Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
SPECIAL MEETING JULY 26, 2021

Call To Order

The Special meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Bolton at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dean Bolton, Katie Cavanaugh, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Vincent Lyon-Callo, Andrew Phelps and Jayme Taylor

Administrators: Superintendent John Hood

Citizens Address Agenda & Non-Agenda Items

Nathan Mahn addressed the board regarding safety protocols in the fall and the Good Trouble Coalition.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: safety protocols for the return to school and upcoming communications; hiring update; architect and engineer interviews; and upcoming agenda item regarding refinancing of district bonds.

Member inquired about Covid19 cases in Okemos Kids Club; outside lunch opportunities; enforcement of safety protocols; and student schedules.

Board Reports & Request

President Bolton reported on an upcoming Talent Show Fundraiser held at Wonch Park.

Consent Agenda

MOVED by Mary Gebara, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board approve items 1 and 2 for immediate implementation and appropriate action:
Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 15, 2021;
Item 2: Approval of the leave of absence for Emily Backus, Special Education Teacher at Chippewa Middle School for the period of September 27th through November 1, 2021.

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Employment – Admin

MOVED by Katie Cavanaugh, SUPPORTED by Mary Gebara that the board employ Lauren Schefke as an elementary principal at Bennett Woods Elementary effective August 9, 2021 through June 30, 2023 at step 1; and Kelly Sundeen as an elementary principal at Okemos Public Montessori at Central effective August 9, 2021 through June 30, 2023 at step 1 of the administrative salary schedule.

Roll Call Vote

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Andrew Phelps	Yes
Mary Gebara	Yes	Jayme Taylor	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Director of DEI

MOVED by Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED by Mary Gebara that the board employ Dr. Lara Slee as Diversity Equity & Inclusion Director effective August 9, 2021 in accordance with sections 1230 (2) and 1230 a (2) of the Revised School Code conditioned upon receipt of acceptable criminal history checks and criminal records checks.

Roll Call Vote

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Andrew Phelps	Yes
Mary Gebara	Yes	Jayme Taylor	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Asst Supt – Human Resources

MOVED by Andy Phelps, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board employ Stephen Keskes as Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources effective August 9, 2021 through June 30, 2024.

Roll Call Vote

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Andrew Phelps	Yes
Mary Gebara	Yes	Jayme Taylor	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Other Matters

Member Lynn inquired about including equity statements in all teacher and administrator employment recommendations; as well as what support will be given to all the new administrators.

Closed Session

MOVED by Jayme Taylor, SUPPORTED by Mary Gebara that the board adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing the superintendent evaluation.

Roll Call Vote

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Andrew Phelps	Yes
Mary Gebara	Yes	Jayme Taylor	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

The board adjourn to executive session at 7:01 p.m.

Reconvene

The board reconvened at 9:27 p.m.

Members Present: Dean Bolton, Katie Cavanaugh, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Vincent Lyon-Callo, Andrew Phelps and Jayme Taylor

Administrators: Superintendent John Hood

Adjourn

President Bolton adjourned the regular meeting at 9:28 p.m.

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Katie Cavanaugh, Secretary