

# The Board Report

*Monday, April 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>Dr. Ed McKaveney</b>	<b>Director of Technology</b>
<b>Mr. Jeff Kline</b>	<b>Director of Administrative Services</b>
<b>Mr. Daniel Hartle</b>	<b>Director of Facilities Management</b>

*\* absent*

*\*\* attended remotely*

**April 15, 2024**

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**

(5:11)

Mrs. Hamlin called the meeting to order, and roll call was taken. All Board members were present.

Mrs. Hamlin opened the meeting to public comment, but there were no comments at this time.

The Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the March 11, 2024 Board of School Directors Voting Meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report**

(6:09)

The Board unanimously approved the following items:

- March 2024 General Fund 10 Disbursements totaling \$6,273,735.35.
- March 2024 Capital Fund 39 Disbursements totaling \$4,870.15.
- March 2024 Cafeteria Fund 50 Disbursements totaling \$142,279.81.
- February 2024 Treasurer's Report.
- February 2024 Student Activities Fund Report

### **President's Report**

(7:32)

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

### **Superintendent's Report**

(10:58)

*Dr. Loughead provided a brief update on the District's academics, athletics, and the arts.*

#### **Academics**

Dr. Loughead discussed upcoming assessments, which include the PSSAs, Keystone Exams, and AP Exams. While these assessments are important, Dr. Loughead believes that Hampton's students are well-prepared based on their everyday learning.

#### **Athletics**

Dr. Loughead said that spring sports are underway and encouraged the community to come out and support the student athletes. He mentioned scheduling issues for baseball and softball due to weather, but noted that games are getting back on track.

## Arts

Dr. Loughead highlighted the fantastic opening weekend of the high school's spring musical production of "Tuck Everlasting," with two more shows on April 19th and 20th. There are over 100 students involved in the musical, and he encouraged the community to show their support.

Additionally, Dr. Loughead highlighted several upcoming events, including:

- The Senior Art Show kicks off at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 2nd, prior to the High School's Academic Awards. The event is free and open to the public. Dr. Loughead said attendees will see amazing artwork from the Class of 2024.
- Remake Learning Days 2024 will take place on Tuesday, May 14th. This year's theme is "Unleashing Pride, Igniting Joy, and Fostering Creativity." Dr. Loughead thanked Dr. Cunningham and Dr. McKaveney for their work in organizing this K-12 interactive showcase. Registration details are available on the district website under the "Community" tab by clicking "Remake Learning Days."

Dr. Loughead also highlighted the upcoming spring concert series happening throughout the month of May.

## Personnel

(15:45)

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

### Resignation

- Mrs. Marilyn Adams, who is retiring after 35.5 years of service with the District, effective June 10, 2024. Mrs. Adams is a Grade 2 teacher at Poff Elementary School.
- Ms. Kelly Emmett, who is retiring after 22.5 years of service with the District, effective June 10, 2024. Ms. Emmett is an English Teacher at Hampton High School.
- Ms. Jill Sladic, who is retiring after 24 years of service with the District, effective June 10, 2024. Ms. Sladic is a Science Teacher at Hampton Middle School.
- Mrs. Chris Burd, who is retiring after 26 years of service with the District, effective August 2, 2024. Mrs. Burd is an Administrative Assistant at Wyland Elementary School.
- Mr. Brett Balint, who is retiring after 12 years of service with the District, effective June 5, 2024. Mr. Balint is a custodian at Wyland Elementary School.

Ms. Balason expressed gratitude to the faculty and staff members who are retiring for their unwavering commitment and dedication to the District over many years.

### Teachers

- Ms. Sarah Losco to continue as the Long-Term Substitute English Teacher at Hampton High School for the remainder of the 2023-2024 School Year. The salary remains at \$36,500, prorated, for the 2023-2024 School Year. Ms. Losco is substituting for Mrs. Kelly Emmett.

- Ms. Paige Bucha as the Building Substitute Teacher at Poff Elementary School, effective April 8, 2024 through the remainder of the 2023-2024 School Year. Salary is \$27,500, prorated. Ms. Bucha is replacing Ms. Mia Smyers who transferred to Hampton Middle School.
- Mr. Sean Desguin's request for a Professional Development Sabbatical from December 13, 2024 to May 14, 2025, returning to the District on May 15, 2025. Mr. Desguin is an Elementary Music Teacher at Central Elementary School.
- Mrs. Elizabeth Howe's request for a Professional Development Sabbatical for the 2024-2025 School Year, returning to the District at the beginning of the 2025-2026 School Year. Mrs. Howe is an Art Teacher at Hampton Middle School and Wyland Elementary School.
- Mrs. Amy Hardman as a Library Assistant (Class IV) at Hampton Middle School, effective March 27, 2024. Hourly rate is \$17.73 for the 60-day probationary period and \$17.98 per hour thereafter.

### **Custodial/Maintenance**

- Change in status for Mr. Zac Crow, moving from a 10 month/6 hour custodian at Hampton High School to a 10 month/8 hour custodian at Hampton High School, effective March 25, 2024. There is no change in hourly rate. Mr. Crow is replacing Mr. Richard Ventrice's position.
- Ms. Maya Cannon as a 10 month/6 hour custodian at Hampton High School effective April 2, 2024. Hourly rate is \$23.68. Ms. Cannon is replacing Mr. Zac Crow.

### **Other**

- Additional \$5,000 stipend, for a total of \$25,000, for Ms. Alexandra Juya, subsequent to the School Psychology Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) Grant award for the 2023-2024 School Year.
- Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Hampton Township School District and the Hampton Education Support Professionals Association (HESPA), effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029.

## **Student Affairs**

(13:44)

Mr. Jarrell recommended and the Board approved the Hampton High School Marching Band Field Trip to the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Chicago, Illinois, March 13, 2025 to March 16, 2025, at no charge to the District.

## **Educational Programs**

(14:20)

There were no action items this evening.

## Facilities

(14:24)

There were no action items this evening, but Mr. Kline, Dr. Loughead, and Mr. Hartle presented the District's Five-Year Facilities Improvement Plan & Budget. They highlighted the following Fund 39 capital projects planned for the 2024-2025 school year:

### Hampton High School

- Walk-behind scrubber in the amount of \$10,500.

### Hampton Middle School

- Gymnasium floor renovation in the amount of \$36,000.
- Can light replacement for safety purposes in the amount of \$5,900.

Mr. Jarrell inquired about the timeline for the middle school gym floor replacement. Mr. Hartle said the project will take 3-4 weeks over the summer.

### Central Elementary School

- There are no projects for the 2024-2025 school year, but gym floor replacement is anticipated in 2025-2026.

### Poff Elementary School

- There are no projects for the 2024-2025 school year, but ADA push-button door installation is anticipated in 2025-2026.

Dr. Loughead said that push-button doors are not an ADA requirement. All HTSD facilities are ADA compliant.

### Wyland Elementary School

- Six stage light replacements in the amount of \$11,000.
- New exterior sign in the amount of \$10,000.

### Athletic Department

- Guardrail installation at Fridley Field in the amount of \$18,000.
- Two ice machines, \$5,000 each, for the Athletic Trainers Office and Field House.

Mrs. Perkins recommended that the current ice machines be repurposed to the Fridley Field concession stand.

### HVAC Department

- HVAC van replacement in the amount of \$58,400. Mr. Kline said the current 2009 van has passed its useful purpose.
- Three AHU fan motors (air handling units) at Hampton High School in the amount of \$8,000.
- Filter and belt replacements at the middle school and high school in the amount of \$6,097.
- Capacitor bank at Fridley Field in the amount of \$5,000. Mr. Hartle explained that the capacitor

bank stores electrical energy during the day to reduce the energy bill.

## **Kitchen**

- Various upgrades and replacements across all buildings totaling \$109,300. Mr. Kline noted that these projects are funded by the food service fund and not part of the general fund budget nor do they affect the tax rates.

The total budgeted cost for the Fund 39 capital projects is \$178,897.

## **Finance**

(31:52)

Mr. Vasko recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following Budget Transfer totaling \$3,372.43 for the following:

HMS, Gen. Supplies & Gifted Competition	\$2,705.00
Ath., Football Repairs	\$ 667.43

The Board also unanimously approved the following addendum:

- Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Program of Services 2024-2025 Budget, with Hampton Township School District's estimated share of \$51,878.

Mr. Shages said the largest AIU budget item is the new Head Start classroom for children ages 3 to 4 in the AIU's central office in Homestead. Dr. Loughhead noted that the regional superintendents are excited about this project that will serve students while providing a space to train teachers.

Additionally, Mr. Vasko reminded everyone that the Board's annual Special Budget Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 29th in the HMS Library.

## **Technology**

(39:07)

There were no action items this evening, but Dr. McKaveney presented the proposed 2024-2025 District Technology Budget. Dr. McKaveney said the proposed budget focuses on technology related to digital learning, security, communication, and insurance.

The proposed technology budget has been allocated \$976,638 in the preliminary budget, with \$281,367 of these funds going toward prior years of lease payments for student and employee computers, and \$107,142 going toward new leases. A few additional highlights of this budget include the following:

- New E-Rate contract for leased lit fiber optic data transmission between five school buildings at \$23,760.
- Renewal of existing District and expanded high school network hardware and battery backup systems agreements at \$70,777.12.
- Leased replacement of Grade 1 student iPads at a cost of \$43,273.
- Leased replacement of Grade 6 and Grade 9 student computers at a cost of \$59,389.

- Renewal of Microsoft product licensing for staff, students, and computers through the rebid 5-year statewide contract at \$47,468.
- Continuation of two outsourced computer technicians through contracted services at \$144,000.

Dr. McKaveney noted that the lease agreement for Grades 1, 6, and 9 are 3-year terms, and that the number of devices ordered is based on projected student enrollment. Mr. Vasko inquired about what happens to District devices after the lease ends. Dr. McKaveney explained that devices are sold back to recyclers at the end of their useful life to offset recycling cost. He said that offering the devices to families in need would be challenging since the devices become outdated and the complexity of assigning device ownership.

Additionally, Dr. McKaveney explained the proposed budget by category, which included elementary equipment, secondary equipment, elementary & secondary software, elementary & secondary supplies, District-wide software, District-wide technical support agreements, District-wide internet services, District-wide technical services, and Technology Department travel and mileage.

Mrs. Perkins inquired about how the proposed 2024-2025 budget compares to last year's budget. Dr. McKaveney said the proposed 2023-2024 budget was approximately \$808,000. He noted that rebid fiber network, purchase of new devices and increases in the product licensing renewals contributed to the budgetary increase. Mr. Kline also noted that one of the outsourced computer technicians was salaried last year and was not included in the technology budget. The Board also discussed the rising costs of various software licenses and services.

Mr. Shages raised a discussion about the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in education and the need for corresponding District policies. He suggested that the District host a presentation on the topic for families. Dr. Removcik highlighted the successful pilot of an AI tool at the high school. Dr. Removcik said the District's goal is to use the results of the pilot to inform future implementation, and there will be a future board presentation of the findings of this pilot.

Dr. Loughead and Dr. McKaveney discussed existing guidelines for responsible AI use as well as a number of the existing policies that apply to AI in the District and emerging national resources. Dr. Loughead added that the District will host a presentation for families on the topic of AI integration. The Board discussed the need to further examine existing policies to make adjustments regarding responsible AI use.

## **Policy and Legislative Affairs**

(1:10:59)

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

- Second Reading and Adoption of Policy #251: Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability
- First Reading of Policy #808: Food Services



## **Transportation**

(1:12:02)

There were no action items this evening.

## **A.W. Beattie Career Center Board Report**

(1:12:09)

Mr. Stein discussed the AWBCC expansion project, with the next step involving seeking bond counsel to minimize costs. Additionally, he said AWBCC is seeking to accommodate students to increase program size and scheduling flexibility.

Mr. Vasko noted that AWBCC recently hired a new cosmetology teacher, which will accommodate an additional 48 students in the program. Mr. Stein also announced that AWBCC is in the process of hiring a new business manager.

## **HAEE Report**

(1:14:10)

Mrs. Kennedy said that Hampton Alliance for Educational Excellence (HAEE) has tentatively selected a date for the annual 5K Race in October. The race will once again take place at HHS and the Community Center. Mrs. Kennedy said HAEE has commenced early-bird registration to fundraise as much as possible to support Hampton schools. HAEE is collaborating with middle and high school teachers to design race T-shirts, with students invited to submit artwork for a chance to win a \$50 gift card.

Additionally, the deadline to apply for HAEE scholarships has closed, and the HAEE Board has begun to review submissions.

## **Public Comment**

(1:16:14)

Mrs. Hamlin opened the meeting to public comment, but there were no comments at this time.

## **Adjournment**

(1:16:20)

Mrs. Hamlin moved to adjourn the meeting.