

# The Board Report

*Monday April 19, 2021*



**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***

<b>Bryant Wesley II, Esq.</b>	<b>Board President</b>
<b>Mrs. Jill Hamlin</b>	<b>Board Vice President</b>
<b>Ms. Denise Balason</b>	<b>Board Secretary/Facilities Chair</b>
<b>Mr. Matt Jarrell</b>	<b>Transportation Chair</b>
<b>Mrs. Joy Midgley</b>	<b>Personnel Chair</b>
<b>Mr. Robert Shages</b>	<b>Board Treasurer/Policy &amp; Legislative Affairs Chair</b>
<b>Mr. Greg Stein</b>	<b>Technology Chair</b>
<b>Mr. Larry Vasko</b>	<b>Finance Chair</b>
<b>Mrs. Trisha Webb</b>	<b>Student Affairs Chair</b>

*This Hampton Township Board Meeting was held in the Hampton Middle School Auditorium. The meeting was audio/video simulcast so that community members could watch remotely, and was also audio/video recorded.*

## ***Members of Administration in Attendance***

<b>Dr. Michael Loughead</b>	<b>Superintendent of Schools</b>
<b>Dr. Rebecca Cunningham</b>	<b>Assistant Superintendent of Schools</b>
<b>Mr. Jeff Kline</b>	<b>Director of Administrative Services</b>
<b>Dr. Ed McKaveney</b>	<b>Director of Technology</b>
<b>Mr. Rick Farino</b>	<b>Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds</b>
<b>Mr. Josh Kellogg</b>	<b>Technology Services Network Administrator</b>

**Monday, April 19, 2021**

## **Voting Meeting**

A video recording of the meeting can be viewed [here](#). The time within the video that each section begins is indicated below.

### **Opening**

00:05

Mr. Wesley opened the meeting and said there would be recognition of student awards. He added that two opportunities for public comment – following the student awards and at the end of the meeting – would be provided.

### **Student Awards**

00:42

Mrs. Webb recognized and congratulated several District teams and student athletes for athletic accomplishments during the winter sport season. Those recognized include the following students and coaches:

- The Hampton Boys' Swimming and Diving team for their successful season as the WPIAL AA Champions and third place finish at the PIAA Championships. Mrs. Webb also recognized several members of the team for accomplishments at both WPIAL and PIAA competitions.
- District basketball coach Tony Howard, who was named WPIAL Section 2 Girls' Basketball Coach of the Year.
- The Girls' Basketball team for winning the 5A Section Championship.
- Team members from both the Hampton Girls' and Boys' Basketball teams who were selected to play on the 5A All-Section First Team, 5A All-Section Second Team or the 5A All-Section Third Team.
- District wrestlers who won or placed at the WPIAL and PIAA championships. A member of the team was also selected to compete on the PA All-Star Team during the Pittsburgh Classic.
- Students on the Hampton Inline Hockey Team, who recently won their championship against Butler.

Board Members said that they are proud of students' accomplishments and thanked them.

### **Public Comment**

13:15

Mr. Wesley opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment this evening.

## **Approval of Minutes**

13:37

Minutes from the Board's March 8 and March 29 meetings were introduced and approved unanimously.

## **Treasurer's Report**

13:58

Mr. Shages introduced and the Board unanimously approved the following:

- March 2021 General Fund 10 Disbursements totaling \$5,832,184.28
- March 2021 High School Construction Fund 35 Disbursements totaling \$76,596.85
- March 2021 Capital Fund 39 Disbursements totaling \$701.25
- March 2021 Cafeteria Fund 50 Disbursements totaling \$25,427.47
- The February 2021 Treasurer's Report
- The February 2021 Student Activities Fund Report

## **President's Report**

15:33

There was no report this evening.

## **Board Secretary's Report**

15:40

Ms. Balason reminded the rest of the Board of the upcoming vote for the AIU Board of Directors and said completed ballots should be returned by mail.

## **Solicitor's Report**

16:17

There was no report this evening.

## **Superintendent's Report**

16:20

Dr. Loughhead made a brief report regarding District academics, athletics and the arts.

## **Athletics**

Dr. Loughead thanked the student athletes who were present earlier in the meeting, and stated that it is exciting to see students perform at such a high level and be successful while remaining strong scholars.

## **Academics**

It has been exciting to reopen the middle school for full-time, in-person instruction, which started last week, Dr. Loughead reported. The change has gone smoothly, and the biggest issue has been student drop off. He thanked the Township police officers who have been helping direct traffic. Dr. Loughead also asked that parents and driving students allow extra time and be patient as the high school reopens for full-time, in-person classes. There have been a few new COVID cases in schools, but numbers are staying low and have not required many students to enter quarantine, he said. He thanked District families for the precautions they are taking and said that bringing more students back into buildings requires everyone to continue being careful. Regarding the reopening of the high school, the majority of students have elected to return to five-day-a-week, in-person classes, although a few have transferred to the Hampton Online Academy and about 10% will be using the two-day-a-week schedule.

## **The Arts**

The District has several upcoming performances, including the musical and a Band Booster's Extravaganza at the high school. The band event will be outside and will still have social distancing and masking requirements in place.

## **Student Affairs**

20:22

There were no action items this evening.

## **Facilities**

20:27

Ms. Balason had one action item – an approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Tender Care Learning Center and the District. The MOU would allow Tender Care Learning Center to use Hampton Middle School as an evacuation and reunification site in the event of an emergency.

A Board Member asked if a closer space to the Tender Care Learning Center would be more preferable than the middle school.

Dr. Cunningham said the Center was interested in using the middle school because of the facilities such as the gym and restrooms, and the parking space it would provide for parents to collect their children. However, she will ask the Center about the distance.

The MOU passed with a 9-0 vote.

Ms. Balason also introduced Mr. Farino to give his postponed presentation on the District's Five-Year Buildings and Grounds Improvement Plan and the anticipated budget.

Mr. Farino said that he and Mr. Kline examine the plan each year. The planning document covers purchases or projects that cost \$5,000 or more. Projects for the upcoming year have been scaled back due to the budget constraints. Some of the suggested items for 2021/22 include the following items:

- Shingles for areas at the middle school / 8th grade wing
- Finishing the courtyard project at Central Elementary/final plantings
- Converting an area at Poff Elementary into a new conference room, as the previous conference room is now in use as a classroom
- Sealing a playground and specific pathways
- Replacing two auto-scrubbers
- Upgrading some kitchen equipment
- Acquiring portable bleachers to replace old and damaged ones
- Replacing the HVAC van
- Upgrading a fire control door

In response to questions from Board Members, Mr. Farino, Mr. Kline and Dr. Loughead said:

- It is unclear what the total price for roof repair at the middle school will be because there is interest in changing the type of roofing material in place.
- Several organizations have already donated to the courtyard project and there are no plans to solicit more funds for the project at this time. However, the District could explore some of the suggested options, such as incorporating Eagle Scout projects, to trim some of the costs.
- A request to upgrade fields at one elementary school needs to wait for another meeting, as it is a larger project and should be a separate discussion.
- Previously noted work on the gym floors at the high school is not included, as this work is in the second phase of the high school renovation project.
- The projects included in this list are funded through an annual allocation from the District's general fund budget.

Dr. Loughead and Mr. Farino noted that the District will be looking to see if any items can be trimmed or deferred.

## **Educational Programs**

43:39

There were no action items, but Mrs. Hamlin said that a commemorative brick has been added to the high school's Remembrance Garden in honor of long-time Board Member Gail Litwiler.

## Personnel

44:32

Mrs. Midgley introduced, and the Board voted 9-0 to approve the following items:

### **RESIGNATION:**

1. The resignation of Ms. Jessica Githens effective April 9, 2021. (Ms. Githens was a Long-Term Health Office Nurse for the District.)

### **PARAPROFESSIONAL/PARAEDUCATOR/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:**

2. The following Hampton Education Support Professionals job descriptions, effective April 19, 2021:

- Class I – Clerical Paraprofessional
- Class II - Clerical Paraprofessional
- Class III – Paraeducator
- Class V – Administrative Assistant to the School Counselors
- Class V – Administrative Assistant to the Middle School Assistant Principal
- Class VI – Administrative Assistant to the Middle School Principal
- Class VI – Administrative Assistant to the Elementary Principals

### **CUSTODIAL:**

3. The Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Hampton Township School District and the Hampton Township Custodial Employees' Association, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026, pending final review by the District solicitor.

Mr. Palmer added that the agreement has been reviewed and that he approves of the form of the agreement.

### **OTHER:**

4. Ms. Jessica Thompson as part-time long-term substitute health office nurse for the District effective April 12, 2021 at a rate of \$21.80 per hour to support the District's Health and Safety Reopening Plan as needed. (Ms. Thompson is replacing Ms. Jessica Githens.)

### **SUPPLEMENTALS:**

5. The Administration's recommendation of the approval of the following conditional appointments for 2020-2021, each at a rate of \$139 per point, with each such appointment being conditioned on the District making a subsequent determination that the supplementary position and work associated with such position is needed and approved and will continue during the coronavirus pandemic following future guidance from the Commonwealth. Each appointment shall be effective only where

the position is approved and operational and where the work associated with such position is actually being performed. This conditional appointment does not obligate the District to approve some, all or any of the supplementary positions for 2020-2021 and does not guarantee any of the persons listed below that his or her supplementary position will be needed and in place, or that it will continue uninterrupted, in 2020-2021:

NAME	POSITION	BUILDING	POINTS RANGE	TOTAL	STIPEND
John McAwley	Assistant JV Softball Coach	HS	26	24/32	\$3,614
Jed Cordisco	Volunteer MS Boys' Baseball Coach	MS			
Chase Takacs	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach	HS			
Rob Voinchet	Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach	HS			
Conner Hagins	Volunteer Girls' Lacrosse Coach	HS			

**ADDENDUM:**

- 6. The resignation of Ms. Rachel Floyd effective April 23, 2021. (Ms. Floyd is a building substitute at Hampton High School.)
- 7. The resignation of Ms. Khristine Jungling, who is retiring after 10 years with the District effective June 4, 2021. (Ms. Jungling is a Class III paraeducator at the High School.)

**Finance**

47:49

Mr. Vasko introduced, and the Board unanimously approved the following items:

- Budget Transfer totaling \$4,000 for Spec. Edu. General Supplies
- The Food Service Management contract with Metz Culinary Management for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Mr. Vasko then introduced the following item, which the Board approved 9-0:

- The 2-year Standby Bond Purchasing Agreement Extension for the 2007 Bonds with PNC Bank with the updated Facility Fee of Fifty (50) Basis Points (0.50%) per annum.

Mr. Vasko complimented Mr. Kline for the work done to reduce the cost involved and said he wanted the Board to recognize the good work.

Mr. Kline said that when the District extended the agreement last year, the rate was negatively affected by economic fears related to COVID. The competitive process this year helped lower the rate which saves about \$64,000.



## **Technology**

49:52

There were no action items this evening.

## **Policy and Legislative Affairs**

49:55

Mr. Shages introduced and the Board unanimously approved the First Reading of Policy #150: Title I Comparability of Services.

Mr. Shages said that the vote on the first reading of Policy #239 regarding foreign exchange students will be tabled until next month. There has been some discussion about the kinds of visas which are required for foreign exchange students, and the intention is to revise the policy with additional clarification.

He also thanked Dr. Cunningham and Dr. Loughhead for the work they have done to keep people in the District safe from COVID and to enforce safety practices at events. He requested that the administration ask the Band Boosters to be clearer in the safety practices and masking requirements that will be in place for the Band Booster's upcoming Extravaganza. Current materials promoting the event are not clear that masking and social distancing will be required. He also asked that the Band Boosters enforce these safety practices at the event.

## **Transportation**

53:37

There were no action items this evening.

## **A.W. Beattie Career Center Board Report**

53:42

Mr. Stein said that the Beattie budget is expected to increase fees for districts who have students attending programs at Beattie. The amount will reflect how many students enroll from each district. He added that Eric Heasley, Beattie's Executive Director, will be addressing the Hampton Rotary Club at a meeting next week.

Mr. Vasko added that Board Members are welcome to attend that meeting.

## **HAEE Report**

55:15

Mrs. Midgley relayed the following report:

- HAEE has elected a new vice president.
- They have set October 9 as the tentative date for an in-person or virtual race. The goal is to have the race at the Community Park, but the site has not been finalized.
- HAEE approved a grant for high school mobile gym equipment to help students exercise outside.
- They are currently reviewing scholarship applications from senior students.
- HAEE is always looking for new members. Those interested should visit [HamptonAlliance.org](https://HamptonAlliance.org) for more information.

## **Public Comment**

56:53

Mr. Wesley opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment at this time.

## **Closing and Adjournment**

56:58

Mr. Wesley adjourned the meeting.