

# The Board Report

*March 11, 2019*



**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.**

**Mrs. Jill Hamlin**

**Ms. Denise Balason**

**Mrs. Pamela Lamagna\*\***

**Mrs. Mary Alice Hennessey\*\***

**Mrs. Gail Litwiler**

**Mr. Robert Shages**

**Mr. Greg Stein\*\***

**Mr. Lawrence Vasko**

**Board President**

**Board Vice President/Personnel Chair**

**Board Secretary/Facilities Chair**

**Transportation Chair**

**Student Affairs Chair**

**Educational Programs Chair**

**Board Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair**

**Technology Chair**

**Finance Chair**

*\*\* Denotes members participating via teleconference call/video.*

*\*Denotes members not in attendance.*

## **Members of Administration in Attendance**

**Dr. Michael Loughead**

**Dr. Rebecca Cunningham**

**Mrs. Michelle Ambrose**

**Ms. Shari Berg**

**Ms. Michele Hurst**

**Dr. Ed McKaveney**

**Dr. Michael Silbaugh**

**Superintendent of Schools**

**Assistant Superintendent of Schools**

**Administrative Services Secretary**

**Communications Consultant**

**Acting Assistant Middle School Principal**

**Technology Director**

**Acting Middle School Principal**

# Special Presentation - HMS

Dr. Silbaugh introduced selected faculty and students from Hampton Middle School who presented some of the innovative teaching and learning practices utilized at HMS to engage students in authentic learning activities. Students demonstrated several of their projects from the Robotics Studio which highlighted their computational and critical thinking skills, as well as project-based learning activities on protecting watersheds from their 6th grade science classes.

## Student Awards

The School Board and District Administration recognized the following students for academic and athletic awards:

- More than 1,000 students from 80 schools competed in the preliminary rounds of the 25th Annual Shakespeare Monologue & Scene Contest at the Pittsburgh Public Theater. Teams of judges evaluated each participant from each division. Students in Grades 8- 12 competed in the Upper Division while grades 4-7 competed in the Lower Division. We would like to offer congratulations to Kai S., an 8th Grade student at Hampton Middle School, who performed a monologue from Macbeth (Porter) at the event. He was one out of 5 finalists in over 1,000 students in the Upper Division. Kai had the opportunity to perform in the Finals Showcase, which was quite an accomplishment and honor. Congratulations, Kai.
- We are proud to recognize the following students who attend various programs at the A.W. Beattie Career Center and who were selected to compete in the 2019 Skills USA District Competition. The Skills USA Competition tests technical skills and creative aptitude. Congratulations to Megan R., who took First Place in the Advertising Design category; Will M., who took First Place in the Team Works – HVAC Division; Dylan M., who took Second Place in the Plumbing/HVAC Division; and Courtney H., who was selected to represent Hampton and competed in the Cosmetology Division.
- Under the direction of Coach Kinsey Basko, we would like to offer congratulations to Hannah S., who finished in Fifth Place at the WPIAL Individual Gymnastics meet. We would also like to state that Hannah had a “no-fall” meet, which is pretty incredible for a gymnast. Congratulations, Hannah.
- We would like to recognize the following members of the Boys’ Basketball team, who were selected to the WPIAL 5A Section 3 All-Section Team. Ben R., who was selected to the First Team; Colby M., who was selected to the Second Team; and Josh W., who received an Honorable Mention.
- We are also proud to recognize the following members of the Girls’ Basketball team, who were selected to the WPIAL 5A Section 2 All-Section Team: Kayla H., who was selected to the Second Team and Sophia K., who received an Honorable Mention.

## 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.

- Drew Hall noted that he and his wife, Lindsay, have five children enrolled in the District. He asked the Board to halt all mindfulness training and professional development, and discontinue the contract with Dr. Stephanie Romero of Awaken Pittsburgh, for her work with the staff. Dr. Hall explained his concerns about the link between mindfulness and Buddhism, and how Buddhism conflicts with his Christian beliefs. He asked that the School Board develop clear guidance on the restrictions on mindfulness techniques, and also terminate the pay-to-play mindfulness clubs in the District.

# Meeting Motions

## Board Minutes

The Board unanimously approved the minutes for the February 11, 2019 Board Meeting.

## Treasurer's Report

The Board unanimously approved the following meeting motions:

- February 2019 General Fund 10 Disbursements, totaling \$3,526,029.10
- February 2019 Capital Fund 39 Disbursements, totaling \$22,511.48
- February 2019 Cafeteria Fund 50 Disbursements, totaling \$112,201.91
- January 2019 Treasurer's Report
- January 2019 Student Activities Fund Reports

# Administrative Reports

## Board President's Report

Mr. Wesley said there was one executive session following 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 highlighted a few items in academics, the arts and athletics:

**Academics:** Later this week, Mr. Gregg Behr, Executive Director of the Grable Foundation, will be visiting several buildings and examining our innovative programs in the District. Mr. Behr has been traveling the world exploring innovation in education and Dr. Loughead said he is thrilled to have him spend time at Hampton. Discussions about ways the District can partner with the Grable Foundation also will be discussed as part of the visit.

**Arts:** The annual Hues & Harmony celebration will be held from 6-8 p.m. on March 19 and 20 at Hampton High School and will feature student work from the performing and visual arts classes.

**Athletics:** The inline hockey team won in the "best of three" playoffs over the weekend and will be honored at an upcoming meeting in April.

Dr. Loughead announced that the School Board was honored with the D. Richard Wynn Distinguished School Board Award last week from the Tri-State Study Council. He displayed the plaque that was given to the Board at the event, and read the inscription to the audience.

# Committee Reports

## STUDENT AFFAIRS

### Action Items

#### HHS Forensics Field Trip

The School Board unanimously approved a request by the HHS Forensics team to attend the PA High School Speech League 2019 State Tournament in Bloomsburg, PA from March 14-16 at a cost to the District not to exceed \$424 (from the District Competition Fund). Five student team members have qualified to attend the event.

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

### Action Items

#### Snow Make-Up Day Proposal

The Board unanimously approved the use of March 15, 2019 to be used as a snow makeup day, and changed the early release day for elementary students from March 14 to March 15, 2019.

### Informational

Mrs. Litwiler said the School Start Time Committee will be meeting again on April 8. The committee plans to present their findings to the Board in May, including concerns and issues, possible solutions, transportation plans, and costs.

## FACILITIES

### Action Items

#### Geotechnical Testing Contract

The Board unanimously approved the proposal for Pennsylvania Soil and Rock, Inc. to conduct geotechnical testing for the Fridley Field turf and track replacement projects at an estimated cost of \$3,745. Dr. Loughhead said this step will help bidders on the replacement project to be assured that the surface where the new track and artificial turf will be placed is in good condition and ideal for the work.

#### HS Feasibility Study Analysis

The Board unanimously approved a proposal for P.J. Dick, Inc. to conduct an analysis of the High School Feasibility Study at a cost of \$2,901.00.

Discussion: Mr. Shages asked what the expected outcome of the study would be, and if the company would provide an analysis to the District or to the architects who conducted the feasibility study. Dr. Loughhead said he would expect an independent analysis and the generation of a report with documented evidence to support the findings. He said he would like the company to present their findings to the Board during a public meeting in April. There also was some concern that if P.J. Dick gives a “second opinion” to the feasibility study, this review would give them an inside track should they choose to bid on the job if the project moves forward. The Board asked the solicitor to look into the matter.

### Informational

Dr. Loughhead provided a brief presentation on the action steps he is recommending should the Board decide to continue exploring the findings of the recent High School Feasibility Study. He noted that the following steps would need to occur:

- Hiring an architect in preparation of the PlanCon submission, which would be due July 1, 2019.

- In April, some decisions will need to be made about the hiring of an architect for PlanCon Part A, preferably during the work session for consideration of approval at the voting meeting.
- Hiring a firm to examine the feasibility study and to provide feedback on its reliability, including cost estimates.
- On April 8, presenting three possible scenarios on funding options.
- In May, additional information about PlanCon A should be available.
- In June, the PlanCon A submission would need to be considered for approval in order to meet the July 1 filing date. The District will have a contingency plan should the project not be approved for PlanCon funding, or should the funding not be available to any Districts at that time.
- July 1 is the PlanCon A submission deadline.
- The design process would need to begin in August, and may take 12-18 months.

Mr. Vasko thanked Dr. Loughead for preparing the outline of necessary steps for continuing to explore the project. A copy of the PPT for the presentation is available [here](#).

## **FINANCE**

### **Action Items**

#### **Budget Transfers**

The Board unanimously approved a budget transfer in the amount of \$3,522.00 for HMS, from Office Communications to General Supplies.

#### **Real Estate Tax Appeals**

The Board unanimously approved for the District to initiate appeals for 2019 real estate tax assessments based on property transactions in 2018 where the difference between the adjusted purchase price and the 2019 assessment reflects a lost revenue for the District in the amount of \$1,000 or more at the current millage rate of 18.95 mills. Using this criteria, 93 of the 323 transactions that occurred in 2018 will be appealed.

#### **AIU3 Program of Services 2019-2020**

The Board unanimously approved the 2019-2020 AIU3 Program of Services, with HTSD's share of the cost estimated at \$48,403. The Program of Services budget is a small portion of the \$150 million annual budget for the AIU3.

## **PERSONNEL**

### **Actions Items**

#### **TEACHERS:**

1. The Board unanimously accepted the resignation of Mr. Jordan Stanopiewicz (effective date to-be-determined). Mr. Stanopiewicz is an Academic Support Biology Teacher and a Long-Term Substitute Biology Teacher at the High School.
2. The Board unanimously approved a change in status for Ms. Emily Marcellus, moving from a Long-Term Substitute Special Education Teacher at Wyland Elementary School to a Long-Term Substitute Special Education Teacher at Hampton High School, from approximately February 26, 2019 through the remainder of the 2018-2019 School Year. Salary remains \$31,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Marcellus a substitute for Mr. Michael Zdinak.)

**SUPPLEMENTALS:**

3. The Board unanimously approved the following Building/Coaching Supplemental positions for the 2018-2019 School Year, at a rate of \$133 per point:

Name	Position	Building	Points	Range	Total Stipend
Ben Tackett	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach	HS			
Robert Voinchet	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach	HS			
Joe Cangilla (Replacing Jayne Beatty)	Track Assistant A Coach	HS	29	21/29	\$3,857
Heather Dietz	Track Assistant B Coach	HS	29	21/29	\$3,857
Kim Masarik	Track Assistant C Coach	HS	20	18/22	\$2,660
Steve Sciuolo	Track Assistant D Coach	HS	20	16/20	\$2,660
Amanda Spencer	Track Assistant E Coach	HS	18	16/20	\$2,394

**ADDENDUM:**

4. The Board unanimously approved Mr. Kyle Fay as a Technology Support Technician for the District, effective March 18, 2019. Salary is \$48,000, pro-rated. (Mr. Fay is replacing Mr. Dan Becker.)

5. The Board unanimously approved Ms. Teresa Henneberg as a Custodial Substitute for the District effective March 5, 2019.

6. The Board unanimously approved Mr. Brandon Jenkins as a School Psychologist Intern from California University of Pennsylvania for the 2019-2020 School Year, with a stipend not to exceed \$12,500, effective the beginning of the 2019-2020 School Year. (This is an annual position.)

**POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS****Actions Items****Policy #251: Homeless Students**

The Board unanimously approved the first reading of this policy, which addresses how the District identifies homeless children and youth within the District and facilitates their immediate enrollment, while helping to address any barriers to their attendance and education. The policy is required for the District to be in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations.

**Informational**

- Mr. Shages said several Board members and Administration met with State Representative Lori Mizgorski for more than an hour last week and said the meeting was very productive.
- The AIU is hosting the Legislative Forum on Thursday and Mr. Shages said all Board members are invited to attend. Both of our local legislators have confirmed they will attend the session.

**TECHNOLOGY**

There were no action items for consideration this evening.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

There were no action items for consideration this evening.

## **A.W. BEATTIE**

Mr. Vasko said he attended the Open House in February and said it was well attended. The Sports Medicine program has 25 students enrolled, up from 8 students the previous year. For the next year, they anticipate 60 enrollees. Next week is the Technical Honor Society inductions, and a Hampton student is being inducted.

## **HAEE**

Mrs. Hamlin said the committee met at the end of February and entertained a grant request presented by Dr. Cunningham and Dr. Kern to renovate the Central Elementary School courtyard area into an outdoor science and learning space. The grant proposal has been approved. Dr. Cunningham thanked the HAEE for its generosity in partnering with the District on this impactful project and said that they plan to highlight the courtyard during Mr. Gregg Behr's upcoming visit as a future innovative learning space.

# **Public Comment**

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- Mark Farabaugh asked if the timeline for the High School project will be available on the website; Dr. Loughhead said the timeline would be posted soon.

***Mr. Wesley announced an executive session for legal and personnel issues. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m. The next regularly-scheduled meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 1 in the Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library, HMS.***