



Approved Date: February 19, 2024

**FENNVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 15, 2024
BOARD ROOM – 7:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public to conduct 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 within the agenda.

A. MEETING OPENING (Dr. Greer)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Dr. Greer at 7:02 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call

Mr. Toby Hutchins	Present	Mr. Manuel Sanchez	Present
Mrs. Juliet Michele	Present	Mr. Ross Thiele	Present
Mrs. Natalie Bosby	Present	Mr. Paul Hapke	Present
Mrs. Angie Pena-Smith	Present		

4. Additions to the Agenda

None

B. RECOGNITION OF THE BOARD

Cookie, punch, and an FPS to show our appreciation to the board for their dedication, passion, and countless hours devoted to the district.

C. STUDENT OF THE MONTH PRESENTATIONS

- Fennville Elementary School – Emma Betts by Mrs. Beth Ayotte
- Fennville Middle School – Caroline Waters by Mr. Brent Potts
- Fennville Alternative High School – Alex Vanstaalduinen by Mrs. Jodi Scovill
- Fennville High School – Elia Ruiz-Izquirdo by Mr. Albert Lombard (or Dr. Greer)

D. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2024

1. President

Manuel Sanchez nominated; Paul Hapke supported Toby Hutchins for President.

There were no further nominations.

Motion by Michele, supported by Sanchez, that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Hutchins to the position of Board President.

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

Toby Hutchins was declared President of the Board of Education for 2024.

2. Vice President

Paul Hapke nominated Manuel Sanchez; Juliet Michele supported Manuel Sanchez for Vice President.

There were no further nominations.

Motion by Michele, supported by Hapke, that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Sanchez to the position of Vice President.

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

Manuel Sanchez was declared Vice President of the Board of Education for 2024.

3. Secretary

Juliet Michele nominated Ross Thiele; Manuel Sanchez supported Ross Thiele for Secretary.

Motion by Hapke, supported by Sanchez, that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Thiele to the position of secretary.

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

Ross Thiele was declared Secretary for the Board of Education for 2024.

4. Treasurer

Paul Hapke nominated Juliet Michele; supported by Ross Thiele for Secretary for the Board of Education for 2024.

Motion by Thiele, supported by Sanchez, that the Board of Education appoint Mrs. Michele to the position of treasurer.

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

Juliet Michele was declared Treasurer for the Board of Education.

E. PUBLIC HEARING FOR ANTI-BULLYING THRUN POLICY 5207

Dr. Greer reviewed the recommended policy and optional content from Thrun.

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

G. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Michele, supported by Sanchez to approve the consent agenda as presented.

2-3. Minutes	4. Treasurer's Report	5. Summary of Bills	6. Acceptance of retirement	7. Approval of out of state trip
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December 18, 2023, Regular Meeting January 4, 2024, Work Session	December 2023	December 2023	Sharon Stratton effective June 7, 2024	Robotics Team Trip February 3, 2024
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8. Dates, Times, and Locations of Board Meetings

Monday, February 19, 2024
Monday, March 18, 2024
Monday, April 15, 2024
Monday, May 20, 2024
Monday, June 17, 2024*
Monday July 15, 2024
Monday August 19, 2024
Monday, September 16, 2024
Monday, October 21, 2024
Monday, November 18, 2024
Monday, December 16, 2024

*Budget Hearing to precede Board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

All Regular meetings to be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room unless otherwise posted. Special Meetings and Work Sessions will be scheduled as necessary.

9. Designate official depositories for all District Funds to be Allegan Community Federal Credit Union, Huntington Bank, and the Michigan School District Liquid Asset Fund Plan.

10. That the Board of Education continue to use the Debt Retirement Account at Huntington Bank for the purpose of depositing taxes and for bond payments, continue to use the Sinking Fund Account at Huntington Bank for the purpose of depositing taxes and for payment of allowable Sinking Fund expenses, and continue to use the Community Recreation Fund Account at Huntington Bank for the purpose of depositing taxes and for payment of allowable Community Recreation Fund expenses.

11. Authorize signatories for all accounts as indicated, and as funds are deposited in the designated depositories as presented in this Agenda:

All General Fund and Debt Fund and Sinking Fund Accounts – any two of the following persons: Board President, Board Vice President, Board Secretary, Board Treasurer, Superintendent, and the appointed CFO and Controller for the District.

All School Service Fund Accounts (School Lunch) and all Student Activity Fund Accounts – the following persons: Board President, Superintendent, and the appointed CFO and Controller for the District.

and further, that the previously approved signatories continue to be in effect until such time that the new signature authorization cards are completed.

12. Authorize immediate deposit of school funds in established depositories without the Treasurer's signature, and further, that the Superintendent or designee be authorized to transfer funds between Board-approved institutions and accounts in accordance with accepted business procedures, and in the best interest of the District, commensurate with the Board of Education Policy.
13. Authorize the following positions to use District purchase cards in conducting District business: Superintendent, High School Principal, Middle School Principal, Elementary Principal, Director of Teaching and Learning, Athletic Director, Food Service Director, Director of Maintenance & Facilities, **Maintenance**, ~~MTSS-Director~~, Technology Director, Transportation Director, Mechanic, Executive Secretary, Special Education Secretary, Homeless Liaison, and ~~Robotics Coach~~.
14. Designate the CFO, Controller, and /or designee as the District's Electronic Transfer Officers.
15. Authorize the CFO and Controller for the District to assume specified responsibilities of the Board Secretary.
16. Designate the Superintendent to assume specified responsibilities of the Board Secretary.
17. Authorize the Superintendent to sign contract documents on behalf of the District and the Board of Education.
18. Appoint the Executive Secretary to serve as deputy to the Secretary of the Board for coordinating all school election efforts with the County Clerk and appropriated agencies.
19. Appoint the Executive Secretary to coordinate the postings of all public notices of public meetings.
20. Retain the firm of Thrun Law Firm, P.C. of Lansing, Michigan and Scholten Fant, P.C. of Grand Haven, Michigan, as General Board Counsel, and further that the Superintendent be authorized to solicit such legal counsel as the Board or as the Superintendent may from time-to-time deem necessary.
21. Retain the auditing firm of Maner Costerisan, P.C. for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

H. PRESENTATIONS

~~1. Operations Report—Mr. Dan Rastall~~

2. Director of Teaching and Learning Jessica Gierucki reported on Academic & Wellness.

I. OLD BUSINESS

1. None

J. NEW BUSINESS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Educational Committee (Student & Comm Programs) Report from January 9, 2024
 - Grant Opportunities through ODC partnership, HIL Project
 - Strategic use of supplemental funds to prioritize wellness while balancing the budget.
- ~~2. Executive (Facilities & Transportation) Committees Report from January 15, 2024~~
3. Personnel (& Policy) Committees Report from January 10, 2024
 - Aramark update and dialogue around salary schedule for employees
 - Update on Collaborative Bargaining with Teachers, Food Service, and Maintenance.
 - Vacation, Sick Day, Calendar planning, Regionally Competitive wages
 - Policies related to Human Resources
4. Superintendent Report – Dr. Doug Greer
 - Update on the alternative count day

K. ACTION ITEMS

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Motion by Thiele, supported by Sanchez, that the Board of Education appoint the designated members to serve on the following standing committees for 2024.

- a. Executive Committee (Elected Officers of the Board) (Personnel Committee)
 1. Toby Hutchins (chair)
 2. Natalie Bosby
 3. Manuel Schez
 - Rotating Alternate
- b. Operational Committee (Financial, Facilities, Transportation/Food)
 1. Juliet Michele (chair)
 2. Paul Hapke
 3. Manuel Sanchez
 - Rotating Alternate
- c. Educational Committee (Academics and Wellness)
(This committee will select the Paine Volunteerism Award winner)
 1. Juliet Michele (chair)
 2. Ross Thiele
 3. Angie Pena-Smith
 - Rotating Alternate

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bosby, Hapke, Sanchez, Hutchins, Pena-Smith, Michele, Thiel

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

2. APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES (Roll Call Vote)

Approved Date: February 19, 2024

Motion by Thiele, supported by Sanchez, that the Board of Education appoint the designated members to serve as delegates and representatives for 2024.

- a. MASB Delegate Assembly
 - Delegates
 - 1. Angie Pena-Smith
 - 2. Natalie Bosby
 - Alternates
 - 1. Toby Hutchins
 - 2. Juliet Michele
- b. Allegan County School Board Association Delegate
 - 1. Ross Thiele
 - Alternate
 - 1. Natalie Bosby
- c. Fennville Educational Foundation Representative
 - 1. Angie Pena-Smith

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bosby, Hapke, Sanchez, Hutchins, Pena-Smith, Michele, Thiel

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

3. APPROVAL OF ARAMARK CONTRACT

Motion by Michele, supported by Sanchez, that the Board of Education approve a Management Services Agreement between Fennville Public Schools and Aramark from January 1, 2024, through June 30, 2028, as presented with modifications allowed after review of legal counsel.

Motion Carried: 6-1

4. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING THURN LAW FIRM POLICY MANUEL UPDATES IN JANUARY AND A PUBLIC HEARING FOR POLICY 5207 ON ANTI-BULLYING

Motion by Thiele, supported by Pena-Smith, that the board adopt the resolution approving the Thurn Law Firm Policy Manuel Updates.

WHEREAS, the Board identified a need to review its current Board policies, bylaws, and administrative guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the District's administration ("Administration") has reviewed the Thurn Law Firm Policy Manual ("Policy Manual") and recommends the Policy Manual for consideration, in the form presented for Board review and approval, to replace the Board's existing policies and bylaws; and

WHEREAS, the Administration has reviewed any and all legal settlements and resolution agreements between the District and any state or

federal agency, as applicable, that address the modification or agency review of existing Board policy and the Board has considered the impact of those settlements or agreements when recommending adoption of the Policy Manual; and

WHEREAS, the Administration recommends that the Board repeal its existing policies, bylaws, and applicable guidelines, and adopt the Policy Manual; and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully reviewed, considered, and evaluated the Policy Manual collectively and as individual Board members and the Administration's recommendation.

I MOTION NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board accepts the Administration's recommendation to adopt the Policy Manual.
2. All existing Board policies, bylaws, and applicable guidelines are hereby repealed (including all policies and bylaws that by their terms require a reading(s) or hearing(s) before repeal, modification, or adoption).
3. The Board hereby adopts the Policy Manual, in the form presented and recommended by the Administration as the Board's new policies and bylaws, including those forms and administrative guidelines in the Policy Manual, for the purpose of governing the District.
4. The Administration shall promptly review District publications and forms that may reference the now-repealed Board policies and revise those publications and forms as necessary to align them with the newly adopted Policy Manual within a reasonable timeframe after this resolution.
5. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bosby, Hapke, Sanchez, Hutchins, Pena-Smith, Michele, Thiel

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

5. APPROVAL OF COMMUNITY RECREATION ADVISORY BY-LAWS

Motion by Michele, supported by Sanchez, that the Board of Education approve the community Recreation Advisory By-laws as revised and to allow up to the seven (7) Advisory Board Members nominated in December.

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

L. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

M. MEETING CLOSING

Approved Date: February 19, 2024

1. Comments from the Board Table
 - Toby Hutchins re: Expressed his appreciation for HS Art Teacher Sharon Stratton's 17-years of dedicated service to the district. Mrs. Stratton is an amazing human being who goes above and beyond.
2. Adjournment

Motion by Thiele, supported by Sanchez to adjourn. (8:30 p.m.)

Recorded by Executive Secretary, Marileen Pitts

Respectfully Submitted by,



Ross Thiele
Board Secretary