

The Board Report

Monday, September 5, 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 Library. 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
Dr. Jackie Removcik	Assistant to the Superintendent
Mr. Jeff Kline	Director of Administrative Services
Dr. Ed McKaveney	Director of Technology
Dr. Marguerite Imbarlina	Hampton High School Principal

** absent*

*** attended remotely*

September 5, 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.

Call to Order & Student Awards

(7:14)

Mrs. Hamlin called the meeting to order, and Mr. Jarrell presented the Student Awards. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Jarrell congratulated seniors Tiffany Habib and Justine Sullivan on the publication of their AP Research papers in the peer-reviewed research journal for secondary school students, The Young Researcher. Tiffany's research paper was entitled, "Mental Healthcare Providers' Perceptions on the Effectiveness and Viability of Telepsychiatry in Allegheny County Jail," while Justine's paper researched "Election Theory: Alternative Voting Methods in the Pennsylvania 2022 Senate Election."

Public Comment

(9:39)

Mrs. Hamlin opened the meeting to public comment.

(10:03)

A student from HHS expressed her enthusiasm and support for the proposed "Spontaneous Problem Solving Club," highlighting that the new club would include problems similar to the ones that Odyssey of the Mind tackles, but the schedule is more flexible to enable more students to participate at the secondary level.

Student Affairs

(11:03)

Mr. Jarrell presented the following action items that will be considered for Board approval at the September 11th Voting Meeting:

- Hampton Middle School Club: Spontaneous Problem Solving Club
- Hampton High School Club: Spontaneous Problem Solving Club

Dr. Cunningham expressed excitement about receiving two requests for clubs aimed at fostering teamwork and creative problem-solving among students. These clubs emphasize quick, out-of-the-box thinking as well as the development of skills in collaboration, communication, and perseverance. Dr. Cunningham noted that these skills are in alignment with the District's Portrait of a Talbot competencies. She also mentioned that Dr. Stebler and Ms. Weaver have shown interest in sponsoring these clubs at the middle and high school levels.

In response to questions from the Board, Dr. Cunningham clarified that these clubs are new concepts inspired by the principles of Odyssey of the Mind, with no competitions involved.

Facilities

(13:27)

There were no action items this evening. Ms. Balason thanked Mr. John Walsh (Director of Facilities Management) for his work on installing the handicap seating at Fridley Field.

Educational Programs

(14:00)

Mrs. Webb presented the following action items that will be considered for Board approval at the September 11th Voting Meeting:

- AIU Title I Non-Public Schools Agreement
- MIU 4 Title I Non-Public Schools Agreement

Dr. Cunningham explained that these agreements allow for required contracted services in English and math to non-public schools, with funding allocated through federal programs. She said this annual practice has a change this year as the High School and Middle School are now designated as Title I schools, whereas in the past, it was the Middle School and Wyland Elementary.

- Act 80 Day Approval (February 16, 2024 & March 15, 2024)

Dr. Loughead said the District is seeking approval of two Act 80 Days (aligned with professional development days) as a safety net in case they need additional instructional days for kindergarten or senior students due to potential issues with snow makeup days. The District has two built-in snow days, after which schools will transition to Flexible Instruction Days (FID). Upon Board approval, the District will submit these dates to the Department of Education for expected approval. If, for some reason, the days are not approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, a contingency plan involving asynchronous instruction on potential snow days will be implemented to ensure seniors still receive their required 180 days of instruction.

2024 Graduation Date Proposal

Dr. Imbarlina presented the proposed changes for graduation to occur at the end of May.

Dr. Imbarlina explained that this earlier proposed graduation schedule would be beneficial to students entering basic training for the military and for students attending their college orientations and summer vacations.

Dr. Loughead said it is important to gauge if there is a Board consensus on this proposal so that families can be promptly notified of the graduation schedule. All Board members expressed their support for the idea and thanked Dr. Loughead and Dr. Imbarlina for their efforts in developing it.

HTSD Comprehensive Plan Update

Dr. Removcik discussed the District's participation in the Comprehensive Planning process, which is mandated by the Department of Education. The District's plan was originally due last year; however, it was delayed due to new PDE requirements. The Comprehensive Plan will be up for Board approval in October after being on public review for 28 days. The plan is currently posted on the website (www.ht-sd.org) under the Strategic Plan tab. Dr. Removcik explained that the Comprehensive Planning process involved integrating elements of the District's strategic plan, Portrait of a Talbot

competencies, and 2023-2024 operational goals, along with the requirements mandated by PDE. The District has a three-year timeframe to work through these planning requirements.

3rd Day Enrollment

Dr. Loughead reported that Hampton’s 3rd day enrollment featured a total of 2,650 students district-wide, an increase of roughly 20 students since last year. He noted that the District received over 100 summer enrollments, which is beyond what is typically expected. Dr. Loughead added that many of these enrollments came from non-traditional sources such as online academies and private and parochial schools. He emphasized that this is a positive trend, with more families returning to in-person instruction.

Finance

(27:40)

There were no action items this evening.

Personnel

(37:08)

Mrs. Midgley presented the following action items to be considered for Board approval at the September 11th meeting:

Resignation

- Ms. Carly Hindman effective September 14, 2023. Ms. Hindman is a Paraeducator at Central Elementary School.

Teachers

- Ms. Erika Yigdall as the Long-Term Substitute Health and Physical Education Teacher at Hampton High School, effective through approximately January 19, 2024. Salary is \$36,500, prorated, retroactive to August 21, 2023. Ms. Yigdall is substituting for Ms. Emily Onik.
- Mrs. Marisa Panzer as a Professional Employee High School - School Counselor, effective date to be determined. Salary is Step 2 Master’s +30, \$67,452, prorated. Mrs. Panzer is replacing Mrs. Marlie Stein.
- The following Building Substitute Teachers for the 2023 - 2024 School Year, effective August 21, 2023. Salary is \$27,500:

Name	Building
Ryan Guidos	Hampton Middle School
Rita Smith	Hampton Middle School
Mary Evankovich	Poff Elementary School

- Ms. Paige Hartle as a substitute teacher effective August 21, 2023. The rate is \$100 per day for days 1-20 and \$120 per day thereafter.
- Derek Brinkley, Kristen DeMichiei, Sam Flowers, and John Lee as mentors for the 2023-2024 school year.

Paraprofessionals, Paraeducators, and Administrative Assistants

- Ms. Anne Avondolio as the Library Assistant (Class IV) at Hampton Middle School, effective August 21, 2023. Hourly rate is \$17.73 for the 60 day probationary period and \$17.98 thereafter. Ms. Avondolio is replacing Mrs. Jennifer Januck.
- Ms. Victoria Frenak as a Clerical Paraprofessional (Class II) at Hampton High School School, effective August 29, 2023. Hourly rate is \$17.04 for the 60-day probationary period and \$17.29 per hour thereafter. Ms. Frenak is replacing Mrs. Janice Wolff.
- Dawn Grindland and Angela Foote as substitute paraeducators/paraprofessionals/administrative assistants effective August 23, 2023. Salary is \$15.00 per hour for days 1-20 and \$15.50 per hour thereafter.

Custodial/Maintenance

- Mr. Brezart Ushtelencas as a 10 month/6 hour custodian, with an initial assignment at Hampton High School, effective August 16, 2023. Hourly rate is \$23.68. This is a newly created position to cover the additional square footage at the High School.
- Change in status for Mr. Matt Aliff moving from a 10 month/8 hour custodian at Hampton High School to a 12 month/8 hour custodian at Hampton High School effective September 1, 2023. There is no change in hourly rate. Mr. Aliff is replacing Ms. Brianna Allds, who made a lateral move to Wyland Elementary.
- Change in status for Mr. Zachary Ridenour moving from a 12 month/8 hour Night Lead Custodian at Hampton High School to a Maintenance employee, effective September 16, 2023. Hourly rate is \$27.96. Mr. Ridenour is replacing Mr. Mike Dyer's position.

Supplemental Contracts

- The following conditional appointments for 2023-2024, each at a rate of \$149 per point, with each such appointment being conditioned on the District making a subsequent determination that the supplementary position and work associated with such position is needed and approved. Each appointment shall be effective only where the position is approved and operational and where the work associated with such position is actually being performed. This conditional appointment does not obligate the District to approve some, all or any of the supplementary

positions for 2023-2024 and does not guarantee any of the persons listed in the document below that his or her supplementary position will be needed and in place, or that it will continue uninterrupted, in 2023-2024.

Name	Position	School	Points	Stipend
Shanna Struble	AV Computer Coordinator	Central Elementary	5	\$745
Raymond Raible	AV Computer Coordinator	Wyland Elementary	5	\$745
Raymond Raible	Safety Patrol Sponsor	Wyland Elementary	5	\$745
Paige Taylor	Bus Monitor	Wyland Elementary	12	\$1,788
Jen Schrom	Volleyball Assistant Coach	High School	36	\$5,364
Mary Ann Stephenson	Volleyball Head MS Coach	Middle School	32	\$4,768

Mrs. Hamlin inquired about the timeline for Mrs. Panzer’s starting date as the new school counselor at HHS. Dr. Loughead said the high school administration entered the school year recognizing they did not have a fourth counselor at the high school. He said that Dr. Imbarlina and her team have made adjustments for counselors to support all students. He noted that these positions are challenging to fill this time of year, but the District is fortunate to have found an excellent candidate in Mrs. Panzer to fill this role as soon as possible this fall. Dr. Loughead further clarified that Mrs. Panzer’s current district and Hampton Township School District are working together on a good release date so that Mrs. Panzer can join the high school with a smooth transition.

Technology

(34:40)

There were no action items this evening.

Policy and Legislative Affairs

(38:20)

Mr. Shages presented the following item to be considered for Board approval at the September 11th meeting:

- First Reading of Policy #216.1: Supplemental Discipline Records.

Dr. Cunningham explained that this policy, last revised in 2013, is based on the recommendations from the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA), offering more precise guidance for schools on how to handle confidential records regarding students who are adjudicated delinquents or transfer students who have been disciplined for various offenses such as weapons, drugs or alcohol, or violence.

Mr. Shages also noted that the Board will vote on PSBA Officer Elections next week.

Transportation

(41:04)

There were no action items; however, Mr. Kline discussed two items relating to transportation. The first involves the closure of Duncan Avenue, which took effect on Tuesday, September 5. Families of students who were affected have been alerted to the road closure and forthcoming bus assignment changes.

The other issue involves an ongoing challenge of a bus driver shortage, particularly affecting Shady Side Academy's transportation. Mr. Kline said one of their bus drivers experienced a medical issue, and ABC Transit could not provide a replacement or service the route, which transports roughly 10-12 students. Mr. Kline has been in contact with ABC Transit and the District's other transportation providers in an effort to find alternative transportation options. To this point, no alternatives have been identified. The driver is expected to return soon. The District is working on alternative employment solutions to address the driver shortage, such as combining bus driving with other district positions to provide a full day of work.

Adjournment

(46:11)

Mrs. Hamlin moved to adjourn the meeting, and the Board held a brief Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.