

# The Board Report

*Monday, January 15, 2024*



**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**

<b>Mrs. Jill Hamlin</b>	<b>Board President</b>
<b>Mr. Matt Jarrell</b>	<b>Board Vice President/Student Affairs Chair</b>
<b>Ms. Denise Balason</b>	<b>Board Secretary/Personnel Chair</b>
<b>Mrs. Jenny Kennedy</b>	<b>Transportation Chair</b>
<b>Mrs. Joy Midgley**</b>	<b>Facilities Chair</b>
<b>Mrs. Maureen Perkins</b>	<b>Educational Programs Chair</b>
<b>Mr. Robert Shages</b>	<b>Treasurer/Policy &amp; Legislative Affairs Chair</b>
<b>Mr. Greg Stein</b>	<b>Technology Chair</b>
<b>Mr. Larry Vasko</b>	<b>Finance Chair</b>

*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**

<b>Dr. Michael Loughead</b>	<b>Superintendent of Schools</b>
<b>Dr. Rebecca Cunningham</b>	<b>Assistant Superintendent of Schools</b>
<b>Dr. Jackie Removcik</b>	<b>Assistant to the Superintendent</b>
<b>Mr. Jeff Kline</b>	<b>Director of Administrative Services</b>

*\* absent*

*\*\* attended remotely*

## January 15, 2024

### 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

(4:01)

The Voting Meeting commenced with Mr. Jarrell presenting the Student Awards. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Jarrell recognized the following students whose artwork was selected by the administration for the 2023 Holiday Card Design Contest:

- Siena Pross, Grade 5 (Poff Elementary)
- Morgan Bauer, Grade 7 (Hampton Middle School)
- Olivia Marks, Grade 12 (Hampton High School)

Mr. Jarrell congratulated these students on their creative designs and expressed gratitude, on behalf of the Board, to the District's art teachers for their assistance in encouraging student participation.

### Call to Order

(7:24)

Mrs. Hamlin called the meeting to order, and roll call was taken. Eight Board members were present, while Mrs. Midgley participated remotely.

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

The Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the December 4, 2023 Board of School Directors Reorganization Meeting.

### Treasurer's Report

(8:06)

The Board unanimously approved the following items:

- November & December 2023 General Fund 10 Disbursements totaling \$12,521,778.07
- November & December 2023 High School Construction Fund 35 Disbursements totaling \$76,157.43
- November & December 2023 Capital Fund 39 Disbursements totaling \$233,406.71
- November & December 2023 Cafeteria Fund 50 Disbursements totaling \$194,280.51
- October & November Treasurer's Reports.
- October & November 2023 Student Activities Fund Reports.

## **President's Report**

(9:56)

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

## **Superintendent's Report**

(11:11)

Dr. Loughead expressed deep gratitude for Hampton's nine School Board Directors, recognizing that January is School Director Recognition Month. Prior to the meeting, the Board was honored with a School Board Appreciation Dinner in the middle school cafeteria. Middle school students honored the Board with an unveiling of the new mural installation and a violin solo. Dr. Loughead said that it is fitting that the dinner fell on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a day that in recent years has transformed into a "day on" of service, rather than a "day off." He mentioned that the Board consistently embodies this spirit, volunteering their time and energy to put students first and to serve the community.

Mrs. Hamlin thanked Dr. Loughead and mentioned that the Board enjoyed the dinner, which presented an opportunity to see the middle school mural process and hear the violin soloist.

## **Student Affairs**

(13:45)

Mr. Jarrell recommended and the Board approved the following action items:

- Middle School Club name change, from "Fun and Fellowship Club" to "Bible Club."
- Hampton High School Competitive Cheerleading Field Trip to the National Cheerleading Competition at Walt Disney World, Florida, February 9-13, 2024 at no cost to the District.

## **Facilities**

(15:00)

Mrs. Midgley recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following action item:

- Proposal from MasterLibrary for facility scheduling subscription services from February 1, 2024 through January 31, 2025 at a total cost to the District of \$4,700.

## **Educational Programs**

(15:44)

Mrs. Perkins recommended and the Board unanimously approved Proposed High School Program of Studies.

The Board also approved the 2024-2025 Proposed District Calendar Option #1 by an 8-1 vote. Mr. Shages opposed Calendar Option #1 in favor of Calendar Option #3.

Mr. Jarrell expressed support for Calendar Option #1 but suggested there should be a more comprehensive conversation in the next year or two regarding the calendar overall. He highlighted the need to address issues raised by the community, specifically discussions around the District's 185 days of instruction and the length of spring break.

Mr. Shages noted that he supports Calendar Option #3, which included a full week-long spring break. He acknowledged that this option would require extending the school year by three days. Mr. Shages stated he has consistently supported this option and does not see moving graduation to June 5th as a major issue. Further, he emphasized the importance of maintaining the 185 days in the school year, citing discussions with the AIU and other districts that consider having 185 days as beneficial due to scheduling and educational impacts.

Mrs. Hamlin noted the educational and contractual reasons behind the 185-day requirement and expressed her support for Calendar Option #1. However, she agreed with Mr. Jarrell in welcoming further conversation around other factors brought forward by the public. Mr. Shages mentioned how other districts propose their calendars earlier in the fall and suggested Hampton propose its 2025-2026 calendar before December of this year.

## **Finance**

(22:10)

Mr. Vasko recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following addendum:

- Budget Transfer totaling \$437.00 for the following: Athletic - Cheerleading General Supplies.

## **Personnel**

(23:10)

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

### **Resignations**

- Dr. Laurie Tocci, Principal at Wyland Elementary School, who is retiring after 17 years of service, effective June 30, 2024.

Mr. Shages expressed gratitude to Dr. Tocci for her work at Wyland and in the central office, particularly highlighting her contributions to the curriculum. He commended her excellent job and mentioned the pleasure of seeing her interactions with the students at Wyland. While he expressed sadness about her retirement, Mr. Shages strongly believes Dr. Silbaugh will do an excellent job at Wyland as the next principal.

- Mrs. Jennifer Hearn, who is resigning after three years with the District, effective December 6, 2023. Mrs. Hearn was the Administrative Assistant to the Assistant to the Superintendent and Director of Student Services.
- Ms. Rita Smith effective December 1, 2023. Ms. Smith was a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School.
- Mrs. Carolyn Copelin, who retired 18 years with the District, effective December 6, 2023. Mrs. Copelin was a Paraeducator at Wyland Elementary School.
- Ms. Jamie Richardson, effective November 28, 2023. Ms. Richardson was a Paraeducator at Hampton High School.

- Mrs. Jina Coleman, who resigned after two years with the District, effective January 2, 2024. Mrs. Coleman was the Administrative Assistant to the Director of Special Education.

### **Administration**

- Change in status for Dr. Michael Silbaugh, moving from the Assistant Principal at Hampton Middle School to the Principal at Wyland Elementary School, effective July 1, 2024. Dr. Silbaugh is replacing Dr. Laurie Tocci.

### **Teachers**

- Ms. Diane Thompson to continue as the Long-Term Substitute Computer Science Teacher at Hampton Middle School through approximately February 22, 2024. Salary remains \$36,500, prorated. Ms. Thompson will continue to substitute for Mrs. Kristen DeMichiei.
- Dr. Brooke Stebler to continue as a .40 Long-Term Substitute Enrichment Teacher at Hampton Middle School from December 21, 2023 to the end of the 2023-2024 School Year. Salary remains \$36,500, prorated. Dr. Stebler is substituting for Mrs. Gwen Cohen.
- Change in status for Ms. Sarah Losco, temporarily moving from Academic Support English/ Language Teacher to a Long-Term Substitute English Teacher, from approximately January 3, 2024 through approximately March 19, 2024. Salary is \$36,500, prorated. Ms. Losco is substituting for Mrs. Kelly Emmett.

### **Paraprofessionals, Paraeducators, and Administrative Assistants**

- Change in status for Mrs. Christine Raimondi moving from a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School to the Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent (Class VII), effective December 11, 2023. Hourly rate is Step 5, \$27.90. Mrs. Raimondi is replacing Mrs. Nancy Schindler.
- Mrs. Stacy Martin as the Administrative Assistant to the Athletic Director at Hampton High School effective January 15, 2024. Hourly rate is Step 2, \$24.05 for the 60 day probationary period and \$24.30 per hour thereafter. Mrs. Martin is replacing Mrs. Brigitte Gibbons.
- Ms. Mia Smyers as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Wyland Elementary School, effective December 11, 2023. Hourly rate is \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Ms. Smyers is replacing Mrs. Carolyn Copelin.
- Ms. Jessica Shaffer as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Wyland Elementary School effective January 3, 2024. Hourly rate is \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Ms. Shaffer is replacing Mrs. Christine Raimondi's position.
- Ms. LaNette Weber as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Hampton High School effective January 3, 2024. Hourly rate is \$18.54 for the 60-day probationary period and \$18.79 per hour thereafter. Ms. Weber is replacing Ms. Jamie Richardson.

### **Custodial/Maintenance**

- Change in status for Ms. Jennifer Yanssens moving from the 12 month/8 hour Night Lead Custodian at Poff Elementary School to a 12 month/8 hour Custodian at Hampton Middle School

effective December 1, 2023. Hourly rate is \$26.68. (Ms. Yanssens is replacing Ms. Michelle Garrow.)

- Change in status for Mr. Chad Fabian moving from a 10 month/8 hour Custodian at Central Elementary School to a 12 month/8 hour Custodian at Poff Elementary School effective December 1, 2023. There is no change in hourly rate. Mr. Fabian is replacing Ms. Jennifer Yanssens.
- Change in status for Ms. Dawn Kalkowski moving from the Head Custodian at Hampton High School to a 12 month/8 hour Custodian at Hampton High School effective December 18, 2023. The hourly rate is \$26.68.
- Change in status for Mr. Joshua Lavery moving from a 12 month/8 hour Custodian at Hampton High School to the Head Custodian at Hampton High School effective December 18, 2023. The hourly rate is \$29.09.
- Mr. Vincent Ambrose as a 10 month/8 hour custodian at Hampton High School, effective January 22, 2024. Hourly rate is \$23.68. Mr. Ambrose is replacing Ms. Laurie Rogers.
- Mr. Shawn Sloan as a 10 month/6 hour custodian at Hampton High School, effective January 10, 2024. Hourly rate is \$23.68. Mr. Sloan is replacing Mr. Ben Ushtelena.

**Other**

- Ms. Heather Hutchings as the Central Elementary Greenhouse Garden Club Sponsor effective January 3, 2024 through the remainder of the 2023-2024 School Year.

**Supplemental Contracts**

- 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	Building	Points	Stipend
Jeanine Stright	Assistant Coach (Diving)	High School	30	\$4,470

**Addendum**

- Mrs. Rebecca Parker as the Administrative Assistant (Class VII) to the Assistant to the Superintendent and the Director of Student Services, effective January 29, 2024. Salary is Step 2, \$26.68 for the 60-day probationary period and \$26.93 per hour thereafter.

- Mrs. Kirsten Hall as the Administrative Assistant (Class VII) to the Director of Special Education, effective February 5, 2024. Hourly rate is \$26.68 for the 60-day probationary period and \$26.93 per hour thereafter.
- Ms. Breanna Wong as the Long-Term Substitute English Academic Support Teacher from approximately January 15, 2024 through approximately March 22, 2024. Salary is \$33,500, prorated.
- Ms. Mary Evankovich as a .5 Long Term Substitute Kindergarten Teacher at Central Elementary School, effective approximately January 29, 2024 through the end of the 2023-2024 School Year. Salary is \$36,500, prorated.
- Ms. Jessie Wehler as the Long Term Substitute Grade 4 Teacher at Central Elementary School, effective approximately February 26, 2024 through the end of the 2023-2024 School Year. Salary is \$36,500, prorated.

## Technology

(27:43)

There were no action items this evening.

## Policy and Legislative Affairs

(27:50)

Mr. Shages recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following action item:

- First Reading of Policy #254: Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

Dr. Loughead mentioned that Representatives Rob Mercuri and Arvind Venkat have reached out to Hampton's administration with a willingness to discuss budgetary implications regarding certain funding proposals for Pennsylvania public schools. This discussion is related to the outcomes of the statewide listening tour and the suggested solutions that emerged from it. Dr. Loughead emphasized the Representatives' concern about the potential impacts on districts like Hampton. He said they wanted to give Hampton an opportunity to share their thoughts and concerns before any votes are taken.

## Transportation

(30:07)

There were no action items this evening.

## A.W. Beattie Career Center Board Report

(30:12)

Mr. Stein reported that the A.W. Beattie Joint Operating Committee is meeting next week and will hear a presentation from the preliminary architect on the expansion project. He said that the superintendents from the nine sending districts overwhelmingly support the expansion since the demand for space is very high.

Mr. Vasko explained that the Beattie budget is divided into two parts. The first part is the building construction fund. Whenever a new bond is issued for construction, the allocation is based on a ratio



involving a district's high school enrollment and a district's assessed real estate value. The second part is the operating budget, covering expenses such as teacher salaries, supplies, and utilities. This budget is based on the five-year average of a district's attendance.

Mr. Vasko added that if a bond were to be issued, 6 out of the 9 districts would need to approve it. He emphasized that the expansion project is in the preliminary stages, and that the Board would have to vote on any related bond issues.

### **HAAE Report**

(36:10)

Mrs. Perkins reported that the HAAE Board voted in five new members in December, including a new President, Lissa Geiger Shulman. Mrs. Perkins said HAAE has an approximately \$70,000 balance to distribute in grants. HAAE is encouraging teachers to request funding for innovative projects in their classrooms. Additionally, Mrs. Perkins said that HAAE is always seeking more volunteers for the organization.

### **Public Comment**

(37:44)

Mrs. Hamlin opened the meeting to public comment.

(37:51)

A Community Member thanked the administrators, students, and staff members who are working on planning the Talbots Together Student Exposition on January 16th. She conveyed her excitement about the event and expressed a hope to witness similar efforts from the District in the future. Emphasizing the importance of appreciating others' perspectives and experiences, she expressed satisfaction with the ongoing focus on this through the Talbots Together pillar and the upcoming event.

Mr. Vasko mentioned that the Community Blood Drive is on Wednesday, January 17th at the High School from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mrs. Perkins reminded everyone to pre-register if they are planning to attend..

### **Adjournment**

(39:34)

Mrs. Hamlin moved to adjourn the meeting.