

Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 13, 2020

PAGE 8732
1-13-2020

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

Dean Bolton appointed Superintendent John Hood as temporary chair.

Organizational Meeting

Superintendent Hood appointed Rhianna Walworth as temporary secretary.

The board determined to utilize Robert's Rules of Order for conducting the organizational meeting.

Tonya Rodriguez nominated Dean Bolton as President. No other nominations were made; nominations were closed. The board voted for Dean Bolton as President. Mr. Bolton assumed the chair.

Election of President

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

Dean Bolton nominated Sarah Wohlford as Vice President. No other nominations were made; nominations were closed. The board voted for Sarah Wohlford as Vice President.

Election of Vice President

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

Tonya Rodriguez nominated Mary Gebara as Secretary. No other nominations were made; nominations were closed. The board voted for Mary Gebara as Secretary.

Election of Secretary

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

Melanie Lynn nominated Tonya Rodriguez as Treasurer. No other nominations were made; nominations were closed. The board voted for Tonya Rodriguez as Treasurer.

Election of Treasurer

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

President Bolton appointed Katie Cavanaugh as Parliamentarian.

Appointment of Parliamentarian

MOVED by Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED by Mary Gebara that the board confirm the dates for regular meetings of the board of education for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year to generally be the second and fourth Monday of each month, adjusted for Mondays with no school; the time of each meeting to begin at 7:00 p.m., with no new discussion after 10:00 p.m.; and the place of meetings to be the Community Conference Room at Central School.

2019-2020 Board Meeting Dates

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

MOVED by Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board continue to manage board meetings according to its established policies, which are informed by Robert's Rules of Order.

PAGE 8733
1-13-2020
Robert's Rules

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

President Bolton appointed Katie Cavanaugh, Mary Gebara and Sarah Wohlford as the January-December 2020 Board Policy Committee.

Policy Committee

Dean Bolton will remain the representative to the Ingham County School Officers Association.

ISOA
Representative

Mary Gebara will remain the representative to the Okemos Education Foundation.

OEF
Representative

The board completed the organizational meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Chippewa Middle School Science Teacher Mark Tomczak presented an update regarding the STEM program at CMS and the utilization of Dart Grant funds, including recent grant and bond funded purchases and the classes they are utilized in. Integrated technology, design thinking, passion projects using the equipment, equity, and access to STEM learning experiences were also discussed. The mission and vision of the program, the multi-disciplinary approach and the coordination of STEM efforts 7-12th were explained. Okemos High School Technology Teacher Dean Buggia described the high school's STEM program including the Project Lead the Way engineering pathway, robotics team, solar race car team, and Dart Grant purchases.

Presentation:
7-12th STEM

Members inquired about integrating STEM curriculum into the required science or social studies curriculum.

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: expressed condolences to the Haslett Public Schools for the loss of their high school principal and an elementary teacher; enrollment update; January is school board appreciation month; the Mid-Michigan Literacy Impact with the Ready Now Network; strategic plan update; CMS pool renovation update; and a Headlee restoration presentation by Ingham ISD at the January 27th meeting.

Superintendent
Report

Vincent Lyon-Callo reported on proposed out-of-state legislation regarding student religious beliefs and assessments.

High school student representative Ravi reported on the following: recent teacher visit to the Haslett Hindu Temple; bake sale fundraiser; no homework during break; upcoming final exams and NHS tutoring sessions; Touch of Class fundraiser on February 13th benefits Okemos Cares; 7th grade camp including high school student volunteers; and upcoming diversity assembly on March 4th.

High School
Student Report

No one addressed the board.

Citizen's Address
Agenda & Non-
Agenda Items

President Bolton acknowledged correspondence Lansing Schools Education Association with an event invitation.

Tonya Rodriguez reported on a recent Parent Council meeting including a presentation from the high school regarding social-emotional well-being as well as cultural and equity initiatives.

Sarah Wohlford reported on an event at CMS on February 13th regarding adolescent mental health.

Katie Cavanaugh reported on Novi schools later start time.

MOVED By Tonya Rodriguez SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board approve items 1 through 4 for immediate implementation and appropriate action.
Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of December 9, 2019;
Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the Strategic Planning meeting of December 11, 2019;
Item 3: Acknowledge receipt of the December financial statement and approve payment of bills for December.
Item 4: Acknowledge receipt of the leave of absence report and approve the requested leave of absence for Amanda Whittico, Math and Science Teacher at Chippewa Middle School for the period of February 26th through May 6, 2020.

Consent Agenda

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

MOVED By Vincent Lyon-Callo SUPPORTED BY Sarah Wohlford that the board approve employment of Meredith Howell, Speech and Language Pathologist for the District at Step 3, Division II; Lorie Latsko, Kindergarten Teacher at Okemos Public Montessori at Central at Step 4, Division II; Katyana Norris, Math Teacher at Okemos High School at Step 8, Division II; and Iris Pascara, 3rd and 4th Grade teacher at Okemos Public Montessori at Central at Step 1, Division I of the teacher salary schedule, effective January 21, 2020 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 Sarah Wohlford SUPPORTED BY Mary Gebara that the board waive the reading and adopt first reading of board policies: 3220 Post-Issuance Disclosure Compliance; 3330 Travel Payment and Reimbursement; 4119 Prohibition of Referral or Assistance; and 5147 Emergency Operations Plans.

Board Policy –
First Reading

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

The board discussed the following high school course proposals, which have been approved by the district's advisory committee: *Environmental Science & Wildlife Biology* (elective); and *Marketing & Social Media* (elective). The board also discussed a proposed request to change graduation requirements allowing all Physical Education classes to fulfill the Physical Education graduation requirement; including team sports, personal conditioning, lifeguarding, and foundations in PE.

Discussion:
Course Proposal

Members inquired about the use of activity funds to support the course; grade level and prerequisites for taking Environmental Science & Wildlife Biology; is it an additional course or a replacement course; interview applications and career building skills.

No one addressed the board.

There were no other matters.

President Bolton adjourned the regular meeting at 8:50p.m.

PAGE 8735
Public Comment

Other Matters

Adjourn

Mary Gebara, Secretary