

**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 27th day of April 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

Ms. Fabbi Vasquez spoke on behalf of Rep. Dan Schneider to publicly recognize Dr. Sonali Patil for her commitment to the Hawthorn community. Representative Didech asked the Illinois House of Representatives to approve a resolution to recognize Dr. Patil's important contributions as a member of the D73 School Board of Education. The resolution was passed and a copy was presented to Dr. Patil during the meeting.

RECOGNITION

Vice President Wes Polen spoke on behalf of the recognition committee to formally recognize three exceptional Hawthorn employees for their dedication and commitment to making Hawthorn a lighthouse district. The first is Ms. Jen Harris, who is a PE teacher at Hawthorn Middle South and serves as the athletic director for the district, among other roles. Ms. Harris was awarded a certificate of recognition in acknowledgement of her exceptional contributions to benefit Hawthorn and our students.

Board Member Karl Borchers spoke to formally recognize Mr. Carlos Mendoza and Mr. Jose Baza, two members of the district's maintenance team. They were nominated for this recognition by Director of Facilities Mr. Mike Labbe. In recognition of their hard work, dedication and commitment, Mr. Baza and Mr. Mendoza were presented with certificates of recognition and Hawthorn's highest award, a brick with the phrase "Big Things Are Built One Brick At A Time" inscribed on it.

President Cleek ended the recognition portion of the meeting by recognizing Dr. Sonali Patil for her eight years of dedicated service and commitment to the Hawthorn D73 community. Her contributions have made a significant impact on the education for all students. President Cleek briefly described Dr. Patil's highlights over her time serving on the board and presented her with Hawthorn's highest award, a brick with the phrase "Big Things Are Built One Brick At A Time" inscribed on it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Announcements at this time.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Cleek shared that in compliance with Board Policy 2:220 Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes, the Board of Education has had an opportunity to review the 2022-2023 closed session meeting minutes. Due to confidentiality, the closed session minutes will remain closed per the recommendation from our legal counsel.

President Cleek also shared a few reminders with the board members regarding the statement of economic interest deadline, send in their RSVP for the end of the year events, and to please email her with their interest in board committees. She ended her report by announcing that the next board meeting will be held at Hawthorn Middle North.

ED-RED REPORT

Mr. Joel Finfer reported that the last ED-RED meeting that took place had the opportunity to appoint multiple new members to the executive board, one of which is Hawthorn's very own, Superintendent Dr. Hannigan. Lisa Hessel, the D128 Board President was also appointed on the executive board. The two new appointments will result in a stronger voice for the Hawthorn community.

SEDOL REPORT

Mr. Michael Engle reported that SEDOL's last executive board meeting was held on April 27, 2023. The next governing board meeting will be on June 7, 2023.

SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

No report at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Pete Hannigan was happy to announce that he was the keynote speaker for this year’s Illinois Principal Association’s Student Recognition breakfast, which focused on leadership skills and choosing happiness. Two students from Hawthorn Middle North and two students from Hawthorn Middle South were recognized at the event.

Dr. Hannigan reviewed the data from the 23-24 registration. For those who are in middle school, there is a new elective choice this year, which will be communicated with the parents on Monday, May 1. Due to the change in the instructional day next year, all current students in 5th, 6th, and 7th grade will enroll in an elective course for the 2023-2024 school year. Elective course selections are due Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. If an elective course selection is not submitted by May 10, an elective class may be chosen for your student.

Dr. Hannigan ended his report by echoing all others in recognizing Dr. Sonali Patil for her years of commitment and dedication to the community.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 5.1 Board Meeting Minutes from April 13, 2023
- 5.2 Closed Session Minutes from April 13, 2023
- 5.3 Expenditure Report from April 27, 2023
- 5.4 Amazon Expense Report from April 27, 2023
- 5.5 Mastercard Report from February 21, 2023
- 5.6 Treasurer's Report from February 2023
- 5.7 Personnel Report

11 New Hires:

7 Resignations:

3 Leaves of Absence:

2 Retirements:

11 New Hires: Danielle Filek, 2nd Grade Teacher, ES; Chase Leonardi, 8th Grade Teacher, MN; Brandon Medrano, LBS1 Teacher, MS; Haley Miller, Speech Language Pathologist, Aspen/MS; Julie Miller, LBS1 Teacher, MN; Elizabeth Pchoa, LBS1 Teacher, EN; Maria Ramos-Rodriguez, Spanish Teacher, MN; Shannon Schulte, Pre-K/EC Teacher, Lincoln; Tracey Vazquez, Social Worker, DL; Sean Chatterjee, Paraprofessional, MN; Brittani Scarpulla, Technology Support Specialist, District Office.

7 Resignations: Gabrielle Bye, LBS1 Teacher, ES, 05/30/2023; Christina Johnston, LBS1 Teacher, EN, 05/30/2023; Sophie Leskis, PE Teacher, MN, 05/30/2023; Glennah McMahon, 6th Grade Teacher, MN, 05/30/2023; Alexandra Reich, Social Worker, MN, 05/30/2023; Jaclyn Wagner, Instructional Coach, District, 06/16/2023; Maureen Santi, Payroll Specialist, District, 05/05/2023.

3 Leaves of Absence: Lauren Brownstein, Social Worker, MS, 008/21/2023; Lisa Duran, Social Worker, Aspen/DL, 04/20/2023; Georgiann Massa, Speech Language Pathologist, Lincoln, 04/20/2023.

2 Retirements: Jacqueline Amidei, Office Clerk, MS, 06/13/2023; Sandra Cruickshank, Student Secretary, MS, 06/13/2023.

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 naves

ACTION ITEMS

Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Business Operations Ms. LeeAnn Taylor reviewed the Lakeside Contract Extension. At the last Board of Education meeting, the business office presented the board with the Lakeside Contract Renewal. In accordance with school code, the business department has worked with Lakeside on a one-year extension with an increase of 14%. The increase is reflective of the increased costs and driver shortage that are affecting the entire school transportation market.

Lakeside Contract Extension

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the Lakeside Contract Extension; 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

Reorganization of the Board

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the Reorganization of the Board; Michael Engle seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

Appoint President Pro-Tem

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education appoint Wes Polen as President Pro-tem; George Fievet seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

ADJOURN SINE DIE

MOTION: Karl Borchers moved that the Board of Education adjourn sine-die; Joel Finfer seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

SEATING/ROLL CALL/REORGANIZATION

Appoint Secretary Pro-Tem

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education appoint George Fievet as Secretary Pro-tem; Robin Cleek seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

Administer the Oath of Office for the Re-elected School Board members - Ms. Wes Polen administered the Oath of Office to the 3 re-elected Board Members; Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer and George Fievet.

Call for President Nominations

It is recommended that the Board of Education elect Robin Cleek as President of the Board of Education for a two-year term.

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education appoint Robin Cleek as Board President; Karl Borchers seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

Secretary Nomination:

It is recommended that the Board of Education elect George Fievet as Secretary of the Board of Education for a two-year term.

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education appoint George Fievet as Board Secretary; Michael Engle seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

Board Secretary's compensation:

Wes Polen made a motion that the compensation will remain \$120 per year, seconded by Michael Engle.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

Vice President Nomination:

It is recommended that the Board of Education elect Wes Polen as Vice President of the Board of Education for a two-year term.

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education appoint Wes Polen as Board Vice President; Michael Engle seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

Ratification of Prior Contracts:

Wes Polen made a motion to ratify all existing contracts from the prior Board of Education, seconded by Karl Borchers.

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

Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays

Announcement of Board Vacancy: President Cleek announced that Hawthorn School District 73 is seeking candidates to fill a vacancy on the Board of Education. As shared during the April 13 Board meeting, the vacancy was created by the resignation of Julie Simpson and will be filled by appointment for the remainder of the term, which ends in April 2025. The appointment will be effective June 15, 2023. She reviewed the eligibility requirements and directed any interested candidates to apply by going on the website and submitting their applications to the board secretary by May 12, 2023.

PRESENTATIONS

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, Dr. Allison Stein and Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Mrs. Alicia Corrigan provided the Board with an update on the district's implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). The presentation highlighted the role that MTSS plays in helping reach our student learning goals. The presentation included data from NWEA MAP for math and reading, as well as SAEBERS/MySAEBERS. Hawthorn will continue to monitor progress with multiple data points to ensure that academic and behavioral supports are tailored to meet the needs of all students.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Vice President Wes Polen and district administration reviewed the proposed changes in PRESS Policy 110. The policy sub-committee meeting met on April 11, 2023 and divided the policy updates per department. Dr. Hannigan, Dr. Stein, Mr. Palmer, Ms. Taylor, Dr. Maturo, and Ms. Corrigan reviewed the policies that relate to their department. There are 39 policies that have been reviewed/updated.

Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Business Operations Ms. LeeAnn Taylor discussed a proposed one-year emergency food service contract. Hawthorn's current food service provider, Arbor, shared their inability to honor the 4th-year renewal rate as they are not anticipating an amendment option available from the State of Illinois. Arbor has asked the district to break the current contract and enter into a one-year emergency agreement. The district is not under obligation to utilize Arbor, therefore the business department has begun to investigate other options. There is a formal proposal from Quest Food Service in the board packet. Because this is a one-year emergency contract, the district is required by the State of Illinois to go out to bid for the 2024-2025 school year.

The Board will vote on these items at the May 18 board meeting.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Enrollment-Uploaded
 2. FOIA Log, Dr. Hannigan reported that there were four FOIA requests since the last board meeting as identified in Section 11.2 of the Board agenda.
 3. Media Clips
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TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Mr. Karl Borchers would like to discuss Hawthorn's continued efforts to build up the substitute database and a brief update on the marketing campaign. The Board agreed to add the substitute update to a future agenda meeting.

ADJOURN OPEN SESSION

With no further business to discuss, Wes Polen made a motion to the Open Session, seconded by Karl Borchers. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 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: _____