

The Board Report

Monday, November 13, 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. Ed McKaveney	Director of Technology
Ms. Tammi Kinzel	Manager of Accounting

** absent*

*** attended remotely*

November 6, 2023

Voting Meeting

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

Student Awards

(6:40)

The Voting Meeting commenced with a Student Awards presentation. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Jarrell congratulated the Hampton Boys Cross Country Team on winning the Section 4 Class 2A WPIAL and PIAA championships. He congratulated the following members of the team: Christopher Belch, Jacob Bonner, Nathan Gardner, Dale Hall, Layne Haught, Miles McKinney, Lu Santos, and Josh Wukitch.

Dr. Loughead announced that Hampton's three local legislators have invited the Boys Cross Country team to the State Capitol sometime this winter in recognition of their accomplishments. He congratulated the team for their accomplishments, commitment, and perseverance.

Wyland Elementary School Presentation

Wyland teachers Lynn Zdinak and Diane Snyder, along with four elementary students, presented a STEAM project that third grade students at Wyland Elementary School completed during the month of October. The project connected to the Portrait of a Talbot competencies and involved the use of recycled materials to create an original Halloween costume using creativity and problem-solving skills. The students persevered through trial and error to create their costumes, and had showcased their creations previously at Wyland for first and second grade students.

The third grade students discussed the process of creating their costumes, which included a robot, a dragon, and Pete the Cat. The students explained the process of having to tweak their designs using a learner's mindset, critical thinking, and perseverance. The presentation concluded with a video of the students showcasing their costumes on the runway at Wyland Elementary.

Mrs. Snyder and Mrs. Zdinak noted that the project connects to the District's mission for students to be creative problem solvers. They said the project challenged students to learn from failure and to persevere in a fun, creative way.

Mrs. Hamlin thanked the students and teachers for presenting their costume project, which provides insight for Board members on how students and teachers work together to teach invaluable skills.

Board Member Recognition

Dr. Loughead acknowledged Mr. Wesley in appreciation for his 12 years of service to the Board. Mrs. Hamlin expressed gratitude on behalf of the Board and acknowledged the challenges that Mr. Wesley faced as Board president, particularly during the pandemic. She commended his steady and strong leadership for the entire school community.

Mr. Wesley expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve on the Board with a group of dedicated people who strive to do the right thing for students and the community. He emphasized the importance of teamwork and expressed his appreciation to the Board.

Additionally, Dr. Loughead extended his appreciation to Mrs. Webb for four years of dedicated service to the Board. He acknowledged her dedicated involvement with the issues and challenges relating to the District's educational programs. Mrs. Hamlin said that Mrs. Webb's service to the Board will be missed and highlighted her connection to families with students in special education. Mrs. Hamlin thanked Mrs. Webb for her support to the Board and Hampton's schools.

Mrs. Webb noted that she had been advocating for families long before she held a Board position and she will continue her efforts.

Call to Order

(23:44)

Mrs. Hamlin called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken; eight Board members were present. Mrs. Midgley was absent.

Mrs. Hamlin opened the meeting for public comment, but there were none at this time.

Approval of Minutes

(24:40)

The Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the October 9, 2023 Board of School Directors Voting Meeting.

Treasurer's Report

(25:00)

The Board unanimously approved the following items:

- October 2023 General Fund 10 Disbursements and Transfers totaling \$4,082,238.81.
- October 2023 Capital Fund 39 Disbursements totaling \$58,090.62.
- October 2023 Cafeteria Fund 50 Disbursements totaling \$20,005.61.
- September 2023 Treasurer's Report.
- September 2023 Student Activities Fund Report.

President's Report

(26:20)

Mrs. Hamlin announced that the Board had held one Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters since the last meeting.

Superintendent's Report

(26:35)

Dr. Loughead highlighted the acknowledgment of Hampton's athletics earlier in the meeting in recognizing the Boys Cross Country Team. He recognized the undefeated Girls Volleyball Team for winning the WPIAL championship and continuing to compete in the PIAA playoffs. Dr. Loughead also mentioned that the Boys Soccer Team had a successful season, reaching the WPIAL final and PIAA quarterfinals. He noted that he often highlights the District's athletic accomplishments as it

underscores the pride, commitment, and perseverance required of students. He said athletics pairs with Hampton's academic excellence in forming a well-rounded student body. He also acknowledged the Hampton HS Marching Band's exceptional performance in their PIMBA competitions this fall.

Mrs. Hamlin noted that the High School Drama Club's fall play was amazing this past week and noted that the Middle School musical is taking place from November 16-18.

Student Affairs

(28:21)

Mr. Jarrell recommended, and the Board unanimously approved the Hampton Middle School Ski Club. Dr. Cunningham said she spoke with Melanie Martino from the Township, who confirmed that there was no duplicity of programming.

Facilities

(28:56)

Ms. Balason recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following action items:

- Merit Electric Group Change Order for the High School Renovation Project totaling \$2,535 for the labor and material needed to add power to the new cafe roll-up door and to install control wiring to a keyed control switch. DRAW Collective will cover 45% of the Change Order in the amount of \$1,140.75, which is the value of the additional work required because of design.
- RA Glancy Change Order for the High School Renovation Project totaling \$7,370 for the work to install a retro-fit motor with two access panels to the cafe roll-up door. DRAW Collective will cover 45% of the Change Order in the amount of \$3,316.50, which is the value of the additional work required because of design.

Mr. Shages inquired about the timeline of RA Glancy's completion of the detention pond at Hampton High School. Dr. Loughead said the project is nearing completion and will be finished before winter weather arrives.

Educational Programs

(31:41)

There were no action items this evening.

Finance

(31:46)

Mr. Vasko recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following action items:

- Budget transfer totaling \$1,299.00 for the following:
 - Cheerleader General Supplies \$953.00
 - Golf General Supplies \$226.00
 - Cross Country General Supplies \$120.00

- Authorize the Eric Ryan Corporation to secure bids for the District's electricity commodity for a period of 12 months beginning December 2023 and authorize Dr. Loughead and Mr. Kline to lock-in the bid at a rate not to exceed \$0.082/kWh. At the rate of \$0.082 there will be an annual savings of \$45,000 from the current contract.
- Agreement for Educational Staffing between Hampton Township School District and Kelly Services, Inc. for the staffing of day-to-day substitute paraeducators, effective November 13, 2023, pending final approval from the District Solicitor's office.
- 2024-2025 Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Agreement and Resolution. This item was listed as an addendum.

Personnel

(33:25)

Ms. Balason recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following personnel action items:

Resignation

- Mrs. Nancy Schindler, who is retiring after eight years with the District, effective December 8, 2023. Mrs. Schindler is the Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent.
- Mrs. Brigette Gibbons, who is resigning after eight years of service, effective October 27, 2023. Mrs. Gibbons was the Administrative Assistant to the Athletic Director.
- Ms. Kaitlyn Downie effective October 9, 2023. Ms. Downie was a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School.
- Ms. Jennifer McIntyre effective October 26, 2023. Ms. McIntyre was a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School.
- Mrs. Makenzie Dietz, who is resigning after six years with the District, effective November 3, 2023. Mrs. Dietz was a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton Middle School.
- Ms. Mary Jamison, who is retiring from the District after 13 years, effective October 16, 2023. Ms. Jamison was a custodian at Hampton Middle School.

Paraprofessionals, Paraeducators, and Administrative Assistants

- Ms. Lisa Somerhalder as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School effective October 30, 2023. Hourly rate is \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Ms. Somerhalder is replacing Ms. Jennifer McIntyre.
- Yolanda Schwab as a Substitute Paraeducator/Paraprofessional/Administrative Assistant, effective October 30, 2023. Salary is \$15.00 per hour for days 1-20, and \$15.50 per hour thereafter.

Supplemental Contracts

- The Administration recommends approval of 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
Joseph Lafko	Boys' Basketball Head Coach	HHS	63	\$9,387
Joe Cangilla	Boys' Basketball Assistant JV Coach	HHS	41	\$6,109
Scott Breen	Boys' Basketball Freshman Coach	HHS	34	\$5,066
Chris Anastas	Boys' Basketball Freshman Assistant Coach	HHS	27	\$4,023
Scott Andrews	Boys' Basketball 7th Grade Coach	HMS	31	\$4,619
Todd Wirtz	Boys' Basketball 8th Grade Coach	HMS	34	\$5,066
Tony Howard	Girls' Basketball Head Coach	HHS	63	\$9,387
Neil Martin	Girls' Basketball Assistant JV Coach	HHS	41	\$6,109
Mary Bukovac	Girls' Basketball 8th Grade Coach	HMS	34	\$5,066
Megan Kallock	Girls' Basketball 7th Grade Coach	HMS	31	\$4,619
Nicole Bova	Gymnastics Head Coach	HHS	24	\$3,576
Kate Hedderman	Girls' Softball Head Coach	HHS	40	\$5,960
Morgan Zwegardt	Swimming Head Coach	HHS	49	\$7,301
Jasper Jurman	Swimming Assistant Coach	HHS	36	\$5,364
Heather Dietz	Winter Track Head Coach	HHS	28	\$4,172
Kim Masarik	Winter Track Assistant Coach	HHS	20	\$2,980
Nick Endres	Wrestling Head Coach	HHS	57	\$8,493
Chris Hart	Wrestling Assistant Coach	HHS	38	\$5,662
James Bower	Wrestling MS Head Coach	HMS	36	\$5,364
Craig Rawlings	Wrestling MS Assistant Coach	HMS	34	\$5,066

Club Sponsors

- Christine Larson as the Unified Bocce Club Sponsor for the High School for the 2023-24 school year.

Addendum

- Mrs. Angela Foote as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton Middle School, effective November 6, 2023. Hourly rate is \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Mrs. Foote is replacing Mrs. Makenzie Dietz.
- Ms. Heather Hutchings as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Central Elementary School, effective November 13, 2023. Hourly rate is \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Ms. Hutchings is replacing Mrs. Carly Hindman.
- Mrs. Jamie Richardson as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School, effective November 13, 2023. Hourly rate is \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Mrs. Richardson is replacing Ms. Kaitlyn Downie.
- Ms. Hailee Mahoney as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Poff Elementary School, effective November 13, 2023. Hourly rate is \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. This is a new position at Poff Elementary due to enrollment.

- Ms. Michelle Garrow, who is resigning from the District after six years with the District, effective November 30, 2023. Ms. Garrow is a custodian at Hampton Middle School.

Technology

(37:50)

There were no action items this evening.

Policy and Legislative Affairs

(38:00)

Mr. Shages recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following items:

- Second Reading and Adoption of Policy #830: Security of Computerized Personal Information/ Breach Notification.
- Second Reading and Adoption of Policy #830.1: Data Governance - Storage/Security.
Transportation

(38:58)

There were no action items this evening.

A.W. Beattie Career Center Board Report

(39:06)

Mr. Stein reported that the A.W. Beattie Board will meet on November 16. Mr. Vasko noted that A.W. Beattie's Holiday Craft Show will take place on Saturday, November 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Proceeds from this event will benefit their competitions this school year. Food trucks will be featured at the event.

Mr. Vasko also discussed upcoming training sessions for new and returning Board members through the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

HAEE Report

(42:01)

Mrs. Hamlin noted that HAEE did not meet in October due to the annual 5K race.

Public Comment

(42:17)

Mrs. Hamlin opened the meeting to a second public comment.

42:48

A Community Member began by complimenting the District on its various achievements in academics, athletics, and arts. She also expressed concerns over several curriculum items she found inappropriate. The speaker shared that she had previously communicated these concerns to Dr.

Loughead and the Board, and some adjustments were made.

48:36

A Community Member expressed his frustration and concern about what he believes to be the incorporation of certain theories in Hampton's curriculum. Despite successful partnerships with the administration on other matters, he said he cannot support the inclusion of these theories in his children's education. He concluded by stating that he believes members of the community feel undervalued and excluded, calling for accountability from the Superintendent and Board.

51:18

A Community Member emphasized the importance of fostering a safe, welcoming, and respectful environment for families in Hampton. She expressed concern about efforts to distract from the District's focus on excellent teaching and well-rounded students. She called for unity across differences and urged a commitment to an education that includes challenging yet developmentally appropriate content to prepare students for leadership.

53:48

A Community Member thanked the Board and congratulated the winners of the recent election. He expressed his belief that Critical Race Theory is not taught at Hampton and emphasized the importance of separation of church and state. He noted that he granted permission for his daughter to read a wide range of materials at school, expressing a belief in parental monitoring. Additionally, he expressed support for the Board and commended Dr. Loughead on his service.

58:17

A Community Member emphasized the importance of teaching truth based on fact and not misinformation. She shared a personal experience of her daughter who was the first student with Down Syndrome in Hampton schools, facing resistance from parents who did not want her included in the classroom. She commended the administration and Board for their strategic action plan and encouraged continued efforts to make Hampton a welcoming community.

1:01:48

A Community Member stated that parents should first contact teachers with concerns about curriculum. He acknowledged the wonderful leadership of Hampton's administration and emphasized the importance of having open conversations about these issues as community members.

1:03:48

A Community Member noted that her daughter has enjoyed reading one of the ninth-grade English novels that has drawn concern. She said her daughter appreciates the opportunity to engage with literature that feels connected to the real world, highlighting the positive impact of such readings on mature conversations.

Adjournment

(1:04:40)

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