

# BOARD REPORT

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August 24, 2020

## REGULAR MEETING

### TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board approved the payment of bills totaling \$37,882.98. The Board approved the original permanent appropriation of funds for the Solon City School District to provide for current operating expenses and other expenditures during fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

The Board authorized the Treasurer to request and receive an advance of funds for 2021. The Board approved the following purchase orders as Then and Now Certificates:

Purchase Order #	Amount	Vendor	Purpose
21000968	\$3,798.46	PSI Affiliates, Inc.	Health Aide and School Nurse Services
21001039	\$49,122.80	CONNECT	PowerSchool, EMIS, Software Support

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A resolution regarding payment to employees during the COVID-19 Epidemic was approved. A resolution to approve bus drivers for annual driver certification by the Solon City School District for the 2020-2021 school year under OAC 3301-83-06 B5 was approved.

Bus routes for the 2020-21 school year were approved. The resignation of Kathryn Schulin, grade 4 teacher at Lewis Elementary School, effective August 31, 2020 was approved.

A leave of absence for Julianne Karns, kindergarten teacher at Roxbury Elementary School, for the 2020-21 school year was approved. The retirement of Cynthia Carbone, food service for Solon High School, effective September 1, 2020 was approved.

The Board hired the following individuals as teachers for the 2020-21 school year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Maria DeFranco	Bachelor's Step a(0) Grade 1 Roxbury Elementary School	\$45,978.00

Nicole Martorello	Master's Step b(1) Grade 6 Math Orchard Middle School	\$51,891.00
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Desiree Niksick	Bachelor's + 15 Step d(4) Grade 4 Lewis Elementary School	\$55,784.00
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The following individuals were approved as substitutes on an as needed basis for the 2020-21 school year:

Jenny Boss-Siemen	General Education
Yvette Elmore	General Education
Linda Gerhart	7-12 (Language Arts)
Kenneth Germane	General Education
Traci James	7-12 (Integrated Language Arts)
Sarah Krieger	P-12 (Vistual Art)
Sara Newpher	General Education
Jon O'Brien	P-12 (Music)
Andrea Rossen	General Education
Barbra Schroeder	K-8
Shannon Smith	General Education

Supplemental contracts were approved to the following individuals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Joseph Ames	Orchard Mentor Teacher - Martorello	\$ 491.33
Ashley Keane	3rd Grade TCE – Roxbury	3,318.46
Ashley Mivsek	Parkside Mentor Teacher - Kimbrough	689.67
Kathryn Plesec	Lewis Mentor Teacher - Niksick (1/2)	245.67
Kathryn Plesec	Parkside Mentor Teacher - D'Amico (1/2)	245.67
Kathryn Plesec	Parkside Mentor Teacher - Mismas (1/2)	245.67
Brianna Poggi	Roxbury Mentor Teacher - J. Miller (1/2)	229.89
Brianna Poggi	Roxbury Mentor Teacher - DeFranco	689.67

The Board approved tuition reimbursements for 26 individuals in the amount of \$17,845.56.

The next regular board meeting will be September 14, 2020, 6 p.m.

**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.

- Policy 1520 – Employment of Administrators – revised.
- Policy 1530 – Evaluation of Principals and Other Administrators – revised.
- Policy 2266 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in District Programs or Activities (Title IX) – new.
- Policy 2270 – Religion in the Curriculum – revised.
- Policy 2431 – Interscholastic Athletics – revised.
- Policy 3124 – Employment Contract – revised.
- Policy 5200 – Attendance – revised.
- Policy 5517.02 – Sexual Violence – delete.
- Policy 5610 – Removal, Suspension, Expulsion, and Permanent Exclusion of Students – revised.
- Policy 5611 – Due Process Rights – revised.
- Policy 6152 – Student Fees, Fines and Charges – revised.
- Policy 6152.01 – Waiver of School Fees for Instructional Materials – revised.
- Policy 8450.01 – Protective Facial Coverings During Pandemic/Epidemic Events – new.
- Policy 6325 – Procurement – Federal Grants/Funds – revised.
- Policy 8800 – Religious/Patriotic Ceremonies and Observances – revised.

### START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR – ONGOING DECISION MAKING

It is hard to believe that the start of the 2020-21 school year is just days away. We have been working all summer on our return to school plan, which includes several contingencies to ensure continued high-quality education for all of our Solon students.

As you know, we will start the year on Wednesday under our fully remote contingency plan. Since the start of the pandemic, we have heeded the recommendations and orders of public health officials and the Governor. At each step of our back-to-school planning we have consulted with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. We have received tremendous support from CCBH in regard to readying our buildings and procedures in compliance with recommended social distancing and prevention measures. Our classrooms, schools, buses and other areas that support student learning are ready for students to return as soon as it is safer to do so.

Members of our Solon Schools administrative team are in constant communication with the CCBH each week. In all of the conversations, it is clear that everyone in both our school community and in the public health community recognizes the significant importance of in-person learning and participation in activities and athletics for students' overall well-being.

Throughout the pandemic, our response has been incremental and measured to assure that the safety and health of students, staff and the community at-large remains the top priority. With that being said, we continue to make phased changes and adjustments where we can safely and with the support of public health experts.

Our students with the most intensive instructional needs will now be attending school in person. Our student athletes in non-contact sports this week will be back to modified Phase 2 skills training and our golf and tennis athletes are beginning competition. We are continuing to evaluate with the CCBH a return to competition for all of our fall sport athletes.

We will continue to work as a team to provide additional opportunities for all our students that keeps them engaged and gives them hope for an eventual return to normalcy. We will also return to the aspects of our return-to-school plan that allows for in-person learning and participation when we can.

### CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR K-12 SCHOOL

For the first time since Governor DeWine and the Ohio Department of Health launched the county-by-county COVID-19 Ohio Public Health Advisory System this summer, Cuyahoga County on August 20 dropped from a Risk Level 3 Red to Risk Level 2 Orange Public Emergency. At Level 2, the state advisory system indicates Cuyahoga County has increased exposure and spread, and the county should “exercise a high degree of caution.”

This change from red to orange is good news and a positive indicator that COVID-19 prevalence trends in our area are starting to improve. However, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health is maintaining its recommendations for the return to school and in-person participation in extra-curricular activities, citing the need for sustained improvement over several weeks. Throughout Ohio, several counties have bounced back and forth between different color risk levels, so clear trends over time are needed to alter the recommendations for school decisions, according to CCBH.

The state color-coded risk advisory system is a “data-driven framework” that provides context for assessing and responding to the spread of COVID-19. However, it cannot be the only factor that drives decision making.

The CCBH reiterated the multiple ways it is assessing the risk associated with school decisions:

- Lower Positivity Rates – Showing a sustained decline of COVID-19 test positivity below 5 percent for multiple weeks.
- Fewer New Case Reports – Showing a sustained decline in new case reports.
- Increased Testing Capacity for Children – Availability of more testing for children and teens. There remains little to no testing for teens and children under 18, complicating the outbreak response in school settings and limiting the outbreak response to symptom-based investigations only.
- County Risk Level of Orange or Below for Several Weeks – Remaining at a lowered risk level for multiple weeks shows sustained improvement in the seven different indicators that reflect impact of COVID-19 in our community.