

**Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
REGULAR MEETING JUNE 25, 2018**

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The regular meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Bolton at 6:00 p.m.

Call To Order

Members Present: Dean Bolton, Amy Crites, Melanie Lynn, Vincent Lyon-Callo, Tonya Rodriguez and Sarah Wohlford

Administrators: Assistant Superintendent Cheri Meier and Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz

The board engaged in a work session for the purpose of conducting interviews with three candidates to fill the temporary board seat. The board also discussed the outcome of the interviews, as well as discussed member's recommendations to fill the temporary board vacancy.

Work Session:
Board Vacancy

The board took a short recess at 6:55 p.m.

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Amy Crites that the board appoint Donald Romain to the open seat on the school board until a successor is elected and certified during the November 2018 school election.

Appoint New
Member

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes |

AYE: 6 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

President Dean Bolton administered the oath of office seating Don Romain to the temporary board seat.

Seat New
Member

The board discussed the construction and beginning date of the Okemos High School Turf Field Project and the agreement between Okemos Public Schools and the turf contractor. Attorney Chris Iamarino from Thrun Law presented clarification and answered questions regarding additional provisions needed in the agreement with the turf contractor. The provisions would limits the district's liability.

OHS Turf Field
Project

Members inquired about the following: a condition that would protect the district if the construction is not completed; contractual obligations of the donor; and rushing the timeline.

Assistant Superintendent Cheri Meier reported on the following: summer programs including Special Needs Day Camp, Summer Playground Program, Edgenuity, ELL Camp, the Summer Academic Support Program and Okemos Kids Club childcare services; and provided a hiring update including the high school assistant principal.

Vincent Lyon-Callo inquired about a buzzer and camera system update.

Citizens Address
Agenda &
Non-Agenda
Items

Barbara Curtis addressed the board regarding the Wardcliff building.

President Bolton acknowledged receipt of correspondence from the following: Kumar Gupta regarding Testing Out dates at the high school; Chelsea Henry and Xavier

Thompson regarding a possible interview about the board vacancy; Adam Candeub concerning the Latin program; and Archana Rajendra regarding the soccer lighting project.

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Board Reports
& Request

Tonya Rodriguez inquired about responding to the community member who wrote regarding the soccer lights project.

Vincent Lyon-Callo inquired about a response to the community member seeking testing out dates.

In response to a community member's comments, Amy Crites provided clarification regarding the district's budget, as well as how facilities committee members were selected.

MOVED By Amy Crites, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board approve items 1 and 2 for immediate implementation and appropriate action:

Consent Agenda

Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of June 6, 2018:

Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 11, 2018;

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board approve the employment of Kristi Bicy, Resource Teacher at Kinawa 5/6 School at Step 4, Division I; Molly Boehme, Kindergarten Teacher Bennett Woods at Step 3, Division I; Mahnon Cline, Resource Teacher at Chippewa Middle School at Step 7, Division II; Stephanie Coontz, 4th Grade Teacher at Hiawatha Elementary at Step 3, Division II; Jessica Hileman, 3rd Grade Teacher at Hiawatha Elementary at Step 3, Division I; Lindsay Hunt, Speech and Language Pathologist at Step 1, Division II; Lindsey Pirochta, 4th Grade Teacher at Cornell Elementary at Step 1, Division I; and Laura Seydel, 3rd Grade Teacher at Bennett Woods Elementary at Step 3, Division II of the teacher salary schedule, effective August 23, 2018 in accordance with sections 1230 (2) and 1230 a (2) of the Revised School Code conditioned upon receipt of acceptable criminal history checks and criminal records checks.

Employment:
Certified

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Vincent Lyon-Callo, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board waive the reading and ratify the salary and benefits portion of the successor contract between the Okemos Board of Education and the Okemos Education Association effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Ratify OEA
Contract

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board waive the reading and ratify the salary and benefits portion of the successor contract between the Okemos Board of Education and the Association of Okemos Administrators effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Ratify AOA
Contract

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

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AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Amy Crites, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board waive the reading and ratify the salary and benefits portion of the successor contract between the Okemos Board of Education and the Clerical/Technical Unit effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. (Roll Call Vote)

Ratify
Clerical/Technical
Contract

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Don Romain, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board waive the reading and ratify the salary and benefits portion of the successor contract between the Okemos Board of Education and the Custodial/Maintenance/Food Service Units effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Ratify
Custodial
Maintenance &
Food Service
Contract

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board waive the reading and ratify the salary and benefits portion of the successor contract between the Okemos Board of Education and the Okemos Transportation Association effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Ratify
Transportation
Contract

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Vincent Lyon-Callo, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board approve the changes in salary and benefits for central office administrators as documented.

Central Office
Admin Salaries

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

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MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Amy Crites that the board approve the select personnel salary and benefits schedule as documented for the 2018-2019 school year.

Select Salary
& Benefits

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Amy Crites that the board waive the reading and adopt the resolution approving participation in the Western Michigan Health Insurance Pool. Furthermore, the board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to enter into and execute the Amended Trust Agreement; and appoint the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and the Director of Finance as the trustee and alternate trustee.

Western Michigan
Health Insurance
Pool Agreement

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board open the meeting to the Budget/Truth-in-Taxation Hearing to present information on the 2018-19 general fund budget, including the total authorized millage levied for operating purposes, and receive questions and comments from the public.

Budget Truth In
Taxation
Hearing

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

The budget truth in taxation hearing was opened at 8:17 p.m.

Director of Finance Elizabeth Lentz provided information regarding the proposed 2018-2019 budget including general fund; debt retirement; building and site sinking fund; capital projects; and food service budgets. The projected impact on the general fund balance is a positive \$38,922.

It was made clear that these budgets do incorporate several priorities identified by the board including club funding; textbooks; increased supply budgets; math curriculum; and an additional social worker. The food service budget does include an increase in breakfast cost of \$.05 and an increase in lunch prices of \$.10.

There were no public comments.

The budget truth in taxation hearing was closed at 8:37 p.m.

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MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Crites that the board waive the reading and adopt the general appropriations resolution for the General Fund of \$51,410,090; Debt Retirement Fund of \$10,752,124; Building and Site Sinking Fund of \$349,168; Capital Projects Fund of \$331,120; and Food Services Fund of \$1,857,914 for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

2018-2019
Budget

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | No | | |

AYE: 6 NAY: 1 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Amy Crites, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board waive the reading and adopt the resolution to authorize the issuance and sale of notes not to exceed \$1,600,000 for the payment of monies to be received from the State School Aid Fund.

State School
Aid Fund

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Don Romain, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board waive the reading and adopt the resolution authorizing the Director of Finance to file application and initiate borrowing during the 2018-2019 fiscal year through the School Loan Revolving Fund program of approximately \$1,900,000.

School Loan
Revolving
Fund

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

The board's semi-annual organizational meeting was scheduled for July 18th at 4:30 p.m. The August meetings will be August 15th and August 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

Summer Meetings

There were no comments from the public.

Comments From
The Public

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Don Romain that the board adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing the superintendent evaluation, and Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of reviewing attorney-client privileged communications.

Exec Session

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

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The meeting was adjourned to executive session at 8:56 p.m.

Closed Session

The board reconvened at 9:47 p.m.

Members Present: Dean Bolton, Amy Crites, Melanie Lynn, Vincent Lyon-Callo, Tonya Rodriguez, Don Romain and Sarah Wohlford Reconvene
Administrators: Assistant Superintendent Cheri Meier and Director of Finance Elizabeth Lentz

MOVED By Amy Crites, SUPPORTED BY Don Romain that the board adopt the 2017-18 year-end evaluation of Alena Zachery-Ross. Superintendent Evaluation

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Don Romain that the board formally accept the resignation of Alena Zachery-Ross, Superintendent of Schools effective June 30, 2018 pursuant to the Settlement Agreement and Release with the Board of Education. Superintendent Resignation

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Dean Bolton, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board appoint Dr. Catherine Ash as interim superintendent of schools commencing July 1, 2018 pending contract negotiations. Interim Superintendent

Roll Call

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Dean Bolton | Yes | Tonya Rodriguez | Yes |
| Amy Crites | Yes | Don Romain | Yes |
| Melanie Lynn | Yes | Sarah Wohlford | Yes |
| Vincent Lyon-Callo | Yes | | |

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Members Bolton and Wohlford will enter into contract negotiations with Dr. Ash.

There were no other matters.

Other Matters

President Bolton adjourned the regular meeting at 9:53 p.m.

Adjourn

Tonya Rodriguez, Secretary

