

The Board Report

Monday, October 7, 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

Mrs. Jill Hamlin

Mr. Matt Jarrell

Ms. Denise Balason

Mrs. Jenny Kennedy

Mrs. Joy Midgley*

Mrs. Maureen Perkins

Mr. Robert Shages*

Mr. Greg Stein

Mr. Larry Vasko

Board President

Board Vice President/Student Affairs Chair

Board Secretary/Personnel Chair

Transportation Chair

Facilities Chair

Educational Programs Chair

Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair

Technology Chair

Finance Chair

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

Members of Administration in Attendance

Dr. Michael Loughhead

Dr. Rebecca Cunningham

Dr. Jackie Removcik

Mr. Jeff Kline

Dr. Ed McKaveney

Mr. Joshua Kellogg

Superintendent of Schools

Assistant Superintendent

Assistant Superintendent

Director of Administrative Services

Director of Technology

Assistant Director of Technology

** absent*

*** attended remotely*

A video recording of the meeting can be viewed using the link posted on the district website.

Call to Order

Prior to the meeting, the Board heard a presentation from representatives from Poff Elementary School about their school-based design team's work over the summer. Dr. Colleen Hannagan, Principal, and teachers Deniene Gillis and Lisa Milsom discussed a new initiative called Curiosity Quests. This project stemmed from the school-based design team's goal, focused on the Portrait of Talbot and aligned with the district's operational plan, to add student voice and choice to learning, which provides students with opportunities to take ownership of their learning. Through Curiosity Quests, students have the chance to explore topics of interest, develop inquiry questions, and work with experts in the building and community to research and showcase their learning.

Student Affairs

Student Council Representatives Report

Mr. Jarrell introduced HHS senior Joey Posterero, who presented the Student Council Representative Report. As activities coordinator, Posterero noted that the Homecoming Dance was a successful evening, with over 600 students in attendance. He also reported that the Student Council is beginning to plan its annual Talbot Thon event. To boost its fundraising effort, the council plans to host several smaller events, including basketball and pickleball tournaments, at both the middle school and high school.

Girls Wrestling Pilot Program Presentation

Dr. Loughhead's report highlighted the proposed Girls Wrestling Pilot Program. In August, the Board approved a Cooperative Wrestling Program between the Hampton and Deer Lakes School Districts. Since then, the District has learned that Hampton and Deer Lakes have enough interested female wrestlers to field a full team that would compete against other girls' teams. There would be no additional cost to the District, as the boys' coaches would also coach the girls' team. Female wrestlers would still have the opportunity to participate on the boys' team.

Finance

Bond Presentation

Ms. Lisa Chiesa and Mr. Chip McCarthy of Piper Sandler presented on the proposed 2024 bond issue which will provide funding for the Phase II of the High School renovation and other capital projects. The District is eligible for a \$9.62 million bank qualified (BQ) bond issue to be completed by the end of the calendar year. The bond issue, which would be callable in five years, gives the District

flexibility to refinance in the future, while securing lower interest rates. The approximate yield on the bond issue is around 3.98%. The approximate full-year budgetary adjustment would be \$380,000 and \$400,000 is included in the 2024-25 budget for this proposed bond issue.

Mr. Vasko also presented the following action items to be considered for Board approval at the October 15th Voting Meeting:

- Budget Transfers totaling \$348.00 for the following:

Elem. Gifted Prof. Ed.	\$318.00
Elem. Gen. Supplies	\$ 30.00
- Three-year contract extension with UGI for natural gas on the Peoples Gas System with a start date of September 1, 2025 with a base price of (-\$0.50) cents per Dth. The contract extension was recommended by the AIU Western Pennsylvania Natural Gas Consortium Committee.
- Reimbursement Resolution from the Proceeds of Tax-Exempt Bonds for Capital Expenditures.

This resolution allows the District to reimburse itself with the bond proceeds for the High School Phase II project. The District is asking for a reimbursement amount of \$450,000 to cover architects' fees and construction management fees. Essentially, the District is loaning money from its general fund to the capital projects fund, and this resolution is a way to pay it back once the bonds are issued.

- Resolution to Authorize the Incurring of Nonelectoral Debt.

This resolution limits the annual budgetary impact of the bond issuance to \$400,000.

Local Tax Revenue Update

Mr. Kline presented the District's local tax revenue update as of September 30, 2024. Real estate taxes are up 5.86% compared to this time last year, while earned income taxes have decreased by 5.36%. Additionally, real estate transfer taxes are up 23.15% after lagging the last several years.

2025-2026 Act 1 Adjusted Index & History

Mr. Kline presented the 2025-2026 Act 1 index, which caps real estate tax increases at 4.0%. The District's current millage rate is 23.00 mills. The maximum tax increase allowed under the Act 1 index would put Hampton's millage at 23.92 mills.

Facilities

There was no report this evening.

Educational Programs

There was no report this evening.

Personnel

Ms. Balason presented the following action items to be considered for Board approval at the October 15th meeting:

Resignation

- Mr. Benjamin McConnell who is resigning effective approximately November 12, 2024. Mr. McConnell is a .6 Physical Education Teacher and .4 Building Substitute Teacher at Poff Elementary School.
- Ms. Mary Balsamico who is retiring after 4+ years with the District effective January 2, 2025. Ms. Balsamico is a custodian at Hampton Middle School.

Teachers

- Mrs. Abigail Bowser as a .5 Academic Support Math Teacher and a .5 Building Substitute Teacher at Hampton High School, effective September 23, 2024. Salary is \$17,250, prorated based on actual dates worked, for the .5 Academic Support Math Teacher position, and \$14,250, prorated based on actual days worked, for the .5 Building Substitute Teacher position.
- Change in Status for Mrs. Madison Dayton from a Building Substitute Teacher at Poff Elementary School to a Long Term Substitute Grade 1 Teacher at Poff Elementary School, effective October 1, 2024 to approximately May 9, 2025. Salary will be \$37,500, prorated based on actual days worked. Mrs. Dayton is substituting for Mrs. Claire Leventis.
- Ms. Emily McWilliams as the Building Substitute Teacher at Poff Elementary School effective October 14, 2024. Salary is \$28,500, prorated based on actual days worked. Ms. McWilliams is replacing Mrs. Madison Dayton.
- Courtenay Garrett as a mentor for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Updated daily pay rate scale for day-to-day substitute teachers and day-to-day substitute health office nurses, effective October 16, 2024 from the current two-tiered system of \$100 per day (days 1-30) / \$120 per day (days 31+) to \$120 per day (all days).
- Breanna Flynn, Bria Marsoner, Hannah Ringeisen, and Maura Sieber as substitute health office nurses effective August 22, 2024.

Paraprofessionals, Paraeducators, and Administrative Assistants

- Mrs. Mary (Kathy) Elliott as a Paraeducator (Class III) at Poff Elementary School, effective October 7, 2024. Hourly rate is \$19.09 for the 60-day probationary period and \$19.34 per hour thereafter. Mrs. Elliott is replacing Ms. Allison Wagner's position.
- Tanya Phillips as a Substitute Paraeducator/Paraprofessional, effective September 23, 2024. Salary is \$15.00 per hour for days 1-20 and \$15.50 per hour thereafter.

Custodial/Maintenance

- Ms. Dana Dilley as a 10 month/8 hour custodian with an initial assignment at Hampton Middle School effective September 24, 2024. Hourly rate is \$24.18. Ms. Dilley is replacing Mr. Anthony Ziccarelli.

Club Sponsors

- The [list](#) of Club Sponsors for the Elementary Schools, the Middle School, and the High School for the 2024-2025 School Year.

Supplemental Contracts

- The following conditional appointments for 2024-2025, each at a rate of \$152 per point, with each such 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 his or her supplementary position will be needed and in place, or that it will continue uninterrupted, in 2024-2025.

Name	Position	Building	Points	Total Stipend
Joe Lagnese	Boys' Basketball Assistant JV Coach	HS	41	\$6,232
Scott Breen	Boys' Basketball Freshman Coach	HS	34	\$5,168
Chris Anastas	Boys' Basketball Freshman Assistant Coach	HS	27	\$4,104
Derek Nichols	Boys' Basketball 8th Grade Coach	MS	26	\$3,952
Todd Wirtz	Boys' Basketball 7th Grade Coach	MS	31	\$4,712
Tony Howard	Girls' Basketball Head Coach	HS	63	\$9,576
Neil Martin	Girls' Basketball Assistant JV Coach	HS	41	\$6,232
Mary Bukovac	Girls' Basketball 8th Grade Coach	MS	34	\$5,168
Nicole Bova	Gymnastics Head Coach	HS	24	\$3,648
Jasper Jurman	Interim Swimming Head Coach	HS	40	\$6,080
Jeanine Stright	Swimming Assistant Coach (Diving)	HS	31	\$4,712
Heather Dietz	Winter Track Head Coach	HS	28	\$4,256
Kim Masarik	Winter Track Assistant Coach	HS	20	\$3,040
Nick Endres	Wrestling Head Coach	HS	57	\$8,664
Kenny Downing	Wrestling Assistant Coach	HS	34	\$5,168
Joe Bursick	Wrestling MS Head Coach	HS	36	\$5,472
Ken Haselrig	Wrestling MS Assistant Coach	HS	34	\$5,168

Technology

Mr. Stein presented the following action item to be considered for Board approval at the October 15th Voting Meeting:

- 36-month lease for the District Servers and Data Storage Networking Replacement Project at an annual cost of \$43,303.36.

The District's current storage area network is no longer supported by the hardware vendor and the associated servers are no longer capable of supporting the current operating system. The District reached out to three separate vendors for replacement pricing. To address these issues, the District is proposing a replacement project for the servers and network storage, providing improved efficiency, reliability, and security.

Policy and Legislative Affairs

Mrs. Hamlin presented the following items to be considered for Board approval at the October 15th Voting Meeting:

- Second Reading of Policy #247: Hazing.
- Second Reading of Policy #807: Opening Exercises/Moment of Silence/Flag Displays.
- Second Reading of Policy #824: Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries.
- First Reading of Policy #607: Tuition Income.

Dr. Cunningham explained that Policy #607, originally adopted in 2004, pertains to students who are residents of another school district but attend Hampton in cases approved by the Superintendent. She highlighted that the district generally does not accept tuition students, except in rare cases such as when families are building a home in the district and would like for their child to attend a Hampton school ahead of their certificate of occupancy for the home. In that case, the district may accept the student and require tuition. The modified language in the policy addresses overdue tuition payments and also stipulates that when a student attends more than two weeks, the sender will be charged for a full month of tuition.

- The election of the following candidates listed below for the 2024 PSBA Officer Elections:
2025 President-Elect (one-year term): Sabrina Backer, Franklin Area School District.
2025 Vice President (one-year term): Matt Vannoy, Sharon City School District.
2025-2026 Western Zone Representative (two-year term): Kristy Bolte, Northwestern School District.
PSBA Insurance Trustees (three-year term ends December 31, 2027): Nathan G. Mains, Richard Frerichs, William S. LaCoff.

Transportation

There was no report this evening.

Public Comment & Adjournment

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

The Board reminded residents of the upcoming HAEE 5K Race on Sunday, October 13 at 9 a.m. at Hampton Community Park (register [here](#)).

Mrs. Hamlin motioned to adjourn the meeting.