

BOARD REPORT

April 12, 2021

REGULAR MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$12,841.75.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Board rehired retired employee Donna Auxter for one year as noted in the collective bargaining agreement between the Solon Board of Education and Ohio Association of Public School Employees complying with Ohio Revised Code 3307.353.”

Members of the public are invited to provide input to the Board on the issue of re-employment of the above employee. After input, the Board will act on the resolution.

The retirement of Susan Armentrout, grade 3 teacher at Parkside Elementary School, effective August 1, 2021 was approved. The Board approved the retirements of Thomas Pinizzotto, bus driver for Solon City Schools, and Eileen Siebert, secretary for the Lewis Elementary School, effective July 1, 2021.

The Board non-renewed 52 limited teacher contracts which were issued for the 2020-21 school year and directed the Treasurer to serve written notice of the Board action to each individual.

The Board non-renewed 52 monitors and aides that were hired for the 2020-21 school year.

The next board meeting will be April 26, 2021, 6 p.m. at the Board of Education.

INFORMATION ITEMS

POLICIES

As is the practice of the Solon Board of Education, the items listed below are offered to the public for explanation without action. Any action that may happen would not be before the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

The changes to these existing policies are all minor revisions to reflect updated terminology included in recent legislation.

Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity. Policies 1422, 2260, 3122, 4122

Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment. Policies 1623, 2260.01, 3122, 4123

Anti-Harassment. Policies 1662, 3362, 4362, 5517

Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities. Policy 2266

Cost Principles - Spending Federal Funds. Policy 6114

Budget Preparation. Policy 6220

Procurement - Federal Grants/Funds. Policy 6325

Property Inventory. Policy 7450

Accounting System for Capital Assets. Policy 7455

OHIO EXTENDED LEARNING PLAN

To assess the impact on students caused by pandemic-related disruptions, each Ohio school district is required to submit an Extended Learning Plan to the Ohio Department of Education by April 1.

In calling for school districts to create their plans, Governor DeWine noted this is an excellent opportunity for communities and educational stakeholders to work together to be sure students are receiving the help and support they need.

SOLON SCHOOLS NAMED A 2021 BEST COMMUNITY FOR MUSIC EDUCATION

The NAMM Foundation has honored the Solon City Schools with a 2021 Best Communities for Music Education Award for its outstanding commitment to music education and successful efforts to provide music access and education to all students. Solon joins only 686 other school districts nationwide in receiving the designation from the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation.

For Solon, the award reflects the broad array of both school-based and community-wide music programming and performance opportunities for students as well as the strong partnership with families of music students.

“As a parent of two Solon students who thrived in the band, I know first-hand how wonderful our music program is and the important role music plays in the lives of so many of our students,” said Fred Bolden, Superintendent of the Solon City Schools. “This award is a recognition of the strong work by the teachers, students and families in our music program. Music is always an important connection for students. But we are especially proud of the ways they have adapted to meet the unique challenges of the pandemic to make music and showcase their talents on digital platforms and in-person in as many ways as they could this year.”

To qualify for the Best Communities in Music Education designation, the district provided comprehensive information about commitment to standards, funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, music instructional time, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs. The NAMM Foundation’s reviewers assessed the quality of the district’s music faculty and budgetary commitment to music education, in addition to other factors, and the application was reviewed by the Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

The award also recognizes the district's efforts in providing learning opportunities as outlined in the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which recommends music and all of the arts as important elements of a well-rounded education for all students.

“Research into music education continues to demonstrate educational, cognitive and social skill benefits for children who make music,” according to the NAMM Foundation. “Every-day listening skills are stronger in musically trained children than in those without music training. Significantly, listening skills are closely tied to the ability to perceive speech in a noisy background, pay attention and keep sounds in memory. The social benefits include conflict resolution, teamwork skills and how to give and receive constructive criticism.”