

The Board Report

February 3, 2020



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**
Mr. Matt Jarrell
Mrs. Joy Midgley
Mr. Robert Shages*
Mr. Greg Stein
Mrs. Trisha Webb

Board President
Board Vice President/Transportation Chair
Board Secretary/Facilities Chair
Technology Chair
Personnel Chair
Board Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair
Finance Chair
Student Affairs Chair

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

**Denotes members not in attendance.*

Members of Administration in Attendance

Dr. Michael Loughhead
Dr. Rebecca Cunningham
Ms. Shari Berg
Dr. Ed McKaveney
Mr. Rick Farino
Mr. Jeff Kline
Dr. Marlynn Lux
Dr. Jackie Removcik

Superintendent of Schools
Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Communications Consultant
Director of Technology
Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
Director of Administrative Services
Hampton Middle School Principal
Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction

Public Comment

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- There was no public comment.

Committee Reports

Student Affairs

New Business

Student Representatives' Report

Student representatives Greg Scoleri and Emi Suyama provided the following updates and reports to the School Board:

- This year the Sadie Hawkins dance is being replaced with a Leap Dance on Leap Day. Student Council officers in grades 9-12 will be hosting the dance which will be held in the gym.
- Student scheduling for the 2020-2021 School Year has begun. Teachers are explaining options for core classes and will be entering their recommendations for students in Naviance.
- Talbot Thon's goal is \$60,000 this year and will benefit Children's Hospital. There will be more food trucks and raffle baskets this year. Community hour time has been increased and will be offered from 5 to 8 p.m. Student representatives will be at this year's Hues & Harmony to help promote Thon.

Action Items for Consideration

HHS Forensics Field Trip

The HHS Forensics Team is requesting permission to attend the PA High School Speech League 2020 State Tournament in Bloomsburg, PA March 12-14, 2020 at a cost to the District not to exceed \$900.00.

HHS Concert Choir and Orchestra Field Trip

The HHS Concert Choir and Orchestra is requesting permission to take a field trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida from November 27 through December 2, 2020 at no cost to the District.

HHS Marching Band Field Trip

The HHS Marching Band is requesting permission to attend the Walt Disney World Magic Kingdom Parade and Performing Arts Workshops in Orlando, Florida on March 9-14, 2021 at no cost to the District.

Educational Programs

Action Items for Consideration

2020-2021 Proposed Middle School Program of Studies

Dr. Removcik and Dr. Lux presented the proposed 2020-2021 Middle School Program of Studies to the Board.

Major changes to the Program of Studies include the following items:

Course Name Changes

- Music for Life - Grade 6 to Music Appreciation I
- Music for Life - Grade 7 to Music Appreciation II

Description Changes

- Computer Applications I - Grade 6 - using the Innovators and Creators curriculum
- Computer Applications II - Grade 7 - using the App Creators Course

Dr. Lux said the Computer Applications program has been revised to emphasize conceptual thinking; funding for this work was provided through a Project Lead the Way Grant which was secured by Dr. Removcik.

Dr. Lux and Dr. Removcik also proposed minor updates to course descriptions and modifications in requirements surrounding the Keystone exams and graduation requirements, following the proposed Board Policy and High School Program of Studies.

New Business

Flexible Instructional Days Update

Dr. Removcik provided an [overview of how the District plans to use Flexible Instructional Days \(FIDs\)](#) should the need arise. She said the overall goal was to minimize the disruption to the learning process and to keep the academic flow moving in the event that school was cancelled. To achieve this goal, teachers will be designing lessons and projects that students can complete online. The two built-in snow days, plus the one designated makeup day in the calendar, will be used before any FIDs are implemented.

Dr. Removcik went on to say that for students in grades 4-12, assignments will be posted on Google Classroom. For students in grades K-3, assignments will be communicated electronically via homeroom teachers. Expectations for assignments will vary based on grade level and course material. Students will have up to five days to complete assignments made on FID days. Students with IEPs will have up to 10 days to complete the assignments; this added time will enable students to access their learning support teachers and special education personnel.

Student attendance will be determined by the completion of the assignments. Students who do not turn in assignments will be marked as absent for the FID day. Assignments will be posted by 10 a.m., but teachers will be available electronically at the start of the regular school day time.

A help desk email and phone number will be shared with parents to use in case there are technical difficulties during FID days.

Following the presentation, Board members asked several clarifying questions. Dr. Removcik replied that the principals and teachers developed the lessons with an eye towards balancing the curriculum and the assignments based upon the grade level and content area. The students would not be on the computers from the start to the end of their school day, as we recognize that students also have non-instructional time for class changes, study halls, recess, and lunch. The students would have five school days (or 10 school days for students with special needs) to complete their work (not calendar days). High school students who attend A.W. Beattie Career Center would need to complete their academic classwork from Hampton classes during a FID day. Dr. Loughead also stated that if the District was calling a FID day that he would make that information very clear in his automated message that went out to parents and guardians. He also complimented the principals and faculty for their hard work in developing lessons for a FID day.

Facilities

Action Items for Consideration

VEBH Proposal

The Board is being asked to approve the VEBH proposal for professional services for the 2020 Summer Capital Improvements Projects. VEBH provided a proposal for architectural and engineering services for the following

two 2020 summer capital projects:

1) Middle School Air Handling Unit Replacement (AHU's 6 & 7)

2) Middle School Wall Refurbishment

The proposal for services is at a fixed rate of \$29,050 and includes all design work and bidding preparation.

Old Business

High School Pool - UV System

Mr. Farino provided an update on the ultra-violet pool system evaluation.

Mr. Farino met with B&R pools about the UV pool sanitation system. He and a group visited North Allegheny & Baldwin School Districts to review the UV pool sanitation systems which are in place in those districts. He stated that the system was working well at both schools and their staff recommended it. North Allegheny installed their system in 2005. Approximately 11 other pools in the area have this same system. Mr. Farino stated that the system is "virtually guaranteed" to lower the chlorine exposure to swimmers. Mr. Farino noted that the lead time for an installation is approximately three weeks plus one day to install. Mr. Farino noted that the cost for this system is approximately \$29,400 plus an additional \$1,700 for disconnection and rewiring, and can be purchased on a state bid contract. No additional certificates are needed. Additionally, the District would need to budget about \$980 annually for a lamp.

VEBH does not anticipate any issues with the installation of the UV system now in advance of the renovation project. The pool equipment room has plenty of room and the planned renovations to the building should not be impacted by this work.

The Board requested that Mr. Farino investigate the possibility of expediting the ordering and installation process. The Board asked that the purchase and installation be added to the voting agenda for the February 10th voting meeting.

Action Item:

"It is recommended and I approve that the District purchase a Hanovia UV System from B&R Pools in the amount of \$29,400. (per PA Costars Contract 14-130)"

Mr. Farino suggested completing an air quality test prior to installing the new system and again after it is installed.

Dr. Loughead suggested air quality tests should be conducted quarterly moving forward.

Finance

Action Items for Consideration

District-Initiated Appeals 2020

The Board is being asked to approve the District-initiated appeals for 2020 real estate tax assessments based on property transactions in 2019 where the difference between the adjusted purchase price and the 2020 assessment reflects a lost revenue to the District in the amount of \$1,000 or more at a rate of 19.38.

- 2020 - 104 of 285 properties will meet the criteria
- 2019 - 93 of 323 met the criteria
- 2018 - 92 of 295 met the criteria
- 2017 - 71 of 291 met the criteria
- 2016 - 71 of 332 met the criteria

The Board discussed the merits of raising the threshold to a higher dollar amount of "lost revenue" to compensate for the recent increases in the tax rate, which is causing a higher percentage of properties to fall within the \$1,000 "lost revenue" calculation. After a discussion, the board decided to maintain the \$1,000 "lost revenue" threshold for the voting item, but to utilize the previous year (2018-19) millage rate of 18.95 mills, rather than the

2019-20 rate of 19.38 mills. After an analysis, Mr. Kline calculated that the same number of properties will fall within the \$1,000 criteria this year, but will likely decrease in future years if the rate of 18.95 mills is maintained.

Local Tax Revenue Update

Mr. Vasko provided the Board with the local tax revenue update as of January 31, 2020. Overall, the year-to-date 2019-20 local revenues are up 3.10% on a year-to-year basis. Most of the line-items are trending at or near the budget amounts, with the exception of earned income taxes and delinquent taxes. Earned income taxes should significantly exceed the budgeted amount, due to a windfall collection in September 2019. Delinquent real estate taxes are again likely to fall short of the 2019-20 budget amount, continuing a 2-year trend.

Personnel

RESIGNATIONS:

1. Accept the resignation of Mr. Thomas Schweers who is resigning effective January 24, 2020. (Mr. Schweers was a Building Substitute at Hampton High School.)

TEACHERS:

2. Approve Ms. Lauren Casselberry as a (.3) Long-Term Substitute Special Education Instruction in the Home Teacher from January 21, 2020 through the remainder of the 2019-2020 School Year. Salary is \$32,500, prorated. (This is a new position.)

3. Approve Miss Jenna Mansfield as a Long-Term Substitute Grade 1 Teacher at Central Elementary School from January 21, 2020 through the remainder of the 2019-2020 School Year. Salary is \$32,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Mansfield is a substitute for Mrs. Amber Griffith.)

4. Approve Mr. Christopher Anastas as a High School Building Substitute effective February 4, 2020 through the remainder of the 2019-2020 School Year. Salary is \$21,500 pro-rated. (Mr. Anastas is replacing Mr. Schweers.)

PARAPROFESSIONAL/PARAEDUCATOR/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

5. Approve Mrs. Lisa Graff as a Class VI Administrative Assistant to the High School Assistant Principals effective February 14, 2020. Salary is \$22.40 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$22.65 per hour thereafter. (Mrs. Graff is replacing Mrs. Joyner.)

CUSTODIAL:

6. Approve a change in status for Ms. Michelle Garrow moving from a 10-month/8-hour Custodian at Hampton High School to a 12-month/8-hour Custodian at Hampton Middle School effective January 21, 2020. There is no change in the hourly rate. (Ms. Garrow is replacing Mr. Josh Lavery.)

SUPPLEMENTALS:

7. Approve the following Building/Coaching Supplemental positions for the 2019-2020 School Year, at a rate of \$136 per point :

Name	Position	Building	Points	Range	Total Stipend
Kellen Wheeler	Baseball - Varsity Head Coach	HS	44	35/47	\$5,984.00
Steve Swierezynski	Baseball - Varsity Assistant Coach	HS	38	30/38	\$5,168.00
Mike Susi	Baseball - JV Head Coach	HS	37	30/38	\$5,032.00
Ryan Gally	Baseball - JV Assistant Coach	HS	32	24/32	\$4,352.00
Gary Wilson	Baseball - MS Head Coach	MS	32	24/32	\$4,352.00
Bruce Steckel	Baseball Volunteer	HS			

Ben Vay	Baseball Volunteer	HS			
John Banca	Baseball Volunteer	HS			
Mitch Nordstrom	Baseball Volunteer	MS			
James Vollberg	Boys' Lacrosse Head Coach	HS	31	23/31	\$4,216.00
Sam Evans	Boys' Lacrosse Assistant Coach	HS	20	16/20	\$2,720.00
Mike Keuch	Boys' Lacrosse Volunteer	HS			
Rob Voinchet	Boys Lacrosse Volunteer	HS			
Kelsey Veits	Girls' Lacrosse Head Coach	HS	31	23/31	\$4,216.00
Christine McGrath	Girls' Lacrosse Assistant Coach	HS	20	16/20	\$2,720.00
Nate Meade	Girls' Lacrosse Volunteer	HS			
Breanne Vodde	Girls' Lacrosse Volunteer	HS			
Ron Fedell	Softball Head Coach	HS	47	35/47	\$6,392.00
Lynn Zdinak	Softball Assistant Coach	HS	38	30/38	\$5,168.00
Scott Breen	Softball JV Coach	HS	38	30/38	\$5,168.00
Pete Scanga	Softball MS Head Coach	MS	28	20/28	\$\$\$3,808.00
John McAwley	Softball MS Assistant Coach	MS	20	16/20	\$2,720.00
Mike Zdinak	Softball Volunteer	HS			
Derek Brinkley	Track Head Coach	HS	53	41/53	\$7,208.00
Nick Panza	Track 1st Assistant Coach	HS	37	29/37	\$5,032.00
Joe Cangilla	Track Assistant Coach A	HS	29	21/29	\$3,944.00
Heather Dietz	Track Assistant Coach B	HS	29	21/29	\$3,944.00
Kim Masarik	Track Assistant Coach C	HS	22	18/22	\$2,992.00
Steve Sciallo	Track Assistant Coach D	HS	20	1/20	\$2,720.00

Amanda Spencer	Track Assistant Coach E	HS	20	16/20	\$2,720.00
Mary Bukovac	Track Head Coach	MS	34	26/34	\$4,694.00
Greg Shumaker	Track Assistant Coach A	MS	19	15/19	\$2,584.00
Mary Davis	Track Assistant Coach B	MS	19	15/19	\$2,584.00
Paige Serbin	Track Assistant Coach C	MS	17	15/19	\$2,312.00
Grant McKinney	Tennis Head Coach	HS	33	26/33	\$4,488.00
Sarah Longo	Tennis JV Head Coach	HS	20	16/20	\$2,720.00

Policy and Legislative Affairs

Action Items for Consideration

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy #217 Graduation Requirements

The Board is being asked to approve the second reading and final adoption of Policy #217 Graduation Requirements.

Transportation

Action Items for Consideration

There were no action items for consideration this evening.

Technology

Action Items for Consideration

There were no action items for consideration this evening.

New Business

Remake Learning

Dr. Cunningham said Remake Learning Days at Hampton is scheduled for May 13, 2020 from 6-8 p.m. The event will be held at Central Elementary School this year and will feature innovative learning for grades K-12. The planned outdoor learning area at Central will be featured during the event. Information will be available on the District website under Community/Remake Learning Days.

Public Comment

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- Jackie Donato said that she is the booster president for the HS swimming and diving team. She asked about the air quality test and whether it tests for bacteria. She said she is asking this question because a number of

the swimmers currently have bacterial-based illnesses. She said she asked this question of Mr. Farino and he said that it does not test for bacteria. She said she is hoping that this new system can be approved and installed sooner rather than later.

- Ritchie Donato said he is a junior at Hampton and on the swim team. He said he was there during the air quality testing last time and did not notice them testing the air movement/quality within a foot of the surface of the water. He asked if that could be done with the next test. Dr. Loughhead said he asked this question today and instructed them to use a “floater” that would go out onto the surface of the water and test the air quality there. During a second comment, Mr. Donato said a company named Bio Box makes equipment that filters air. He said there are a few pools that have used this system in conjunction with one of the UV filter systems. Dr. Loughhead asked him for the information and Mr. Donato provided a handout for the board.

- Carly Apaliski said she believed the air quality was tested on a still pool, but that the tests need to be completed when the water is moving. She suggested using a bubbler to stir the water during the next test. She said being exposed to the pool air is causing the kids to cough all night long afterwards. She asked if the District could place fans in the pool area to circulate the air better.

- Melissa Berkebile said her daughter has been having similar health issues as the others. She said a quicker fix that might help for now is better air circulation in the pool area until a new system can be installed and checking to make sure the air handling system in the pool room has been cleaned. She also indicated that the air quality is a problem for spectators as well.

- Dale Lynn said a lot of kids became sick in December after being at the pool, and asked if there was a way to see the test results for air quality that have previously been conducted by the District. He also asked if tests being conducted moving forward could be made public. Dr. Loughhead said those results would be made available. Mr. Lynn noted that this is not just a swim team issue; the community uses the pool and so we need to make sure it is safe for everyone who is using it.

- Robert Matschener asked if there was a preventative maintenance component to the new UV system being explored that would constantly measure the quality of the air/water in the pool. He said if the District is going to invest money in a new UV system, it would make sense to consider a consistent monitoring and ongoing diagnostic checks to the system.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m. Mr. Wesley announced there would be an executive session for legal and personnel matters. The next regularly-scheduled meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 10 in the Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library, HMS.