

The Board Report

Monday, August 7, 2023



Disclaimer: The Board Report is a synopsis of the Hampton Township School Board meetings and is not intended as a replacement for any official Board minutes.

~ A Tradition of Excellence ~

The Hampton Township Board of School Directors

Mrs. Jill Hamlin	Board President
Mr. Matt Jarrell*	Board Vice President/Student Affairs Chair
Ms. Denise Balason	Board Secretary/Facilities Chair
Mrs. Joy Midgley	Personnel Chair
Mr. Robert Shages	Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair
Mr. Greg Stein	Technology Chair
Mr. Larry Vasko	Finance Chair
Mrs. Trisha Webb	Educational Programs Chair
Mr. Bryant Wesley II, Esq.	Transportation Chair

This Hampton Township School Board Meeting was held in the Hampton Middle School Auditorium. The meeting was held in person and audio/video recorded so that community members could view it after the meeting concluded.

Members of Administration in Attendance

Dr. Michael Loughead	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Rebecca Cunningham	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Jeffrey Kline	Director of Administrative Services
Dr. Jackie Removcik	Assistant to the Superintendent
Dr. Ed McKaveney	Director of Technology
Mr. John Walsh	Director of Facilities Management
Dr. Josh Cable	Assistant Principal of Hampton High School

** absent*

*** attended remotely*

August 7, 2023

Work Session

A video recording of the meeting can be viewed here. The time within the video that each section begins is indicated below.

Mrs. Hamlin called the meeting to order and opened the meeting to public comment, but there were no comments at this time.

Student Affairs

(3:20)

Mrs. Webb presented the following action item that will be considered for Board adoption at the August 14th Voting Meeting:

- 2023-2024 Handbook for Families with Elementary School Children

Dr. Cunningham explained the annual review process of the Elementary School Handbook and expressed gratitude for the principals and their team in examining the handbook to support the elementary school program. This year's changes include several edits in the executive summary, including a comprehensive revision of the Homeless Assistance text to align with the Middle School and High School Handbooks. Dr. Cunningham said this change aims to provide clearer guidance on the assistance the District offers to families facing difficulties.

Facilities

(4:28)

Ms. Balason introduced Mr. Walsh who provided an update on the District's summer projects. Mr. Walsh's presentation included the following updates:

Hampton Middle School Roof Replacement

- The roofing project at the middle school is a significant endeavor, and three months were initially allocated for completing the educational sections. Currently, they are in the process of shingling the roof, with a projected completion date around August 21-22. Mr. Walsh anticipates that the educational section will likely be fully finished by the first two days of school, provided the weather conditions are favorable.
- There have not been any unexpected issues with the project, and the project has remained within the budget for replacements for approximately 40 sheets of plywood across the three roof sections. Ice guards have been installed and safety precautions are in place. The project is moving along at a favorable pace, and they are about to start shingling. After that, they plan to move on to the library area to minimize disruption to the educational process once the school starts.

Hampton High School Remembrance Garden Phase II

- Over the summer, the Talbot dog statue was installed in the Remembrance Garden, courtesy of

the Hampton Alumni Remembrance Garden Committee and the Class of 1974. Mr. Walsh said they intend to replace mulch around the new addition. Dr. Loughead thanked the Remembrance Garden Committee for funding this beautiful project.

Hampton High School Gymnasium Floor Replacement

- The old gymnasium floor was stripped down to bare wood and then refurbished with new flooring and logos. Mr. Walsh said the result was impressive, with appropriate colors eliminating the previously darker appearance. Additionally, plans are underway to install LED lighting in the gymnasium. Proposals have been received, and Mr. Walsh said the cost is expected to be lower than the allocated budget.

Fridley Field Updates

- The field house has been repainted and cleaned up. The goal posts on the field have also been repainted, improving visibility. Mr. Walsh said goal post flags are to be installed soon.
- Work is scheduled to pressure wash the bleachers, including stairways and concrete, in time for the first football game. The handicap seating materials have arrived and work has been scheduled to install the seating in the middle section of the bleachers.

Mr. Walsh noted that additional projects have been ongoing at each building in an effort to make the facilities stand out when students and teachers are welcomed back into the classrooms on the first day of school. Work has ranged from cutting down dead trees to repainting lines in the parking lots.

Dr. Loughead asked Mr. Walsh to provide an update on the run off socks that are still located at the high school. Mr. Walsh explained that they are holding a meeting with the contractors on August 10th to finalize the punch list, and the socks are one of the items on the punch list. Mr. Walsh anticipates that the socks will be removed, as he believes the whole campus is over 70% ground.

Mrs. Hamlin notes that the facilities and grounds look great and that students will be excited to see the updates to the gymnasium floors and field house.

Educational Programs

(11:28)

Mrs. Webb presented the following action items to be considered for Board adoption at the August 14th Voting Meeting:

- Hampton Online Academy (HOA) Student Handbook

Dr. Cable discussed several changes to the HOA handbook, reviewed annually, which included the following:

- Graduation requirements were imported from the HHS Program of Studies for consistency.
- Job shadowing and community service requirements were updated to mirror the HHS Program of Studies. Examples of community service terminology were updated, changing “church” to “faith based organization” to be more inclusive.

- Improved language was added regarding Keystone Exams and Keystone Academic Support Program to mirror the HHS Program of Studies, to inform both students and families that in-person support resources are available.
- Clarified “Residency” language and added language regarding the enrollment process to directly state that students must reside in the District during the duration of the enrollment.
- Added language regarding international travel, clarifying that arrangements must be made to assure that technology will work while overseas.
- Changed the word “equipment” to “materials” under the “HTSD Responsibilities” section since some courses require books and workbooks.

Mr. Shages inquired about HOA enrollment for the upcoming school year. Dr. Cable said 11 students are currently enrolled, which is typical for this time of year. He added that 18 students graduated through HOA last year, a larger number due to the pandemic. Dr. Cable said a greater number of students attending A.W. Beattie are now showing interest in HOA because of internships or co-op opportunities through A.W. Beattie.

The Board will also consider approving the 2023-2024 Assessment Calendar at the August 14th Voting Meeting.

Dr. Remocvik provided an overview of the 2023-2024 Assessment Calendar, highlighting no changes compared to previous years. The calendar includes familiar standardized assessments like Keystone, PSSA, and PSAT. It also features benchmark assessments such as Star and AIMSweb, administered three times throughout the year. These benchmark assessments are thoroughly reviewed by data teams consisting of teachers, principals, special education teachers, and enrichment teachers. These teams analyze the data to identify performance trends within student groups and individual students. Dr. Remocvik said this data analysis process and intervention program is a point of pride for the District.

Finance

(20:45)

There were no items on the agenda; however, Mr. Kline provided an update on the State’s budget. Mr. Kline said that the State’s budget was approved on August 3rd, securing funding for school districts. Although the final allocations for basic and special education have not been received yet, he anticipates that they will be available by the end of the week. Mr. Kline said he will provide an update to the Board regarding the funding situation, likely showing favorable results based on their budgeting efforts. The State is also in negotiations between legislature and Governor concerning a voucher/private school tuition program with the level-up funding.

Mr. Vasko added that there will not be any budget transfers in the first three months of the new year. The monthly update on projected revenue will not be available until October.

Personnel

(22:36)

Mrs. Midgley presented the following personnel action items to be considered for approval at the August 14th Voting Meeting:

Resignation

- Mrs. Marlie Stein, who is resigning after nine years with the District, effective August 15, 2023. Mrs. Stein is a School Counselor at the High School.
- Mr. Lee Barnes, who is resigning after 3 years with the District effective July 26, 2023. Mr. Barnes was a Paraeducator (Class III) at Wyland Elementary School.
- Ms. Graycen Vitale, who is resigning from the District effective August 1, 2023. Ms. Vitale was a Paraeducator (Class III) at the High School.

Teachers

- Ms. Sarah Losco as an English Language Arts Academic Support Teacher at the High School, effective August 21, 2023. Salary is \$33,500. Ms. Losco is replacing Mrs. Sarah Egeland.
- Change in status for Dr. Brooke Stebler, going from a Long-Term Substitute Enrichment/Instructional Coach at Hampton Middle School, to a Professional Employee .60 STEM Teacher at Hampton Middle School. In addition, Dr. Stebler will serve as a .40 Long-Term Substitute Enrichment Teacher at Hampton Middle School from August 21, 2023 through approximately January 5, 2024. Salary is Master's +60, Step 2, at \$68,964, prorated for the .60 STEM Teacher position, and is \$36,500, prorated for the .40 Long-Term Substitute Enrichment position. Dr. Stebler is replacing Mrs. Meredith Henderson's position and substituting for Ms. Gwen Cohen's position.
- Mr. Stephen Adametz, III, as the Long-Term Substitute Teacher for Grade 6 English Language Arts for the 2023-2024 School Year, effective August 21, 2023. Salary is \$36,500. Mr. Adametz is substituting for Mrs. Kelsey Kowalczyk's position.
- The following mentors for the 2023-2024 School Year:

Laura Bauer	Kimberly Leonard	Joell McMonigal
Devon Byrne	Sheree Lucas	Jessica Patouillet
Lynn Camilli	Melissa Maley	Erin Prosser
Kristen DeMichiei	Kylee McCracken	Melissa Survinski
Maureen Herold	Grant McKinney	Lori Valentine

Paraprofessionals, Paraeducators, and Administrative Assistants

- Mrs. Margieann Green as the Administrative Assistant to the Director of Technology (Class VII) effective August 16, 2023. Hourly rate is \$22.88 for the 60-day probationary period and \$23.13 per hour thereafter. Mrs. Green is replacing Mrs. Lisa Riddell's position.

- Temporary change in status for Mrs. Christine Raimondi moving from a Paraeducator (Class III) to an Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent (Class VII), effective August 14, 2023, to approximately December 8, 2023. Salary is \$27.90 per hour for this position. Mrs. Raimondi is an internal substitute for Mrs. Nancy Schindler, and will return to her Paraeducator position when Mrs. Schindler returns to her Administrative Assistant position.
- Mrs. Mary Massimino as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School, effective August 21, 2023. Hourly rate will be \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Mrs. Massimino is replacing Ms. Jill Schwartzmier’s position.
- Ms. Margaret O’Laughlin as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Wyland Elementary School, effective August 21, 2023. Hourly rate will be \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Ms. O’Laughlin is replacing Mr. Lee Barnes’ position.
- Mrs. Tyler Fink as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School, effective August 21, 2023. Hourly rate will be \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Mrs. Fink is replacing Ms. Graycen Vitale’s position.
- Ms. Kaitlyn Downie as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School, effective August 21, 2023. Hourly rate will be \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Ms. Downie is replacing Ms. Olivia Cress’ position.

Custodial/Maintenance

- District Custodial Night Lead positions for the 2023-2024 School Year:

Employee	Building	Rate
Zachary Ridenour	High School	\$26.26
Doug Huber	High School - Third Shift	\$27.14
Bill McChesney	Middle School	\$27.20
Judd Stauber	Central Elementary	\$27.14
Jennifer Yanssens	Poff Elementary	\$27.14
Samuel Endlich	Wyland Elementary	\$27.14

- Mr. Joseph Bayer and Mr. Timothy Schogren as the Certified Pool Operators for the District for the 2023-24 School Year at an annual stipend of \$250 each.
- Mr. Joseph Bayer and Mr. Timothy Schogren as the Certified Public Pesticide Applicators for the District for the 2023-24 School Year at an annual stipend of \$250 each.

In response to a Board Member’s question about replacing Mrs. Stein, Dr. Cunningham said the District has begun actively recruiting to fill the School Counselor position at the high school, utilizing various databases and online platforms where counselors generally seek employment opportunities. She said the District is looking for a high-quality candidate to fill the position to provide outstanding service for students and families at the high school.

Dr. Loughhead added that in the interim, Dr. Imbarlina has informed all high school families about the situation and has rearranged student assignments among the existing counselors to ensure clarity and avoid confusion as the school year begins. Additionally, he expressed the District's intention to fill the vacant counselor position permanently, acknowledging that it might take time to find the right candidate. He thanked the team for their work in conducting interviews and assured everyone that the current counselors are well-equipped to manage their responsibilities and maintain stability at the high school.

Technology

(29:18)

There were no action items this evening.

Policy and Legislative Affairs

(29:27)

Mr. Shages presented the following action item to be considered for Board approval at the August 14th Voting Meeting:

- Second Reading of Policy #800 Records Management

Dr. Cunningham clarified that the First Reading of Policy #800 was approved in June. Since then, the District has worked with the Solicitor's Office to review the policy and ensure they are comfortable with the language. Their feedback included a small clarification in terms of email messages meeting the definition of records contained in the policy.

Transportation

(30:40)

There were no action items this evening. Mr. Kline said the bus routes will be on the August 14th agenda, noting that the routes are no longer made publicly available for privacy purposes. He does not foresee any challenges with transportation relating to construction, noting that they will follow the same plans for the Wildwood Road Bridge closure as last school year.

Public Comment & Adjournment

(31:50)

Mrs. Hamlin opened the meeting for public comments, but there were none. Mrs. Hamlin adjourned the meeting and announced that the Board would enter an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters.