

# The Board Report

*Monday, June 10, 2024*



**Disclaimer:** The Board Report is a synopsis of the Hampton Township School Board meetings and is not intended as a replacement for any official Board minutes.

# *~ A Tradition of Excellence ~*

## **The Hampton Township Board of School Directors**

<b>Mrs. Jill Hamlin</b>	<b>Board President</b>
<b>Mr. Matt Jarrell</b>	<b>Board Vice President/Student Affairs Chair</b>
<b>Ms. Denise Balason</b>	<b>Board Secretary/Personnel Chair</b>
<b>Mrs. Jenny Kennedy</b>	<b>Transportation Chair</b>
<b>Mrs. Joy Midgley</b>	<b>Facilities Chair</b>
<b>Mrs. Maureen Perkins</b>	<b>Educational Programs Chair</b>
<b>Mr. Robert Shages</b>	<b>Treasurer/Policy &amp; Legislative Affairs Chair</b>
<b>Mr. Greg Stein</b>	<b>Technology Chair</b>
<b>Mr. Larry Vasko</b>	<b>Finance Chair</b>

*This Hampton Township School Board Meeting was held in person at the Hampton Middle School Library. The meeting was recorded so that community members can view it after the meeting.*

## **Members of Administration in Attendance**

<b>Dr. Michael Loughead</b>	<b>Superintendent of Schools</b>
<b>Dr. Rebecca Cunningham</b>	<b>Assistant Superintendent of Schools</b>
<b>Dr. Ed McKaveney</b>	<b>Director of Technology</b>
<b>Mr. Jeff Kline**</b>	<b>Director of Administrative Services</b>

*\* absent*

*\*\* attended remotely*

## June 10, 2024

### Voting Meeting

A video recording of the meeting can be viewed [here](#). The time each section begins within the video is indicated below.

### Student Awards

(4:42)

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Jarrell congratulated the following members of the Hampton Girls Softball Team, who were 2024 section champions and WPIAL runners-up:

Sophia Cantone	Charlotte Lomb
Myla DeSaboto	Emily Maloy
Sarah Dietz	Ava Manno
Alaina Dittrich	Lauren Meister
Katelyn Dubee	Aliza Michielli
Teresa Fritsch	Brooke Murgonovich
Addi Hanna	Gianna Nelson
Cara Ibinson	Sydney Pacek
Jessica Lange	Mackenzie Reese
Juliette Lange	Marissa Snyder
Eden Lawrence	Cassie Vidic
Mia Leybovich	

The Board also recognized and congratulated the members of the Hampton Boys Track and Field Team, who were 2024 section champions:

Jack Barley	Jacob Barton	Jack Bauer
Chris Belch	Jacob Bonnar	Branden Borghetti
Brock Borgo	Tri-An Bui	Liam Butler
Zechariah Campbell	Andrew Carr	Andrew Craig
Liam Craig	Tyler Fitzgerald	Nathan Gardner
Isaac Gaydos	Justin Gomish Matt	David (Dale) Hall
Willy Haselrig	Layne Haught	Chase Huber
Drew Interthal	Nick Johnston	Brody Junker
Ray Kirsopp	Matthew Lancaster	Leo Lin
Evan McAneny	Miles McKinney	Keegan Millea
Samuel Modlin	Adam O'Connor	Ryan Pinzok
Anthony (AJ) Prodent	Suraj Ratnavale	Tyler Regotti
Jonah Rihn	Ian Saber	Luciano Santos
Alexander Schonder	Sergey Schonder	Matteo Sciulli
James Simms	Mikey Solomon	Cameron Stebler
Colin Tran	Mason Vinciguerra	Owen Wallace
Joshua Worobij	Josh Wukitch	

In addition, the Board recognized the following students for their achievements:

- Dale Hall is the state champion for the 800 meter and won 3rd place for the 1600 meter, both school records. Mr. Hall also placed 1st in the 800 meter and 3rd in the 1600 meter at WPIALS.
- The team of Dale Hall, Chris Belch, Jacob Bonnar, and AJ Prodent placed second at WPIALS in the Boys 4x800 Relay.
- Tennis player Vitaliy Pikalo placed 4th in the WPIALS Singles Championship.

Dr. Loughead noted that the Board will honor additional spring student-athletes at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year. He thanked all the students, families, and community members for attending the meeting.

### **Call to Order**

(14:48)

Mrs. Hamlin called the meeting to order, and a roll call was taken. All Board members were present.

Mrs. Hamlin opened the meeting to public comment, but there were no comments.

The Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the May 6, 2024, Board of School Directors Voting Meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report**

(16:01)

The Board unanimously approved the following items:

- May 2024 General Fund 10 Disbursements totaling \$4,516,609.73
- May 2024 High School Construction Fund 35 Disbursements totaling \$3,232.50
- May 2024 Cafeteria Fund 50 Disbursements totaling \$144,070.18
- April 2024 Treasurer's Report.
- April 2024 Student Activities Fund Report.

### **President's Report**

(17:29)

The Board nominated and approved Mr. Shages as treasurer for the HTSD Board of School Directors for one year, from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, with an annual stipend of \$1,200. Mrs. Hamlin congratulated Mr. Shages and thanked him for continuing his role as Board treasurer.

Mrs. Hamlin announced that the Board has held one executive session since the May 6, 2024, Work Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

## Superintendent's Report

(18:22)

Dr. Loughead commended Hampton's student-athletes for their exemplary representation of the district on and off the field. He once again noted that the Board would honor additional student-athletes following the conclusion of their seasons.

Additionally, Dr. Loughead highlighted the successful graduation ceremony for the Class of 2024, which had a tremendous turnout. Following its success, graduation will again be held a week earlier next year. He noted that the final week of the school year went smoothly and that the new "Senior Clap Out" tradition was well received. This event returned seniors to the elementary schools where their educational journeys began and allowed them to connect with younger students. He added that this tradition will continue in future years.

Regarding the arts, Dr. Loughead thanked all of the student musicians who performed wonderfully at the recent graduation ceremony, which he said elevated the experience.

## Educational Programs

(20:24)

Mr. Jarrell recommended, and the Board unanimously approved, the 2024-2025 Student Handbooks for Hampton High School and Hampton Middle School.

## Facilities

(20:51)

Mrs. Midgley recommended, and the Board unanimously approved the R.A. Glancy Change Order #14 for the High School Renovation Project in the total amount of \$794 for the labor, equipment, and materials for the following:

- For the material cost delta between the BMP-07 soil media and the 2A stone installed under the articulating blocks in the forebay per the civil designer and township engineer.

## Educational Programs

(1:11:06)

Mrs. Perkins recommended, and the Board unanimously approved the 2024-2025 Textbook Adoption:

### High School

- Biology II Honors and AP Biology – Campbell Biology in Focus (2025)
- CHS Spanish IV – Contraseña: Your Password to Foundational Spanish

### Elementary

- K-5 Math – Into Math

## Finance

(20:51)

Mr. Vasko recommended, and the Board unanimously approved the following items:

- Worker’s Compensation Insurance Coverage with UPMC through the Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc. at an estimated cost of \$99,999, effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. The District operates an annually certified Safety Committee and receives a 5% discount on the annual WC premium by having a certified committee. The annual savings is over \$5,000 per year.
- 2024-2025 District insurance coverage through Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 as follows:

Property	\$109,688
Package (including Auto & Boiler)	\$60,636
Educators Legal Liability	\$31,800
Umbrella	\$7,409
Environmental Liability (Year 2 of 3)	Prepaid

- 2024-2025 Student Accident Insurance coverage with Bollinger Specialty Group through the Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., at a cost of \$11,076, effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. There is no increase from the current policy,
- Non-Resident Tuition Rates as follows:

	2024-2025 Yearly	2024-2025 Quarterly	2023-2024 Yearly <i>(Information Only)</i>
<b>Kindergarten</b>	\$8,220.00	\$2,055.00	\$7,483.00
<b>Elementary (Gr 1-6)</b>	\$16,440.00	\$4,110.00	\$14,967.00
<b>Secondary (Gr 7-12)</b>	\$16,646.00	\$4,161.50	\$16,121.00

Mr. Kline noted that the non-resident tuition rates are based on a calculation using the District’s actual cost per student based on the previous year’s audit, with an inflationary number applied for adjustment.

- Payment of June and July 2024 invoices will be ratified at the August 12, 2024, Voting Meeting.
- 2024-2025 Homestead/Farmstead Resolution for distributing state gaming funds.
- Renew the Senior Citizens Property Tax Rebate Resolution for 2024-2025.

<b>2023-2024 Rebate Program Income Levels and Rebate Amounts</b>	
\$0 to \$8,000	\$440
\$8,001 to \$15,000	\$360
\$15,001 to \$18,000	\$250
\$18,001 to \$30,000	\$190

<b>Proposed 2024-2025 Rebate Program Income Levels and Rebate Amounts</b>	
\$0 to \$8,000	<b>\$1,000</b>
\$8,001 to \$15,000	<b>\$800</b>
\$15,001 to \$18,000	<b>\$300</b>
\$18,001 to <b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$225</b>

The Board also voted 8-1 to approve the 2024-2025 Final Budget, with revenues of \$64,197,548, expenditures of \$64,497,548, and the utilization of the \$300,000 from the Stabilization Fund. Under this proposal, the real estate tax rate will increase from 21.85 mills to 23.00 mills, an increase of 1.15 mills or 5.3%. Mr. Vasko opposed the motion.

Mr. Vasko explained his disapproval of the budget, particularly the absence of a clear plan to increase the fund balance to 8%, which he believes it should be. Mr. Shages reminded the administration to continue looking for ways to reduce expenditures throughout the year and that they do not need to spend the total amount just because it is in the budget. In response, Dr. Loughead assured the board that they would diligently seek budget efficiencies, as is standard practice.

Mrs. Hamlin asked if the budget had changed from the May 6th Work Session. Dr. Loughead said there were no changes from the previous week but that the budget had been adjusted from a month ago, including a few favorable changes that were reviewed with Mr. Kline and Mr. Vasko.

Mr. Vasko noted that it is not clear how much state funding the District will receive until the budget passes legislation. Dr. Loughead said the District has received encouraging news from its local legislators that additional basic education funding may be coming. In addition, Mr. Vasko noted that the District’s budget is just an estimate of revenues and expenditures and that variations will occur.

Mr. Shages said he continues to press local legislators about the state’s multi-billion dollar surplus and suggests using it for one-time grants to help school districts with facility upgrades. While there is uncertainty about reinstating the state’s PlanCon program, Mr. Shages said there are other avenues, such as grant funding, to help with renovations and improvements.

In addition, Dr. Loughead reminded everyone that the District has applied for a Public School Facility Improvement Grant Program to help fund the middle school roof replacement project and will apply for additional grant funding to assist with other capital projects.

The Board also discussed the uncertain timeline regarding the state’s budget approval. Since there is a surplus, Mr. Shages suggested that negotiations may advance more quickly since there is more flexibility.

## Personnel

(31:30)

Ms. Balason recommended, and the Board unanimously approved the following Personnel action items:

### Resignation

- Mrs. Kelsey Kowalczyk is resigning after eight years with the District, effective June 10, 2024. Mrs. Kowalczyk is a Grade 6 English Language Arts Teacher at Hampton Middle School.
- Ms. Lena Clary is resigning after ten years with the District, effective June 10, 2024. Ms. Clary is a Special Education Teacher at Hampton Middle School.
- Ms. Margaret O’Laughlin, effective July 27, 2024. Ms. O’Laughlin is a Paraeducator at Wyland Elementary School.
- Ms. Kelly Hashmi is resigning from the District effective June 8, 2024. Ms. Hashmi is a custodian at Central Elementary School.
- Change in resignation date for Ms. LaNette Weber from May 31, 2024, to May 24, 2024. Ms. Weber was a Paraeducator at Wyland Elementary School.

### Administration

- Change in status for Dr. Jacquelyn Removcik, whose job title and position will change from Assistant to the Superintendent to Assistant Superintendent. Dr. Removcik will receive a Contract for Employment, subject to the District Solicitor’s approval, from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2029.
- Change in status for Ms. Tammi Kinzel, whose job title and position will change from Business Manager to Assistant Director of Administrative Services. In addition, an addendum reflecting this change will be added to Ms. Kinzel’s current contract, subject to approval by the District Solicitor.

### Teachers

- Mr. Jeremy Bassett as a TPE Grade 8 Science Teacher at Hampton Middle School, effective August 19, 2024. Salary is Master’s Step 1 at \$56,606. Mr. Bassett is replacing Ms. Jill Sladic.
- Ms. Erika Yigdall as the Long-Term Substitute Health and Physical Education Teacher at Hampton High School for the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year, effective August 19, 2024. Salary is \$37,500, prorated. Ms. Yigdall is substituting for Ms. Emily Onik.
- Ms. Alison Pirl as the Long-Term Substitute Art Teacher at Wyland Elementary School and Hampton Middle School for the 2024-2025 school year, effective August 19, 2024. Salary is \$37,500. Ms. Pirl is substituting for Mrs. Elizabeth Howe.
- The following professional employees who have attained tenure status effective June 10, 2024.

Hannah Dunlap

Samuel Flowers

Deborah Hogan

Michael Marasati

Elizabeth Trent



- Mrs. Patricia Pozza and Mrs. Wendi Hunter as co-sponsors of the Growing Together Club at Wyland Elementary School for the 2023-2024 School Year.
- Dr. Brooke Stebler as the Stock Market Club sponsor for the 2023-2024 School Year. Dr. Stebler is replacing Mrs. Melissa Survinski.

### Other

- 3.5% salary increase for the Technology Technicians for the 2024-2025 School Year.
- 3.5% salary increase for the Health Office Nurses for the 2024-2025 School Year.
- 3.5% salary increase for the Safety & Security Specialist for the 2024-2025 School Year.
- 3.75% salary increase for the Executive Assistants for the 2024-2025 School Year.

### Custodial/Maintenance

- Change in status for Ms. Jordan Mazzei moving from a Building Substitute Teacher to a 10-month/8-hour custodian at Wyland Elementary School effective June 11, 2024. The hourly rate is \$23.68. Ms. Mazzei is replacing Mr. Brett Balint.

### Supplemental Contracts

- The [following](#) revised conditional appointments for 2024-2025, each at a rate of \$152 per point, with each appointment being conditioned on the District making a subsequent determination that the supplementary position and work associated with such position is needed and approved. Each appointment shall be effective only where the position is approved and operational and where the work associated with such position is actually being performed. This conditional appointment does not obligate the District to approve some, all, or any of the supplementary positions for 2024-2025 and does not guarantee any of the persons listed in the document below that their supplementary position will be needed and in place, or that it will continue uninterrupted, in 2024-2025.

Mr. Jarrell congratulated Joseph Cangilla on his appointment as Hampton High School's head boys basketball coach. He acknowledged the robust hiring process that Mr. Mike Gavlik, Athletic Director, and the administration led. He pointed out that the basketball program, which starts in seventh grade, now falls under Mr. Cangilla's leadership. Despite recent success, Mr. Jarrell emphasized the need for improvement within the basketball program, pointing out issues that have been expressed to him by families over the past ten years. He highlighted the importance of fair treatment and encouragement for all players, not just a select few, starting in seventh grade. Mr. Jarrell discussed the importance of sports in students' lives and how having positive role models as coaches can help students learn the values of commitment, selflessness, and teamwork. He encouraged Mr. Cangilla to incorporate these practices into the basketball program, aligning with Hampton's commitment to excellence.

Additionally, Mrs. Hamlin highlighted how new coaches can usher in a culture change within a sports program, citing how this contributed to the success of the Hampton boys lacrosse team over the past few years. She noted that coaches should be encouraging and serve as positive role models for student-athletes. Mr. Stein and Mrs. Perkins commented on the value of well-rounded coaches caring for and supporting their players.

## **Addendum**

- Ms. Domenica Camarote as a TPE Special Education Teacher at Poff Elementary School, effective August 19, 2024. Salary is Master's Step 1 at \$56,606. This is a new position in place of a retirement position.
- Mr. Stephen Adametz, III, as a TPE Grade 7 English Language Arts Teacher, effective August 19, 2024. Salary is Bachelor's Step 1 at \$54,338. Mr. Adametz is replacing Mr. David Hartman, who transferred to Mrs. Kelsey Kowalczyk's Grade 6 English Language Arts position.
- Mr. Derek Nichols as a TPE Special Education Teacher at Hampton Middle School, effective August 19, 2024. Salary is Master's, Step 1 at \$56,606. Mr. Nichols is replacing Ms. Lena Clary.
- Ms. Savannah Lohr as a Long-Term Substitute Health and Physical Education Teacher at Hampton Middle School, effective August 19, 2024, to approximately December 13, 2024. Salary is \$37,500, prorated. Ms. Lohr is substituting for Mrs. Elizabeth Trent.
- Mrs. Makenzie Treser as a Long-Term Substitute Grade 6 Reading Teacher at Hampton Middle School for the first semester of the 2024-2025 School Year, effective August 19, 2024. Salary is \$37,500, prorated. Mrs. Treser is substituting for Mrs. Mary West.
- Ms. Krista Metnick as a Summer/Extended School Year Paraeducator at her current hourly rate per the HESPA CBA.

## **Technology**

(43:16)

There were no action items this evening.

## **Policy and Legislative Affairs**

(43:27)

Mr. Shages recommended, and the Board unanimously approved the following policies:

- Second Reading of Policy #202: Eligibility of Non-Resident Students.
- First Reading of Policy #335: Family and Medical Leaves (Administrative Employees).
- First Reading of Policy #435: Family and Medical Leaves (Professional Employees).
- First Reading of Policy #535: Family and Medical Leaves (Classified Employees).

Mr. Shages urged board members and the administration to contact local legislators with budgetary concerns that may benefit the district. Dr. Loughead offered to connect them directly with the legislators' chief of staff for further communication, noting their responsiveness.

## **Transportation**

(47:32)

Mrs. Perkins recommended, and the Board unanimously approved, the 2024 Summer Transportation schools and carriers.

## **A.W. Beattie Career Center Board Report**

(47:32)

Mr. Stein announced that A.W. Beattie is working on finalizing its business manager position, which will likely be a one-year internal promotion. He added that they have scaled back some of the expansion plans through conversations with superintendents.

## **HAEE Report**

(49:19)

Mrs. Kennedy reminded everyone that the annual Hampton Alliance for Educational Excellence (HAEE) 5K race is on October 13th. HAEE is seeking additional sponsors and continues fundraising. Mrs. Kennedy said HAEE is planning a large fundraiser in February to generate more revenue for scholarship opportunities. Mrs. Hamlin noted that she would like an update on the projects and scholarships HAEE has funded over the past year. Mrs. Perkins said HAEE provided roughly \$44,000 last year to support the high school's Music Technology course.

## **Adjournment**

(50:38)

There were no public comments, and Mrs. Hamlin moved to adjourn the meeting. The Board held an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters.