

Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 9, 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.

Call To Order

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; Assistant Superintendent Stacy Bailey; and Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz

Okemos High School Spanish Teacher Karen Sanders presented information regarding a student trip to Ecuador. The trip is proposed for June 16 – June 25, 2020 and is a cultural and language experience. It was emphasized that all school rules and policies will be applied at all times while abroad.

Student Trip

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: Strategic Planning process activities including upcoming meetings and a survey sent to families, staff, alumni and residents; student enrollment update and a projected increase of 86 students; upcoming presentation regarding M-Step and PSAT assessment results; student representatives to the board; and an upcoming discussion regarding the current status of the State's budget and what various options would mean for the district.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Hood also presented preliminary plans for the Bennett Woods expansion, including rerouting the bus and car lines, additional parking, the addition of classrooms and a multi-purpose room. Next steps were described and include soliciting request for bids for board action.

Assistant Superintendent Bailey provided a brief world language update including the need to pursue new opportunities and expand partnerships.

Members inquired about Latin; online enrollment in world languages; and the impact on the district's budget when the State has not finalized its own.

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; Steve Vagnozzi regarding the Start With Hello Week program; Aidan Robbins regarding his student account; and the Michigan Department of Education following up on a grant audit.

Board Reports &
Request

Member Lyon-Callo inquired about the following: a response to community correspondence regarding the Start With Hello Program and possibly implementing it next year; a discussion regarding online enrollment and the impact on the budget; discipline data and trends and impact of equity work; how discipline decisions are made; and the impact of suspensions on students.

Dean Bolton reported on a recent Ingham School Officers Association meeting, including a legislative update.

MOVED By Mary Gebara SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford 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 19, 2019;
Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 26, 2019;
Item 3: Approve the requested leave of absence for Kris Schoen, Kindergarten Teacher at Cornell Elementary for the period of September 16th through October 21, 2019.

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Consent Agenda
Cont.

AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED By Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board certify the following winter tax rates for collection on behalf of Okemos Public Schools from Meridian Township, Alaiedon Township, and the City of Lansing of 9 mills non-homestead, 3.5 mills debt, and .4939 sinking fund; and from Williamstown Township of 18 mills non-homestead, 7 mills debt, and .9878 sinking fund.

Certify Taxes

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 waive the reading and adopt first reading of board policies: 6151 School Organization; 1331 Use of Tobacco and Smoking Devices' 5131.6 Substance Abuse; 3323 Purchasing; New Policy 4121 Prohibition of Referral of Assistance; 6141.11 Sexual Health Education, Including Reproductive Health and Family Planning; and New Policy 5141.9 Cardiac Emergency Response Plan.

Board Policy –
First Reading

Members Cavanaugh and Lyon-Callo will connect with MASB and research opportunities to express the Board's opinion regarding policy 4121 Prohibition of Referral of Assistance.

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AYE: 7 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

The board discussed the MASB Fall conference for the purpose of determining the representatives to the delegate assembly and who will attend. It was determined that Dean Bolton would serve as the delegate.

MASB Delegates

No one addressed the board.

Public Comment

The board received their assignments as they pertain to the superintendent evaluation tool's artifacts and evidence.

Other Matters

President Bolton adjourned the regular meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Adjourn

Tonya Rodriguez, Secretary