recommendations to adopt or not adopt a proposed resolution unless anyone wants to suggest going against IASB's recommendations on any particular resolution. Consensus was reached to vote along IASB recommendations on all resolutions except one for Firearm Dealer Locations, which IASB recommended voting against. If a resolution is passed, it gives IASB permission from member districts to lobby for a particular position.

**ED-RED REPORT**

No report at this time.

## **SEDOL REPORT**

Mr. Engle reported that there was an overview provided of the proposed three-year contract with the SEDOL's teacher's union and the Board at the last board meeting. The contract will be taken for approval at the next board meeting on December 7. The next governing board meeting will be on October 27. He ended his report by thanking Ms. LeeAnn Taylor and Ms. Alicia Corrigan for all their efforts and hard work in getting involved with the tuition planning meetings with SEDOL.

## **SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

No report at this time.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Hawthorn's Social, Emotional, Behavioral Coordinator, Ms. Megan Goldman, presented "PBIS at Hawthorn" along with Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, Ms. Allison Stein and Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Ms. Alicia Corrigan. The purpose of the presentation was to share information about Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), core components of Tier 1 PBIS, and how PBIS supports social-emotional learning. PBIS is an evidence-based, three-tiered framework for improving student behavioral outcomes. PBIS is a board project that directly relates to goal four of Hawthorn's Strategic Plan, which focuses on comprehensive approaches and programming to educate the whole child. This school year, Hawthorn is focused on Tier 1 PBIS, in which prevention and proactive efforts are applied universally across all schools in order to create optimal learning outcomes for all students. Ms. Goldman gave an overview of the SOAR behavior program and the core components that have been implemented at Hawthorn. Information regarding SEL parent education events that are planned throughout the year were also shared, and Megan welcomed the community to attend the events.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Business Operations, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor discussed the FY22 Audit. She started the discussion by recognizing Hawthorn's business department for being prepared and having the audit completed in a timely manner. During the discussion portion of the meeting, Kevin Smith, representing Eder Casella, shared favorable comments on the district's financial accounting systems after the 21-22 audit process.

Ms. Taylor also discussed the 2022 levy presentation. Ms. Jennifer Akin, Hawthorn's Business Office and Payroll Supervisor was also present during the discussion. They started the discussion by sharing the timeline for the levy. The tax levy is the district's annual request for property tax money needed to support the operation of the district. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) trends over the past were presented and explained that the CPI trends remained relatively stable over the last nine years until 2021 with a noticeable increase. Ms. Taylor and Ms. Akin presented their recommendation of the 2022 tax levy and explained that this year's levy was more difficult to prepare than normal because inflation (as measured by the Consumer Price Index) has been much higher than in previous years. As such, the district is recommending a levy this year that is approximately 6.73% higher than last year. There will be a public hearing on the levy at the next board meeting on November 15.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Pete Hannigan informed the Board that the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) will be releasing the annual Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) reports for each school on October 27. The next board meeting will include a presentation from Dr. Maturo to review the data and the School Improvement Plan for the district.

He also reminded the Board and the community that the annual Hawthorn Hustle 5K is scheduled for November 5.

Dr. Hannigan concluded his report by recognizing the outstanding efforts and dedication of Hawthorn's principals, assistant principals, and building assistant supervisors for their dedication and leadership to all Hawthorn students. Friday, October 21 is Principal Appreciation Day and Hawthorn's success wouldn't be possible without the building administrators.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 7.1 Board Meeting Minutes from September 22, 2022
- 7.2 Closed Session Minutes from September 22, 2022
- 7.3 Expenditure Report from October 20, 2022
- 7.4 Amazon Expense Report from October 20, 2022
- 7.5 AMEX Report from September 2022
- 7.6 Mastercard Report from September 2022
- 7.7 Personnel Report

8 New Hires:

2 Resignations:

8 Leaves of Absence:

2 Change of Status:

8 New Hires: Angela McMahan, Social Worker, MN; Amy Bennett, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, ES; Ellyn Benovsky, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, TL; Stephanie Demb, Instructional Assistant, ES; Melissa Goldenson, Instructional Assistant, TL; Anat Marx, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, HSYL; FNU Swati, Instructional Assistant, ES; Julienne Uwingabire, Instructional Assistant, TL.

2 Resignations: Stacey Amari, Instructional Assistant, EN, 10/14/2022; Iwona Lejmbach, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, TL, 10/10/2022;

8 Leaves of Absence: Carl Gruebele, Technology Support Specialist, District, 09/01/2022; Genesis Vazquez, Principal Secretary, MN, 01/09/2023; Xochitl Willis, Instructional Assistant, Lincoln, 11/16/2022; Brianna Galloway, 4th Grade Teacher, Aspen, 02/21/2023; Carly Henrickson, EC/Pre-K Teacher, Lincoln, 03/14/2023; Melinda Preuss, 5th Grade Teacher, ES, 12/13/2022; Samantha Ruby, LOP Teacher, EN, 12/10/2023; Garon Stewart, 8th Grade Teacher, MN, 01/09/2023.

2 Change of Status: Shandey Reimann, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, Aspen, 10/03/2022; Dulce Martinez, Principal Secretary, DL, 09/27/2022.

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Wes Polen requested to remove section 7.1 and 7.2 **Board Meeting Minutes from September 22, 2022** and **Closed Session Minutes from September 22, 2022** from the consent agenda.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the **Board Meeting Minutes from September 22, 2022** and the **Closed Session Minutes from September 22, 2022** as presented; seconded by George Fievet.

**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 Wes Polen.

**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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#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Enrollment-Uploaded
2. FOIA Log, Dr. Hannigan reported that there were two FOIA requests since the last board meeting as identified in Section 8.2 of the Board agenda.
3. Board Email Log
4. Media Clips

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#### **TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

No future topics at this time.

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#### **ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) President Cleek *read the motion(s) to adjourn to CLOSED SESSION for the purposes of:*

*Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)*

*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 Wes Polen. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. **All in favor? Yes.**

**Motion carried: 7 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: \_\_\_\_\_