Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
SPECIAL MEETING JULY 15, 2021

Call To Order

The special meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Bolton at 7:01 p.m.
Members Present: Dean Bolton, Katie Cavanaugh, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Vincent Lyon-Callo, Andrew Phelps and Jayme Taylor
Administrators: Superintendent John Hood

Summer Projects

Operations Director Mark Fargo presented an update on facilities projects throughout the district funded by the district's Facilities/Technology/Security/Transportation and Capital Outlay Bond and Sinking Funds. Projects include replacing and installing HVAC systems, bathroom renovations, LED lighting upgrades, tree removal and grounds maintenance etc. Mr. Fargo intends to seek bids for roofing in the fall.

Member Lynn spoke to safety and communication with families as construction continues into the fall when students return.

Citizens Address Agenda & Non-Agenda Items

Gwenn McAuliffe and Tamara Bauer addressed the board regarding safety protocols in the fall.

Road Construction Projects

Operations Director Mark Fargo, Dan Troia from the Ingham County Road Commission and Gordon VanWieren of Thrun Law presented information regarding upcoming road construction projects and their impact on the district including bridge work on Okemos Road and the redesign of the intersection at Mt. Hope and Okemos Roads. Several options were described depending on the scope of work to be done. One option would require district permission to install vehicle detection devices for the traffic signal; another option would require that permission, and an additional easement with Ingham County; a third option would require that permission and an additional easement with both Ingham County and Consumers Energy. The board will continue this discussion at an August meeting.

Members discussed the following: increased safety due to the redesign; difference between options; maintenance responsibilities; length of the project; timelines; payment for the easement, parking; discussions with Consumers; and liability.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: hiring update; State budget and impact on the district; social-emotional curriculum; safety protocols for the fall.

Members inquired about the following: summer programming; vaccination status of students and staff; masking; and decision-making as it pertains to SEL curriculum.

Board Reports & Request

President Bolton acknowledged correspondence from the following: Kevin Watson regarding rebranding materials; Pat Hammerschmidt concerning the Wardcliff grounds; Nathan Mahn regarding safety protocols in the fall; and Judith Leibinger regarding a possible encroachment on school property.

Consent Agenda

MOVED by Mary Gebara SUPPORTED by Jayme Taylor that the board approve item 1 through 3 for immediate implementation and appropriate action:
Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 28, 2021;
Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the Executive Session Meeting of June 28, 2021;
Item 3: Acknowledge receipt of the leave of absence report and approve the requested leave of absence for Elena Mapley, Special Education Teacher at Kinawa for the period of

September 6th through December 6, 2021; and an extension of a leave for Breanne Mason, 3rd Grade Teacher at Cornell Elementary for the period of August 18th through November 8, 2021.

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

Technology Purchases

MOVED by Andy Phelps SUPPORTED by Mary Gebara that the board award the purchase of 80 Aver charging and storage carts, submitted by Trafera not to exceed $99,600 funded by the district's Facilities/Technology/Security/Transportation and Capital Outlay Bond.
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**

2021-2022 Regular Board Meeting Dates

MOVED by Katie Cavanaugh, SUPPORTED by Mary Gebara that the board establish the dates of regular meetings of the board of education to generally be the second and fourth Monday of each month, adjusted for Mondays with no school; the time of each meeting to begin at 7:00 p.m., with no new discussion after 10:00 p.m.; and the place of meetings to be the Community Conference Room at Central School; and that the board direct administration to publish the date/time/location of these meetings on the district's web site.
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**

Posting Meeting Notices

MOVED by Jayme Taylor, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board designate the superintendent of schools or designee to post all regular or special school board meeting notices for the 2021-2022 school year in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.
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**

Selection of Legal Counsel

MOVED by Andy Phelps, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board retain Thrun Law Firm, P.C. as legal counsel for the 2021-2022 school year.
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**

Selection of Auditor

MOVED by Vincent Lyon-Calo, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board retain Maner Costerisan P.C. as auditor for the 2021-2022 school year.

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**

Approval for Depositories

MOVED by Mary Gebara, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board designate Michigan School District Liquid Assets Fund Plus, Fifth Third Bank, and PNC Bank as depositories for school funds for the 2021-2022 school year, which includes Accounts Payable, Payroll, Debt Retirement Activity, and Building & Site Sinking Fund.

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**

Discussion Items

There were no discussion items.

Public Comment

No one addressed the board.

Other Matters

The board designated representatives to the following organizations for 2021-2022:

- Policy Committee - Cavanaugh, Gebara and Phelps will continue through June 2022
- Ingham School Officers Association - Melanie Lynn
- Okemos Education Foundation – Mary Gebara will continue

In the future, the board will also designate a representative to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Coalition.

Adjourn

President Bolton adjourned the special meeting at 8:50 p.m.

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Katie Cavanaugh, Secretary