

Board Notes

A Summary of the Hampton Township School Board Meetings

HMS Students Showcase the Power of the Arts During Special Board Performance

Hampton Middle School placed the spotlight on the importance of an arts education at the October 10th Board meeting, offering a variety of musical performances to highlight the school's excellence in the musical arts. The HMS 8th Grade Band, the HMS Orchestra and the HMS Chorus performed.

The Orchestra performed "*Royal Fireworks Music*" by G.F. Handel, and was directed by Ms. Amy Stepson, one of the HMS music department teachers. The Orchestra was followed by the 8th Grade Band playing the *Star Spangled Banner*. Ms. Lurrene Parker, HMS music teacher and 8th Grade Band director, said the students were invited to perform the *National Anthem* at a Pirates game last season. While the students performed the song live, a video was played for the School Board and the audience of the group's performance at the baseball game last season. Ms. Parker indicated the students had been invited to perform again this year.

The final student group to perform was the chorus, singing "*The Rhythm of Life*" by Cy Coleman. The chorus was directed by HMS music teacher Mrs. Heather Heere, with Mr. Ryan Meyer, a music teacher at the middle and high schools, accompanying them on piano.

Superintendent Dr. Michael Loughead emphasized his support of the arts in public education and thanked the students for helping to kick off the evening's meeting with an enjoyable performance.



Superintendent's Report



Dr. Loughead commented on the importance of the arts in the District, and said he appreciated seeing the music department students from the HMS at the start of tonight's meeting. He highlighted the Middle School's upcoming fall musical (*Willy Wonka, Jr.*), and the High School's production of *A Midsummer's Night Dream*.

He agreed with Mr. Wesley that the Talbot Tailgate was a tremendous success and noted that it was great to see so many student organizations represented at the event, with a wide range of activities for kids and adults of all ages.

The Homecoming Game was well attended despite the rain and Dr. Loughead said the students, the athletes, and the marching band gave it their all during the game. Two students placed second and fifth in the AAA Individual Golf Championship held at Oakmont Country Club last week. Both earned a trip to the PIAA Championships.

Under Academics, Dr. Loughead discussed the elementary Open Houses last week and this week. He reported that all of the Open House events were extremely well attended and he was delighted to see so many parents and students at these evening events.

He also indicated the Board will formally acknowledge Dr. Marguerite Imbarlina and the high school team on Nov. 14 for the Blue Ribbon Award. A building-wide celebration will be held on Nov. 21.

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Superintendent's Report

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He also updated the audience regarding his participation in the HAEE Race this Saturday with his family. Any elementary student who is able to beat the Loughead family will receive a \$5 gift card to Barnes and Noble to help promote childhood literacy.

Dr. Loughead indicated the Superintendent's Coffees were going well, and that there were still some upcoming coffees at each building. Mr. Wesley asked if the events would be tweeted out, and Dr. Loughead said that they would be tweeted in advance.

Middle School Sidewalk Work on Target; Wyland Roof Repairs Completed

At the Oct. 3 Work Session, Mr. Rick Farino, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, indicated that the Middle School concrete project is still on schedule for completion for Thursday, Oct. 20th. Once the work is completed at the school, the contractors will begin concrete work near the High School baseball fields to include a walkway from the parking lot to the seating area.



Mr. Farino also said the roof is still awaiting its official inspection from Carlisle Inspection so that the 20-year warranty can be issued.

In reference to the Fridley Field expansion project, Mr. Farino said the catch basin over the hill, the guide rail, and the plantings are expected to be completed by October 10th. The expansion project will provide for 20 additional spaces, bringing the total number of parking spaces in the lot to 50.

An update and progress report also was provided on the Wyland odor issue. Mr. Farino referred to his daily log notes and updated the Board with the progress on the Wyland odor. New tests from PSI indicated that mold spores were being drawn in from outside air so the air vents were shut down while custodians and maintenance personnel searched for areas of moisture. Although no areas of moisture were found, the air humidity remained high, so maintenance employees set the boiler system to 100 degrees to reduce the humidity in the area. Follow-up air quality testing came back showing normal/acceptable air quality, indicating the heat application had been effective.

Mr. Farino said the process would have to be repeated every summer as a preventative measure. Humidity sensors will be installed to allow the District HVAC Department to track the humidity levels. Stand-alone humidifiers also have been installed in the area. Dr. Loughead noted that the technician from PSI who conducted the air quality testing will present to the Board in November to explain the process.

Mr. Farino invited any Board members who were interested to come for a walk-through of the building so they can see for themselves that the odor has been eliminated. Several Board members indicated they would be interested in doing so.

Hampton High School Named 2016 National Blue Ribbon School

Congratulations to Hampton High School for being named a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

Dr. Loughead announced the High School would formally be recognized at the November 14th Board meeting, and a building-wide celebration would be held on November 21st.



Students Share STEAM Experience; Bowling Recognized as Official Club Sport

A High School student from the Robotics class and teacher Joe Afflerbach demonstrated one of the robots the students had assembled and programmed at the Oct. 3 Work Session. The student, along with four of her classmates, had attended the STEAM Showcase on September 27th in Pittsburgh to demonstrate the program and to learn more about how other schools are conducting their programs.

The student reported that the experience was valuable. Photos from the event were tweeted from the District's official Twitter account [@Hampton_Talbots](#). Student School Board Representatives Report

At the October 10th Voting meeting, the Board approved a request from High School students to acknowledge and recognize the Student Bible Club as a student-initiated high school club under the provisions of the Equal Access Act. Dr. Loughead explained that the club would be solely student run, with no involvement from the District. The students requested space in the building to meet during non-instructional time. Supervision would be provided, as is done with any student group meeting in the building.

The Board also approved a request for bowling to be recognized as a club sport.



A. W. Beattie to Host Open House

The A.W. Beattie Career Center will host a Community Open House on Thursday, October 20, 2016 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. The event will be hosted by the new principal, Mr. Jason Watkins. All are welcome to attend.

Mr. Vasko said the new programs that are being offered at the facility will be discussed and visitors will have the opportunity to explore the center and speak with faculty and staff about their experiences there.

More information about the event is available [here](#).



District Launches Official Twitter Account

Dr. Loughead provided an update on the launching of the [District's official Twitter account](#), which went live on September 30th to announce the High School's 2016 Blue Ribbon Award.

Dr. Loughead mentioned that the new Board Reports would be pushed out through Twitter, and the District's official Facebook page will be launched soon as well. The information that is being shared on social media also will be available on the District website in order to continue to enhance communications and share information.

Board Approves First Reading of Three Policies

The Board has approved the first reading of three policies:

- No. 247 - Hazing
- No. 103 - Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices
- No. 104 - Nondiscrimination in Employment and Contract Policies

Mr. Shages reported that updates on these three policies are based on recommendations the District has received from the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA). He indicated the District did have a policy on hazing, but it is now being revised to include additional clarification on the definition of hazing and consequences for violations. A few minor word changes were suggested to the revised version of No. 247 to include consequences for authorizing, ignoring or condoning hazing.

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Rebecca Cunningham addressed updates to Policies No. 103 and 104. The approved revisions include an expanded identification of student groups and steps in the complaint procedures.



October 15: 24th Annual HAEE 5K Race

October 24: Board Special Meeting (if necessary)

November 7: Board Work Session Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library at HMS

November 14: Hampton Heroes, 9:00 a.m., MS Auditorium

November 14: Board Voting Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library at HMS

November 24 & 25: Thanksgiving Holiday Break

November 28: Board Special Meeting (if necessary)

December 5: Board Reorganization Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library at HMS