

**Hesperia Community Schools
Board of Education
March 18, 2019
Regular Meeting**

Scott Wenberg, Board President, called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Media Center.

Pledge/Roll Call

Board Members Present: Burrell, Kraus, Wenberg, Good, Daniels and Allen.
Board Members Absent: Sturtevant

All present took the pledge.

Additional Agenda Items

There were no additional agenda items.

Presentations

Volleyball Team

Monica Grimard, Volleyball Coach, gave a presentation on the girls' volleyball team. The team won the 2018 District Championship for the first time in school history. The banner they were awarded will be displayed. Coach Grimard, introduced the team members, discussed the girls' success and how they got so successful by setting goals and doing extra work, and she talked about the summer activities that many of the team members participate in. She also mentioned how the girls mentor and coach the younger students interested in volleyball. The Board congratulated the team and Coach Grimard.

Strategic Team Progress

An update was given on the district's strategic planning progress. There are five teams listed as follows: Academics; School Culture and Climate; Personnel and Leadership; Communications and Community Engagement; and Operations. Each team leader outlined the goals of each team and discussed the team's progress in meeting their goals. Each team also presented informational handouts to the Board members.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Kraus supported by Burrell to approve the consent agenda. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Bills

Motion by Good supported by Kraus to approve the bills as presented Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Elementary Principal/Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Report

Bryan Mey gave a report summarized as follows on the items below:

- Mrs. Bartolini has written a grant to FAF to help sustain the work with the Add+Vantage Math Recovery (AVMR) program.
- The Elementary Family Literacy Night was March 14. We had fairly good attendance considering the weather. The first 30 families received a \$5 gift certificate to the book fair. There was a free meal in addition to the activities.
- The third assessment window is open and runs through March 23.

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Elementary Principal/Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Report (Continued)

- Mrs. Balkema and Mrs. Kammer will attend MACUL and will share information with staff at an April Delayed start meeting.
- The second grade students traveled to the Career Tech Center, had lunch, and wrote a restaurant review.

MS/HS Principal's Report

Mr. David LaPrairie, gave a report summarized as follows on the items below:

- He discussed the various March is reading month activities. The primary theme for reading month is "Movies". Students will see "book trailers" during seminar period, which will help them choose books of interest to read. The students who read multiple books will have their names on a "Walk of Fame". They can also earn tickets for movie treats. At the end of the month, movies based on popular books will be shown in the seminar class. There is also a book club that students can participate in.
- Middle School Honors Band students include Mackenzie Bradfield, Nataleigh McGahan, Sky Milner, Jozlynn Nichols and Merissa Simpson. The students earned honor band status by earning an "A" in playing an instrument solo at the fall solo and ensemble festival. Sky Milner (8th grade) earned the position of #1 Piccolo player from hundreds of Middle School players across the State.

Student Board Member Representative's Report

- Isabelle Rumsey, Student Board Member Representative, gave a brief report. She commented that the Pennies for Patients activity raised \$632. She stated that the students like the changes in the food served in the hot lunch program. She also said that the "Be Nice" group is doing different activities with the focus on helping students get along better with each other.

Superintendent's Report

Vaughn White, Superintendent, updated the Board on the following items:

- An update on the snow days was given. We currently have had fourteen snow days. Nine of these days are "forgiven" days and at this point, it looks like we will have five days to make up. There may be some changes proposed by the legislature and we are hopeful that we will know by spring break if we will have to make up all of the days.
- There will be additional money for school social workers from the State in an allocation to the ISD's. NCRESA will received \$294,000 and a plan is currently being developed on how to best use the funds. These funds can be carried over to the next school year.
- We have applied for a School Safety Grant for buzz-in door systems and android tablets for the school safety system. We should know by the first of April if we are awarded the grant.
- Congratulations to the students for their recent achievements.

Correspondence

Michelle Allen, Board Secretary, read a letter from the MEA Uniserve Office notifying us that Ben Westgate has been chosen to receive the EPICS (Exceptional Person In Community Schools) award. There will be an awards ceremony on April 17 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Muskegon Golf Club in Ravenna inviting any Board members who would like to attend.

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Correspondence (Continued)

Courtney Niblick presented a letter to Michelle Allen. Michelle read the letter from the elementary teachers stating their support of contract approval for Bryan Mey.

Public Comments

None.

Public Comment on Action Items

- Al Daniels commented on his concerns regarding the approval of the building principal's contracts. He stated that both Bryan Mey, Elementary Principal (K-5), and David LaPrairie High School/Middle School (6-12) Principal received an effective evaluation. He is concerned about the effect it would have if the principal's contracts were not approved on the initiatives that are currently being done. He stated the contract approvals were discussed in earlier meetings and there no concerns expressed at those times.
- Janet Fairchild commented on her support for David LaPrairie and had many positive comments.
- Michael Blue commented on his support for David LaPrairie and had many positive comments.
- Jen Sherburn commented on her support for David LaPrairie. She reminded the Board of the school's motto, "Achieving Excellence Together" and expressed her positive support for David LaPrairie.
- John Foxworthy commented on the support he received from David LaPrairie as a student.
- Melissa Hasty commented on her support for David LaPrairie as a parent.
- Danielle McCabe-Arbogast commented on her support for David LaPrairie and had many positive comments. She also read a letter from Vince Grodus who expressed his support of David LaPrairie.
- Theresa Dean-Rumsey commented on her support for David LaPrairie and had many positive comments.
- Lindsey Walker commented on her support for David LaPrairie and had many positive comments.
- Melissa Baker commented on her support for David LaPrairie and had many positive comments.
- Robbie Olsen commented on her support for David LaPrairie and had many positive comments.
- Amy Brassler commented on her support for David LaPrairie. She shared that Mr. LaPrairie is the reason her family chose to move into the district. She stated that Mr. LaPrairie has helped her son with a bullying problem and helps him feel safe at school.
- Stephanie Purvis commented on her support for David LaPrairie and had many positive comments.
- Amy Fairchild commented on her support for David LaPrairie and had many positive comments.
- Christina Parks commented that she cannot share the same support of David LaPrairie and described the discipline incident with her son. She also commented that she has concerns as to how the incident was handled and is concerned about what she states was implied to her regarding the incident.

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The Board meeting was adjourned for a short recess at 8:50 p.m. and returned to open session at 9:00 a.m.

Action Items

Motion by Burrell supported by Allen to approve the two-year cooperative agreement with Walkerville Public Schools in football and soccer as presented. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Allen supported by Burrell to approve the SECOND reading and APPROVAL of the Updated School Board Policies Numbers: 5330, 5540 and 7217 as presented. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Burrell supported by Kraus to accept Ms. Michelle Gerard's resignation letter effective March 1, 2019. Discussion comment was that we accept her resignation with appreciation. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Allen supported by Burrell to approve hiring Ms. Jennifer Wright as a 2 (two) hour elementary lunch aide retro back to February 21, 2019 at the rate of \$9.94 per hour. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Kraus supported by Burrell to approve hiring Ms. Skylynn Franklin as a 2 (two) hour elementary lunch aide retro back to March 12, 2019, at the rate of \$9.94 per hour. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Burrell supported by Kraus to approve hiring Ms. Ashley Tanner as a 5.75 (five and three quarters) hour elementary special education assistant retro back to February 21, 2019 at the rate of \$10.34 per hour. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Allen supported by Daniels to approve the administrative contract for Mr. Bryan Mey as the K-5 Grade Principal and Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment for Grades K-12 as presented. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Daniels supported by Kraus to approve the administrative contract for Mr. David LaPrairie as the 6-12 Grade Principal as presented. Discussion comments included that there is compelling logic for the approval and that all of the comments were appreciated. Ayes: 3. Nays: 3. Vote was tied 3:3. Motion failed. Voting no: Wenberg, Allen, and Good. Voting yes: Daniels, Burrell, and Kraus.

Note: All coaching positions are pending an acceptable number of student athletes participating.

Motion by Good supported by Burrell to approve contracting with EDUStaff to select and assign Mr. Doug Bolles as the Varsity Football Coach for the 2019-2020 fall season. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

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Action Items (Continued)

Motion by Good supported by Allen to approve contracting with EDUStaff to select and assign Mr. Jeremy Stevens as the JV Football Coach for the 2019-2020 fall season. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Burrell supported by Good to approve contracting with EDUStaff to select and assign Mrs. Monica Grimard as the Varsity Volleyball Coach for the 2019-2020 fall season. Discussion comments that she has done an amazing job as coach. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Burrell supported by Good to approve contracting with EDUStaff to select and assign Mr. Tony Grimard as the JV Volleyball coach for the 2019-2020 fall season. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Good supported by Burrell to approve contracting with EDUStaff to select and assign Mr. Doug Baird as the Varsity Cross County Coach for the 2019-2020 fall season. Discussion none. Ayes: 5. Nays: 1. Motion passed 5-1. Voting no: Wenberg.

Motion by Allen supported by Good to approve contracting with EDUStaff to select and assign Mr. Mark Arbogast as the Assistant Varsity Cross Country/ MS Cross Country Coach for the 2019-2020 fall season. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion by Burrell supported by Good to approve Ms. Kaleigh Gleason as the volunteer Varsity Cheer Coach. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed 6-0.

Board Discussion

The discussion centered on why several of the Board members voted no on the approval of David LaPrairie's contract. There were comments on the Board goals not being followed concerning Personnel/Leadership –Create a culture for stable and consistent leadership and provide professional development. The Board members who voted no declined to answer for their vote citing that this is a personnel matter and cannot be discussed in public.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made. Ayes: 5. Nays: 1. Daniels voted no. He asked if the contract would be on the agenda at the next meeting. The contract approval for David LaPrairie will be on the next agenda for the workshop meeting for discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.


Michelle Allen, Secretary


Scott Wenberg, Board President