

**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 23rd day of February 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, 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; and Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan. Karl Borchers was not in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

RECOGNITION

Ms. Wes Polen spoke on behalf of the Recognition Committee to formally recognize two outstanding Hawthorn employees. Middle South Orchestra Director Ms. Samantha May was recognized for preparing and submitting the Middle South 7th/8th-grade orchestra to perform at this year's Illinois Music Educators Conference. Because of her dedication, the Middle South orchestra was the only middle school orchestra selected in the state to perform at this prestigious event. Ms. May was awarded with the highest award of recognition, a brick with the words "Big Things Are Built One Brick At A Time" inscribed on it, along with a certificate of recognition.

Ms. Wes Polen also recognized Coordinator of Social, Emotional, and Behavior Ms. Megan Goldman for leading a SOARING On The Bus training event for Lakeside bus drivers. In the nomination, Ms. Taylor wrote, "The training was thorough, engaging, and well-planned. Feedback from drivers and the bus company was outstanding! What started as a few building leaders sitting down to have a conversation on how to support drivers and model student behavior turned into a well-planned and continuous training program centered around the same student expectations on the bus as in our school buildings." Ms. Goldman was awarded with the highest award of recognition, a brick with the words "Big Things Are Built One Brick At A Time" inscribed on it, along with a certificate of recognition.

Assistant Superintendent of Innovative Learning Dr. Karen Maturo presented the Board of Education with a time capsule in celebration of #HawthornHits100. Hawthorn School of Dual Language demonstrated a short video explaining their unique school artifacts that were placed in their time capsule. The remaining schools will be presenting their time capsules during future board meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice President Wes Polen wished all Hawthorn students participating in solo and ensemble on Saturday, February 25, good luck.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Cleek reminded board members about IASB's Lake Division Dinner scheduled for March and asked members to connect with Ms. Flores if interested in attending. She also reminded board members to complete Dr. Hannigan's evaluation, which will be sent out after tonight's meeting.

President Cleek asked the board for consensus on the 23-24 board meeting schedule. Three proposals were shared, and all present board members agreed to choose proposal three, as it shows no conflict with hosting a board meeting the night before a non-attendance school day.

President Cleek ended her report by sharing that she has continued her building tours along with Dr. Hannigan. Since the building tours, she has had the opportunity to see the updated buildings being used in full capacity, the consistent curriculum between the classrooms, and has enjoyed seeing all the smiling faces of Hawthorn students.

ED-RED REPORT

No report at this time.

SEDOL REPORT

Mr. Engle reported that SEDOL's last governing board meeting was held on December 7, 2022. The last executive board meeting was scheduled for February 16, 2023, but it was canceled due to weather conditions. The new date for the executive board meeting is on February 23, 2023, and the next governing board meeting will be held on March 1, 2023.

SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Patil reported that the last Site & Facilities meeting gave an overview of the summer project bid results. This meeting was Dr. Patil's last Site and Facilities meeting before ending her board term.

PRESENTATIONS

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Dr. Allison Stein was joined by several committee members to present the Elementary and Middle School Instructional Day. The speakers, including both elementary and middle school staff and administration, worked together on behalf of students in the development of Hawthorn's updated instructional day schedule. The committees' work aimed to reach Hawthorn's four district goals, which focus on the growth and learning of students, both academically and in support of whole child development. The success of the seven-hour day will be measured based on progress toward meeting these goals.

The elementary instructional day has increased instructional minutes that have been allocated to ELA/SLA, math, science, and social studies to further support student learning. Both ELA/SLA and math will have a total allocated time of 120 minutes. Additional instructional minutes will also be added to social-emotional learning. The social-emotional learning time has been restructured so that the schools can have protected time each day for a co-taught morning meeting, rather than a 40-minute period once each week. This model has several benefits, including increased opportunities for relationship-building between students and multiple teachers, shared social-emotional learning language across the school and district, daily instruction and practice in key social-emotional learning skills, frequent opportunities to reinforce and/or reteach SOAR expectations, and targeted student support via a co-teaching model.

The middle school instructional day now includes a double period of ELA, six rotation classes, and elective choices. On Wednesdays, students will participate in an extended advisory session to focus on social-emotional learning, as well as a Flex period. A Flex period is time structured to provide students with intervention, practice, or enrichment for both academic and social-emotional learning skills.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan reviewed the 2023-2024 staffing plan. It is the district's belief that the plan developed for the 202320-24 school year is both fiscally responsible and supports the Board of Education's goals by placing highly qualified individuals into the best positions to facilitate student success. The development of the proposed plan began last fall when the district engaged in the analysis of enrollment trends and current staffing. Data was shared to provide a summary of the proposed staffing plan, including a six-year enrollment trend, enrollment trends for Kindergarten and 8th grade, projected enrollment trends for the upcoming year, and current staffing levels. Based on this analysis, the Human Resources Department recommends adding three Learning Behavior Specialists, one Speech Language Pathologist, two General Education Teachers, four Spanish Teachers, and two Bilingual Resource Teachers. This recommendation will be presented for board approval at the next board meeting.

Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Business Operations Ms. LeeAnn Taylor presented the proposed student fees for the 202320-24 school year. To create a consistent and transparent process for student registration and fee collection, the proposed student fee preparation began last April. The fees will be inclusive of all materials needed for a particular grade level to simplify the collection process and promote an equitable environment that aligns with goal four from the strategic plan. There will be no increase to the student fees, but restructured to condense fees. This year, a new feature will be a \$20 discount when enrolling your student by May 1, 2023. Student fees will be assessed in August 2023 after giving the free/reduced lunch application process time to open after July 1. There will be an increase to the breakfast/lunch rates and transportation fees. After using a calculation provided by the USDA, it is recommended to increase the price of student breakfast/lunch to align with the reimbursement rates. A student breakfast is proposed to cost \$1.40 instead of \$1.35. A student lunch is proposed to cost \$3.25 instead of \$3.10. The transportation fees are applied to those families who are interested in paying for transportation services who do not qualify for free transportation because they live within 1.5 miles from the school their student attends. The transportation fee is proposed to cost \$430 instead of \$403. This increase is proposed due to the anticipated rate increase from Lakeside Transportation.

The 2023 summer school fees were also discussed. The summer school programs this year are scheduled for June 5-June 29 and will take place Monday-Thursday. The programs include Extended School Year, Early Start Kindergarten, Summer Scholars, Hawthorn Enrichment Institute, and the Hawthorn Music Camp. The board packet contained detailed information on each summer program. The Hawthorn Enrichment Institute and the Hawthorn Music Camp's rates will be proposed to \$7 per attendance hour.

Ms. Taylor also discussed the 2023 Summer Project Bid Results. Ms. Taylor was accompanied by Tom McGrath from LAMP and VP Trinh from ARCON. The bid results along with the district's capital plan were discussed in detail at the last Site and Facilities meeting. The bids were held on February 14 and the district received four trade packages which included about 16 bids overall. There were scope reviews for all trade packages and there were no issues. LAMP and ARCON both feel comfortable with the contractors.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Pete Hannigan introduced School Resource Officer Casey Bergschneider to the Hawthorn team. Officer Bergschneider was present and thanked the team for the opportunity to serve the district.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 7.1 Board Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2023
- 7.2 Closed Session Minutes from February 9, 2023
- 7.3 Expenditure Report from February 23, 2023
- 7.4 Amazon Expense Report from February 23, 2023
- 7.5 Mastercard Report from December 2022
- 7.6 Treasurer's Report from December 2022
- 7.7 Personnel Report

3 New Hires:

1 Resignation:

2 Leaves of Absence:

2 Retirements:

3 New Hires: Jenna May, ELL Teacher, DL; Babita Kashyap, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, DL; Chandrika Reddy, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, TL.

1 Resignation: Caroline Wethekam, 2nd Grade Teacher, ES, 05/30/2023.

2 Leaves of Absence: Sarah Johnson, Speech Language Pathologist, EN, 02/13/2023; Samantha Sruder, 5th Grade Teacher, ES, 05/12/2023.

2 Retirements: Kristie Blasinski, PE Teacher, EN, 05/30/2027; Lisa Lasko Chiapetta, Kindergarten Teacher, HSYL, 05/30/2023.

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, and Michael Engle.

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

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 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)(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).

With no further business to discuss, George Fievet made a motion to adjourn to Closed Session, seconded by Michael Engle The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m. **All in favor? Yes.**

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Flores

Robin Cleek, President

George Fievet, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: _____