

ALLEN PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Riley Education Center • 9601 Vine Avenue
Allen Park, MI 48101
313-827-2150 • 313-827-2151 (FAX)

ALLEN PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES • AUGUST 10, 2020

DRAFT ☐

APPROVED ☒

The virtual regular meeting of the Allen Park Board of Education was held on Monday, August 10, 2020. The district live streamed the meeting via the district YouTube account.

Virtual Regular meeting called to order/Instruction for Public Comments: Mr. Gordon Miller

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call/Present: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Shearer, Warren

Absent: Moynihan

2020-075	<p>Motion by Warren, supported by MacDonald, that the consent agenda items be approved as presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Approval of August 10, 2020 agendaApproval of July 13, 2020 meeting minutesApproval of registers: 7/20/2020=\$4,794.00, 7/16/2020=\$72,900.83, 7/22/2020=\$624.03, 7/23/2020=\$923.60, 7/30/2020=\$256,415.34Approval of wire transfers: 7/10/2020 thru 8/6/2020=\$1,632,225.78 <p>Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Shearer, Warren Nays: None Absent: Moynihan</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
	<p><i>President's Communications:</i> Mr. Miller stated that board members have received input in the form of email/letters from staff/families regarding the Return to School 2020 Plan; all feedback/perspectives have been greatly appreciated and valued as we work thru this very complex plan.</p>
	<p><i>Reading of Communications:</i> Mrs. Filipiak shared that board members have received and appreciate the feedback, suggestions and comments from AP teachers regarding the bid pool concept and process. Mr. Darga has been working on administrative guidelines for the district's hiring process, which includes a process and timelines in order to honor bid pool, while achieving a goal to attend early spring college job fairs and extend open positions to a larger pool of highly qualified, diverse candidates. Mr. Darga will be meeting with union leadership as soon as possible to review the administrative guidelines.</p>
2020-076	<p><i>Racial Awareness and Equity in APPS</i></p> <p>A. <i>Racial Awareness and Equity Presentation – Michael Harris, Kristyn Pierfelice, Sarah Szalai</i> Michael and Sarah, APHS alumni, provided a presentation driven by the needs and wants of the community, including a Brainstorming Team comprised of alumni, educators and parents. Focus topics included: curriculum, staff education, peer to peer dialogue, disciplinary protocols, surveying and diversity in hiring. All community members are invited to participate and join a sub task force committee.</p> <p>B. <i>Board Consideration for Resolution to Commission a Racial Awareness and Equity Task Force (RAE) and Call for a Commitment to Creating a Socially Aware, Equitable, and Inclusive Society Through Education.</i></p> <p>Motion by Warren, supported by Filipiak, that the Allen Park Board of Education adopt the Resolution to Commission a Racial Awareness and Equity Task Force and Call for a Commitment to Creating a Socially Aware, Equitable, and Inclusive Society Through Education as presented.</p> <p>Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Shearer, Warren Nays: None Absent: Moynihan</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
	<p>Mr. Moynihan joined the virtual meeting at 7:22 p.m.</p>
	<p><i>Citizens Comments: (Compiled from Agenda Item #8 and #12)</i></p> <p>The following citizens provided comments and/or asked questions regarding the Racial Awareness and</p>

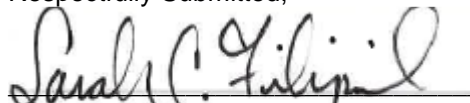
	<p>Equity Task Force: Sandy Winkler, Maria Gaitens, Jayanti Reddy, Ammerah Saidi, Amy Karwowski, Eric Tumara</p> <p>The following citizens provided comments and/or asked questions regarding the APPS Return to School Plan: Laura Holder, Kateri Simonds, David Schroeder, Jaqueline Brown, Jennifer Menzer, Marlene Scott, Eric Tumara, Julie Hegedus, Amy Massella, Amy Crawford, Kristen Chapman, Cindy Elster, Kathy Andrews, Ed Kleinow, Jennifer Wroblewski, Brandy Edmond, Angela Pavlick, Joel Burkey, Martin Nasceif, Lisa Capps, Jennifer Mokszyki, Chris Konowski, Megan Syer, Amber Dillon, Lisa Lyon, Andrea Alvarez, Miranda Anderson, Suzanne Bowling, Flynn McCabe, Ashley Perrin, Mark Courtright, Laura Luecke, Adrian Guerra, Jessica Bedient, Amanda Beck.</p>
2020-077	<p>Personnel:</p> <p>A. <i>Award of Excellence – Congratulations on your retirement!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lisa Hunt – Teacher/APHS – 32 years ▪ Arthur Wahl – Teacher/Lindemann – 25 years <p>On behalf of the Board of Education and the entire school community, Superintendent Darga wished Lisa and Art much happiness in their retirement and thanked them for the invaluable contributions they have made to Allen Park Public Schools.</p> <p>Here is what Mrs. Hunt shared with Superintendent Darga: <i>“In my 32 years with the district, I have thoroughly enjoyed my experiences with students and my fellow teachers. I have tried to be a position team member and someone who would get things done. I have led, and I have followed, and found satisfaction in both roles. I will miss the daily interactions with the staff and students a great deal. There wasn’t a day that went by that I didn’t laugh and learn something new. I feel that AP is unique in the excellence of its teaching staff. I have no doubt that they will continue to demonstrate the high level of professionalism and dedication to the school community that has always existed.”</i></p> <p>And Mr. Wahl shared that: <i>“It is with some sadness and yet some excitement that I inform you of my retirement. I am grateful to the Allen Park Public Schools for allowing me to be a member of the Lindemann staff and a member of the Allen Park Public School community. I am proud of a wonderful career with the children and families that make up that community. I also am grateful to have worked with so many incredible people all these years. I always approached my profession with a passion, I tried my best each day to reach and teach the children in my class, but the time has come for me to move on to the next chapter of my life. Please accept this letter of retirement, and please accept my true appreciation for believing in me all these years.”</i></p> <p>It has been an honor and privilege to have Lisa and Art as members of the AP School Family. Best wishes for a retirement filled with good health, joy and fulfillment. This is the time when their hard work and dedication deserve our gratitude and virtual applause!</p> <p>B. <i>Employments/Services:</i></p> <p>Motion by Moynihan, supported by Warren, that the recommendations for employment and services be approved by the Board for the individuals as presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lauren Budniewski – Teacher/Lindemann – Effective 9/1/2020 ▪ Bryn Campbell – Girls/Boys Varsity Asst. Swim Coach/APHS – Effective 8/11/2020 ▪ Madison Campbell – Girls/Boys Varsity Head Swim Coach/APHS – Effective 8/11/2020 ▪ Michael Laffrey – Bus Driver/Transportation – Effective 8/11/2020 ▪ Jessica Langtry – Teacher/Bennie – Effective 9/1/2020 ▪ Amor Tillman – Counselor/APHS – Effective 9/1/2020 ▪ Kathryn Vanek – Teacher/Lindemann – Effective 9/1/2020 ▪ Emily Yeater – Teacher/APCS – Effective 9/1/2020 <p>Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Moynihan, Shearer, Warren Nays: None Absent: None Motion carried.</p>

	<p><i>C. Retirements/Resignations</i></p> <p>We have received and accepted the following resignations and retirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Michelle DesJardins – Lunch Parapro/APMS – Resignation Effective 8/4/2020 (Retired 8/2018) ▪ Thomas Fasca – Teacher/Lindemann – Resignation Effective 7/22/2020 ▪ Lisa Hunt – Teacher/APHS – Retirement Effective 8/1/2020 ▪ Kimberly Isom – Freshman Sideline Cheer Co-Coach/APHS – Resignation Effective 7/27/2020 ▪ Warren Stowe – Teacher/APHS – Resignation Effective 8/1/2020 ▪ Arthur Wahl – Teacher/Lindemann – Retirement Effective 8/4/2020 ▪ Lisa Wojtowicz – Teacher Consultant/Riley Education Center – Resignation Effective 8/10/2020 ▪ Katharine Zomparelli – Lunch Parapro/Bennie – Resignation Effective 7/30/2020
2020-078	<p><i>Return to School Plan 2020 – Focus Group Presentations</i></p> <p>Presentation by representatives from the Elementary Task Force</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Kathy Lott, Adrianna Soranno, Kathy Lott</i> <p>Presentation by representatives from the Secondary Task Force</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>John Kelley, Sean Laura, Mary McMaster</i> <p>APPS COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan: https://4.files.edl.io/0796/08/19/20/133517-bd9d523a-48ef-4f41-9f6e-e0d6c2c0b3f0.pdf</p> <p>Motion by MacDonald, supported by Moynihan, that the Allen Park Board of Education has reviewed the COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, and after great care and thoughtful consideration, determine that the best course of action for the Return to School Plan 2020 is to begin the school year online for the first 5 weeks and evaluate data at that time to determine if it is safe to return to in-person instruction.</p> <p>Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Moynihan, Shearer, Warren Nays: None Absent: None</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
2020-079	<p><i>Purchase of Electronic Devices for APPS Students – 1:1 Initiative</i></p> <p>Motion by Moynihan, supported by Warren, that the Allen Park Board of Education approve the purchase of 2,750 HP Chromebooks from FireFly Computers in the amount of \$720,935.00, and further, that the Resolution Authorizing Allen Park Public Schools to enter into an Installment Purchase Agreement to finance the cost of the devices through The Huntington National Bank be approved as presented.</p> <p>Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Moynihan, Shearer, Warren Nays: None Absent: None.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
2020-080	<p><i>Purchase of HP Chromebooks for APPS Teachers</i></p> <p>Motion by Warren, supported by Filipiak, that the Allen Park Board of Education approve the purchase of 213 HP Chromebooks with flip ability and touch screen from FireFly Computers in the amount of \$118,187.00 as presented.</p> <p>Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Moynihan, Shearer, Warren Nays: None Absent: None.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
2020-081	<p><i>Purchase of Student Desks/Chair for Elementary</i></p> <p>Motion by Warren, supported by Moynihan, that the Allen Park Board of Education approve the purchase 1,100 student desks, chairs and caster sets, from Tierney in the amount of \$299,625.00 as presented.</p> <p>Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Moynihan, Shearer, Warren Nays: None Absent: None.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
2020-082	<p><i>Consideration for District/School Registered Nurse Position</i></p> <p>Motion by Warren, supported by Shearer, that the Allen Park Board of Education approve the proposal to further research, interview and employ a district registered nurse through a 3rd party contractor for the 2020-21 school year.</p> <p>Yeas: Filipiak, Miller Nays: Klein, MacDonald, Moynihan, Shearer, Warren</p>

	<p>Absent: None. Motion Failed. Comments included please re-visit this issue with more information.</p>
2020-083	<p><i>Professional Development Advisory Committee/Teacher Professional Development for 2020-21</i> Motion by MacDonald, supported by Moynihan, that the Allen Park Board of Education appoint the Instructional Curriculum Council (ICC) to serve as the District-wide Professional Development Advisory Committee and grant approval for online professional development, in order to satisfy all requirements for the professional development hours to be used to offset instructional time for pupils whose teachers participated in the professional development. Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Moynihan, Shearer, Warren Nays: None Absent: None. Motion carried.</p>
2020-084	<p><i>Student Code of Conduct 2020-21</i> Motion by Moynihan, supported by MacDonald, that the Allen Park Board of Education approve the 2020-21 Code of Conduct as presented. Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Moynihan, Shearer, Warren Nays: None Absent: None. Motion carried.</p>
	<p><i>Board Policy: Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy – 1st Reading</i> There have been 'sweeping changes' to the federal Title IX regulations effective August 14, 2020. The new regulations bring changes to how educational institutions address, investigate and adjudicate allegations of sexual harassment occurring within their programs and activities.</p> <p>In addition to the critical roles of Title IX Coordinator(s), districts must also designate and train an investigator, decision maker and appeals officer. (Note: They cannot be any of the same people on a specific matter. The individuals identified to serve in these roles may or may not be district employees)</p> <p>Please note that Mr. Darga, Dr. Tafelski, Dr. Sokol, and Mrs. Moran are all scheduled for a full day of comprehensive Title IX training on August 12. In addition, all staff will receive more in-depth training (30-40 minute video) during scheduled professional development time or remote work time.</p> <p>The Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy is presented today for review as a 1st reading. While there may be discussion if desired, there is no official action on this policy this evening. The policy will be presented at the September board meeting for 2nd reading and adoption.</p>
2020-085	<p><i>Neola Board Policies – 2nd Reading/Adoption</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Section 0000 By-Laws</i> ▪ <i>Section 1000 Administration</i> <p>Motion by Moynihan, supported by Warren, that the Allen Park Board of Education adopt Neola Policies – Section 0000 By-Laws and Section 1000 Administration. Yeas: Filipiak, Klein, MacDonald, Miller, Moynihan, Shearer, Warren Nays: None Absent: None. Motion carried.</p>
	<p><i>Superintendent's Report:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Congrats to Michelle Calvillo, School Social Worker <p>Our very own Michelle Calvillo was selected as the Michigan Association of School Social Workers (MASSW) School Social Worker of the Year for REGION A which consists of over 200 members and comprises Wayne County (excluding Detroit), Monroe County, and parts of Washtenaw County.</p> <p>Michelle is now a candidate for the MASSW State of Michigan School Social Worker of the Year for 2020. This will be announced in the fall.</p> <p>Mrs. Calvillo is yet another example of our <i>uncompromising commitment to excellence</i> in Allen Park Public Schools and we are very fortunate and proud that she is a member of the AP Team!</p>
	<p>Reports of Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. Warren shared appreciation with all viewers for watching this evening and thanked Sarah, Mike

	<p>Kristyn and Task Force participants. Also, congrats to our new hires and to those retiring and thank to Adam Michalak for making sure we can go to a 1:1 student device ratio. This was not an easy decision this evening – I believe my kids should face to face for instruction, so this is very emotional. Unfortunately, we're just not ready yet for in-person instruction and that weighed on my concern.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Moynihan requested that the district further explore willing volunteers for the proposed nursing position after hearing from two RN's during citizens' comments, and stated this has been a great district with volunteers playing key roles. ▪ Mrs. MacDonald echoed sentiments of colleagues and thanked all for attending this evening. Mrs. MacDonald also congratulated new hires and those retiring. She thanked staff for sending their emails expressing concerns. Mrs. MacDonald asked for a moment of silence in memory of Mrs. Rose Grudzinski, who served as teacher mentor to her and extended sincere condolences to Rose's family. ▪ Mrs. Filipiak echoed comments made by fellow board members and also shared that she was a co-op high school senior with Mrs. Grudzinski, which inspired her desire to teach, and that she was heart-broken to hear of the passing of Mrs. Grudzinski. ▪ Mr. Shearer stated it was an incredible effort to prepare options for the return to school this Fall and now the work is in the details. Mr. Shearer felt the racial awareness presentation was amazing and commended the two alumni on a job well done. He went on to congratulate the new hires and a hats off to the hiring teams. As an engineer, Mr. Shearer bases decisions on data; and after conferring with Mr. Miller, Mr. Darga and Dr. Tafelski he felt an immediate return to in-person instruction would be reckless. He shared his thoughts on the need for more available testing, as well as COVID stats in Allen Park. He also cited there is no data on long term effects at this time. Mr. Shearer conveyed that we can't give up on in-person instruction, and in the meantime, need something creative for families who can't work remotely, with their kids at home. ▪ Mr. Klein shared that this is the year we realize how critical schools are to the community; schools are the hub of the community in many ways and we need our teachers and school staff back working with our kids in partnership with parents. It's critical, but we have to do it safely. Mr. Klein was impressed with Sarah and Michael, and the 'new generation' taking on racial awareness gives him great hope for the future. Mr. Klein also congratulated Ms. Calvillo, well-known out in the community for her work and that her award of recognition is well-deserved. Mr. Klein thanked all the people working hard on the various committees and organizations trying to figure this out. It's powerful to know all those great people are out there and working on this. ▪ Mr. Miller echoed comments expressed by Mr. Klein towards thanking the many folks involved in committee work, and also shared the link for RAE. Mr. Miller went on to say that we are all hoping that what we are living through right now goes away, the sooner, the better. What could be with us in a lasting way is what comes out of the task force. And although we have immediate pressing concerns, the task force and results are something that can have a long term benefit. Everyone wants kids back in school, but we have to do it safely-the trick is getting there. Mr. Miller encouraged everyone to maintain some form of open mindedness and flexibility as we go through this together. In closing, Mr. Miller appreciates the civility of the board as well as the great citizens comments, which will help us in handling the delay to in-person instruction.
2020-086	Motion by Klein, supported by Filipiak, that the meeting adjourn at 10:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sarah C. Filipiak, Board Secretary