

**Hesperia Community Schools
Board of Education
April 8, 2019
Workshop/Special Meeting**

Board President Scott Wenberg called the work session/special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Media Center.

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

Board Members Absent: Sturtevant

All present took the pledge.

Presentation

Vaughn White, Superintendent, gave a presentation of the video “What Parents Should Know and Do During a School Lockdown Situation”. This video will be posted on the web site. We will also be sending letters to parents explaining this information. The reunification plan was discussed. The process was explained that parents should monitor Nixle and Skylert for communications on when and where to pick up their students.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Public Comments

- Christa Sturtevant-Good commented on the MS/HS Principal’s contract. She commented that she was disappointed in the lack of professionalism from the staff and school board members at the last meeting. She also commented regarding the potential recall election of several school board members and stated that a recall election is very costly and that our budget is already facing challenges.
- Mike Sidor commented that he is the sponsor of the recall election and that he has not threatened any of the board members. He hopes the board members will be able to defend their position on the MS/HS Principal’s contract.

Facilities/Grounds/Technology

Discussion items were as follows:

- The WMJ quote was discussed. The Board Action Matrix was reviewed. It was suggested that the cleaning expectations be shared with the staff. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Informational items were as follows:

- The flood damage to the track and baseball field was discussed. Flood pictures were sent to the Board and to the insurance company. We have gotten quotes for the track as follows: replacement - \$73,000; re-do all of track - \$165,000; fix the bad spot - \$1,750. We are waiting to hear from the insurance company as to what they will do. The baseball field will cost around \$3,700 - \$4,500 to fix the pitcher’s mound. We are waiting for information from the insurance company to see what they will cover. The baseball field and track are currently not useable. We are checking the schedule to work on alternate sites for home games. There was some discussion on the drain that runs along the school property. Contacts have been made with the drain commissioner and others to see if this drain can be cleaned so we do not have flooding problems again in the future. More information will be presented on this issue as it becomes available.
- Comment was made that we may want to look into a grant sponsored by Dick’s Sporting Goods as this grant is for athletic equipment and athletic fields.

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Finance (Continued)

Informational items were as follows:

- The Ad Hoc Finance Committee will meet on Monday, April 15, at 5:30 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room.

Discussion Items were as follows:

- The weighted funding concept plan was discussed. Board consensus was that we draft a letter for the Board to sign in support of weighted funding. The letter will be sent to the legislators.

Personnel/Policy

Discussion items were as follows:

The MS/HS Principal's contract was discussed.

- Board member Burrell asked what the protocol was for having a closed session. It was explained that a closed session could be held if the individual requests a closed session. In this case, Mr. LaPrairie did not request a closed session. She was concerned that some board members may have been privy to some information that other board members were not aware of. She wondered how everyone could get the same information without a public discussion of sensitive information. It was suggested that she meet with the Superintendent for additional information.
- Board member Wenberg commented on the decision to not approve the MS/HS Principal's contract. He explained that the contract was not being "rolled over". Mr. LaPrairie's contract is good through the 2019-2020 school year as he has a two-year contract. The contract could still be approved for extension during the 2019-2020 school year. He also commented on the possibility of the recall election. He stated that the voters will have to make their decisions on who they want for school board members.
- David LaPrairie, MS/HS Principal, discussed several of the comments that were made earlier during the public comment session. He stated that he has concerns regarding the arbitrary and capricious nature of the comments and the voting decision to not "roll" his contract.

The following will be action items for the regular meeting:

- Non-Union Support Staff Contracts for the 2019-2020 School Year.
- Tenure teacher for the 2019-2020 school year. The Board only has to approve tenure teachers.
- Contract with EDUStaff for a Varsity Baseball Coach.
- Contract with EDUStaff for a JV Baseball Coach.

Curriculum

Items for discussion were as follows:

- Probationary teachers for the 2019-2020 school year were discussed. There is a list in the board packet of the teachers.
- The Michigan State Police Competitive grant was discussed. We asked for \$86,244 and were awarded \$48,770. The grant will be used for door buzzer systems. Any funds left over will be used to purchase the tablets.

Board Discussion

- Board member Good discussed the Wizard of Oz play presented by the students and how great the play was. He commented that the performance was very impressive. There has been some discussion of moving the play to the Dogwood Center in Fremont. We also had a pit band orchestra perform at the play and they did a great job.

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Board Discussion (Continued)

- There was discussion on how much the band program has improved.
- At the next meeting, a band trip request will be presented. In addition, we will have a resignation from Becky Nadjkovic as she has found new employment.
- Board member Burrell reminded that there is a Safe Routes to School meeting tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the grant. There will also be a route-walking audit starting at 3:40 p.m. with volunteers walking the proposed routes. We need some additional volunteers. The purpose of the grant would be to get sidewalks (improvements) to develop a safe walking route to school.

Adjournment

Motion by Good supported by Kraus to adjourn. Discussion none. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.


Michelle Allen, Secretary


Scott Wenberg, Board President