

HIGHLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2020
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
7:00 PM

The Regular Meeting was called to order and roll call taken by Dr. Christopher, Board President, at 7:01 P.M.

Mr. Wolny, present; Mr. Houska, present; Mr. Kelly, present; Mrs. Thomas, present; Dr. Christopher, present.

The next regular meeting and annual organizational meeting are scheduled to be held on January 11, 2021 at the High School Media Center at 6:00 P.M.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 20-12-130

Mr. Wolny made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 16, 2020, as presented.

Mr. Wolny, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Houska, abstain; Mr. Kelly, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS 20-12-131

Mrs. Thomas made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education approve the November 2020 Financial Reports, as presented.

Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Wolny, yes; Mr. Houska, abstain; Dr. Christopher, yes.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VENDOR PAYMENT (THEN & NOW CERTIFICATE) 20-12-132

Mr. Houska made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education approve the following item for payment in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 5705.41(D):

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Edgenuity	Online Curriculum Services	\$173,660.00

Superintendent Aukerman provided a summary of the District's experience with virtual learning during the first semester of the school year. She did note that there was an adjustment period in the beginning similar to many districts across the nation, but the process has since evened

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out. She feels that this new option is generally meeting the expectations of those participating. Mr. Kelly shared that he has been impressed with the virtual learning option this year. Dr. Christopher inquired as to the funding source for this new expense. Treasurer Barnes noted that a significant portion has been covered by Coronavirus Relief Funds and any residual amount comes from the General Fund.

Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mr. Wolny, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes.

Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBERS' AGENDA ITEMS

LEVY DISCUSSION

As has been discussed over the past several years, the District's ~\$4.6 million emergency levy passed by voters in May 2011 is set to expire in 2021. The critical need to renew, replace, or substitute this levy has been clearly communicated on numerous occasions. This levy currently comprises 14% of the District's operating budget. While the District has a number of levy options available to renew/replace this expiring revenue source, the Board focused primarily on two choices: (1) renew the emergency levy with the same terms or (2) substitute the expiring levy under ORC 5705.199 for a continuing period of time. Neither option would result in a tax increase for current taxpayers assuming consistent carryover property values. The Board discussed advantages and disadvantages of the two options as well as potential ballot timing for the issue. The key advantage of a substitute levy is that it capitalizes on new construction growth, which the District has consistently experienced in recent years and is expected to experience in the future. With a substitute levy, new revenue is generated from new construction growth. A renewal would not tap in to this growth. Another advantage of the substitute levy is that it can be passed for a continuing period of time, which helps combat voter fatigue. The Board favored the substitute levy option and concurred that placing the issue on the ballot as soon as possible makes the most sense. A special meeting will be scheduled to pass the first resolution necessary to proceed with the levy on the May 4, 2021 ballot.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND/OR DELEGATION REPRESENTATIVES

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

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SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Mrs. Aukerman provided an update to the Board. She discussed the recent decision to have all students switch to remote learning on December 7. Given the amount of COVID cases experienced in the District, the nearly 500 students and staff impacted by the contact tracing associated with those cases, Medina County's purple COVID designation, and after consultation with the Medina County Health Department, the decision was made. Students are scheduled to return in person on a hybrid schedule on January 19. A return to full in person learning would then occur on January 25. She discussed the teaching staff's preparedness for this transition. The professional staff has taken part in specific professional development to be ready for this possibility. The work for classified staff also continues. As an example, she shared that nearly 5,000 lunches were distributed on the day of the Board meeting. She thanked everyone for their efforts with special recognition given to Dawn Marzano on the communication front and Roger Saffle on the technology side of things. The Board was in full support of the decision.

APPROVAL OF HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES 20-12-133

Mrs. Thomas made a motion, seconded by Mr. Houska, that the Board of Education approve the changes to the 2021-2022 High School Program of Studies, as presented.

Assistant High School Principal Josh Backo presented the program of studies noting that there were no significant changes. A modification was made regarding strength and conditioning class offerings.

Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Wolny, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes.

Motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS 20-12-134

Mr. Houska made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wolny, that the Board of Education accept the following donations:

<u>TO</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>ITEM/DESCRIPTION</u>
HMS Girls Volleyball	Dale Jarvis	\$ 60.00
HMS	Coca-Cola	\$ 27.65
HS Wrestling Club	Highland Youth Wrestling	\$327.00

Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Wolny, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes.

Motion carried.

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APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR USE OF FACILITIES/WAIVER OF FEES 20-12-135

Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, that the Board of Education approve the following request for use of facilities and waive associated fees, as listed:

Middle School

East Gym - Weekdays until 2/12/21, 6:15 PM - 9:00 PM - Highland Youth Boys and Girls Basketball, Jason Robertson & James Madison

Granger Elementary

Gym - Weekdays until 2/12/21, 6:15 PM - 9:00 PM - Highland Youth Boys and Girls Basketball, Jason Robertson & James Madison

Hinckley Elementary

Gym - Weekdays until 2/12/21, 6:15 PM - 9:00 PM - Highland Youth Boys and Girls Basketball, Jason Robertson & James Madison

Mr. Kelly, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Wolny, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes.

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA – CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS 20-12-136

Mrs. Thomas made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wolny, that the Board of Education approve the following contracts and/or agreements, items A and B, as presented:

- A. Total Education Solutions - Special Education Services
- B. Hylant Administrative Services - OSBA Insurance Program

Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Wolny, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Dr. Christopher, abstain.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT/AGREEMENT 20-12-137

Mr. Houska made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wolny, that the Board of Education approve the following contract and/or agreement, as presented:

- A. Children's Hospital Medical Center of Akron - Athletic Training Services

Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Wolny, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes.

Motion carried.

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CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL 20-12-138

Mrs. Thomas made a motion, seconded by Mr. Houska, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items A through E, as presented:

A. Employment Certified Substitutes/Home Tutors – Addendum #1

Adopted the attached list of certified substitutes/home tutors for use for the 2020-2021 school year, as submitted by the ESC of Medina County.

B. Employment - Certified

Employed the following individuals, as Long Term Substitutes, for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, as listed:

1. Allison Chaya, Sharon Long Term Substitute Kindergarten Teacher, effective 12/7/2020
2. Brandon Day, Middle School Long Term Substitute Social Studies Teacher, effective 12/4/2020
3. Vincent Jurewicz, Sharon Long Term Substitute 2nd grade Teacher, effective 12/9/2020
4. Suzanne Milam, Middle School Long Term Substitute Math Teacher, effective 12/4/2020
5. Kaylyn Minute, Hinckley Long Term Substitute 2nd grade Teacher, effective 12/7/2020

C. Employment – Certified

Employed Giovanni LaCognata, High School Long Term Substitute Social Studies teacher, effective 12/4/2020 and ending 12/18/2020.

D. Employment - Classified

Employed Kenneth Keys, Middle School Custodian, on a one-year limited contract of employment, for the 2020-2021 school year, effective 1/4/2021.

E. Resignation – Classified

Accepted the resignation of Bailee Cook, Sharon Latchkey Assistant, effective 11/16/2020.

Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Houska, yes; Mr. Wolny, yes; Mr. Kelly, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes.

Motion carried.

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PERSONNEL 20-12-139

Mr. Wolny made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items, as presented:

A. Employment – Co-curricular/Supplemental – 2020-2021

It is recommended that the Board of Education employ the following individuals, on one-year limited supplemental contracts of employment, for the 2020-2021 school year, as listed:

1. Bill Haney	MS Head Wrestling Coach - 3 yrs	\$4,269.00
2. Tanner Houska	HS Asst Basketball Coach Boys - 1 yr	\$5,144.00
3. Jack Leslie	HS Asst Basketball Coach Boys - 5 yrs	\$6,458.00
4. Emily Miller	MS Choir Director - 14 yrs	\$2,955.00
5. Emily Miller	MS Drama Club Advisor	\$ 400.00
6. Colin Rininger	HS Asst Wrestling - Volunteer	N/A

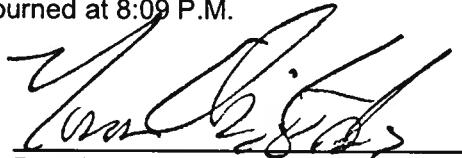
Mr. Wolny, yes; Mrs. Thomas, yes; Mr. Houska, abstain; Mr. Kelly, yes; Dr. Christopher, yes.

Motion carried.

ALL EMPLOYMENT ITEMS ARE CONTINGENT ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS AND PROPER CERTIFICATION WHEN APPLICABLE.

ADJOURNMENT

With all in agreement, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 P.M.


Board President


Treasurer