

**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 19th day of January 2023**

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 Dr. 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

HEA President Ms. Erin Roche spoke on behalf of the Hawthorn Education Association to thank the D73 Board members for their continued dedication and support as Hawthorn celebrates January Board Recognition Month. Ms. Roche presented each board member with a small token of appreciation.

Community member John Hetzel commented on the proposed HB5188 and asked how the district would proceed if the house bill passes. He asked if the teachers are knowledgeable and qualified to teach the new curriculum, what the alternative plan looks like for the students who have opted out of the lesson, and what is the district doing to inform the community if the bill does pass.

RECOGNITION

Assistant Superintendent of Innovative Learning, Dr. Karen Maturo presented the Board of Education with two time capsules in celebration of #HawthornHits100. Lincoln Early Learning Center and Elementary North delivered a short video explaining the unique school artifacts that were placed in their time capsule. The remaining schools will present their time capsules during future board meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Cleek recognized Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan for his selection as a Superintendent to Watch by the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA). The distinction is awarded to superintendents with five years of experience or less as a superintendent, and who demonstrate dynamic, fast-paced leadership with strong communication at its core.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Cleek informed the board to watch for an email from her, which will contain the draft Board Meeting dates for the next fiscal year and be ready to discuss at the next board meeting.

ED-RED REPORT

Mr. Joel Finfer reminded the board that Monday, January 23, will be the ED-RED Legislative dinner, and Professional Development credit will be available for those who are interested.

SEDOL REPORT

Mr. Engle reported on the SEDOL's program update. SEDOL hosted a collaborative discussion to highlight strengths and opportunities for growth. More than 45 individuals, including board members and administration, were able to share their thoughts on a variety of areas. More than 20 member districts collectively analyzed and provided feedback categorized into five focus areas, which were: student achievement and curriculum, program services, facilities, district finances, and community-district relations. It was recommended by the SEDOL executive board for SEDOL administration to pursue a third party to continue the analysis and provide specific recommendations regarding three priority areas, including communication, program services, and financial transparency. SEDOL has a scheduled district-wide blood drive coming up on Wednesday, February 1, from 12 pm-6 pm at Gages Lake School. More information can be found on vitalant.org. The next governing board meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2023, and the next executive board meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2023.

SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Patil reported that the Site & Facilities committee met on January 10, 2023, and reviewed the design and development of the summer projects, specifically the district office and the library at Townline/Dual Language. Aspen's new heating units came in and were installed. There is still equipment delayed for the completion of Middle South. The detention basin at Middle South project is a multi-year project and will take place in phases.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations at this meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no discussion items at this meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Pete Hannigan reported that the district would host a Kindergarten Information Night on January 31, 2023, at 6 pm at Hawthorn Middle North. He shared important dates with the board and community, including that kindergarten registration will open on February 1, 2023. There will also be a Dual Language Recruitment Night on February 7, 2023.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 7.1 Board Meeting Minutes from December 15, 2022
- 7.2 Closed Session Minutes from December 15, 2022
- 7.3 Expenditure Report from January 19, 2023
- 7.4 Amazon Expense Report from January 19, 2023
- 7.5 Mastercard Report from November 2022
- 7.6 Treasurer's Report from October 2022
- 7.7 Treasurer's Report from November 2022
- 7.8 Personnel Report

4 New Hires:

2 Resignations:

4 Leaves of Absence:

1 Change of Status:

2 Parental Leaves:

4 New Hires: Dawn Dury, .2 Art Teacher, DL; Alison Pearl, Social Worker, TL; Haley Pullen, ELL Teacher, ES; Judy Crawford, Principal Secretary, EN.

2 Resignations: Angela McMahan, Social Worker, MN, 12/22/2022; Therese Davis, Instructional Assistant, EN, 12/22/2022

4 Leaves of Absence: Corri Kolb, Instructional Assistant, HSYL, 01/10/2023; Cathy Gross, Library Media Specialist, TL, 01/10/2023; Christopher Volpe, LBS1 Teacher, MN, 12/14/2022; Brandon White, PE Teacher, TL, 04/20/2023

1 Change of Status: Elizabeth Gutierrez, Office Clerk, ES, 01/09/2023

2 Parental Leaves: Sarah Merza, Kindergarten Teacher, HSYL, 04/24/2023; Alexandra Reich, Social Worker, MN, 03/11/2023

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the **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

Dr. Hannigan reviewed the 7-Hour Instructional Day that will take effect beginning in the 2023-2024 school year. He discussed the questions submitted by parents and community members. Since sending information to families on December 20, the district has received 28 total submissions, which broadly fell into seven categories: Calendar, Curriculum, Early Release, Extracurriculars, Middle School Arrival, Snack/Lunch, and Transportation. Of those 28 submissions, 23 requested an administrator to contact them to discuss their question. Hawthorn administrators have spoken to most of these parents, and have left messages for those that did not answer. The district is posting a Frequently Asked Questions page to the website with answers to the most common questions received on January 25, 2023.

Dr. Hannigan also discussed the proposed 2023-2024 school calendar. The calendar committee met to define the calendar parameters for the 2023-2024 school year, which consists of 176 student attendance days and four teacher institute days. Based on the feedback from the calendar committee, Hawthorn is recommending the first day of school be on August 24 and the last day of school on May 31 to align with the shared High School dates and the Lake County Tech Campus Calendar. Lincoln Early Learning Center's first day of school would be on August 28 to reflect their non-student attendance days during the Pre-K screening dates.

Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Business Operations Ms. LeeAnn Taylor reviewed the action items listed on tonight's agenda that relate to the business department. Ms. Taylor began by discussing the 2023 Summer Facility Projects. The projects focus on the renovations to the Townline/Dual Language Library and the security enhancements at the District Office. The library at Townline/Dual Language is scheduled to begin on the last day of this school year and will be ready for the 2023-2024 school year. In order to bring consistency to Hawthorn families during the summer months for registration, the district office construction is anticipated to begin October 2023 and reopen after winter break. The vote tonight will allow the district to commence the bidding process for these projects. After the discussion of the bid results at the next Site & Facilities meeting, there will be a discussion and action item in the upcoming board meetings.

The business department is also seeking approval for the food service contract amendment. Due to the labor shortage, the need to attract food service candidates, and considering the minimum wage law, the district is currently paying a wage differential each month (ILMW) in addition to the individual meal rates. The details of the price increase are included in the board packet and were discussed at the last board meeting. The amendment to the contract proposed by Arbor would reflect Arbor's rising prices that they anticipate from food suppliers.

ACTION ITEMS

7 Hour Instructional Day- Hours

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the 7-Hour Instructional Day Hours; 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

2023-2024 Proposed Student Calendar

MOTION: George Fievet moved that the Board of Education approve the 2023-2024 Proposed Student Calendar; 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

2023 Summer Facility Projects

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the 2023 Summer Facility Projects; Sonali Patil 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

Food Service Contract Amendment

MOTION: George Fievet moved that the Board of Education approve the Food Service Contract Amendment; 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

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Enrollment-Uploaded
 2. FOIA Log, Dr. Hannigan reported that there were three FOIA requests since the last board meeting 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

Vice President Wes Polen inquired about articulation between the elementary and middle school, and the middle school and high school.

Mr. Karl Borchers asked to hear more about the process of becoming a substitute teacher.

Mr. Joel Finfer asked the board to look at the school board member oath of office. Vice President Wes Polen will explore other options.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Joel Finfer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Wes Polen. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 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: _____