

**Okemos Board of Education**  
**Okemos, Michigan 48864**  
**REGULAR MEETING MAY 20, 2019**

PAGE 8692  
5-20-19

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

Call To Order

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

Members Absent: Sarah Wohlford

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

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

Exec Session

Roll Call

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

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

The meeting was adjourned to executive session at 7:01 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened by President Bolton at 7:13 p.m.

Reconvene

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

Members Absent: Sarah Wohlford

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

Sarah Wohlford arrived at 7:17 p.m.

Athletic Director Ira Childress presented information regarding the plan to fund future maintenance for the high school turf field. Mr. Childress provided an overview of the replacement plan and cost projections anticipated over the next 10 years. Opportunities to fund the replacement were described and included maintenance savings; rental revenue; hosting tournaments; parking; and fundraising.

Presentation:  
Turf Field  
Maintenance

Director Lynna Hassenger and Assistant Director Christine Parkhurst provided an update and information regarding the food services and nutrition department. Mrs. Hassenger described several areas of the food services operation including: procurement and consortium requirements; on-site cooking requirements; recycling, sustainable options and projected costs; ware washing and accompanying requirements; and meal account notices and capabilities. She briefly reviewed the charging policy and food service budget.

Presentation:  
Food Service  
& Nutrition

Mrs. Parkhurst explained the Nutrislice digital menu and nutritional information available to families.

Members inquired about changes to the federal nutritional standards; raising the cost of lunch to allow for recyclable trays and paper products; straw usage; and more ethnic food offerings.

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: snow day forgiveness; architect and construction manager interview process update; competitive hiring process; recent Lansing State Journal article regarding bullying; and upcoming senior and end of year activities.

Assistant Superintendent Cheri Meier described the district’s guidelines regarding new hire steps and possibly awarding more years of service than in the past in an effort to attract more quality new hires, to be more competitive, and to allow more flexibility.

Superintendent  
Reports/Request

Members inquired about withholding recess time as a punishment; defining bullying; and a discussion item regarding the 7 & 8<sup>th</sup> grade football program.

No one addressed the board.

Citizens Address  
Agenda &  
Non-Agenda Items

President Bolton acknowledged correspondence from the following: Nicholas Quiring concerning pesticide usage; and Ingham ISD regarding their board election.

Board Reports &  
Request

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Katie Cavanaugh that the board approve items 1 and 2 for immediate implementation and appropriate action:

Consent Agenda

Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of May 13, 2019;

Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the executive session meeting of May 13, 2019.

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 MOTION CARRIED

MOVED By Mary Gebara, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board waive the reading and adopt the resolution supporting the Ingham Intermediate School District 2019-2020 general fund budget as proposed.

Ingham ISD  
19-20 Budget

Roll Call

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

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 MOTION CARRIED

MOVED By Katie Cavanaugh, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board approve the amended 2018-2019 Budget.

2018-2019  
Amended Budget

Roll Call

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	No
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Tonya Rodriguez	Yes
Mary Gebara	Yes	Sarah Wohlford	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

AYE: 6 NAY: 1 ABSENT: 0 MOTION CARRIED

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Katie Cavanaugh that the board award the following phone system and installation project, funded from the district’s Facilities/Technology/Security/Transportation and Capital Outlay Bond: \$187,711.41 submitted by Presidio for the purchase and installation of the Cisco 6000M phone system.

Phone System  
Purchase &  
Installation

Roll Call

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

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 MOTION CARRIED

MOVED By Dean Bolton, SUPPORTED BY Katie Cavanaugh that the board waive the reading and adopt the resolution designating Dean Bolton as its representative and Melanie Lynn as alternate, to the electoral body for the June 3, 2019 Ingham Intermediate School District election of board members and instruct Member Bolton concerning the board’s choice of Erin Schor and Michael Flowers to fill two vacant six-year terms, and Lori Zajac to fill one vacant partial four-year term on the Ingham ISD board of education.

IISD Bi-Annual  
Election

Roll Call

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

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 MOTION CARRIED

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board extend the following administrator contracts through June 30, 2020: Julie Bellinger, Principal-Hiawatha Elementary School; Tara Fry, Principal-Cornell Elementary School ; Andrea Hallead, Assistant Principal-Okemos High School; Jody Noble, Principal- Chippewa Middle School; Noelle Palasty, Principal-Bennett Woods Elementary School ; Heather Pricco, Special Education Director-District; Andre Ridley, Assistant Principal- Chippewa Middle School; Sara Roland, Assistant Principal – Kinawa School; Christine Sermak, Principal-Okemos High School; Steve Stierley, Principal – Kinawa 5-6; and Lamanzer Williams, Assistant Principal-Okemos High School.

Administrator  
Contracts

Roll Call

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

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 MOTION CARRIED

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board approve the employment of Emily Palmer, School Psychologist at Step 2, Division III of the teacher salary schedule, effective May 22, 2019; Brianne Heslip, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher at Bennett Woods at Step 1, Division I; Casey McAndrew, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher at Bennett Woods at Step 1, Division I; and Sang Yoon Shin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher at Bennett Woods at Step 3, Division I of the teacher salary schedule, effective August 21, 2019 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 Katie Cavanaugh, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board adopt the “Connect Mathematics Version 3” program for 6-8th grades beginning in the fall of 2019.

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

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 MOTION CARRIED

MOVED By Vincent Lyon-Callo, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board adopt the “My Perspectives” ELA program for 7-8th grades beginning in the fall of 2019.

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

Director of Curriculum Asja Wilcox presented the new textbook recommendations for 2019-2020. Mrs. Wilcox also reviewed the process for developing the recommendations. It is not assumed that funds will be available in the general fund to purchase textbooks. The recommendations include: AP Government; Biology; Literature & Composition; English; Algebra II; Accounting; Spanish I, IV & V; French II and Language Arts.

Textbook Recommendations

The board continued their discussion regarding the development of the 2019-2020 budget. Updated assumptions were provided and included changes to the per pupil foundation allowance and increased MPSERS offset; resulting in a projected most likely impact on the general fund of a positive \$531,450.

2019-2020 Budget

The board also discussed budget priorities to determine critical needs as well as next level items that should be considered if possible. Critical needs will be built into the budget the board will review on June 10<sup>th</sup> for consideration.

No one addressed the board.

Public Comment

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford 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	Yes
Mary Gebara	Yes	Sarah Wohlford	Yes
Melanie Lynn	Yes		

The meeting was adjourned to executive session at 10:51 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened by President Bolton at 11:07 p.m.

Reconvened

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

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

There were no other matters.

Other Matters

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

Adjourn

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Tonya Rodriguez, Secretary