

# The Board Report

*September 3, 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 Hennessy**

**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**

**Ms. Shari Berg**

**Mr. Bill Cardone**

**Dr. Ed McKaveney**

**Mr. Rick Farino**

**Mr. Jeff Kline**

**Dr. Jacquelyn Removcik**

**Superintendent of Schools**

**Assistant Superintendent of Schools**

**Communications Consultant**

**Athletic Director**

**Director of Technology**

**Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds**

**Director of Administrative Services**

**Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

# 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.

## Committee Reports

### STUDENT AFFAIRS

#### New Business

##### Student Representatives Report

Student representatives Ethen Oh and Rosy Oh provided the Board with an update on the following items:

- The Back to School Bash was held on Friday and was a huge success.
- On Thursday seniors will vote for the Homecoming Court. Homecoming will be held this year on September 20.
- The Freshmen and New Student Orientation was held before school started, and all student council members attended to introduce themselves and to assist the new students as they became acclimated to the High School.
- A Student Council general membership meeting will be held next week for those who are interested in being involved but are not officers.
- Planning is underway for the Talbot Thon, including a day when students can wear their neon t-shirts and donate a dollar during lunch.
- Student Council has launched an official Twitter account to facilitate communication with students. The Student Body Vice President is in charge of the account. The Twitter handle is @hhsstudentbody1.

#### Action Items for Consideration

##### Fellowship and Fun Club

Several Middle School students are requesting the approval of a new club called the Fellowship and Fun Club. The group is proposing that the club meet every Wednesday morning from 7:10 to 7:45 a.m. to study a book of the Bible. Mrs. Hennessey said that per regulations there is no faculty advisor for the group; however, the building administration would work with the students to make sure they are appropriately supervised while in the building.

##### Wyland Garden Club

Wyland Elementary School is requesting approval of a new club called the Wyland Garden Club. Previously, Wyland used a grant through Phipps Conservatory to purchase a Tower Garden. In addition to learning about the Tower Garden, students in the club would maintain the raised beds in front of the school and the small garden bed outside the second grade hallway.

### FACILITIES

#### Action Items for Consideration

There were no action items for consideration this evening.

#### Old Business

##### Fridley Track and Turf Update

Mr. Tom Durkin of VEBH Architects reported on the progress of the Fridley Field Track and Turf Projects. He noted the following updates:

#### Turf & Scoreboard:

Mr. Durkin reported that the turf and scoreboard are both substantially complete. The GMax test on the field was conducted today by Milo George, of Professional Sports Field Services LLC, and the results were excellent, with the details of the test pending.

#### Track:

The track installation will resume shortly, as the final materials will be onsite this week or early next week. The work on the track will begin within the next two weeks and finish in early October. The District will coordinate Stadium events around the installation with the contractor. The track will take 16 working days to complete (weather-dependent).

Bill Cardone noted that access to the field will be limited and a barrier will be present to segregate the field from the track. Access to the Fridley Field will be restricted to Hampton School activities in order to protect the track once work begins.

Mr. Cardone provided details of the sport-by-sport schedules:

- The scheduled football games on Friday, September 6th, September 20th, and September 27th will be played at Fridley Field. Practice will continue on the Fridley turf.
- JV football played a home game on August 31st.
- The schedule for some boys and girls soccer games were “flipped,” meaning home games earlier in the season were switched with road games later in the season. Both boys and girls soccer teams are practicing on the Fridley turf.
- The Band will perform at the September 6th football game; however, they will not be able to use the bleachers.
- The cheerleaders will perform at the September 6th football game without restrictions.

#### **Central Elementary Roof Replacement**

Mr. Rick Farino provided an update on the Central Elementary Roof project. The power-washing was completed last week, and the spray layers are beginning this week. The project is scheduled for completion on October 15th (approximately 15 days early).

#### **New Business**

##### **Summer Projects/Opening of School**

Rick Farino provided a summary of completed summer projects by facility:

##### High School:

- Completed room painting
- Completed asphalt patching
- Completed roof patching

##### Middle School:

- Purchased furnishings
- Installed new windows
- Painted nine rooms
- Upgraded gymnasium exhaust
- Completed courtyard cleanup
- Completed roof patching

##### Central Elementary:

- Replaced smoke detectors
- Painted 5 classrooms
- Painted the stage wall
- Installed carpet tiles in the music rooms
- Installed LED lighting in the office area
- Purchased soft play for the playgrounds

Replaced concrete slab  
Central Elementary courtyard is 45% complete  
Poff Elementary:  
Painted the lego wall  
Painted the Kindergarten corridor  
Replaced ten windows  
Power-washed the front of the building  
Line-stripped the crosswalk  
Wyland Elementary:  
Twelve doors were stained  
Painted classrooms  
Installed VCT in one classroom, stairs and library  
Completed line striping  
Installed six dehumidifiers  
Athletic Fields:  
Power-washed Fridley stands  
Completed the mandatory bleacher inspection  
Installed a sink in the concession stand

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

### **Action Items for Consideration**

#### **Flexible Instruction Day**

Dr. Removcik and Dr. Loughead provided information about the new Flexible Instruction Day (FID) opportunity that was approved in July by Governor Tom Wolf. Once applications and plans are approved, school districts would be permitted to use these “remote instruction” days for weather-related events or other emergencies that may occur, in order to keep students learning even if school is cancelled. Some school districts, such as Seneca Valley, have already piloted FIDs in the event that school was cancelled. Dr. Loughead stated that flexible instruction days can only happen if students have access to devices. Dr. Removcik said there are two parts to consider if a District would like to take advantage of the opportunity the State has provided and utilize flexible instruction days. The first part of the process is to complete an application and submit the application to the State. The application was due on September 1 and has been submitted. The second part of the process is to work out a plan for how the District would use a flexible instruction day in the event school is cancelled. Dr. Removcik indicated that a lot of work still needs to be done in order to create a high-quality plan. She said that the State did not give Districts a lot of time to submit the initial application but we now have more time to develop an appropriate plan so that we could potentially use a flexible instruction day if needed. Additionally, she noted that Districts can only use five flexible instruction days per year, and the Department of Education would be surveying Districts to get feedback on this process. Dr. Loughead stated that the administration would like to work out more details and parameters for how Hampton might use a FID and bring that presentation back to the Board for their feedback and suggestions. He noted that it would be unlikely that Hampton would use a FID this school year, but that this opportunity does provide more flexibility with the continuity of the instructional program, as opposed to making up instructional days in June.

Additional information about how the program will work is available on the Pennsylvania Department of Education website here. Mrs. Litwiler said she wants to be assured that these days will not be used in place of any snow make-up days. Dr. Removcik said that concern will be part of the discussion if the District’s initial application is approved by the state.

## New Business

### Third Day Enrollment

Total District Enrollment as of the third school day of the 2019-2020 School Year is 2,771 students. Dr. Loughead said Districtwide enrollment is down by 25 students over the last school year. Third day enrollment figures are available [here](#).

### Summer Program Update

Dr. Silbaugh and Dr. Tocci provided the Board with an update of the HTSD Summer Program, which was held during two weeks in June and one week in July for Camp Invention. The classes with the highest enrollment were Summer Theater, Intramurals, Programming Fun, Kids Cooking: World Cuisine, and Kitchen Breakout. A total of 230 students were enrolled in the summer program at the Middle School, and 52 students were enrolled in Camp Invention. Low enrollments occurred in Art Explorations and Create and Invent with LittleBits. Dr. Silbaugh said there is a surplus of \$15,000 in the Summer Program General Fund. Mrs. Litwiler asked if those funds could be used to help reduce the cost of classes for next year's program, or to offer scholarships for students who might otherwise not be able to attend a class. Dr. Silbaugh stated that scholarships are available for students if funding is an issue, and they would also look at the costs for classes overall for next year.

## PERSONNEL

### Action Items for Consideration

#### RESIGNATIONS:

1. Accept the resignation of Mr. Matthew Pokusa, who is resigning after two years with the District effective August 22, 2019. (Mr. Pokusa was an Academic Support Language Arts Teacher at Hampton High School.)
2. Accept the resignation of Ms. Amy Alexander, who is resigning after 28 years with the District effective November 15, 2019. (Ms. Alexander is a Language Arts Teacher at Hampton Middle School.)

#### TEACHERS:

3. Approve a change in status for Ms. Kristin Baker, moving from a full-time Academic Support Math Teacher (TPE) to a 83% Academic Support Math Teacher (TPE) and a 17% Long-Term Substitute Math Teacher at Hampton High School effective August 19, 2019. Salary is pro-rated to \$29,167 for the 2019-2020 School Year.
4. Approve Ms. Rachel Davis as a Long-Term Substitute Grade 7 Math Teacher at Hampton Middle School from August 21, 2019 to approximately November 21, 2019. Salary is \$32,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Davis is a substitute for Mrs. Rebecca Heller.)
5. Approve Ms. Rachel Davis as an Elementary Building Substitute at Central Elementary School from approximately November 22, 2019 through the remainder of the 2019-2020 School Year. There is no change in salary. (This is an annual position.)
6. Approve Ms. Stephanie Witt as a Long-Term Substitute English Teacher at Hampton High School from August 22, 2019 through approximately November 11, 2019. Salary is \$32,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Witt is a substitute for Mrs. Erin Marron.)
7. Approve Ms. Makenna Krebs as a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School for the 2019-2020 School Year effective August 19, 2019. Salary is \$21,500. (This is an annual position.)
8. Approve Mrs. Meghan Marcello as an Elementary Building Substitute (Floater based at Central Elementary) for the 2019-2020 School Year effective August 21, 2019. Salary is \$21,500, pro-rated. (This is an annual position.)
9. Approve Ms. Hannah Swartz as a Building Substitute at Hampton High School for the 2019-2020 School Year effective August 19, 2019. Salary is \$21,500. (This is an annual position.)
10. Approve Mr. Charles (Max) Weiss as a Building Substitute at Wyland Elementary School for the 2019-2020 School Year effective August 20, 2019. Salary is \$21,500, pro-rated. (This is an annual position.)
11. Approve Mr. Thomas Schweers as a Building Substitute at Hampton High School for the 2019-2020 School Year effective August 22, 2019. Salary is \$21,500, pro-rated. (This is an annual position.)

12. It is recommended and I move that the Board approves the following list of mentors for the 2019-2020 School Year:

Kylie Harding (McCracken)	Amy Baxter	Catherine Spencer
John Lee	Lisa Oliveira	Amy Rein
Dina Dunmire	Marilyn Adams	Mark Gartner
Katie Wagner	Brittnee Stepanik	Sheree Lucas
Sean Desguin	Angela Lamers	Alison McBee
Amy Holtz	Brian Molinero	Amy Faith
Jen Lavella	Christine Ruffner	Andrew Halter
Devon Byrne		

**PARAPROFESSIONAL/PARAEDUCATOR/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:**

13. Approve Mr. Carlos Smith as a Class III Paraeducator at Wyland Elementary School effective August 28, 2019. Salary is \$16.61 per-hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$16.86 per hour thereafter. (This is a new position due to increased student needs and special education enrollment at Wyland Elementary School.)

14. Approve Ms. Christina Piskula as a Long-Term Substitute Class III Paraeducator at Hampton Middle School effective August 21, 2019. Salary is \$16.61 per-hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$16.86 per hour thereafter. (Ms. Piskula is a substitute for Mrs. Jansen Jamison.)

15. Approve Miss Jessica Sinicrope as a Class III Paraeducator at Hampton Middle School effective August 21, 2019. Salary is \$16.61 per-hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$16.86 per hour thereafter. (Miss Sinicrope is replacing Mrs. Anne Martinez.)

**CUSTODIANS:**

16. Approve a change in status for Mr. Joseph Sulkowski, moving from a 10 month/8 hour custodian at Hampton Middle School to a 12 month/8 hour custodian at Hampton Middle School, effective August 15, 2019. There is no change in hourly rate. (Mr. Sulkowski replaced Mr. Randy Yester's position.)

**OTHER:**

17. Approve Ms. Amanda Filutze as a substitute Paraeducator effective August 27, 2019.

**SUPPLEMENTALS:**

18. 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
Charles (Max) Weiss	Elementary Bus Monitor	Wyland	12	12	\$1,632
Sean Gally (replacing Sam Flowers)	Football Middle School Assistant Coach	MS	27	23/31	\$3,672
Joseph Gally	Volunteer Golf Coach	HS			

**FINANCE**

**Action Items for Consideration**

There are no actions items for consideration this evening.



## **Old Business**

### **Electricity Commodity RFP Update**

Mr. Kline noted last month that the District has had issues renewing the electricity commodity contract with Direct Energy through the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Consortium. The consortium program provides individual pricing for electricity to the participating Districts. Hampton attempted to renew for 1-year in December 2018 at a rate of 6.62 cents/kwh and was told by Direct Energy the next day that the price was invalid due to usage patterns. The updated price for 1-year was 7.23 cents/kwh. The District opted to move to a month-to-month rate through Duquesne Light, which has worked better than 7.23 cents. However, the District wants to lock-in prices for a period to prevent the risk of price variations.

Eric Ryan Corp issued an RFP to 12+ suppliers for pricing for several durations (12 months, 24 months, 36 months) last week and secured quotes to “assess the market” late last week. The fixed rates look promising and Mr. Kline recommends that the District lock-in a 12-month rate as soon as possible. The rate will likely be in the range of 6.2 cents to 6.5 cents per kwh. Mr. Kline asked the board for its preferences on locking in the rate (rates are usually only valid for 4-5 hours during the commodity trading day, so locking it in at a Board meeting is not possible). The Board agreed to delegate authority to lock in the rates to Dr. Loughead and Mr. Kline via a “not to exceed” motion.

## **POLICY/LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS**

### **Action Items for Consideration**

#### **Second Reading of Policy #006: Local Board Procedures**

The Board is being asked to approve the second reading and final adoption of this policy. This policy is being amended to provide the Board with latitude to discuss certain issues relating to safety and security in Executive Session, and also contains additional language changes to bring the policy up to Code.

#### **Second Reading of Policy #249: Bullying/Cyberbullying**

The Board is being asked to approve the second reading and final adoption of this policy. This policy is reviewed every three years to provide revisions and updates as needed.

## **New Business**

### **PSBA Officer Elections**

Ms. Balason said she emailed Board members a list of PSBA Officer Candidates and their biographies, and explained that Board members could either vote or abstain for each candidate.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **Action Items for Consideration**

There are no actions items for consideration this evening.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

### **Action Items for Consideration**

There are no actions items for consideration this evening.

## **New Business**

Mr. Kline stated that the transportation start-up to the school year was remarkably smooth. He thanked Diane Balint and the dispatchers, and drivers of both WL Roenigk and Monark.



# Public Comment

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- Mark Farabaugh highlighted the posted road closure on Sample Road near the railroad crossing from September 14-16.

*The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m. Mr. Wesley announced there would be an executive session for legal and personnel matters following adjournment. The next regularly-scheduled meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, September 9 in the Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library, HMS.*