

**Okemos Board of Education  
Okemos, Michigan 48864  
REGULAR MEETING JUNE 24, 2019**

PAGE 8702  
6-24-19

The regular meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Bolton at 6:30 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 Katie Cavanaugh, SUPPORTED by Tonya Rodriguez 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	---
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 6:31 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened by President Bolton at 7:03 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

Superintendent Hood provided an updated overview of the school start times presentation from 2014 as a starting point for future discussions and planning on this topic. Recent research was reviewed, as well as a comparison of start times for schools within Ingham County. The state requirements related to time were explained. Several considerations were discussed including: transportation schedules and potential cost; conflicts with after-school activities and athletics; potential safety issues; impact on family schedule; and stakeholder feelings.

Presentation:  
School Start  
Times

Members inquired about whether parents were surveyed in 2014; districts who moved their start times earlier; and if other districts offered Zero offered. Vincent Lyon-Callo suggested that there were safety concerns for secondary students as well. Members recommended further discussion within the strategic planning process.

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: 5-8 student learning devices; phone system replacement; meetings regarding Bennett Woods's expansion; update website to include bond information and timelines as well as equity updates; Dart Foundation grant for STEM curriculum improvements; and cell phone tower proposal update.

Superintendent  
Reports/Request

Vincent Lyon-Callo inquired about the mature trees on the Bennett Woods property and the impact of the expansion on them.

No one addressed the board.

PAGE 8703  
Citizens Address  
Agenda &  
Non-Agenda Items

President Bolton acknowledged correspondence from the following: Rod Wolfe regarding the Lacrosse Program.

Vincent Lyon-Callo inquired about possible vape monitors in bathrooms.

Board Reports &  
Request

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board approve items 1 through 6 for immediate implementation and appropriate action:

Consent Agenda

Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 10, 2019;

Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the executive session meeting of June 10, 2019;

Item 3: Approval of the minutes of the special meeting of June 11, 2019;

Item 4: Approval of the minutes of the executive session meeting of June 11, 2019;

Item 5: Acknowledge receipt of the leave of absence report and approve the requested leave of absence for Elizabeth Krause, Language Arts Teacher at Okemos High School for the period of August 26th through November 11, 2019; Ethan Fahy, Math Teacher at Okemos High School, for the period of October 25th through November 25, 2019.

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

MOVED By Mary Gebara, SUPPORTED BY Katie Cavanaugh that the board approve the 2019-2020 elementary level, Kinawa, Chippewa Middle School, and the Okemos High School Student-Parent Handbooks for distribution to students and parents.

Student-parent  
Handbooks

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

MOVED By Vincent Lyon-Callo, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board approve the employment of Shannon Black, Montessori Teacher at Kinawa, at Step 3, Division I; Madeline Crile, Speech & Language Pathologist at Step 1, Division II; Megan Lloyd, School Psychologist at Step 8, Division III; Catherine McKenna, Kindergarten Teacher at Cornell Elementary at Step 1, Division I; Brittany Magsig, Social Worker at Step 4, Division II; Kim Ouellette, Special Education Teacher at Okemos High School at Step 8, Division II; and Jeff Wonch, Physical Education Teacher at Chippewa Middle School at Step 6, Division II 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: 6      NAY: 0    ABSENT: 1      **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Mary Gebara, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board waive the reading and ratify the contract between the Okemos Board of Education and the Okemos Education Association effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

Ratify Teachers  
Contract

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**

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board waive the reading and contract between the Okemos Board of Education and the Association of Okemos Administrators effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

Ratify  
Administrative  
Contract

Roll CallPAGE 8704  
06-24-2019

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**

MOVED By Vincent Lyon-Callo, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board approve the Clerical/Technical Unit salary and benefits schedule as documented for the 2019-2020 school year.

Approve  
Clerical/Technical  
Salary & BenefitsRoll 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**

MOVED By Mary Gebara, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board waive the reading and ratify the contract between the Okemos Board of Education and the Custodial/Maintenance/Food Service Units effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

Ratify  
Custodial  
Maintenance &  
Food Service  
ContractRoll 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**

MOVED By Katie Cavanaugh, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board waive the reading and ratify the contract between the Okemos Board of Education and the Okemos Transportation Association effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

Ratify  
Transportation  
ContractRoll 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**

MOVED By Vincent Lyon-Callo, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board approve the changes in salary and benefits for central office administrators as documented for the 2019-2020 school year.

Central Office  
Admin SalariesRoll 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**

MOVED By Mary Gebara, SUPPORTED BY Melanie Lynn that the board approve the select personnel salary and benefits schedule as documented for the 2019-2020 school year.

PAGE 8705  
06-24-2019  
Select Salary  
& Benefits

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**

MOVED By Katie Cavanaugh, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board waive the reading and adopt the Teacher Lay-Off Resolution.

Layoff  
Resolution

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**

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board open the meeting to the Budget/Truth-in-Taxation Hearing to present information on the 2019-20 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	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 budget truth in taxation hearing was opened at 8:40 p.m.

Director of Finance Elizabeth Lentz provided information regarding the proposed 2019-2020 budget including general fund; debt retirement; building and site sinking fund; capital projects; student/school activity fund; and food service budgets. The projected impact on the general fund balance is a positive \$380. These budgets do incorporate several priorities identified by the board including the addition of a school counselor, behavioral support aide and maintenance staff; and decreased athletic and extracurricular fees. The food service budget does include an increase in lunch prices of \$.10.

2019-2020  
Budget  
Development

There were no public comments.

Public Comment

The budget truth in taxation hearing was closed at 9:05 p.m.

Hearing Closed

MOVED By Vincent Lyon-Callo, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board waive the reading and adopt the general appropriations resolution for the General Fund of \$53,330,574; Debt Retirement Fund of \$11,656,712; Building and Site Sinking Fund of \$1,629,427; Capital Projects Fund of \$25,000; Student/School Activity Fund of \$779,466 and Food Services Fund of \$1,919,467 for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

2019-2020  
Budget

Roll Call

Dean Bolton	Yes	Vincent Lyon-Callo	Yes
-------------	-----	--------------------	-----

Katie Cavanaugh Yes  
Mary Gebara Yes  
Melanie Lynn Yes

Tonya Rodriguez Yes  
Sarah Wohlford ---

PAGE 8706  
6-24-19

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

MOVED By Mary Gebara, 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 \$1,000,000 for the payment of monies to be received from the State School Aid Fund.

School Aid Fund  
Note

Roll Call

Dean Bolton Yes  
Katie Cavanaugh Yes  
Mary Gebara Yes  
Melanie Lynn Yes

Vincent Lyon-Callo Yes  
Tonya Rodriguez Yes  
Sarah Wohlford ---

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

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board waive the reading and adopt resolution authorizing the Director of Finance to file application and initiate borrowing during the 2019-2020 fiscal year through the School Loan Revolving Fund program of approximately \$2,250,000.

School Loan  
Revolving Fund  
Resolution

Roll Call

Dean Bolton Yes  
Katie Cavanaugh Yes  
Mary Gebara Yes  
Melanie Lynn Yes

Vincent Lyon-Callo Yes  
Tonya Rodriguez Yes  
Sarah Wohlford ---

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

The board established the following special meetings:

Other Matters

- Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- There will be a board work session for the purpose of an MASB training on the superintendent evaluation tool as well as the superintendent evaluation on August 19<sup>th</sup>.

No one addressed the board.

Public Comment

President Bolton adjourned the regular meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Adjourn

---

Tonya Rodriguez, Secretary