

**Okemos Board of Education**  
**Okemos, Michigan 48864**  
**REGULAR MEETING MAY 13, 2019**

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The regular meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Bolton at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dean Bolton, Katie Cavanaugh, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Vincent Lyon-Callo and Sarah Wohlford

Members Absent: Tonya Rodriguez

Administrators: Superintendent John Hood; Assistant Superintendent Cheri Meier; Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz

Call To Order

MOVED by Dean Bolton, SUPPORTED by Melanie Lynn that the board appoint Vincent Lyon-Callo as temporary secretary.

Temporary Secretary

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

The board recognized and expressed appreciation to the 2018-2019 Okemos High School Student Representatives to the School Board.

Recognition:  
Student Representatives

Student representative Alma reported on the following: upcoming Prom festivities, athletics success including Girls Lacrosse and Girls Tennis who are CAAC Champions; the Debate Team won state finals; current AP testing; and end of year and senior activities.

Student Rep Report

The board reviewed the Ingham Intermediate School District proposed 2019-2020 General Fund Budget as required by Michigan law to determine its action at the next meeting to support or not support the budget. Ingham Intermediate School District Superintendent Mr. Jason Mellema presented the budget information.

Presentation:  
IISD 19-20 Budget

Mr. Mellema provided a brief overview of the IISD's general fund budget, including project revenue, expenses, programs and services supported by the general fund, next steps and responsibilities.

Kinawa Teacher and Math Department Chair Marian Murembya provided information regarding the Connected Mathematics Program version 3, which is proposed for re-adoption effective with the 2019-2020 school year for grades 6-8.

6-8<sup>th</sup> Math Curriculum

Chippewa Middle School Principal Jody Noble and Teacher Kelly Cesar presented a brief overview of the proposed new English Language Arts program – My Perspectives for grades 7 and 8<sup>th</sup>, proposed to be implemented with the 2019-2020 school year. The current reality of the ELA curriculum was described, as well as the review process, criteria, and equity lens used.

7-8<sup>th</sup> ELA Curriculum

Members inquired about the vision of the language arts curriculum; the criteria used to select the program; and the guidelines as they pertain to gender.

The board discussed a resolution authorizing the issuance and delegating the sale of Okemos Public Schools 2019 Bonds. The resolution describes the term and conditions of the bond and provides for a competitive bid process for the sale of the bonds.

Issuance of 2019 Bond

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: thanked the community for the successful passage of the bond; snow day update and possible forgiveness; architect and construction

Superintendent Reports/Request

manager interview process; retirement of Operations Director Steve Lathrop; upcoming senior awards night and commencement activities.

President Bolton inquired about the tentative bond project timelines and communication to the community.

Vincent Lyon-Callo inquired about the addition of one minute to each day at Okemos High School to make up the time missed due to the early release for the final-four basketball game.

Melanie Lynn commented on connecting with the community members who no longer have students in the district.

Citizens Address  
Agenda &  
Non-Agenda Items

No one addressed the board.

President Bolton acknowledged correspondence from the following: Talmadge Cole regarding a student issue; Matt and Terra Tomlinson concerning the OHS pool; Meridian Township regarding a public hearing; Okemos High School with an invitation to the Graduation Ceremony; and Christine Batora’s 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at Central Montessori concerning increased recess time.

Board Reports &  
Request

Katie Cavanaugh reported on a recent event regarding gun safety laws; and possible discussion item regarding increased recess time.

Dean Bolton also thanked the Central Montessori students for their recent letters; and thanked the community for their support of public education.

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board approve items 1 through 3 for immediate implementation and appropriate action:  
Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 22, 2019;  
Item 2: Acknowledge receipt of the April financial statement and approve payment of bills for April;  
Item 3: Approve the renewal of a Personal Leave of Absence for Kathy Harbert, Physical Education Teacher at Chippewa Middle School for the 2019-20 school year.

Consent Agenda

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

MOVED By Mary Gebara, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board employ Stacy Bailey as Assistant Superintendent of Instruction effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

Employment:  
Assistant Supt.  
Of Instruction

Roll Call

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Tonya Rodriguez	---
Mary Gebara	Yes	Sarah Wohlford	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

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

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board employ Brian Fuller as Athletic Director effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021 at level one of the administrative salary schedule 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:  
Athletic Director

Roll Call

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Tonya Rodriguez	---
Mary Gebara	Yes	Sarah Wohlford	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

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

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara approve the recommended openings to be advertised through the Ingham Intermediate School District for School of Choice enrollment in the Okemos Public Schools.

School of Choice  
Openings

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

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara waive the reading and adopt the resolution authorizing the issuance and delegating the sale of the Okemos Public Schools 2019 Bonds, approved by the voters at the May 7, 2019 election.

Resolution:  
Issuance of Bond

Roll Call

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Tonya Rodriguez	---
Mary Gebara	Yes	Sarah Wohlford	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

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

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Vincent Lyon-Callo award the following technology purchases, funded from the district's Facilities/Technology/Security/Transportation and Capital Outlay Bond: \$2,633,600 submitted by Trinity3 Technology for the purchase of 3200 Lenovo ThinkPad Yoga 11e devices; \$30,224 submitted by Bump Armor through the PEPPM contract website for the purchase of 1600 Tech-Pro x 11 carrying bags; and \$23,200 submitted by Sehi Computers through the REMC contract website for the purchase of 1600 Capsule Gray carrying bags.

Technology  
Purchases

Roll Call

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Tonya Rodriguez	---
Mary Gebara	Yes	Sarah Wohlford	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

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

Media and Technology Director Errin Chapman provided information regarding the replacement of the district's phone system including rationale, process, timelines and cost. This project would be funded by the district's Facilities/Technology/Security/Transportation and Capital Outlay Bond.

Discussion:  
Phone System  
Replacement

The board discussed who will represent Okemos Public Schools on June 3, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. for the Ingham Intermediate School District Bi-Annual Election. On June 3rd, three members of the Ingham Intermediate School District Board of Education will be elected. Dean Bolton was selected to represent Okemos Public Schools, with Melanie Lynn as alternate. Members will discuss their selections at the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

IISD Bi-Annual  
Election

Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz presented the proposed amendments to the 2018-2019 budget for board discussion. Amendments included: increases to special education revenue; and increased expenses due to maintenance, technology and athletics. These and other

2018-2019 Budget  
Amendments

miscellaneous adjustments resulted in a projected carry forward of approximately \$453, 023 to the general fund. The board will act on the revised budget at the May 20th board meeting. PAGE 8693  
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The board continued their discussion regarding the development of the 2019-2020 budget. Director Lentz provided a comparison of the state aid funding proposals. Updated assumptions were also provided an included changes to the per pupil foundation allowance; increased MPSERS offset; items related to the passage of the bond; and the addition of an ASD classroom, resulting in a projected most likely impact on the general fund of a positive \$402,230. Impending budget items include board priorities, staffing needs, and negotiations. 2019-2020  
Budget

Superintendent Hood reviewed the process for developing budget priorities, upcoming timelines and budget priorities for consideration.

Members discussed potential priorities not already listed; and how to measure the impact of a specific priority.

No one addressed the board.

Public Comment

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations.

Executive Session

Roll Call

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Tonya Rodriguez	---
Mary Gebara	Yes	Sarah Wohlford	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

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

The meeting was adjourned to executive session at 10:09 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened by President Bolton at 11:06 p.m.

Reconvened

Members Present: Dean Bolton, Katie Cavanaugh, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Vincent Lyon-Callo and Sarah Wohlford

Members Absent: Tonya Rodriguez

Administrators: Superintendent John Hood; Assistant Superintendent Cheri Meier; Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz

The board established an executive session for the purpose of contract negotiations before the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Other Matters

President Bolton adjourned the regular meeting at 11:08 p.m.

Adjourn

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Tonya Rodriguez, Secretary