

**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 15th day of November**

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. of Innovative Learning Dr. Karen Maturo; Asst. Supt. for Human Resources Mr. Adam Palmer; and Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Hetzel, community member, spoke in regards to the 2022 Tax Levy. He requested more information related to the Tax Levy and how it will affect property taxes in Vernon Hills. He has asked the Business Department to share an actual number that would better represent what a homeowner's property tax increase would look like. He thanked the staff for all their hard work and appreciated the organized data.

RECOGNITION

Mr. Karl Borchers spoke on behalf of the recognition committee to formally recognize one of the two exceptional Hawthorn student-athletes being honored. Middle North's Kenzie Christie was recognized for her exceptional performance at the IESA State Golf Tournament held in September. Out of 74 golfers, Kenzie placed seventh with a score of 86. She 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 the second Hawthorn student-athlete that was honored at the meeting. Middle South's Karanveer Patil was recognized for his unbelievable performance at the IESA State Cross Country Meet with a second-place finish. He was also presented with a Hawthorn Medal of Excellence and a certificate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements at this time.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Cleek reminded the board to connect with her if there is any interest in joining the meeting between the Village of Vernon Hills, the Vernon Hills Park District, and Hawthorn District 73 on December 6 at 4 pm. Any Board member attending the Triple I conference was given their badge and the itinerary has been sent out via email. She thanked the board for their dedication and commitment to the community in celebration of School Board Member's Day. Lastly, she ended her report by wishing the community a Happy Thanksgiving.

ED-RED REPORT

No report at this time.

SEDOL REPORT

Mr. Engle reported that SEDOL's last governing board meeting was August 24. There was an executive board meeting scheduled for November 10 that was canceled due to a lack of quorum. The meeting has been rescheduled to November 21 at 9:30 am. The next governing board meeting will be held on December 7.

SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Patil reported that the last Site & Facilities meeting gave an overview of the Elementary North bid results that is on the agenda for discussion later on in the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

Assistant Superintendent of Innovative Learning Dr. Karen Maturo presented the School Improvement Update. Dr. Maturo was accompanied by Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Mr Adam Palmer, and the Elementary North team. Principal Katie Waggoner, Building Supervisor Lauren Watts, Michele Alex, Nikki Calhoun, Alesia Dzeliktanya, Cara Hunwick, Karen Karolczak, Nichole Petersen and Allison Wengerhoff reviewed Elementary North's data and their school improvement plan. The presentation gave an overview on assessments, how the buildings are meeting the district's goals, and how their school improvement plans look in action. The data that was presented was an overarching district-wide view that included results from Fastbridge, NWEA, MySaebars and the Illinois Assessment of Readiness. Overall, Hawthorn students have high proficiency in ELA and Math and emphasized that Early Literacy is a priority. There are differences in achievement across buildings.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Mr. Adam Palmer reviewed the results for Hawthorn District's Humanex Cultural Survey. The Culture Survey provides organizational staff and leadership with actionable data and feedback informed by employee/staff perspectives. This information reflects four distinct views: my organization, my building/admin, my team, and my role. This information empowers staff to set priorities and collaboratively brainstorm action items and provides staff and leadership with objective, anonymous, quantitative data regarding staff engagement. The information from the annual survey is utilized to develop school-wide cultural goals.

The Elementary North team reviewed their School Improvement Plan. Elementary North had the opportunity to provide a window into the work they engage in to help all students achieve the district goals. All the work they do is captured in the three big ideas that drive Professional Learning Communities. The three critical ideas they discussed were Focus on Learning, Collaborative Culture and Collective Responsibility, and Results Orientation. Elementary North's fundamental purpose is to help all students achieve at high levels. The team believes and are committed to all students learning at high levels, showing both proficiency in standards while continuously growing. They are committed to the Whole Child, their physical health, social emotional well-being and connectedness to the community. They are committed to creating and sustaining a positive culture and climate for the students, families and staff. The areas of focus that were discussed included the 1st Grade Early Reading, Proficiency in Math, and Community and Belonging.

Questions were asked by board members to clarify the data and how the district will continue to monitor progress and achievement.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Business Operations Ms. LeeAnn Taylor held the Public Hearing for the Tax Levy. Ms. Taylor reviewed the levy, which consists of a 6.73% increase. The cap is set to 5% and there is a chance that Hawthorn does not get approved for the 6.73%. There are FAQs and examples that show the average household property tax with a 5% levy increase that are posted on the Hawthorn website. During the public hearing, community member, Mr. John Hetzel asked how the tax levy will affect the property taxes because the levy is based off of the property values that were assessed months ago but have since dropped. Ms. Taylor mentioned that she will address any questions at the next board meeting prior to the action item.

Ms. Taylor also discussed the Elementary North bid results. Tom McGrath, representative from Lamp, also participated in the discussion and gave an overview of the bid results. Overall, there was a great turnout and interest in the project. There were about 12 different trade packages and 54 bidders. There are about 7 bidders that have worked with Hawthorn in the past and the rest have at some point worked with Lamp over the years. This project is the fifth phase of construction for Hawthorn's referendum. The December board meeting will discuss summer projects that will not include referendum dollars.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Pete Hannigan thanked the Board of Education in honor of IASB School Board Member Day. He thanked them for their service and commitment to the Hawthorn community. As a token of appreciation from the administrative team, board members were presented with a small gift. He ended his report by wishing the community a Happy Thanksgiving.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 7.1 Board Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2022
- 7.2 Closed Session Minutes from October 20, 2022
- 7.3 Expenditure Report from November 15, 2022
- 7.4 Amazon Expense Report from November 15, 2022
- 7.5 Mastercard Report from October 2022
- 7.6 Treasurer's Report from July 2022
- 7.7 Treasurer's Report from August 2022
- 7.8 Personnel Report

4 New Hires:

2 Resignations:

6 Leaves of Absence:

1 Change of Status:

4 New Hires: Anna Chubchenko, Interventionist, TL; Meghan Hibbs, Interventionist, TL; Therese Davis, Instructional Assistant, EN; Lakshmi Murikurthy, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, EN;

2 Resignations: Lauren Marra, 5th Grade LOP Teacher, EN, 10/10/2022; Rebecca Wheeler, Administrative Assistant to Teaching & Learning, DO, 10/28/2022

6 Leaves of Absence: Meredith Brown, 8th Grade Teacher, MS, 11/09/2022; Sarah Merza, Kindergarten Teacher, HSYL, 04/24/2023; Lindsay Morely, Instructional Coach, DO, 10/07/2022; Gina SeLander, LBS1 Teacher, ES, 10/10/2022; Donisha Smith, Office Clerk, TL/DL, 11/07/2022; Barbara Melcer, Instructional Assistant, EN, 11/16/2022

1 Change of Status: Maureen Santi, Payroll and Benefits Specialist, DO, 11/16/2023

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

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

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Business Operations Ms. LeeAnn Taylor reviewed the action items listed on tonight's agenda that relate to the business department. The domestic hot water heaters at Aspen require Board approval due to the estimated cost. The hot water heaters were on the list of capital project plans to be replaced at a later date, but there was a recent equipment failure. Mr. Labbe received three quotes and the lowest quote was J.L. Wagner Plumbing and Piping for a total of \$55,700.

The business department is seeking to apply for the School Maintenance Project Grant, which requests Board approval before the district could submit the application. If the funds are granted, the district will utilize the grant money towards the external doors and service for classroom emergency doors at Elementary South. The project is estimated to cost about \$100,000 and the district hopes to use the School Maintenance Project Grant to offset the total cost.

Lastly, per board policy 2:125, the business department seeks approval for the estimated expenses for the IASB Joint Annual Conference that will be held the weekend of November 18.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Replacement of Domestic Hot Water Heaters at Aspen School

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the Replacement of Domestic Hot Water Heaters at Aspen; Wes Polen seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

Approval to Apply for the School Maintenance Project Grant

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve to apply for the School Maintenance Project Grant; Karl Borchers seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

Estimated Expense Approval- 2022 IASB Joint Annual Conference

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the Estimated Expense Approval for the 2022 IASB Joint Annual Conference; Michael Engle seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Enrollment-Uploaded
2. FOIA Log, Dr. Hannigan reported that there was one FOIA request since the last board meeting as identified in Section 9.2 of the Board agenda.
3. Board Email Log
4. Media Clips

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

No future topics at this time.

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:*

Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

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, Joel Finfer *made a motion to adjourn to Closed Session, seconded by* Wes Polen. The meeting *adjourned at 8:27 p.m.* **All in favor? Yes.**

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Flores

Robin Cleek, President

George Fievet, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: _____