



Learning for Life

**Board of Education**

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Andrew Lindsay, Assistant Superintendent  
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**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM  
15475 LEROY  
SOUTHGATE, MI 48195**

**DATE:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Craig called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.  
Mr. Craig read the Mission and Vision statements.

**REVISIONS/ADDITIONS OF AGENDA:**

2022/23 – 63 Moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Sage, that the December 13, 2022 agenda be approved as presented

Yes: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage  
No:

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. North Pointe IB Elementary Update  
Ms. Danielle Jozwiak, Student Services Coordinator, presented a PowerPoint update on what is happening at North Pointe IB Elementary. In addition to Ms. Jozwiak explaining the IB program, including the nine learner profile traits – inquirer, risk taker, caring, balanced, knowledgeable, thinker, reflective, communicator, and principled.

Ms. Jozwiak invited the community to participate in the Family and Community Mini Exhibition Nights on the last Thursday of each month from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. The focus of these nights is “to allow families and community members to experience our approaches to teaching and learning.”

Staff members Ms. Bradley, Mr. Buckley, and Ms. Servis spoke about their experiences with the program and the First Unit of Inquiry for each of the grade levels. Ms. Kuryliw shared the Spanish lessons that are being taught.

Students Jayden, Rini, Angel and Lucas shared what attending North Pointe IB program means to them as well as parents Serena, Phillip, and Britni. Several speakers thanked the Board for taking a chance on this new program.

2. Fall Athletic Titan Awards  
Athletic Directors Kaendall McVicker and Beth Hinzmann as well as Athletic Coordinator Mitch Dobeck presented the Fall, 2022 Anderson High School and Davidson Middle School Titan Awards. Athletes who broke school records at both the high school and middle school were also recognized and presented with a plaque.

[2022 Fall Titan Awards](#)

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:**

Robert Pawlowski congratulated the sports teams, the band and the robotics teams for their job well done. He expressed his appreciation for a wonderful presentation from North Pointe IB Elementary. Southgate has invested in the schools and the progress is showing.

**SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE:**

None

**CONSENT:**

- 2022/23 – 64 Moved by Dr. Pomonio, supported by Mr. Green, that the Board approve the November 22, 2022 Facility Workshop, Closed Session and Regular Meeting Minutes, HR Update, and November, 2022 Disbursements.  
Yes: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomonio, Sage  
No:

**ACTION:**

1. **Approval of the FY 2023 First Budget Amendment**  
Ms. Wilson presented the FY23 first amended budget which includes the General Operating, Special Education, Food Service, Community Services, and the Student/School Activity Funds.  
2022-23 – 65 Moved by Dr. Pomonio, supported by Mr. Lamos, that the Board approve the FY 2023 First Budget Amendment  
Yes: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomonio, Sage  
No:
2. **Approval of the SmartBoot Installation, Phase II**  
Ms. Irvine explained that in June, the board approved Phase One of the SmartBoot. Phase II includes the connectivity of the system. Complete installation of the SmartBoot will be completed at Davidson Middle School and training will take place at that location.

2022-23 – 66 Moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Green, that the Board approve Phase II of the SmartBoot installation for a cost not to exceed \$714,474.03.

Yes: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

No:

**3. Approval of the Purchase of ABI Equipment**

Mr. Hardy presented the board with a quote for the purchase of ABI Equipment to maintain the baseball, softball, and soccer fields as well as the practice football field and playgrounds.

This equipment will allow the district to maintain our properties instead of relying on others to do so. Only those properly trained will be allowed to use the equipment.

2022-23 – 67 Moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Sage, that the Board approve the purchase of ABI Equipment for an amount not to exceed \$45,130.50.

Yes: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

No:

**4. Approval of the Student Council State Leadership Conference Field Trip**

Mr. Lindsay explained that the Anderson High School Student Council will be traveling to Grand Rapids in February to participate in the State Leadership Conference.

2022-23 – 68 Moved by Dr. Pomponio, supported by Mr. Estheimer, that the Board approve the Anderson High School Student Council Leadership Conference overnight field trip.

Yes: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

No:

**DISCUSSION:**

Dr. Pomponio wished staff and families a happy holiday.

Mr. Green expressed gratitude for Mr. Estheimer's service on the board for the past 6 years as president, vice-president and trustee. He acknowledged him as a pillar in the positive movement in the District.

Mr. Estheimer addressed the board and the community:

I just wanted to take a few moments to say thank you to my fellow board members. I worked with most of you side-by-side for the past 6 years. In that time frame, we've been through a lot, Covid being the biggest. To be the first board president in history, let alone the first board, to meet remotely and navigate a pandemic was a challenge we all achieved together.

We've done an incredible amount of good together for the district. We have a beautiful turf football field at the high school and next year we will have a new natatorium housing our new swimming pool and weight room. We have seen many improvements at all of our facilities district wide. We have buses now picking up our students for the first time in several years. We have a brand new option for parents, having opened a school we previously closed which is now housing the first ever in this area, an IB Primary program for early elementary students. So thank you to this group, our level of work, diligence and professionalism extended beyond the board room. I've made lifelong friends in this group and am so proud of the work we've done.

The Board's main function is to hire a superintendent. Since being elected, I've seen three and hired two. All were outstanding in their own rights, but I believe our district is in great shape with the hiring of Superintendent Irvine. Her leadership has allowed us to soar in ways that we only dreamed of, but always aspired to. Thank you, Ms. Irvine for your leadership, professionalism and love for our students and schools.

Two other very important Board functions we as a board are charged with are to oversee the education and safety of our children. First and foremost, and thanks to the help of voters, we will soon be safer than ever with the installation of the SmartBoot, a revolutionary security feature that will be present in all of our schools. Beyond the SmartBoot, however, student and staff safety has been priority one for myself and this Board and over the years, we have made many improvements in this area, thanks to the Board. We now have a direct link with the Police Department as they can access our cameras remotely in emergency situations. Our relationship with Southgate Police, though, goes beyond newly improved cameras and secure entrances now also provided by the bond that this community passed. We now have our own dedicated resource officer and highly trained security personnel in our schools. I am confident that this Board will continue to hold student and staff safety as a top priority.

Student engagement, curriculum changes and the overall education of our students is not only in the Boards' and the superintendents' hand, but now Assistant Superintendent Lindsay will be charged with maintaining the level of education that this district expects and deserves. Covid presented many problems in the area of growth as we have seen from recent testing results, but I'm confident that this Board and our outstanding administration will tackle this head on and we will see noticeable results in the near future.

Thank you also to the many parents I've met, followed, and become friends with, some of who are here tonight. Watching your children grow has been one of the highlights of my life. Those that I started with on the 2016 board that were in first grade have made me so proud. By not returning to office, I will no longer be able to hand them that diploma, but I promise to be there on graduation day as a cheerful and proud spectator.

I want to say thank you to the voters. Yes, you heard me correctly. Thank you for six years of trust. Trust by passing a bond and now the Sinking Fund. This District and its improvements could not and cannot be done without that trust and passing of these initiatives from the voters. I am happy to pass the baton now knowing that this Board has the funds available to accomplish these important tasks that lie ahead, some of which I've mentioned.

Special thanks to the teachers, support staff, coaches, and administrators who I've met along the way. I appreciate you and your work.

Lastly, thanks to my family. Nicole, Jake, and Jillian have been gracious in sharing me with the community for the past six years. Although only two meetings a month, my service extended to a nearly everyday commitment on some level and in some capacity, having served as a trustee secretary, vice-president, and president, advocating for education in Lansing, attending a teacher training, visiting schools, cheering on our student athletes and debate teams, attending various awards ceremonies and each and every graduation ceremony, and even taking in an occasional PTO meeting. I want to thank them for allowing me to seek and hold this office and be part of and engaged in this community. My kids were five and six when I took office and now they're almost teenagers. I still managed to coach all of my son's teams and attend every dance for my daughter, but I still feel as if they, my family, were the ones that made the commitment as much or more than myself. Thank you to them!

To the current Board and its newest member, Mrs. Angel, I am eager to see your work and the plans we made come to fruition in the coming years. I will be on the sidelines cheering you on and will always be Titan Proud. Good luck and thank you!

**EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES:**

None

**CLOSED SESSION:**

2022-23 – 69 Moved by Mr. Estheimer, supported by Dr. Pomponio, to enter into Closed Session at 8:30 p.m. under Section 8 (1c) of the Open Meetings Act – Collective Bargaining.

Roll Call Vote:

Estheimer	Yes
Freitas	Yes
Green	Yes
Lamos	Yes
Pomponio	Yes
Sage	Yes
Craig	Yes

**ADJOURNMENT:**

2022-23 – 70 Moved by Mr. Estheimer, supported by Mr. Lamos, that the Board adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Yes: Craig, Estheimer, Freitas, Green, Lamos, Pomponio, Sage

No:

Respectfully submitted by: Jodi Badder

  
Dr. Darlene Pomponio, Secretary  
Board of Education

