

# The Board Report

*September 11, 2017*



**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
Mr. Robert Shages	Board Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair
Ms. Denise Balason	Board Secretary/Facilities Chair
Mrs. Pamela Lamagna	Personnel Chair
Mrs. Gail Litwiler	Educational Programs Chair
Mr. Lawrence Vasko	Finance Chair
Mr. Greg Stein	Technology Chair
Mrs. Cathy Lueers	Transportation 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
Mr. Jeff Kline	Director of Administrative Services
Dr. Ed McKaveney	Technology Director
Mrs. Marlynn Lux	Hampton Middle School Principal
Ms. Shari Berg	Public Relations Consultant
Mrs. Michelle Ambrose	Administrative Services Secretary

# Special Presentation - HMS Escape Room



Dr. Loughhead introduced faculty, staff and students from the middle school who worked on the escape room last year. Board members had the opportunity to escape “Mission to Maya” prior to the start of the Board meeting. Dr. Loughhead thanked the parents of the students who were involved with the project, asking them to stand for acknowledgement. He then introduced Mrs. Marlynn Lux, HMS principal, along with HMS enrichment facilitator Ms. Gwen Cohen and HMS librarian Mrs. Diane Fierle, who provided the Board and audience with an overview of how the escape room went from an idea to reality.

Students Megan K., Alina B., Danielle S., Atahan A., Brennan F., Ed X., Sam M., Carson W., Richie D., and Elliot B. were in attendance to assist Board members during their escape from the room.

Mrs. Lux discussed the involvement of Code Breakers in making the escape room at HMS a reality. Brian Colona, co-owner of the Wexford-based escape room, assisted with the design and implementation process. Students, with the assistance of Ms. Cohen, participated in a Shark Tank-style event where they could submit ideas for puzzles for the escape room; a panel of judges consisting of teachers, faculty and community members then selected the best puzzle ideas for further design to be a part of the escape room.

Ms. Cohen discussed how the escape room was truly a cross-curricular activity with aspects of the project being woven into every course. Students involved in the process described their roles in the escape room, benefits from engaging in the project, and their overall experience.

## 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. Mr. Wesley announced there would be a second public comment period following the meeting.

- There was no public comment.

# Approval of the Minutes/Treasurer's Report

The minutes for the August 7, 2017 and August 14, 2017 School Board meetings were approved as submitted.

## **Fund Disbursements**

The Board approved the following:

- August 2017 General Fund 10 Disbursements totaling \$4,495,642.14
- August 2017 Capital Fund 39 Disbursements totaling \$251,073.90
- August 2017 Cafeteria Fund 50 Disbursements totaling \$4,478.85

## **Treasurer's Report**

The Board approved the July 2017 Treasurer's Report as submitted.

## **Student Activities Fund Report**

The Board approved the July 2017 Students Activities Fund Report as submitted.

## Board President's Report

Mr. Wesley reported there was one executive session following the last meeting to discuss legal and personnel issues.

## Board Secretary's Report

Ms. Balason reminded Board members to check their email and cast their votes for the PSBA elections.

## Solicitor's Report

There was no report this evening.

## Superintendent's Report

Dr. Loughhead provided the following updates for academics, arts and athletics. Under academics, he was impressed by the students' presentation this evening on the escape room and reminded the Board that Hampton is becoming known regionally as one of the most innovative school districts. Last week, our STEAM carts that were designed and built by middle and high school students last year were featured as part of a national push to highlight the STEAM movement in Pittsburgh. Under the arts, he encouraged those in attendance to make an effort to see the marching band's halftime show this year, calling it creative and innovative. He also highlighted a choir and orchestra concert coming up in October. Under athletics, he said all of the sports teams have started out well this fall and he has attended several sporting events.

# Student Affairs Report

## Action Items

### Club Approval Requests

- HHS Ping Pong Club
- HMS Show Choir Club

Discussion: The Board voted unanimously to approve the two new clubs as listed on the agenda.

### Field Trip Requests

The Board unanimously voted to approve the following field trip requests:

- Hampton Baseball Spring Trip - Dodgertown, Vero Beach, Florida, March 24-29, 2018
- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) - Washington, D.C./Baltimore, MD, April 18-22, 2018
- Forensics - Yale Debate Invitational Tournament, Yale University, New Haven, CT, September 14-17, 2017

# Facilities Report

## Action Items

There are no action items this evening.

# Educational Programs Report

## Action Items

### Memorandum of Agreement - CCAC

The Board unanimously approved a memorandum of agreement with Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) that makes dual enrollment courses available to HTSD students. All courses covered under the agreement are credit hour courses and meet CCAC's academic standards and approved curriculum. Participation in the program is optional for students and families.

### Additional Comments

- Summer Program - Mrs. Litwiler asked Mrs. Lux to explain how the District will use the fund balance and whether it can be used to reduce the cost of participation for students/families. Mrs. Lux said it is difficult to predict enrollment from year to year, so the fund balance can be used to offset program costs so that the programming can continue. She also stated that she has a lot of ideas on how to grow and improve the program especially around technology and robotics. She has been working with Dr. Loughhead and Ms. Cohen to discuss what kind of technology could be purchased to offer some unique and innovative experiences for children participating in the 2018 summer program.
- Mr. Vasko asked if there were any opportunities for scholarships for students to participate in the program, and Mrs. Lux said that yes, there are scholarship opportunities and just this past summer, 15 students were offered assistance and/or the opportunity to attend the camp for free.

- Mr. Vasko said today in a PSBA publication, he noticed an article about high schools starting later, and asked if Hampton has ever considered an alternative start time. Dr. Loughead said this is something he has been thinking about and the Northern Area Superintendents' Association has been discussing it as well. Mrs. Litwiler asked if there could be some kind of update/general report about this topic at the next Board meeting, and Dr. Loughead said he would be able to provide a presentation as part of the Education Agenda next month.

## Personnel Report

### Action Items

#### Resignations:

1. Accepted the resignation of Ms. Ashley Dembowski, who is resigning after one year with the District, effective August 30, 2017. (Ms. Dembowski was a Class 1-D Paraprofessional at Hampton Middle School.)
2. Accepted the resignation of Ms. Kara Vaccarelli, who is resigning with an effective date to be determined. (Ms. Vaccarelli is a Long-Term Substitute Social Studies Teacher at Hampton High School.)
3. Accepted the resignation of Ms. Kim Gally, who is resigning after one year with the District, effective September 15, 2017. (Ms. Gally is a Class 1-B Paraprofessional at Hampton High School.)

#### Teachers:

4. Approved Mrs. DeAnna Richey, as a Long-Term Substitute ESL Teacher for the first semester of the 2017-2018 School Year, effective August 25, 2017. Salary is \$30,500, pro-rated. (Mrs. Richey is a substitute for Mrs. Katie Koleno.)
5. Approved Ms. Sarah Morris, as a Building Substitute at Hampton High School for the 2017-2018 School Year, effective August 18, 2017. Salary is \$20,500. (This is an annual position.)
6. Approved Ms. Catherine Porter, as an Elementary Building Substitute (Floater) for the 2017-2018 School Year, effective August 23, 2017. Salary is \$20,500, pro-rated. (This is an annual position.)
7. Approved Mr. Thomas (Tadd) Bevan, as a Building Substitute at Hampton High School for the 2017-2018 School Year, effective August 30, 2017. Salary is \$20,500, pro-rated. (This is an annual position.)
8. Approved the following list of Induction Team Mentors for the 2017-2018 School Year: Jennifer Morgan, Maryanne Librich, Jennifer Lavella, Leticia Dunstan, Lisa Oliveira, Amy Faith, Courtenay Garrett, Kendra Lapiana, Lynn Stewing, Wendi Hunter and Stacie Sespico.

#### Paraprofessionals/Secretaries:

9. Approved Mrs. Jennifer Larson as a Class 1-B Paraprofessional (2 hours per day) at Poff Elementary School, effective August 24, 2017. Salary is \$14.46 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$14.71 per-hour thereafter. (This is a new position.)
10. Approved Mrs. Elvira Scolieri, as a Class 1-B Paraprofessional (2 hours per day) at Central Elementary School, effective September 11, 2017. Salary is \$14.46 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$14.71

per-hour thereafter. (Mrs. Scolieri is replacing Mrs. Kim Gally's position.)

11. Approved Ms. Ashley Arlotti, as a Class 1-D Paraprofessional at Wyland Elementary School, effective August 21, 2017. Salary is \$15.73 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$15.98 per hour thereafter. (Ms. Arlotti is replacing Ms. Maria Frantz.)

12. Approved Mrs. Jansen Jamison, as a Class 1-D Paraprofessional at Hampton Middle School, effective September 6, 2017. Salary is \$15.73 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$15.98 per hour thereafter. (Mrs. Jamison is replacing Ms. Ashley Dembowski.)

Custodians:

13. Approved the following 2017-2018 Night Lead custodial positions: Chuck Richard (replacing Randy Yester) at HHS at an hourly rate of \$23.56.

14. Approved Mr. Randy Yester, moving from a 10 month/8 hour per day Custodian (and Night Lead) at the High School, to a 12 month/8 hour per day Custodian at Wyland Elementary School, effective August 22, 2017. Salary is \$23.28 per hour. (Mr. Yester is replacing Mr. Walt Baer.)

15. Approved Mr. Jonathan Trout, as a substitute custodian for the District, effective September 1, 2017.

**Supplementals:**

16. Approved 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
Rachel Zang	Girls' Assistant Tennis Coach	HS	20	16/20	\$2,600
Joanne Greer	Wyland Bus Monitor	Wyland	12	12	\$1,560
Chelsea Niehaus	JV Cheerleading Coach	HS	30	28/36	\$3,900
David Interthal (Replacing James Kohan)	Football Assistant "C" Coach	HS	41	33/41	\$5,330
Kellan Wheeler	Volunteer Boys' Golf Coach	HS			
Sam Flowers	Volunteer Middle School Football Coach	MS			
Amy Holtz	MS Special Education Department Chair	MS	13	13/17	\$1,690

# Technology Report

## Action Items

### **EduLink, Inc. Agreement of Services**

The Board approved a two-year agreement of services with EduLink, Inc., for the PA-Etep web-based portal for teacher evaluations. The first year licensing fee of \$3,000 is to be allocated from the 2017-2018 Ready to Learn Grant. The remaining licensing fee balance of \$20,362 will be allocated from the 2018-2019 budget.

### **Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Agreement of Services**

The Board approved an agreement of services with the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit for annual access to software and safety plans. The fee of \$1,100 is to be funded through the Ready to Learn Grant.

## **Additional Discussion**

- 1:1 Device Insurance Policy FAQs - Mrs. Litwiler asked for language to be added to clarify that the \$25 fee is an annual fee.
- Mrs. Litwiler also asked about the provision that states students without Internet access at home are able to use the Hampton Library to get online. She asked if there was a reason the school could not provide access to these students in the afternoon/evening. Dr. Loughead said that could be arranged, but also felt the library was an excellent place to go to access the Internet.

# Finance Report

There are no action items this evening.

# Policy/Legislative Affairs Report

## Action Items

### **First Reading - Revised Policy 137: Home Education Program**

The Board approved the first reading of the revised Policy 137, which gives guidance for students who are home-schooled within the Hampton Township School District. Students enrolled in the Hampton Online Academy are not covered by this policy.

### **Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 237: Acceptable Use of Personal Technology Resources**

The Board approved the second reading and final adoption of this revised policy, which now differentiates between student-owned devices and District-distributed devices.

## **Informational**

Mr. Shages and Dr. Loughead will be presenting at the PBSA conference on October 18-20.

# Transportation Report

There were no actions items this evening.

## A.W. Beattie Career Center Report

Mr. Vasko said Beattie opened on August 31 with all districts back in session. The current enrollment is 773 students - reflecting a 100-student increase in participation over last year. He also mentioned an articulation agreement with Waynesburg University for students in the early childhood education program and the sports medicine program.

## HAEE Report

Mrs. Lueers said the gifts that they have been able to procure for this year's HAEE race are amazing and encouraged people to purchase raffle tickets for the baskets even if they are not planning to run in the race.

## Closing Public Comment Period

The Board provides a second 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.

- Mark Farabaugh said that last month, the Post Gazette published an article on the earlier start time at Quaker Valley High School. He indicated that the article had a lot of information in it about all of the school districts in Allegheny County and their current start times. He said the board may find the article helpful in their exploration of the issue.

*The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m. Mr. Wesley announced that a brief executive session for legal and personnel matters would be held. The next regularly-scheduled meeting will be the work session meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, October 2, 2017 in the Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library. A special meeting, if necessary, is scheduled for September 25, 2017 at 7 p.m. Check the District website for notification about whether the special meeting will be held.*

