

## **Regular Board Meeting (Monday, August 19, 2024)**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Procedural: A. Call to Order

Nancy Binzel called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Present: Antoinette East Jenkins, Mike Sheehan, Pamela Wind, Nancy Binzel; Absent: Kari Suhadolnik

### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Procedural: A. Pledge of Allegiance

### **3. VISION STATEMENT**

Procedural: A. Vision Statement

### **4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Report: A. Building Report - Kimpton Middle School

Principal Steve Deitrick gave a building report on a slideshow that is attached to the agenda

### **5. RECESS**

### **6. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Procedural: A. Comments from the Audience-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

### **6. COMMENTS FORM THE AUDIENCE**

No participation

### **7. CONSENT AGENDA**

Action (Consent): A. Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): B. Contract for Services-ESC of NEO Interpreter Agreement for the 2024-2025 School Year

Action (Consent): C. Contract for Services-Asian Services in Action Service Agreement for the 2024-2025 School Year

Action (Consent): D. Contract for Services-Leap Service Agreement for the 2024-2025 School Year

~~Action (Consent): E. Contract for Services-CPI Reframing Behavior DISTRICT Subscription for the 2024-2025 School Year~~

Action (Consent): F. Contract for Services-Wings of Change Service Agreement for the 2024-2025 School Year

Action (Consent): G. Contracts for Services-ESC of NEO-Audiology and Hearing Impairment Service Agreement and for Visual Impairments for the 2024-2025 School Year

Action (Consent): H. Contract for Services-Summit ESC-TALK Program Service Agreement for the 2024-2025 School Year

~~Action (Consent): I. Cooperating Teacher Stipends for the 2024-2025 School Year~~

~~Action (Consent): J. Bus Stops and Routes for the 2024-2025 School Year~~

Procedural: K. NEOLA Board Policy-7450 Property Inventory

Action (Consent): L. Disposal of Equipment

Action (Consent): M. Gifts

Mike Sheehan pulled Items E, I and J from the consent agenda, to have a discussion and vote separately on these items.

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: east-Jenkins to adopt **Resolution #195-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

**Item E.**

Action: Contract for Services-CPI-Reframing Behavior DISTRICT Subscription for the 2024-2025 School Year

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: Sheehan to adopt **Resolution #196-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

**Item I.**

Action: Cooperating Teacher Stipends for the 2024-2025 School Year

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: Sheehan to adopt **Resolution #197-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

**Item J:**

Action: Bus Stops and Routes for the 2024-2025 School Year

Bus routes are available on the agenda located on board Docs and or in the Transportation Department office.

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: Sheehan to adopt **Resolution #198-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

**8. TREASURER'S CONSENT AGENDA**

Action (Consent): A. Motion to Approve the Treasurer's Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): B. Minutes

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: East-Jenkins to adopt **Resolution #199-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

**9. TREASURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

Action: A. Check Register - July 2024

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: East-Jenkins to adopt **Resolution #200-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

Action: B. Financial Report-July 2024

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: Sheehan to adopt **Resolution #201-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

Action C: New Fund

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: East-Jenkins to adopt **Resolution #202-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

**10. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

Action: Nancy Binzel pulled Jennifer Dietzel, Intervention Specialist: One year contract for the 2024-2025 School Year off the personnel Recommendations to be voted on separately due to a personal relationship.

Motion by: Binzel seconded by: Wind to pull Jennifer Dietzel off the personnel recommendations **Resolution #203-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

Action: A. Personnel Recommendations without Jennifer Dietzel

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: East-Jenkins to adopt **Resolution #204-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

Action: Jennifer Dietzel, Intervention Specialist: One year contract for the 2024-2025 School Year

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: East-Jenkins to adopt **Resolution #205-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind

NAYS-None

ABSTAINED-Binzel

Motion Carried

Action (Consent): B. Title I Non-Public School Program Agreement for the 2024-2025 School Year

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: East-Jenkins to adopt **Resolution #206-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-None

Motion Carried

Action: C. High School Fieldhouse Change Order

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: East-Jenkins to adopt **Resolution #207-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-Sheehan  
Motion Carried

Action: D. Extended Field Trip

Motioned by: Wind seconded by: East-Jenkins to adopt **Resolution #208-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-

Motion Carried

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

Action: A. Delegate and Nominations to send a Member to the OSBA Capital Conference as the Legislative Liaison to the Board

Nomination: Kari Suhadolnik

Motioned to close nomination by: East-Jenkins seconded by: Wind to adopt **Resolution #209-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Wind, Binzel

NAYS-

Motion Carried

Legislative Liaison: Kari Suhadolnik

Action B: Board Retreat- Recap

Nancy Binzel gave a statement of summary of the meeting which can be viewed at the bottom.

**12. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Procedural: A. Comments from the Audience

No participation

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Action: A. Adjourn Meeting

Motioned by: Wind, Seconded by: Sheehan to adjourn at 7:02 p.m adopt **Resolution #210-24**

ROLL CALL:

AYES- East-Jenkins, Sheehan, Suhadolnik, Wind, Binzel

NAYS- None

Motion Carried

**Summary of the Meeting**

The Stow-Monroe Falls Board of Education convened for a meeting on August 19, 2024. The session commenced with the customary Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a report from the superintendent. One of the early highlights was a presentation by Steve Dietrich, the school leader of Kimpton Middle School. During his presentation, Dietrich introduced Nick Kish, a new staff member joining the school. The board members expressed their enthusiasm about the new addition to the leadership team at Kimpton Middle School, indicating a positive outlook for the upcoming academic year.

The board proceeded to approve the evening's consent agenda, although certain items (specifically E, I and J) were removed for further discussion. Among the significant approvals was a contract for CPI (Crisis Prevention Institute) training services for the 2024-2025 school year. This training is designed to help educators manage student behavior issues more effectively, which reflects the board's commitment to maintaining a safe and supportive learning environment. Additionally, the board approved stipends for cooperating teachers—those who mentor and host student teachers throughout the school year.

Transportation was also a key topic of discussion, with the board approving the bus stops and routes for the 2024-2025 school year. This approval ensures that students across the district will have reliable transportation to and from school, which is a crucial aspect of daily operations.

The board took time to acknowledge and express gratitude for several donations made to the school district, including contributions to the high school wrestling team. These donations play a vital role in supporting extracurricular activities and enhancing the overall student experience.

In the treasurer's report, the board approved the consent agenda along with the check register for July 2024. They also approved the financial report for the same month, which provides an overview of the district's fiscal health. One of the more significant discussions in this section involved the purchase of a new reading curriculum. Although the state is providing partial funding for this curriculum, the district will need to tap into its general fund to cover the remaining costs. This reflects the board's focus on ensuring that students have access to high-quality educational resources, even if it requires additional financial outlay.

The board also approved a fundraising fund specifically for the speech and debate team at Kimpton Middle School, showing support for this academic extracurricular activity. Additionally, the board approved personnel recommendations, which likely included hiring, resignations, or reassignments, ensuring that the district is adequately staffed for the upcoming school year.

Further approvals included a Title I non-public school program agreement for the 2024-2025 school year, which is part of federal funding aimed at helping schools with high numbers of children from low-income families. The board also approved a change order for the high school field house project, indicating ongoing improvements to the school's facilities.

An extended field trip for the high school student council retreat was approved, which is an important activity for developing student leadership skills. Lastly, the board appointed a delegate to represent the district at the Ohio School Board Association Capital Conference, an important event where school board members from across the state gather to discuss educational policies and issues.

### **Nancy Binzel Board Recap Statement:**

We held a board retreat last week, conducted by Teri Morgan from the Ohio School Board Association with assistance from our legal counsel at Roetzel. Our contract with OSBA for the superintendent search included a board workshop so this was done at no additional cost to the district. All five board members agreed to the date but only four board members attended.

With our legal counsel we discussed Ohio's sunshine laws, that is, the rules and requirements for open meetings as well as what constitutes a public record. We also discussed the guidelines from the Ohio Auditor of State regarding what board members and board employees may and may not do with regard to our bond campaign.

We spent the majority of our time working with our OSBA rep to discover how we as a board can work more effectively and conduct more productive meetings. The number one concept that we returned to again and again is that we are a GOVERNING body. We do not oversee the day to day operations of our district. We as a board have two employees, a

Superintendent/CEO, and a Treasurer/CFO. The management of the district operationally and financially are their jobs. Our job is to ensure that they are doing theirs. Effective boards know this and do not attempt to manage operations.

Board meetings are open meetings, but they are not meetings of the public. This means that they are business meetings of the Board of Education held in view of the public. As board members, the vast majority of our work is to be done individually between meetings, in order to prepare for issues that come before the board as an entity. Our meetings are where we work as a group, as one body, for the good of our school district.

To make our meetings more effective, we are tightening up the agenda-setting process. Board members have access to a draft agenda of the next meeting and should review it by Wednesday prior to the meeting. If a member wants to add something item to the agenda for the next meeting they must send a request by email to the board president by 7 pm on Wednesday. The board president, vice president, superintendent and treasurer meet on Thursday morning at 7:30 to set and finalize the agenda for Monday's meeting. The agenda request will be considered based on factors I will go over in a minute.

Board members should again review the draft agenda and contact the president with any questions prior to the agenda being made public on Friday. Once the agenda is made public there will be no changes to it, unless there is an urgent need to do so. In that case, board members will be sent an email explaining the change as well as a text message alerting them to the email.

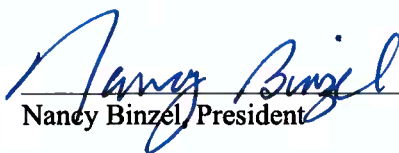
When a board member proposes an item for an agenda, it is expected that the board member has done the necessary research on the issue PRIOR to asking it to be on the agenda. That includes researching current board policy AND discussing it with the superintendent or treasurer to learn what is happening in our district regarding the issue. The superintendent or treasurer may direct the board member to contact one or more of their staff members for more information. It is up the discretion of the board president whether sufficient work has been done on the issue to include it on the agenda.

If a board member adds an item, they should provide materials to the other board members prior to the meeting to allow them to come to the table prepared to discuss it. The superintendent and treasurer will also be prepared, including having the appropriate staff member present.

We are not required to adopt our agenda at the start of each meeting so we are no longer doing that. The only things we will discuss in our meetings are the items on the agenda and it is my responsibility as president to ensure that. However, if, after all of the opportunities to add something to the agenda described above, a board member still wants to discuss something not on the agenda, the member must make a motion to add an item to the agenda. The motion must be seconded and approved by a majority vote before ANY discussion on the item takes place.

The goal is for us to do effective, productive work through substantive discussion as a well-informed board.

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qjl4KZH0q80>

  
Nancy Binzel, President

  
Patrick Gocjano, Treasurer