Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
REGULAR MEETING APRIL 27, 2020

Call To Order

The regular meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Bolton at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Dean Bolton, Katie Cavanaugh, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Vincent Lyon-Callo and Sarah Wohlford

Members Absent: Tonya Rodriguez

Administrators: Superintendent John Hood; Assistant Superintendent Stacy Bailey; and Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz

Discussion Moved Forward: Continuous Learning Plan

Assistant Superintendent Bailey and Teachers Stacy Christenson, Marian Murembya, Megan Stadt, Mark Stice and Joe Thornton provided an update as it pertains to continuous learning and district functions. Teachers reflected on the process and implementation of the CLP to date; all mentioning the collaboration and creativity that has gone into preparing lessons and providing resources.

In addition, Mrs. Bailey explained that team meetings will continue; student participation and engagement will be monitored; curriculum shifts and gaps are being identified; and a feedback survey will be sent at both the midway and ending points of the plan.

Superintendent Hood described special education activities and efforts as they related to the CLP; and provided several contingency options the district is preparing for including the establishment of a strategic committee to address and plan for each option.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: feedback regarding the Continuity of Leaning Plan, and noted that all plans and communications are posted to the web; Bennett Woods expansion projects and timelines; update on other district functions including scheduling, enrollment, kindergarten round ups; U.S. News and Reports has ranked Okemos High School in the top 2% nationally and in the top 10 in Michigan including a STEM designation; upcoming board presentations on textbooks and the IISD budget; and end of the year awards, activities and ways to celebrate seniors.

Student Report

Student Representative Hunter reported on the following: AP classes and the seamless transition with the College Board; spring sports; and the uncertainty of end of the year senior activities.

Citizens Address Agenda & Non-Agenda Items

No one addressed the board.

Board Reports & Request

Kate Cavanaugh reported on the amount of public participation at the last two board meetings.

Consent Agenda

MOVED Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED by Sarah Wohlford that board approve items 1 through 4 for immediate implementation and appropriate action.
Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the special meeting of April 9, 2020
Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 13, 2020;
Roll Call Vote

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Tonya Rodriguez	---
Mary Gebara	Yes	Sarah Wohlford	Yes

Melanie Lynn	Yes		

AYE: 6 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 1 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED by Melanie Lynn that board read and adopt the resolution establishing May 5, 2020 as Staff Appreciation Day in honor of the employees of the Okemos Public Schools. Staff Appreciation

Roll Call Vote

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Tonya Rodriguez	---
Mary Gebara	Yes	Sarah Wohlford	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

AYE: 6 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 1 **MOTION CARRIED**

The board reviewed the recommendation for School of Choice openings to be advertised through the Ingham Intermediate School District for the 2020-2021 school year. The proposed openings are as follows: Begindergarten/Kindergarten – 3 openings; 1st grade – 1 opening; 2nd grade – 1 opening; 3rd grade – 1 opening; 4th grade – 4 openings; 5th grade through 12th grade – 1 opening per grade level. 2020-2021 School Of Choice

Superintendent Hood reviewed the process for determining the number of openings.

The board discussed administration's approach to administrator and teacher evaluations as outlined in the Governor's executive order for the 2019-2020 school year. Administration is recommending evaluations for teachers on track III or a plan of support. In addition, the superintendent shall still be evaluated. Track I and II teacher evaluations will be completed during the 2020-2021 school year to include observations and assessment data. The board agreed to take action to extend administrator contracts. Administrator & Teacher Evaluations

Members inquired as to whether a staff member could request an evaluation; do teachers support this proposal; and is there enough data to effectively evaluate track III teachers.

The board continued their discussion regarding the development of the 2020-2021 budget. Director Lentz forecasted a significant impact to the State's budget, as well as the district's budget due to Covid19. Updated assumptions were provided and include a substantial decrease in per pupil found allowance; revisions for updated enrollment; staffing; and savings from retirements. At this time, the "most likely" projections result in an approximate negative impact on the general fund of $1,687,763. 2020-2021 Budget

Director Lentz explained provisions from the Federal Cares Act; the possibility of delayed budget adoption by the state, proration for the 19-20 budget and impending budget discussions.

Administration will be seeking federal relief options as well as developing a list of potential budget reductions.

Members inquired about the following: contingency options and parallel budgets; current fund balance status and auditor recommendations; state or federal requirements that could be waived or loosened as they pertain to the budget; and implications on curriculum.

Public Comments

Danielle Merckling addressed the board regarding the pass/no pass process at the high school.

Assistant Superintendent Bailey provided clarification regarding the plans for students who were not passing their classes in march when school was closed.

Other Matters

Melanie Lynn sought clarity regarding credit for high school transcript purposes, credit for work being completed during the closure, and accountability for mastering concepts.

Vincent Lyon-Callo inquired about equity in accessibility for students not passing classes.

Katie Cavanaugh suggested revised absence policies and procedures to accommodate extended absences and to accommodate families not comfortable with sending their students to school.

Adjourn

President Bolton adjourned the regular meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Mary Gebara, Secretary