

Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 26, 2019

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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.

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

Members Absent: Melanie Lynn and Tonya Rodriguez

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

Call To Order

MOVED By Dean Bolton, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board appoint Vincent Lyon-Callo as temporary secretary.

Temporary
Secretary

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: start of school year activities; introduced Ms. Shannon Needs, new principal of Okemos Public Montessori; announced the OEF award recipients as follows – Dorean Brazier, Nita Carpenter, Lindsay Harrod, John Hughey, Kathy Martin, Mariann Frank, Shawn Donaldson and June Hicks; The OEF Awards Banquet will be November 21, 2021; there is a tentative community forum regarding strategic planning scheduled for October; upcoming world language update; no new budget updates from the State; upcoming student enrolment update; and student representatives to the board update.

Superintendent
Report

Assistant Superintendent Cheri Meier provided information and trends regarding employee turnover, retention and onboarding. Reasons for resignations and retirements were described as well as exit interview responses. Support provided to new teachers in the district was also explained and includes orientations, specific PLC time; mentors etc.

Per board policy, 2018-2019 discipline summary data was provided. Mr. Hood is seeking examples of reports from like districts, as well as possible software systems to improve and expand the information included.

The board inquired about repeat offenders; restorative practices; how consequences are determined; and if the consequence is effective and equitable.

Per board policy, 2018-2019 bullying incidents summary data was provided.

No one addressed the board.

Citizens Address
Agenda &
Non-Agenda Items

President Bolton acknowledged correspondence from Meridian Township regarding a zoning board of appeals hearing.

Board Reports &
Request

MOVED By Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board approve items 1 through 3 for immediate implementation and appropriate action.

Consent Agenda

Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 6, 2019;

Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the Executive Session Meeting of August 19, 2019;

Item 3: Acknowledge receipt of the leave of absence report and approve the requested leave of absence for John Hughey, 3rd Grade Teacher at Cornell Elementary for the period of November 18th through January 6, 2020; and Jean Lee, Orchestra Teacher at CMS and OHS for the period of December 2, 2019 through March 6, 2020.

AYE: 5 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Vincent Lyon-Callo, SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board approve the employment of Christina Schuesler, 2nd Grade Teacher at Hiawatha Elementary at Step 4, 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.

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Employment –
Certified

AYE: 5 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Mary Gebara, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board appoint the following individuals to serve three-year terms on the district’s Personal Health and Sexuality Education Advisory Board: Jessica Hamel and Tami Hiser.

PHASE
Board

AYE: 5 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 **MOTION CARRIED**

No one addressed the board.

Public Comment

President Bolton suggested an upcoming discussion item or work session regarding board expectations as they pertain to the superintendent evaluation tool.

Other Matters

President Bolton adjourned the special meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Adjourn

Tonya Rodriguez, Secretary