Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
REGULAR MEETING MARCH 9, 2020

Call To Order

The regular meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Bolton at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dean Bolton, Katie Cavanaugh, Mary Gebara, Vincent Lyon-Callo, Tonya Rodriguez and Sarah Wohlford
Members Absent: Melanie Lynn
Administrators: Superintendent John Hood; Assistant Superintendent Stacy Bailey; and Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz

Presentation: Literacy

Assistant Superintendent Stacy Bailey and the district Response to Intervention (RTI) coaches presented an overview of our K-3 approach to literacy, including the Read by Grade Three law. The district's current multi-tier system of support, as well as the Best Practices being implemented was described and include but are not limited to the following: Reading Street curriculum; instruction including RTI Coaches and individual reading plans; assessments including screeners, M-Step and data meetings.

Read By Grade 3 Law

The Read by Grade Three law was reviewed including its implications for the 2019-2020 school year, a cut score of 1252, and the Good Cause exemption that is available. Timelines and reasons allowed under the Good Cause exemption were given.

Members inquired about how this year's scores compare to last years; communication regarding the law; who can apply for a Good Cause exemption; how the cut score was developed; students who don't take the M-Step assessment; exit rate; and equity of the law as it pertains to sub groups.

Student Trip

Mrs. Samluk also took a moment to share about the Care Closet at Okemos High School that makes, food and other necessities available to students. The Care Closet is always seeking donation.

Okemos High School French teacher Melissa Samluk presented for board discussion, information regarding a student trip to France. The trip is a cultural and language experience proposed for July 6 through July 16, 2020. Fundraising opportunities are available. It was emphasized that students would abide by all school rules while abroad. Considerations and options due to Covid19 were reviewed.

Technology Purchases

Director of Technology Errin Chapman presented a proposal for the replacement of teacher and administrator devices funded by the May 2019 Bond. A committee was established to review options. The committee is recommending the purchase of Lenovo X1 devices, Dell D6000 docking stations, as well as Dell monitors. Mr. Chapman also described the warranty available to the district.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: Operations Director timeline and hiring process will be reviewed at the next meeting; school safety grant application submission; Transportation Department received highest rating on state police inspections; student rep Hunter is one of 12 finalist for Michigan High School Athlete of the Year; green imitative award for solar installation at the High School; recent Great Lakes Equity Center conference and upcoming equity audit; Covid19 update including additional supplies, safety and cleaning measures, online learning, equity, current trips and a new tab on the website with resources; anonymous donation to train all staff on mental health first aid; upcoming legislative breakfast; and upcoming

headlee restoration vote on March 10th.

High School Representative Report

High School Student Representative Lauren reported on the following: end of 3rd quarter; upcoming PSAT and ACT testing; recent spaghetti dinner fundraiser; diversity assembly; 2020-2021 scheduling; and possible homework-free spring break.

Members inquired about potential staff and sub shortages; sick time available to staff; breakfast and lunch if school closes; timeline for first aid training; remote or e-learning; graduation and other large group events.

Citizens Address Agenda & Non-Agenda Items

No one addressed the board.

Board Reports & Requests

President Bolton acknowledged correspondence from Otsego public schools regarding their Solar Summit.

President Bolton also reported on a recent ISOA meeting; the march 10th election; and the recent spaghetti dinner.

Katie Cavanaugh suggested putting the suicide hotline number of student ID's; and inquired about 5-8th grade art.

Consent Agenda

MOVED by Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED by Tonya Rodriguez that the board approve items 1 through 5 for immediate implementation and appropriate action.
Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the special meeting of February 20, 2020;
Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of February 24, 2020;
Item 3: Approval of the minutes of the special meeting of March 2, 2020;
Item 4: Approval of the minutes of the executive session of March 2, 2020
Item 5: Acknowledge receipt of the February financial statement and approve payment of bills for February.

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

Easement Request

MOVED Vincent Lyon-Callo, SUPPORTED by Tonya Rodriguez that board waive the reading and authorize the superintendent to execute the CATA Bus Stop Easement, between Okemos Public Schools and Ingham County Road Commission.

Roll Call Vote

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

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

2020-2021 Budget Development

Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz provided information regarding the development of the 2020-2021 budget including preliminary assumptions. Updated budget assumptions were provided and included roll up cost and savings from retirements. At this time the "most likely" projections result in an approximate positive impact on the general fund of $78,037. Impending budget discussion items were reviewed including staffing needs, insurance rates, board priorities etc.

No one addressed the board.

There were no other matters.

Adjourn

President Bolton adjourned the regular meeting at 8:35 p.m.

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Mary Gebara, Secretary