

The Board Report

February 12, 2018



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

Bryant Wesley II, Esq.	Board President
Mrs. Mary Alice Hennessey**	Board Vice President/Student Affairs Chair
Ms. Denise Balason	Board Secretary/Facilities Chair
Mrs. Jill Hamlin	Transportation Chair
Mrs. Pamela Lamagna	Personnel Chair
Mrs. Gail Litwiler	Educational Programs Chair
Mr. Robert Shages	Board Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair
Mr. Greg Stein**	Technology Chair
Mr. Lawrence Vasko	Finance Chair

** Denotes members participating via teleconference call/video.

*Denotes members not in attendance.

Members of Administration in Attendance

Dr. Michael Loughead	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Rebecca Cunningham	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Michelle Ambrose	Administrative Services Secretary
Mr. Michael Amick	High School Assistant Principal
Ms. Shari Berg	Public Relations Consultant
Mr. Joshua Cable	High School Assistant Principal
Mr. Eric Coffield	Manager of Technology Operations
Dr. Marguerite Imbarlina	High School Principal
Dr. Jacquelyn Removcik	Curriculum Director

Public Comment

The Board provides the opportunity for members of the public to address the Board about issues appearing on the agenda, as well as issues affecting the District. In accordance with Policy No. 903, individuals wishing to address the Board will be asked to state their name, address and group affiliation, if applicable.

- There was no public comment this evening.

Special Presentation - Central Elementary School

Central Elementary 4th grade students showcased their final projects from a pilot program called Genius Hour. Fourth grade teachers Mrs. Petok and Mrs. Mytinger explained the principles of Genius Hour, why they implemented the program, and how the students' topics were related to the curriculum. Students worked with an open-ended question and were responsible for finding resources and creating a Google Slides presentation on their topic of interest. It was a great opportunity for the students to work on their research skills and public speaking during their presentation of their topics to board members and the administration. Following the presentation, Principal Amy Kern delivered a pre-recorded message which featured additional students and the relevance of Genius Hour to them.

Approval of Minutes/Treasurer's Report

Minutes

The Board approved 7 to 0 the minutes from the January 15, 2018 Board Voting meeting as presented. Mrs. Litwiler abstained from the vote since she was absent from the January 15 meeting.

Fund Disbursements/Treasurer's Report

The Board approved the following:

January 2018 General Fund 10 Disbursements totaling \$3,010,820.32

January 2018 Capital Fund 39 Disbursements totaling \$13,344.93

January 2018 Cafeteria Fund 50 Disbursements totaling \$94,021.64

The December 2017 Treasurer's Report

The December 2017 Student Activities Fund Report

Board President's Report

Mr. Wesley said the Board held two executive sessions since the last meeting to discuss legal and personnel issues.

Board Secretary's Report

There was no report this evening.

Solicitor's Report

There was no report this evening.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Loughead provided a brief report in the following areas:

Arts: the High School hosted a Crash Course Theatre event on February 10 as a fundraiser for the spring musical.

The High School's Wind Ensemble Invitational Concert will be on February 20, and the Middle School will be presenting the Band POPS Concert at 7pm in the middle school auditorium. The annual Hues and Harmony event will be held March 13 & 14 at the High School. A spaghetti dinner will be held at 5 pm on March 13 prior to the opening night of the event and all are welcome. Additional information will be coming out later this month along with a way to RSVP for the spaghetti dinner, which will be a nominal charge.

Academics: Dr. Loughead shared a story from PennLive (an online newspaper from Harrisburg) which ranked Hampton in the top twenty high schools for SAT scores, which places the District in the top two percent of school districts in the state. Dr. Loughead said it is just one more indicator that Hampton is "running with the best" schools in the state and indicates that the work the District is doing in aligning its curriculum with rigorous academic standards is coming to fruition.

Athletics: the girls' and boys' basketball teams are in the playoffs and the girls are section champs. Several swimmers and divers are competing in the championships and the gymnastics will compete in team and individual championships this weekend. The inline and ice hockey teams have both made the playoffs and the wrestling team finished second in its section against some powerhouse teams this year.

Student Activities

Action Items

There were no action items this evening.

Educational Programs Report

Action Items

2018-2019 Proposed Middle School Program of Studies

The Board unanimously approved the 2018-2019 Hampton Middle School Program of Studies, which was presented at the February 5, 2018 Work Session by HMS Principal Mrs. Marlynn Lux and Curriculum Director Dr. Jacquelyn Removcik.

ESSA Foster Care CYF Memorandum of Understanding and Transportation Plan

The Board unanimously approved the ESSA Foster Care CYF Memorandum of Understanding presented at last week's meeting. The purpose of the memorandum of understanding is to give guidance to the school districts in situations where foster care children who are displaced from their home community may require transportation services to their original home district.

Informational

High School Academic Redesign Presentation

Dr. Loughead, Dr. Removcik, Dr. Imbarlina, Mr. Amick, and Mr. Cable presented a vision for the High School's Academic Redesign.

Dr. Loughead began the presentation by highlighting that the driving force behind this redesign is the District's mission statement:

“Hampton Township School District works collaboratively with the community to support all children in becoming creative and innovative problem-solvers and communicators. The District maintains high expectations by furthering our Tradition of Excellence as our students develop the knowledge, character and integrity to impact the world.”

He noted that the mission statement is more important now than when it was created, and it is essential to explore how to accelerate the mission statement at the High School. He presented a top ten list of future skills from the World Economic Forum, and underscored that the top three future skills (complex problem-solving, critical thinking, and creativity) are emphasized in our mission statement. At the recent Allegheny Conference: Looking Ahead to 2025, employers identified that academic and technical skills are required for students to be employable, but soft skills, such as creativity and complex problem-solving, are considered more important in the future workforce than just having STEAM-related skills only.

Dr. Imbarlina provided an overview of the compartmentalized design of the existing high school, and showed a compressed video which followed a student throughout the day. She explained that each class period is 41 minutes, with four minutes between classes for a total of nine total periods in the day. After school, students go home and complete homework, play sports, participate in activities, volunteer, and work.

Dr. Imbarlina said the goal of the Academic Redesign is to move students toward deeper learning opportunities, which include the transfer of skills they are learning in the classroom to real-world applications. This shift will require students to do more of the work - the “heavy lifting” - of mastering classroom material, content and skills. At present, the High School has already begun this work and cited both a few examples and current limitations:

- Courses beginning to cross pollinate: Academic 9/Geography and AP Capstone
- Courses exploring research and design: Applied Math and Anthropology
- Space to collaborate: limited to LGI and Conceptual Thinking Lab
- Space to design: limited to wood and metal shops
- Equipment and resources are departmentalized

As an example of recent deeper learning in action, Dr. Imbarlina recounted the story of the high school engineering students who collaborated to design and create a device to attach to the arm of a middle school student. The middle school student needed a device in order to properly hold and play his trumpet in the band. “This was real-world learning. The students were presented with a problem and they solved it,” Dr. Imbarlina noted. A video was shown to Board members highlighting some of these deeper learning opportunities. It's available [here](#).

Some of the ideas Dr. Imbarlina, Mr. Amick and Mr. Cable discussed for further research that would help to facilitate the deeper learning opportunities include interdisciplinary themes woven into the curriculum, global/financial/economic literacy, and soft skills that will be needed once our students leave high school. They also explained the benefits of open learning spaces such as the Conceptual Thinking Lab, and spaces where students can design and fabricate beyond the metal and wood shop.

Dr. Imbarlina said students are able to gain career experience from A.W. Beattie and from some partnerships which are currently established with businesses and industries in our area. However, she would like to conduct more research on how to provide students with externships, how to develop sustainable partnerships with industries, and how to participate in real-world projects with outside partners. She used the Mini-THON as an example

of students being able to take on real-world problems such as how to raise money for childhood cancer research. The students who are involved in Mini-THON plan and execute this entire event with only minimal involvement from adults.

As another example of these partnerships, Mr. Cable explained the Student Power Solutions program through the Consortium for Public Education. This organization teams up our students with a local business. Besides making an initial business contact, he said the program provides professional development for teachers and real-world problem solving opportunities for students who participate.

Dr. Imbarlina addressed the need for additional social and emotional learning for students as well. She highlighted that opportunities to connect a number of social and emotional support services could be available to students through a “Wellness Hub.” She would like to see dedicated space at the high school for group counseling sessions and relaxation techniques, as well as the integration of a cohesive substance abuse and suicide awareness and prevention program. Finally, additional work on wellness could be woven throughout the physical education curriculum, and skills such as work-life balance, decision-making, accountability within groups, negotiating and advocating and prevention and support services, particularly where mental health is concerned, would be important for students to learn.

Dr. Imbarlina also addressed the concept of instructional time, which impacts the learning environment. Some ideas that the team presented included additional research on the start time of the high school (which was addressed earlier in the evening), flexible scheduling, hybrid scheduling (which is a mix of in-class and online learning), as well as flexible instructional periods, a block schedule, and longer class periods to allow students the time to go deeper into their learning.

The team presented specific ideas which would support the implementation of deeper learning:

- Create Collaborative Spaces
- Create Design Spaces
- Create Flexible Space (Science and Music, etc.)
- Create a Wellness Hub
- Provide Flexible Time
- Establish Partnerships (Business and Community)
- Improve Teacher Professional Development

The team outlined the next steps they would like to take in order to delve deeper into these ideas and research areas:

- Spring 2018 - faculty committees formed to study key areas
- Spring 2018 - engage stakeholders
- Summer 2018 - update to the School Board
- Fall 2018 - continue committee work
- November 2018 - formal report on progress to the School Board

Dr. Imbarlina noted that she also sent out a survey to the High School faculty to obtain their thoughts and ideas.

At the end of the presentation, Dr. Loughead and Dr. Imbarlina asked the Board for feedback or if they had any questions. Mr. Shages asked how colleges and employers would receive the innovative courses and programs being proposed. Dr. Loughead said that what colleges and employers want to see is not just the successful completion of coursework, but real-life application of that learning through projects and experiences. Mrs. Litwiler said she likes

the idea that all students will be provided the same opportunities under this new academic design so that they are on a level playing field with their peers. Mrs. Litwiler also asked if the facilities need to be updated before any of these academic redesign ideas can be achieved. Dr. Loughead said the High School has really hit the ceiling in what it is able to do at this moment with the current facility, so space would either need to be redesigned or re-created to accommodate these ideas. Mrs. Litwiler also asked if block scheduling could be explored to help create larger chunks of time for students; Dr. Imbarlina noted that there are a lot of options regarding how to allocate instructional time to create a more conducive learning environment. She said first they must determine what would be the best program for our students before space and time can be altered to accommodate those programs.

Mrs. Lamagna said she likes the vision and is not surprised by it, as she has seen hints of this coming for the last several years. She said her big concern is the capital improvements that are imminent at the High School, and how those capital improvements will impact what the High School will look like five years in the future. Mrs. Hamlin said she loves that balance and wellness are being included in this proposal, and especially that the mental health and wellness space is being proposed as part of these changes. Mrs. Litwiler said the District cannot just sit where it is, that it always needs to be looking and moving forward.

A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is available [here](#).

Facilities Report

Action Items for Consideration

There were no action items for consideration this evening.

Personnel Report

TEACHERS:

1. Approve Mrs. Christine Majewski, as a Building Substitute at Hampton High School, from January 19, 2018 to January 26, 2018. Salary is \$20,500, pro-rated. (This was an open Building Substitute position.)

RESIGNATIONS:

2. Accept the resignation of Mrs. Christine Majewski, effective January 26, 2018. (Mrs. Majewski was a Building Substitute at Hampton High School.)

3. Accept the resignation of Ms. Abby Thomas, effective January 26, 2018. (Ms. Thomas was a Building Substitute at Hampton High School.)

OTHER:

4. Approve the Settlement Agreement in the Transfer Between Entities matter involving A.W. Beattie Career Center as presented.

SUPPLEMENTALS:

5. Approve the following Building/Coach Supplemental positions for the 2017-2018 School Year, at a rate of \$130 per point:

NAME	POSITION	BUILDING	POINTS	RANGE	TOTAL STIPEND
Gary Wilson	Head Baseball Coach	HS	47	35/47	\$6,110
Daniel Hussar	Assistant Baseball Coach	HS	36	30/38	\$4,680
Kellen Wheeler	JV Baseball Coach	HS	38	30/38	\$4,940
Steve Swierczynski	JV Assistant Baseball Coach	HS	32	24/32	\$4,160
Mike Susi	Middle School Baseball Coach	MS	32	24/32	\$4,160
John Benca	Volunteer Baseball Coach				
Bruce Steckel	Volunteer Baseball Coach				
James Vollberg	Head Boys' Lacrosse Coach	HS	31	23/31	\$4,030
Sam Evans	Assistant Boys' Lacrosse Coach	HS	20	16/20	\$2,600
Terrance Hales	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach	HS			
Mike Keuch	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach	HS			
Chris Geraud	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach	HS			
Luke Howell	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach	HS			
Kelsey Viets	Head Girls' Lacrosse Coach	HS	31	23/31	\$4,030
Christine McGrath	Assistant Girls' Lacrosse Coach	HS	20	16/20	\$2,600
Nate Meade	Volunteer Girls' Lacrosse Coach	HS			
Ron Fedell	Head Softball Coach	HS	47	35/47	\$6,110
Lynn Zdinak	Assistant Softball Coach	HS	38	30/38	\$4,940
Scott Breen	JV Softball Coach	HS	36	30/38	\$4,680
Pete Scanga	MS Softball Coach	MS	28	20/28	\$3,640
Mike Zdinak	Volunteer Softball Coach	HS			

Derek Brinkley	Head Track Coach	HS	53	41/53	\$6,890
Nick Panza	First Assistant	HS	37	29/37	\$4,810
Jayne Beattie	Assistant "A" Track Coach	HS	29	21/29	\$3,770
Joe Cangilla	Assistant "B" Track Coach	HS	29	21/29	\$3,770
Heather Dietz	Assistant "C" Track Coach	HS	22	18/22	\$2,860
Mary Bukovac	MS Head Track Coach	MS	34	26/34	\$4,420
Ryan Scott	MS Assistant "A" Track Coach	MS	19	15/19	\$2,470
Dave Sheets	MS Assistant "B" Track Coach	MS	19	15/19	\$2,470
Sam Flowers	MS Assistant "C" Track Coach	MS	19	15/19	\$2,470
Grant McKinney	Head Boys' Tennis Coach	HS	33	26/33	\$4,290
Tim Buresh	Head MS Volleyball Coach	MS	23	15/23	\$2,990
Dan Franklin	HS Musical Director	HS	44	32/44	\$5,720
Nicholas Bigatel	HS Musical Technical Director	HS	28	24/28	\$3,640
Jessica Kendall	HS Musical Choral Director	HS	19	18/22	\$2,470
Ryan Meyer	HS Musical Music Director	HS	17	15/19	\$2,210
Nicholas Bigatel	HS Musical Art Director/Stage Crew	HS	12	8/12	\$1,560
Jennifer Lavella	HS Musical Asst. Director/Choreographer	HS	28	24/28	\$3,640
Dan Franklin	HS Musical Producer	HS	12	8/12	\$1,560
Kieran Vora	Boys' Tennis Asst. Coach	HS	18	16/20	\$2,340

Addendum:

6. Approved Mrs. Lena Clary, High School Special Education Teacher, who attained tenure effective January 15, 2018.
7. Approved Ms. Kelsey Newcamp as a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School effective February 9, 2018 through the remainder of the 2017-2018 School Year. Salary is \$20,500, pro-rated.
8. Approved the modifications to the Technology Staff Compensation Plan, effective July 1, 2018.
9. Approved Mrs. Debra Windhorst-Brady as a substitute paraprofessional/secretary for the District, effective February 12, 2018.

Addendum II:

10. Accepted the resignation of Mr. Thomas (Tad) Bevan, effective January 12, 2018. (Mr. Bevan was a Building Substitute at Hampton High School.

Finance Report

Action Items

Allegheny Intermediate Unit's Program of Services 2018-2019

The Board unanimously approved the 2018-19 share for the Allegheny Intermediate Unit's Program of Services for Hampton. Hampton's share totals \$46,993, which is a decrease of \$1,799 from the 2017-18 amount of \$48,692.

Auditing Services Proposal

The Board unanimously approved a renewal contract for auditing services for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, 2019 and 2020 with Hosack, Specht, Muetzel and Wood. The renewal rate includes a rate freeze for the June 30, 2018 audit and increases of 2.24% and 3.13% for the 2019 and 2020 years. The combined average increase for 3 years is 1.82%.

Underwriting Services

The Board unanimously approved the engagement of Piper Jaffray as underwriters for the potential 2008 bond refunding opportunity. The 2008 bonds are eligible for refunding in May 2018.

Policy/Legislative Affairs Report

Action Items

Resolution Opposing ESA Voucher Programs

Mr. Shages asked the School Board to consider going on the record to oppose Senate Bill 2, which, if approved, would allow for the diversion of state funding from public schools to charter schools, licensed tutors and other private education programs. Mr. Shages recommended the Board accept and use the language provided by the Pennsylvania State Education Association for the resolution. The Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as provided by the PSEA.

Informational

Mr. Vasko inquired if the Board has reached out to the new members of Hampton Township Council, and Mr. Wesley noted that he and Ms. Balason had met with Mrs. Bethany Blackburn, who had been appointed by the Township Council to serve as a liaison to HTSD. The Board expressed the desire to meet with her to discuss how the District and Township can work together toward common goals.

Technology Report

Action Items

There were no action items this evening.

Transportation Report

Action Items

There were no action items this evening.

A.W. Beattie Report

Informational

Mr. Vasko said the pastry oven at A.W. Beattie is becoming problematic and asked if anyone knew of a restaurant or any other place that may have one available. Mr. Wesley said there are places that buy restaurant equipment in foreclosures and Beattie may be able to find some equipment that way.

The second issue Mr. Vasko presented is that the member school district superintendents met to discuss that the Mandarin classes at Beattie will no longer be available next year for students and will be discontinued at Beattie for next year.

HAEE Report

Informational

Mrs. Hamlin has agreed to be the HAEE liaison for the Board. She said HAEE awarded two mini grants - one to Poff and the other to Central - of \$500 or less. Another mini grant was awarded to a Middle School science teacher for a device that captures live images from a microscope with a free app and then can use the classroom whiteboard to interact with the app and the sample. She noted that HAEE is still looking for additional board members.

Closing Public Comment Period

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- There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m. Mr. Wesley announced there would be a brief executive session for legal and personnel issues. The next regularly-scheduled meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 5, 2018 and will be held at A.W. Beattie Career Center.