

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGSMinutes of **AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT****Special
Meeting****September 25,****Held @ M.L. Steele Creative Learning Center @ 5:30 p.m.****20 23**

Each meeting of the Amherst Board of Education is held in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda.

Meeting called to order by President, Rex Engle at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call:

Rex Engle, present; Teresa Gilles, present; Amanda Messer, present; Morgan Wachholz, present; Marc Zappa, present.

Mike Molnar, Superintendent, present; Amelia R. Gioffredo, Treasurer/CFO present.

This meeting and the notices of all meetings are in compliance with O.R.C. 121.22. This Board of Education shall discuss in Executive Session only those items allowed in O.R.C. 121.22.

2023-09-01

It was moved by Gilles and seconded by Wachholz to adopt the agenda as presented, including any addenda.

Roll call vote:

Gilles, aye; Wachholz aye; Messer, aye; Zappa, aye; Engle, aye.

The Public Participation section of the Board of Education's agenda is specifically designed for the public to address the Board with their compliments and/or concerns. The Board welcomes and appreciates your comments. If you wish to address the board regarding a problem, please consider the following:

- First, your comments should be factual and respectful of the rights of others.
- Second, before addressing the board with a specific problem, it is the Board's hope that you have first addressed the problem with the appropriate teacher, staff member, or administrator.

Individual statements should not exceed five (5) minutes and the total time shall be a maximum of thirty (30) minutes.

(If planning to address the Board, please complete the sign-in sheet).

- Courtney Rua, Amherst Schools Teacher, 989 W. Martin Ave. Amherst 44001 – spoke on behalf of the Amherst Teachers Association
- Rev. Kurt Walker, Community Member, 470 Long St. Amherst 44001 – spoke in support of the Amherst Teachers Association
- Chuck Winarski, Community Member, 172 E. Martin St. Amherst 44001 – spoke in support of the Permanent Improvement (PI) replacement levy and thanked the Amherst teachers for preparing his children for success
- Deanna Miranda, Community Member, 5601 S. Nantucket Dr. Lorain 44053 – Spoke in support of the Amherst Teachers Association

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Discussion:

- Our teachers are paid competitively, and the Board is working to review all financial forecasts.

Treasurer's Report: Mrs. Amelia Gioffredo

- None

2023-09-02

It was moved by Gilles, seconded by Wachholz to approve the following:

A. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education amend and/or approve the board minutes for the 8/14/2023 Regular Board meeting.

B. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the treasurer's financial reports for the month of August 2023, as per **exhibits 7A, 7B, 7C, and 7D**.C. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the then-and-now invoice(s), thus certifying that both at the time the contract was made and at the time of the certificate, the amount of the contract was lawfully appropriated for such purposes of the contract. That the appropriation remains unencumbered and the available resources to pay the obligation are on-hand, or in the process of collection to the credit of the appropriate fund, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code §5705.41 as per **exhibit 7E**.

- School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS) - \$111,398.98 - PO 20240297

D. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education accept and acknowledge the receipt of the following donations to the Amherst Schools:

- The Nordson Corporation Foundation for a \$7,500 donation.
- The Nord PTO for a \$1,015 donation for 7 Camp Fitch scholars.

Roll call vote:

Gilles, aye; Wachholz, aye; Messer, aye; Zappa, aye; Engle, aye.

Administrative Reports:**Mr. Mike Molnar, Superintendent**

Notes:

- Homecoming Festivities
 - A community communication was sent to announce all the events that will take place for Homecoming and reviewed these events scheduled.
 - The Gallery of Success will take place honoring nine (9) Amherst alumni.
 - The school district Report Card that was recently issued by the state will be presented with further analysis to the Board. The initial ratings were positive.

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Mrs. Sarah Walker, Assistant Superintendent

Notes:

- The first of four (4) Strategic Planning meetings will be held on Wednesday, October 27, 2023, with 30 members of the community and the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA). Meetings will be held to work toward a 3-year plan for the District.

Mr. Rex Engle, JVS Representative

Notes:

- The Board of the JVS met in the previous week to review their plans for facilities. This is to review and update the funds needed to proceed with future plans.
- Homecoming and the craft fair will take place in October.

Board Updates/Discussion/Committee Reports**Committee Report**

Legislative:

Dr. Messer reported that the NE Region Fall meeting will take place on October 4, 2023.

2023-09-03

It was moved by Gilles and seconded by Wachholz to approve the following:

A. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education accept the following resignations for the **purpose of retirement**, as indicated, and authorize the Superintendent and/or Treasurer to execute any necessary documents relating to separation of employment:

- **Kimberly Koller**, Title I Tutor, AJH, effective 1/5/2024
- **Katherine Wohlever**, ELA Teacher, AJH, effective 2/23/2024

B. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education accept the following resignations as indicated and authorize the Superintendent and/or Treasurer to execute any necessary documents relating to separation of employment:

- **Elaine Haff**, Van Aide, effective 8/21/2023
- **Kelly Hoegler**, Senior Advisor, effective 9/13/2023
- **Melissa Montague**, LOA Intervention Specialist, Nord, effective 8/25/2023
- **Jenna Stack**, Title 1 Tutor, Powers, effective 8/15/2023

C. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education employ the following individual(s), as indicated, on a 30 or 60-day probationary contract, for the 2023-2024 school year pending completion of all employment requirements, including but not limited to a background check. Proper placement on the negotiated salary schedule pending verification of all prior experience:

- **Karen Dziengel**, 60-day probationary contract, Transportation Aide, effective 9/26/2023
- **Ashley Kleppe**, 60-day probationary contract, Transportation Aide, effective 8/22/2023
- **Rhianne Olgin-Beard**, 30-day probationary contract, PT Monitor, Powers, effective 8/22/2023
- **Lawrence Tindale**, 60-day probationary contract, PT Monitor, Powers, effective 8/22/2023

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D. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education employ the following individual(s) as certified and/or classified substitutes for the 2023-2024 school year, as indicated, with compensation at the board-approved substitute rates pending completion of all employment requirements, including, but not limited to licensure/certification (if required) and a BCI & FBI background check as per **attachment 10A**.

E. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the changes in contracted status for the following individuals for the 2023-2024 school year as indicated:

- **Lorilee Cohoon**, from van aide to bus aide, effective 8/22/2023
- **Dawn Karnik**, 7.5 hours/day to 7.25 hours/day - Intensive Needs Aide, Powers, effective 8/16/2023
- **Joe Ann Wade**, 2.5 hours/day to 3.0 hours/day - Monitor, Powers, effective 8/22/2023

F. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education grant a supplemental contract to the following individuals for the fall and/or year-round extracurricular activities during the 2023-2024 school year, pending completion of all employment requirements, including but not limited to Pupil Activity Permit, if required for positions, and a BCI and FBI background check with compensation at the board approved rate as per **attachment 10B**.

G. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education employ the following individuals as **Title Tutors** for the 2023-2024 school year with proper placement on the negotiated salary schedule pending completion of all employment requirements, including but not limited to a background check and proper ODE teaching licensure. These are Title I and Title III federal grant expenditures.

- **Stacey Reitz**, Powers, effective 8/17/2023

H. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approves an unpaid parental leave of absence for **Catherine Hirsh**, Intervention Specialist, AJH, effective on or about 8/17/2023 to 10/9/2023.

I. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the following teachers for after-school tutoring, not to exceed the number of hours given, and to be paid at the home instruction hourly rate, for the **End of Course (EOC) Boot Camp** at M.L. Steele High School, five (5) one (1) hour sessions, from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm on the proposed dates of November 1, 2, 8, 9, and 16, 2023, and an additional hour each for preparation and generating materials for the sessions. This totals six (6) hours per teacher.

- **Renee Opel**
- **Timothy Sumser**

J. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve **Sandra Dobias** and **Deanna Sauer** as **Saturday School** monitors at M.L. Steele High School, as needed for the 2023-2024 school year.

K. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the following personnel for extra duty pay for completion of **Non-Violent Crisis intervention training (CPI)** hours as per **attachment 10C**.

L. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education grant **Chad DiFranco** and **Anthony Trunzo** a **supplemental contract to teach an additional class** during the first and second semesters of the 2023-2024 school year. Compensation will be at their

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regular hourly rate per the negotiated salary schedule and will not exceed 135 hours per semester.

M. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education grant the following individual(s), who have completed their probationary contract, a limited contract, or return to a continuing contract status as indicated:

- **Weldon Hawk**, Bus Aide, balance of a one-year contract, effective 9/30/2023
- **Anthony Kywa**, Custodian II/Cleaner, MLS, balance of a one-year contract, effective 9/23/2023
- **Kelly Lowry**, PT Transportation Secretary, balance of a one-year contract, effective 9/30/2023
- **Thomas Strickland**, Custodian II/Cleaner, MLS, balance of a one-year contract, effective 9/23/2023
- **Julie Swift**, Teacher Aide, Powers, balance of a one-year contract, effective 9/27/2023

N. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education employ **Stephanie King** as a substitute for the 2023-2024 school year for service in the **Comet Kid's Club Before & After School Care Program** as an aide, and compensation will be at the board-approved Comet Kid's Club salary schedule, effective 9/5/2023.

O. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the following game management and **athletic event personnel** to be paid according to the approved **2023-2024 Ancillary Salary Schedule** out of the athletic fund:

- **Bryce Bender** (student) - 7th and 8th grade scorekeeper - volleyball
- **Brian Kelley** - 7th and 8th grade timekeeper/announcer - football
- **Scott Pecze** - AJH ticket taker - football
- **Michele Sturgeon** - AJH ticket taker - volleyball

P. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve extra time for all head cooks who worked on 8/15/2023 to prepare for the 2023-2024 school year and attend a mandatory meeting:

- **Elizabeth Boesel**, 3.25 hours
- **Tammy Clotz**, 4.5 hours
- **Laureen Hughett**, 6.0 hours
- **Kathy Smith**, 6.75 hours

Q. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the salary advancement due to changes in the educational training level of certified staff as per **attachment 10D**.

R. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the termination of **Suzanne Crews-Harrington's** position as a bus aide for abandonment of position, effective 8/28/2023.

S. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve **Katie Edwards** for up to 10 hours of Professional Development and to be paid at her regular rate of pay.

Roll call vote:

Gilles, aye; Wachholz, aye; Messer, aye; Zappa, aye; Engle aye

2023-09-04

It was moved by Gilles and seconded by Zappa to approve the following:

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A. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve a **RESOLUTION TO MAKE PROVISIONAL CHANGES TO BOARD POLICIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES AND FORMS TO COMPLY WITH HB 33**, as per **exhibit 11A**.

B. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education accept an addendum to the M.L. Steele **Graduation Seal for Student Engagement** that demonstrates student engagement in the Amherst community in order to offer more opportunities for students to complete their graduation requirements.

- Examples:
 - Helping custodians
 - Helping out with Special Olympics
 - Aiding for a teacher
 - Helping with the food bank

C. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education enter into a service agreement by and between **St. Joseph and PSI Affiliates, Inc./PSI Associates, Inc.**, as per **exhibit 11B**.

D. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve an agreement with **STEPS Educational Group** to provide services for a student with special needs as per **exhibit 11C**.

E. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the overnight trip agreement for **Camp Fitch** as per **exhibit 11D**.

F. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the agreement with the **ESC of Lorain County** for **Literacy Professional Development** as per **exhibit 11E**.

Roll call vote:

Gilles, aye; Zappa, aye; Messer, aye; Wachholz, aye; Engle, aye

2023-09-05

It was moved by Gilles and seconded by Wachholz to approve the following:

A. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the **Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) Site Agreements** as per **exhibits 12A and 12B**.

B. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the agreement with **Audio Extremes Entertainment Group, Ltd.**, for the homecoming dance, as per **exhibit 12C**.

C. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the agreement with **Tams-Witmark Musical** for the spring production at MLS, as per **exhibit 12D**.

D. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the license agreement with **Elyria Parks & Recreation Department North Park Ice Arena** for hockey practice, as per **exhibit 12E**.

E. That the Amherst E.V. Board of Education approve the contract with **Great Midwest Sports** for the production of our sports calendars as per **exhibit 12F**.

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Gilles, aye; Wachholz, aye; Messer, aye; Zappa, aye; Engle, aye

2023-09-06

It was moved by Gilles and seconded by Wachholz to move to executive session at 6:03 p.m. Executive session began at 6:23 p.m.

- A. _____ the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of an employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against an employee or official, licensee or student requests public hearing;
- B. _____ the purchase of property for public purposes or the sale of property at competitive bidding;
- C. _____ conferences with the board's attorney to discuss matters which are the subject of pending or imminent court action;
- D. X preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with employees;
- E. _____ matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statute;
- F. _____ specialized details of security arrangements.

Roll call vote:

Gilles, aye; Wachholz, aye; Messer, aye; Zappa, aye; Engle, aye

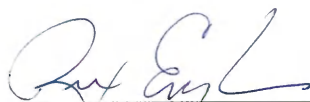
2023-09-07

After leaving the executive session, it was moved by Wachholz and seconded by Gilles to adjourn the meeting.

Roll call vote:

Wachholz, aye; Gilles, aye; Messer, aye; Zappa, aye; Engle, aye

Board President Rex Engle adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.


Board President
Treasurer/CFO