

The Board Report

Monday, February 13, 2023



Disclaimer: The Board Report is a synopsis of the Hampton Township School Board meetings and is not intended as a replacement for any official Board minutes.

~ A Tradition of Excellence ~

The Hampton Township Board of School Directors

Mrs. Jill Hamlin	Board President
Mr. Matt Jarrell	Board Vice President/Student Affairs Chair
Ms. Denise Balason	Board Secretary/Facilities Chair
Mrs. Joy Midgley	Personnel Chair
Mr. Robert Shages	Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair
Mr. Greg Stein**	Technology Chair
Mr. Larry Vasko	Finance Chair
Mrs. Trisha Webb	Educational Programs Chair
Mr. Bryant Wesley II, Esq.	Transportation Chair

This Hampton Township School Board Meeting was held in the Hampton Middle School Auditorium. The meeting was held in person and audio/video recorded so that community members could view it after the meeting concluded.

Members of Administration in Attendance

Dr. Michael Loughhead	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Rebecca Cunningham	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Jeff Kline	Director of Administrative Services
Dr. Ed McKaveney	Director of Technology
Mr. Josh Kellogg	Manager of Network and Cybersecurity
Jessica Crown	Solicitor

** absent*

*** attended remotely*

February 13, 2023

Voting Meeting

A video recording of the meeting can be viewed [here](#). The time within the video that each section begins is indicated below.

Call to Order

(4:03)

Mrs. Hamlin called the Voting Meeting to order. Roll call was taken; eight Board members were present. Mr. Stein participated remotely.

Public Comment

(4:52)

Mrs. Hamlin opened the meeting to public comment.

Community Member

(5:00)

A community member said a seminar covering critical race theory was scheduled for February 16 at the Community Center. He encouraged the community and school board members to attend.

Approval of Minutes

(7:06)

The Board approved the minutes from the January 16 HTSD Board of School Directors Voting Meeting.

Treasurer's Report

(7:40)

The following items were unanimously approved by the Board:

- January 2023 General Fund 10 Disbursements totaling \$3,270,322.32.
- January 2023 High School Construction Fund 35 Disbursements totaling \$749,562.31.
- January 2023 Capital Fund 39 Disbursements totaling \$28,151.31.
- January 2023 Cafeteria Fund 50 Disbursements totaling \$13,040.62.
- December 2022 Treasurer's Report.
- December 2022 Student Activities Fund Report.

President's Report

(9:26)

Mrs. Hamlin announced that the Board had held two executive sessions since the last meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

Superintendent's Report

(9:40)

Dr. Loughead provided a brief update on the District's academics, athletics, and the arts.

Academics

Dr. Loughead praised the high school students and Dr. Imbarlina's team for hosting a wonderful ribbon-cutting event on February 9 when they announced their intention to name the Library Media Center in memory of Gail V. Litwiler. Mrs. Litwiler's son, TJ, was in attendance to receive the honor, while her husband Tom was able to watch the dedication online. He said the students were helpful in orienting everyone to the new spaces, and he believes Gail Litwiler would be proud of the high school's accomplishments.

Arts

Dr. Loughead highlighted the upcoming Hues and Harmony celebration taking place throughout March, which includes music concerts and elementary fine arts exhibits during open houses. Visit www.ht-sd.org for the full schedule of events.

Athletics

Dr. Loughead announced that one of Hampton's Unified Bocce Teams qualified for the playoffs and will compete in the first round at Gateway HS on March 1 at 4 p.m. He encouraged anyone who has not yet had the opportunity to attend a bocce match to go and support the team. He said it is a very positive event that brings students together in supporting one another. Additionally, Dr. Loughead wished luck to the Hampton Boys and Girls Basketball Teams and Hampton Wrestlers in the upcoming WPIAL playoffs.

Student Affairs

(12:20)

Mr. Jarrell recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following item:

- Hampton High School Winter Color Guard Field Trip to the Tournament of Indoor Atlantic Coast Championships in Wildwood, New Jersey, May 4-7, 2023 at no cost to the District.

Facilities

(13:27)

Ms. Balason recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following item:

- The dedication of the new Hampton High School Library Media Center to be named the “Gail V. Litwiler Media Center.” A passionate advocate for our students, the late Gail V. Litwiler served on the Hampton Township School Board for three decades. Mrs. Litwiler’s unwavering support of libraries and her vision for the media center as a core of academic instruction were instrumental in advancing this project.

Mrs. Hamlin said there cannot be a more fitting name for the Library Media Center and commented on the wonderful ribbon-cutting ceremony held on February 9. Mr. Wesley echoed her comments and thanked Dr. Imbarlina and her team for a great evening. He said Mrs. Litwiler was a mentor to him when he first joined the school board and commented on her inspiring dedication to the school district for three decades. Mr. Shages noted that TJ Litwiler was thrilled to attend the ceremony and honored that the media center would be named after his mother. Mr. Stein said that Mrs. Litwiler was someone who was always there for the students and was deeply concerned about their education.

Finance

(23:37)

Mr. Vasko recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following items:

- Budget transfers totaling \$3,500 for the HMS general fund/supplies
- Resolution to Authorize the Incurring of Nonelectoral Debt

At the February 6 Work Session, Mr. Kline said that the District would need to issue bonds to complete Phase I of the High School Project. Current projections show that the District needs approximately \$1.857 million to complete Phase I of the High School project. In addition to the High School project, the District has identified 13 other district-wide capital projects that should be addressed within the next five years. On February 6, Mr. Kline recommended borrowing \$3 million to fund the remainder of the high school project and seven other capital project items.

Mr. Shages inquired about when the bond issue would go to market, and Mr. Kline said it typically takes 4-6 weeks from the time the resolution is approved.

Hampton Township Stormwater Management Fee

The Board also discussed a recent legal proceeding from the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania regarding stormwater fees. The Court ruled that the charge constituted a “tax” rather than a “fee” for tax exempt entities such as school districts. HTSD Solicitor Jessica Crown said the decision has since been appealed to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. While that decision is under review, Ms. Crown’s recommendation to the Board and District is to pay the Hampton Township stormwater fee under protest by writing a letter to the Township stating that the District will request a refund if the Court rules the fee is invalid. The Board agreed to pay the fee for the time being under protest.

Educational Programs

(26:38)

Mrs. Webb recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following action items:

- 2023-2024 Middle School Program of Studies
- Addendum of the 2023-2024 High School Program of Studies

Personnel

(27:28)

Mrs. Midgley recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following personnel action items:

Resignations

- Ms. Krista Metnick, who is resigning after ten and a half years with the District, effective January 31, 2023. Ms. Metnick was a paraeducator (Class III) at Wyland Elementary.
- Mr. Gregory Miles who is resigning after 25 years with the District, effective January 7, 2023. Mr. Miles was a Maintenance employee with the District.

Teachers

- Change in status for Mrs. Jennifer Januck, moving from the Library Assistant at Hampton Middle School to the Long-Term Substitute Library/Media Specialist position at Hampton Middle School, effective January 20, 2023 through June 12, 2023. Salary is \$35,500, prorated. Mrs. Januck will return to her position as Library Assistant on June 13, 2023. Mrs. Januck is a Long-Term Substitute for the open Library/Media Specialist position.
- Change in status for Ms. Kayla Freehling, moving from a Long-Term Substitute Grade 7 Science Teacher at Hampton Middle School to a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School, effective January 26, 2023 through February 3, 2023, and accept the resignation of Ms. Freehling, effective February 3, 2023. Salary for the change in status remained \$35,500, prorated. Ms. Freehling replaced Ms. Kayla Rock.
- Change in status for Ms. Emmalene Hodil, moving from the Elementary Building Substitute (Floater) position to a Long-Term Substitute Special Education/ESL Teacher at Central Elementary School, effective January 23, 2023 through the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. Salary is \$35,500, prorated. Ms. Hodil is substituting in the open Special Education/ESL Teacher position due to Ms. Katey Yurchik's resignation.
- Change in status for Ms. Kaitlyn Hamlin, moving from a Long-Term Substitute Family and Consumer Science Teacher at Hampton High School and Hampton Middle School, to a High School Building Substitute, effective January 23, 2023. Salary remains at \$35,500. Ms. Hamlin is filling the open High School Building Substitute position.

- Gabrielle DePasquale as the Elementary Building Substitute Teacher (Floater) based at Central Elementary School, effective February 6, 2023 through the end of the 2022-2023 School Year. Salary is \$26,500, prorated. Ms. DePasquale is replacing Ms. Hodil's position.
- Kylee McCracken, Jessica Heranic, Laura Bauer, Elizabeth Casey, and Kelsey Kowalczyk as mentors for the 2022-2023 school year.
- the following professional employees who have attained tenure status effective February 13, 2023: Mary Davis (Grade 6 Reading Teacher) and Samantha Kron (Kindergarten Teacher).

Mr. Shages noted that obtaining tenure status is a significant step in a teacher's career and congratulated Mary Davis and Samantha Kron for their accomplishment.

Custodial / Maintenance

- Mr. Tim Rieger as a 10 month/5 hour custodian at Hampton High School, effective January 20, 2023. Hourly rate is \$24.18. Mr. Rieger is replacing Mrs. Katherine Blank.
- The following day-to-day custodial substitutes. Hourly rate is \$12.00 for the first 20 days and \$12.50 thereafter:
 - Mr. Alex Possino, effective January 20, 2023
 - Mr. Jason Orzechowski, effective January 25, 2023
 - Mr. Chad Fabian, effective February 2, 2023
 - Mr. George Geary, effective February 14, 2023

Other

- Ms. Xiaojing Zhang as the Club Sponsor for the Chinese Language and Culture Club at Hampton High School for the remainder of the 2022-2023 School Year. Ms. Zhang is replacing Ms. Jun Angelini.

Supplementals

- The following conditional appointments for 2022-2023, each at a rate of \$146 per point, with each such appointment being conditioned on the District making a subsequent determination that the supplementary position and work associated with such position is needed and approved and will continue during the coronavirus pandemic following future guidance from the Commonwealth. Each appointment shall be effective only where the position is approved and operational and where the work associated with such position is actually being performed. This conditional appointment does not obligate the District to approve some, all or any of the supplementary positions for 2022-2023 and does not guarantee any of the persons listed below that his or her supplementary position will be needed and in place, or that it will continue uninterrupted, in 2022-2023:

Name	Position	Building	Points	Total Stipend
Kellen Wheeler	Baseball - Head Coach	HS	49	\$7,154
Stephen Swierczynski	Baseball Assistant Coach	HS	38	\$5,548
Jedd Cordisco	Baseball JV Coach	HS	38	\$5,548
Corey Casper	Baseball Assistant JV Coach	HS	32	\$4,672
Chris Anastas	Baseball Middle School Coach	MS	32	\$4,672
Andrew DeMichiei	Lacrosse Boys' Head Coach	HS	49	\$7,154
Justin Mayfield	Lacrosse Boys' Assistant Coach	HS	38	\$5,548
Chris DeMichiei	Lacrosse Boys' JV Coach	HS	35	\$5,110
Kelsey Viets	Lacrosse Girls' Head Coach	HS	49	\$7,154
Christine McGrath	Lacrosse Girls' Assistant Coach	HS	38	\$5,548
Breanne Vodde	Lacrosse Girls' JV Coach	HS	35	\$5,110
Ron Fedell	Girls' Softball Head Coach	HS	49	\$7,154
Scott Breen	Girls' Softball Assistant Coach	HS	38	\$5,548
Jonathon McAwley	Girls' Softball JV Coach	HS	36	\$5,256
Elizabeth Bright	Girls Softball MS Coach	MS	28	\$4,088
Kaitlin Hamlin	Girls Softball MS Assistant Coach	MS	20	\$2,920
Heather Dietz	Track Head Coach	HS	53	\$7,738
Nick Panza	First Assistant Track Coach	HS	37	\$5,402
Joe Cangilla	Track Coach Assistant "A"	HS	29	\$4,234
Kim Masarik	Track Coach Assistant "B"	HS	29	\$4,234
Matthew Combi	Track Coach Assistant "C"	HS	22	\$3,212
Sam Flowers	Track Coach Assistant "D"	HS	22	\$3,212
Mary Bukovac	Middle School Track Coach	MS	34	\$4,964
Greg Shumaker	Track Coach Assistant "A"	MS	19	\$2,774
Mary Davis	Track Coach Assistant "B"	MS	19	\$2,774
Jesse Belitz	Track Coach Assistant "C"	MS	19	\$2,774
Grant McKinney	Tennis - Boys' Head Coach	HS	33	\$4,818

Technology

(34:30)

There were no action items this evening; however, Mr. Stein thanked Mrs. Hamlin for attending the Technology Council meeting on February 8. Mrs. Hamlin noted that the council explored the new Library Media Center and was a very forward-thinking group.

Policy and Legislative Affairs

(35:11)

Mr. Shages recommended and the Board unanimously approved the following items:

- First Reading of Policy #200: Enrollment of Students

- First Reading of Policy #221: Dress and Grooming
- Second Reading and Adoption of Policy #113.3: Screening and Evaluations for Students with Disabilities

Mr. Shages reported that he, Mrs. Hamlin, and Dr. Loughhead met with PA State Representative Rob Mercuri on February 9. He noted that the meeting was productive and included discussions about costs for charter and cyber schools. Mr. Shages also noted that Rep. Mercuri, PA State Representative Arvind Venkat, and PA State Senator Lindsey Williams all attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony at Hampton High School.

Transportation

(38:34)

There were no action items this evening.

A.W. Beattie Career Center Board Report

(38:44)

Mr. Stein reported that the A.W. Beattie Board will not meet until March. He said that the Board will discuss several student conduct incidents that have occurred outside of the campus.

In addition, Mr. Vasko was proud to announce that Hampton High School has 12 students who were nominated into the National Technical Honor Society.

HAEE Report

(39:59)

Mrs. Hamlin reported that HTSD Board Members will soon begin alternating meeting attendance as HAEE representatives, in order to provide each board member with an opportunity to meet and connect with the HAEE Board. Mrs. Hamlin said she planned on attending the next HAEE meeting on February 16. Additionally, Mrs. Midgley announced that HAEE scholarship information would soon be available: www.HamptonAlliance.org/scholarships.

Adjournment

(41:27)

Mrs. Hamlin moved to adjourn the meeting, and the Board entered a brief executive session.