

The Board Report

Monday, June 2, 2025



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

This Hampton Township School Board Meeting was held in person in 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 Loughead	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Rebecca Cunningham	Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Jacquelyn Removcik	Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Tammi Kinzel	Assistant Director of Administrative Services
Mr. Michael Gavlik	Athletic Director

** absent*

*** attended remotely*

June 2, 2025

Work Session

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

Call to Order

Mrs. Hamlin opened the Work Session and invited the community members to public comment. There were no comments at this time.

Recognition

Dr. Loughead recognized Mr. Zach D'Amico, who is concluding his four-year tenure as the District's Communications Specialist. Hampton will continue working with the Communications Solutions Group as its public relations consultant, and Dr. Loughead introduced and welcomed Ms. Maria Scanga as Mr. D'Amico's successor.

Student Affairs

Student Council Representative Report

Hampton High School students Andrew, Daniella, and Sophie presented the Student Council Representatives Report, highlighting the recent success of the high school's annual Talbot Thon fundraiser. This year's event featured new activities such as dancing and trivia, along with new fundraising initiatives. In total, the Student Council raised \$31,767, surpassing its fundraising goal in support of pediatric cancer research and treatment at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

The representatives also discussed upcoming changes to the Student Council's structure. Each grade will add six new representative positions to increase student involvement. Additionally, three new committees — Publicity, Planning, and Engagement — will be introduced next year. Student Council will also utilize the high school's new schedule to hold meetings during the Lunch and Learn period.

New Athletic Talbot Logo

Mr. Gavlik and Dr. Loughead presented updates on a new Talbot athletics logo. Mr. Gavlik noted that the goal was to create a more streamlined, marketable, and energetic athletic logo that better represents the current spirit of the athletic department. He emphasized that the logo would be easily embroidable, screen printed, and adapted as needed.

Dr. Loughead noted that the current Hampton shield and Portrait of a Talbot logos would not go away. The District will consult with its solicitor before making a final decision to adopt the new logo.

Additionally, Mr. Jarrell presented the following action items to be considered for Board approval at the June 9th Voting Meeting:

- Hampton High School and Hampton Middle School 2025-2026 Student Handbooks.

Dr. Cunningham presented highlights regarding changes to the handbooks, including updated language for the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to align with K-12 guidelines. The high school handbook includes updated work permit information, reflecting that parents are no longer required to be present when their child applies for a work permit. It also notes the addition of Personal Finance as a graduation requirement for students in the Class of 2027 and beyond.

The middle school handbook includes updates to faculty information, club sponsors, clarifying text on the use of AI (aligned with the high school's text), and updated information in alignment with policies regarding weapons and also tobacco use.

Facilities

There was no report this evening.

Educational Programs

Ms. Perkins presented the following action item to be considered for Board approval at the June 9th Voting Meeting:

- 2025-2026 Textbook Adoption

Dr. Removcik explained that following resources considered for adoption were included in the curriculum budget that was presented in April:

High School

- French IV and V – Chemins III (Vista Higher Learning, 2023)

Elementary

- Grade 4 Science – *How Can We Provide Energy to Meet Diverse Needs?* (Smithsonian Science for the Classroom, 2025)
- Grade 5 Science- *How Can We Protect and Clean Earth's Water?* (Smithsonian Science for the Classroom, 2025)
- Grade 5 Social Studies - *Biztown* (Junior Achievement, 2025)

Each resource was made available for public review on the District's website for 30 days.

Finance

Mr. Vasko presented the following action items to be considered for Board approval at the June 9th Voting Meeting:

- 2025-2026 Worker's Compensation Coverage.

Ms. Kinzel noted that the Worker's Compensation Insurance Coverage with UPMC through the Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc. has an estimated cost of \$112,350 effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, representing a 12% increase from the previous year.

- 2025-2026 District insurance coverage through Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 as follows:

Property	\$138,702
Package (including Auto & Boiler)	\$63,589
Educators Legal Liability	\$32,961
Umbrella	\$7,187
Environmental Liability (Year 3 of 3)	Prepaid

Ms. Kinzel noted that this coverage represents a 14% increase from the previous year.

- 2025-2026 Student Accident Insurance coverage, with Zurich through the Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., at a cost of \$11,076.00 effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. There is no increase from the current policy.
- 2025-2026 Non-Resident Tuition Rates as follows:

	2025-2026 Yearly	2025-2026 Quarterly	2024-2025 Yearly (Information Only)
Kindergarten	\$8,888.00	\$2,222.00	\$8,220.00
Elementary (Gr 1-6)	\$17,776.00	\$4,444.00	\$16,440.00
Secondary (Gr 7-12)	\$17,157.00	\$4,289.25	\$16,646.00

Dr. Loughead explained that these tuition rates are for families who are in the process of moving to Hampton but whose homes are not yet completed. Dr. Loughead noted that there is a grace period for such situations.

- Payment of the June and July 2025 invoices, which will be ratified at the August 11, 2025 Voting Meeting.
- 2025-2026 Final Budget, with revenues of \$66,505,488, expenditures of \$66,505,488. Under this proposal, the real estate tax rate will increase from 23.00 mills to 23.92 mills; an increase of 0.92 mills or 4.0%.

Ms. Kinzel commended Dr. Loughead and the administration’s due diligence on presenting a balanced budget. Reductions were made in several areas, including technology and curriculum. Due to the District’s declining fund balance, the District does not intend to use the stabilization funds of \$200,000 for the 2025-26 budget. Ms. Kinzel also noted that the District is anticipating receiving a 0.5% increase in the state’s basic education subsidy and a 2.9% increase in the state’s special education subsidy. Dr. Loughead added that the budget allows the District to begin rebuilding its fund balance to plan for future capital expenditures such as the middle school roof replacement and various paving projects.

The Board also discussed state legislation regarding cyber/charter school reform. Hampton currently has 14 students enrolled in the Hampton Online Academy and 16 students in cyber/charter schools — which are closer to pre-pandemic levels.

- 2025-2026 Homestead/Farmstead Resolution for the distribution of state gaming funds.
- Senior Citizen’s Property Tax Rebate Resolution. The HTSD property tax rebate amounts are as follows:

Income Level Guidelines (From Line 13 of the PA-1000 form)			HTSD Rebate Amount
\$0	to	\$ 8,270	\$1,040
\$8,271	to	\$15,510	\$832
\$15,511	to	\$18,610	\$312
\$18,611	to	\$36,000	\$234

The District is proposing to raise the rebate amounts by approximately 4% and adjusting the income guidelines to align with the state’s limits.

Local Tax Revenue Update

Ms. Kinzel presented the local tax revenue update as of May 31, 2025, noting that the District has collected 99.5% of the total budgeted amount.

Under New Business, the Board discussed nominations for the positions of Board Treasurer and Secretary for the 2025-2026 school year. The appointments will be voted on at the June 9th Voting Meeting.

Additionally, Ms. Kinzel and Dr. Loughead discussed the possibility of rescinding the stabilization fund. The District currently has \$294,000 set aside in the committed fund balance for this purpose. At the June 9th Voting Meeting, the Board will consider moving this amount into the general (unassigned) fund balance. Mr. Stein added that although the budget is balanced, the fund balance remains below the 8% threshold and is effectively decreasing as a percentage of the overall budget. Shifting the funds would provide greater flexibility as the stabilization fund is nearing depletion and may only be used for another year or two.

Personnel

Ms. Balason presented the following action items to be considered for Board approval at the June 9th meeting:

Resignations

- Dr. Colleen Hannagan, Principal at Poff Elementary School, who is resigning after 9 years of service, effective June 30, 2025.
- Ms. Amanda Carey, who is resigning after three years of service, effective June 9, 2025. Ms. Carey is a Special Education Teacher at Hampton High School.

- Ms. Claire Aloe, who is resigning after 6 years with the District, effective June 9, 2025. Ms. Aloe is a Social Studies Teacher at Hampton High School.
- Mr. Zac Crow, who is resigning effective May 16, 2025. Mr. Crow was a Custodian at Hampton High School.

Administration

- Change in status for Dr. Joshua Cable, moving from the Assistant Principal at Hampton High School to the Principal at Poff Elementary School, effective July 1, 2025. Dr. Cable is replacing Dr. Colleen Hannagan.

Teachers

- Ms. Michelle Gilhooly as a Long-Term Substitute School Psychologist, contingent upon her completion of required clearances by August 1, 2025, effective August 4, 2025, through approximately December 31, 2025. The salary is \$75,000, prorated based on the actual days worked. Ms. Gilhooly is a substitute for Mrs. Kathleen Ammerman.
- Dr. Loughhead noted that Mrs. Ammerman is temporarily leaving her position in mid-July, but gave confirmation that the current caseload of referrals and evaluations are up to date.
- Josh Dreyer and Mary Magdic as Extended School Year Teachers at the current rate per hour as per the HTEA CBA.
- Increase of Poff Elementary School Health and Physical Education Teacher position from .80 to 1.00 beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, to accommodate District program changes.
- The following professional employees who have attained tenure status effective June 10, 2025:

Jesse Belitz
 Haley Dietz
 Sydney Funtal
 Anne Hagen
 Elizabeth Morris
 Kirsten Nelson
 Megan Skidmore
 Samantha Weaver
 Chandler White

Custodial/Maintenance

- Change in status for Mr. Brezart (Ben) Ushtelenca, moving from a 10 month/5 hour custodian at Hampton High School to a 10 month/8 hour custodian at Hampton High School, effective May 27, 2025. There is no change in the hourly rate. Mr. Ushtelenca is replacing Mr. Zac Crow.
- Correction to the start date for Mr. Benjamin Blank, who is moving from the Head Custodian at Wyland to a 12 month/8 hour Custodian at Hampton High School from June 1, 2025, to a date to be determined.

Other

- 3.5% salary increase for the Technology Technicians for the 2025-2026 School Year.
- 3.5% salary increase for the Health Office Nurses for the 2025-2026 School Year.
- 3.5% salary increase for the Safety & Security Specialist for the 2025-2026 School Year.
- 3.75% salary increase for the Executive Assistants for the 2025-2026 School Year.

Dr. Loughead noted that the salary increases are for employees who do not have an agreement through an association, so increases are based on recommendations on a year-to-year basis.

Supplementals

- The following [conditional appointments](#) for 2025-2026, each at a rate of \$155 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 2025-2026 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 2025-2026.

Technology

There was no report this evening.

Policy and Legislative Affairs

Mr. Shages presented the following items to be considered for Board approval at the June 9th meeting:

- Second Reading of Policy #351: Controlled Substance Abuse.
- Second Reading of Policy #904: Public Attendance at School Events.

Dr. Cunningham noted that there were no changes between the first reading and the second reading of both policies.

- First Reading of Policy #227: Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia.

Dr. Cunningham stated that Policy 227 was adopted in 2004 and that because the changes were so extensive, a whole policy rewrite was recommended. Dr. Cunningham showcased that the new draft contained more extensive and complete definitions of controlled substances, more prescriptive steps under the Guidance section regarding notification to parents and guardians, and removal of the student athlete section so that the policy more appropriately pertains to all students K-12.

- First Reading of Policy #249: Bullying/Cyberbullying.

Dr. Cunningham noted that the Board is required to update this policy every three years. Language regarding discrimination and harassment was revised, and updates were made accordingly in the high school and middle school handbooks.

- First Reading of Policy #323: Tobacco and Vaping Products.

Dr. Cunningham noted that the current policy is over 10 years old and, based on PSBA guidance, features a complete rewrite. The revised policy highlights the inclusion of vaping products in the policy, the prohibition of marijuana to maintain the federal law as a drug-free workplace, and additional guidance for completion of the Annual School Safety and Security Incidents Report and Law Enforcement Report.

- First Reading of Policy #801: Public Records.

Dr. Cunningham noted that the current policy was last revised in 2009 and that the revised draft presented this evening includes new information that allows the Board to authorize the District to deny anonymous requests for records.

Additionally, Dr. Loughead said that there will soon be a revised student athlete handbook and coaches handbook. These are not routinely reviewed by the Board.

Transportation

Mrs. Kennedy presented the following action items to be considered for Board approval at the June 9th Voting Meeting:

- 2025 Summer Transportation schools and carriers.

Dr. Loughead said that this action item relates to how the District transports students to the Extended School Year program at Central Elementary School.

- 5-year contract with ABC Transit for non-public school transportation, subject to review and final approval of the terms by the District Solicitor.

Dr. Loughead was pleased to present this five-year agreement with ABC Transit. He noted that the District has three transportation carriers, and all of them are necessary due to the variety of transportation needed and challenges with bus driver shortages.

Public Comment

There were no comments at the end of the meeting.

Voting Meeting

Mrs. Hamlin moved to adjourn the Work Session.