

**Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
SPECIAL MEETING JUNE 15, 2020**

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Call To Order

The special meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Bolton at 7:03 p.m.

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

Members Absent: Tonya Rodriguez

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

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

Closed
Session

Roll Call Vote

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

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

The board adjourned to executive session at 7:06 p.m.

The board reconvened the special meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Reconvene

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

Members Absent: Tonya Rodriguez

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

Assistant Superintendent Cheri Meier and Community Education Coordinator Kim Burchman described the reopening protocols to be implemented including measures for social distancing, health screenings, increased cleaning and other safety considerations consistent with the Ingham County Health Department and LARA guidelines and requirements. Childcare is proposed to open June 22nd.

District's
Re-opening Plan

Athletic Director Brian Fuller described similar safety measures being implemented as athletes return for optional summer practice opportunities including: limited shared equipment, increased cleaning of equipment, tracking and health screening of athletes and other safety considerations consistent with the Ingham County Health Department and MHSAA return to play requirements. Mr. Fuller stressed that these opportunities are geared towards fitness and not competition, are optional and strive to provide structure and injury prevention.

Tonya Rodriguez arrived at 8:00 p.m.

Members inquired regarding the following: mask age requirements; hand washing; social distancing in practice; demand for programs; consistency of expectations; plans

for phase changes; implementing more than what is required; opportunities for athletes not comfortable with in-person practice; penalties for not participating; coaches acting as advocates for public health; and requiring social distancing to use district facilities.

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Superintendent Hood reported on the following: expressed gratitude to students, families, staff and community for their involvement and commitment during the pandemic; graduation is Sunday, June 21st at 3:00 p.m.; technology and transportation director update; recent equity activities.

Superintendent
Report

Katie Cavanaugh inquired about the limit of cars per family allowed.

Nathan Mahn and Chris Nugent addressed the board regarding the district's reopening plans.

Citizen Address
Agenda & Non-
Agenda Items

President Bolton acknowledged correspondence from the following: Sandy Fields, Rebecca Bills, Heather Sparkia, and Kerry Warren concerning budget reductions; JuHyan Lee regarding enrollment documents; and Nathan Mahn and Andrew Phelps concerning the student experience in the Fall.

Board Reports &
Request

Mary Gebara encouraged community members who want to help to donate to the Okemos Education Foundation.

Katie Cavanaugh reported on a recent racial justice webinar she attended.

MOVED Sarah Wohlford, SUPPORTED by Mary Gebara that board waive the reading and authorize the superintendent to execute the Easement Agreement, between Okemos Public Schools and Meridian Township.

Easement
Request

Roll Call Vote

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**

Assistant Superintendent Bailey presented for board discussion a proposal to purchase Level Data Integrated Appliance to be funded by the district's Facilities/Technology/Security/Transportation and Capital Outlay Bond. Level Data Integrated Appliance is customized hardware and software designed for facilitation of data movement between existing and future applications at Okemos Public Schools. Level Data has been utilized in Okemos Public Schools for the last five years.

Technology
Purchase

The board continued their discussion regarding the development of the 2020-2021 budget. Updated assumptions were provided and include adjustments due to staff retirements. The proposed budget included the Level 1 reductions. The net impact on the general fund is a deficit of approximately \$143, 377 before negotiations. With roll up cost, the deficit increases to \$815, 237. The board is expected to adopt a balanced budget at their June 22nd meeting.

2020-2021
Budget
Development

Superintendent Hood reviewed the process so far, as well as next steps, timelines and an expenditure analysis by category was provided. Clarification regarding the Community Education planning time was provided. Administration is recommending that the board reduce the amount of cuts to the planning time and replace with a

reduction in the Community Education clerk hours. The board also discussed increasing extra-curricular fees in addition to athletic fees.

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Members discussed the meeting schedule and format of meetings moving forward for the summer of 2020. Meetings were established for July 13th and 23rd, as well as August 3rd and 24th. All meetings will be conducted virtually via Zoom.

Board
Summer
Schedule

No one addressed the board.

Public Comment

Members returned to the discussion regarding mask use at Edgewood; suggested a health professional present to the board; equity in the district's approach; and helping families decide what is comfortable in so much uncertainty.

Other Matters

President Bolton adjourned the special meeting at 9:53 p.m.

Adjourn

Mary Gebara, Secretary