

Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 23, 2018

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The special meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Bolton at 7:01 p.m.

Call To Order

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

Members Absent: Don Romain

Administrators: Interim Superintendent Catherine Ash; Assistant Superintendent John Hood; and Assistant Superintendent Cheri Meier

Interim Superintendent Catherine Ash reported on the following: opening day assembly and activities; preliminary student enrollment update; transportation update including leasing a bus; possible lease for a cell tower on the Bennett Woods property; and clarified Facilities Committee work and upcoming recommendations.

Superintendent
Reports/Requests

Members inquired about the short-term facility timelines; historical enrollment trends; bus lease credit if purchased; offsetting the cost of the new air conditioning by using other energy efficient or non-fossil fuel approaches and/or methods.

No one addressed the board.

Citizens Address
Agenda and Non
Agenda Items

President Bolton acknowledged receipt of correspondence from the following: Brandie Yates regarding a HOMTV segment; and JD Page concerning a bus driver.

Board Reports
& Request

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Amy Crites 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 August 15, 2018;

Item 2: Acknowledge receipt of the leave of absence report and approve the requested leave of absence for Daniele Budd, Physical Education Teacher at Central Montessori for the period of September 13th through November 26, 2018.

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

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Tonya Rodriguez that the board approve the employment of Jessica Anderson, 85% Exploratory Teacher at Cornell Elementary and Kinawa at Step 1, Division I; Julie LeGoulven, ELL Teacher at Kinawa and Okemos High School at Step 1, Division I; and Rosaria Matina, 2nd Grade Teacher at Bennett Woods at Step 3, Division I 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: 6 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 1 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Amy Crites, SUPPORTED BY Vincent Lyon-Callo that the board appoint the following individuals to serve three-year terms on the district's Personal Health and Sexuality Education Advisory Board: Stephanie Fleming, Melanie Jacobs, Terrie Malinak and Liz Miller.

PHASE
Advisory
Board

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

The Okemos high school hockey team is projected to have a low number of athletes for the 2018-19 season, possibly preventing the district from having a team. Athletic Director Ira Childress is recommending a combined team with Fowlerville Schools. The board reviewed an agreement developed by the Michigan High School Athletic Association as a “co-op” solution to address this issue. The team would remain under the direction of the Okemos High School Athletic department and allow both districts to continue participating. The board will consider acting on this agreement at the September 10th meeting.

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Joint Hockey
Team

During the October 24, 2016 board meeting, the 2012-2016 strategic plan was extended through the 2017-2018 school year. Interim Superintendent Ash provided information regarding the status of the 2012-2018 Strategic Plan, and the board discussed next steps including extending the Strategic Plan through the 2019-2020 school year.

Strategic Plan

Dr. Ash provided a historical perspective of what has been revised and added to the 2012-2018 Strategic Plan; as well as reviewed areas that are still relevant. Administration’s recommendation is to extend the current plan through the 2019-2020 school year as there is still work to be done. Specific, actionable and finalized steps will be identified that address the existing goals. A strategic planning process would be initiated in the 2020-2021 school year.

Bolton inquired about the timeline to update the operational plan.

Members agreed that the first priority of the board should be to finalize a superintendent for the district essentially allowing that individual to lead the planning process.

Dr. Ash confirmed that work of the Strategic Plan, Operational Plan and Equity plans are being implemented.

No one addressed the board.

Public Comment

The board took a 5 minute recess.

At this time in the meeting, the board engaged in a work session for the purpose of beginning the superintendent search process. The board discussed by the following items:

Work Session

- Reviewed Selection Criteria
- Reviewed a Continuum of Options – Ranged from appointment, to an abbreviated search to a full search.
- Process – Including timelines, steps, stakeholders involved in interviews, contract and other.

The board determined the following:

- MASB will post the position through September 17, 2018.
- Applications will be distributed to the Board no later than September 20th or 21st.
- Board reviews and discusses applications, narrows the list of candidates and finalizes questions during the September 24th meeting.
- 1st round interviews will be October 8 and 9th.
- 2nd round interviews will be October 24th
 - Include stakeholders
 - Reach Decision
- A superintendent will be hired no later than November 12th.

The Board will utilize the services of MASB to post, recruit, collect resumes, organize materials, and provide additional reference information.

The Board will utilize a local “facilitator” to assist the Board with a process for sorting and selecting candidates; finalizing questions; managing the interview process, including stakeholder interviews; and decision making.

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Work Session
Cont.

The board took a 2 minute recess.

In addition, the board discussed modified timelines for the board’s work as it pertains to a May, 2019 election.

The board established an additional “business” meeting on October 15th. The Facilities committee will be presenting their recommendation.

While this portion of the meeting was not televised, it remained public per the Open Meetings Act.

Vincent Lyon-Callo inquired about a student representative to the school board.

Other Matters

President Bolton adjourned the special meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Adjourn

Tonya Rodriguez, Secretary