

ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
September 19, 2017

The regular Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building Board Room located at 74500 Burk Street, Armada, Michigan, by Vice President Cheryl Murray.

Board of Education Present: E. Genord, C. Murray, S. Nieman, T. Seago, J. Tobey, Student Representative
Absent: S. Kline, M. Meerschaert
Administration Present: M. Musary, P. Jankowski
School Personnel Present: C. Campbell, M. Fey, T. Fislser, J. Lucindo, R. McIntyre, K. Parenteau
Guests Present: R. Wahl, N. Eskin, L. Kinch, D. Fredette, S. DeMill, C. Pollock

17 – 66 Motion by T. Seago, supported by J. Tobey, that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: All
Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

17 – 67 Motion by J. Tobey, supported by S. Nieman, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- August 14, 2017, Closed Session Minutes
- August 15, 2017, Regular Meeting Minutes
- Monthly Bills Payable in the amount of \$1,872,014.44
- Personnel Report
 - Employment of Rachel McIntyre, Special Education Teacher (MS/KE), effective August 16, 2017
 - Employment of Megan Fey, Secondary Mathematics Teacher (HS), effective August 22, 2017
 - Employment of Karla Parenteau, Elementary Teacher (KE), effective August 23, 2017
 - Employment of Trevor Fislser, Elementary Teacher (KE), effective August 24, 2017
 - Employment of Kelli Hoffman, Elementary Teacher (KE), effective August 25, 2017
 - Employment of Jennifer Lucido, Elementary Teacher (KE), effective August 29, 2017
 - Employment of Janice Towell, Special Services Instructional Aide (MS), effective September 5, 2017
 - Employment of Sarah Kryscynski, Lunchroom Aide (KE), effective September 6, 2017
 - Employment of Dawn Turner, Lunchroom Aide (KE), effective September 6, 2017
 - Appointment of Nathan Drob, 7th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach (MS), effective 2017/18 School Year
 - Resignation of Darla Grabowski, Childcare Aide (KE), effective June 15, 2017
 - Resignation of Yvonne Delecke, Lunchroom Aide (KE), effective July 13, 2017
 - Resignation of Lisa Langtry, Instructional Aide (MS), effective August 1, 2017
 - Resignation of Christina Vrzovski, Secondary Math Teacher (A), effective August 25, 2017
 - Resignation of Amanda Seiler Lunchroom Aide (MS), effective September 5, 2017

Ayes: All
Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

17 – 68 Motion by S. Nieman, supported by E. Genord, that the Board of Education approve naming the main high school gym “Dan Eskin Gymnasium,” the varsity softball field “Chris Pollock Field,” and the tennis courts “Dave Fredette Courts.”

Ayes: All
Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

17 – 69 Motion by J. Tobey, supported by S. Nieman, that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Ayes: All
Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

Hearing of the Public

Former Armada teacher of 16 years and current Fighting Pi mentor Richard Wahl of Richmond, Michigan, spoke about two items: 1.) His experience and endorsement of a college preparatory mathematics textbook (CPM) “like none he has ever seen before.” 2.) Fighting Pi students/graduates along with some details of their actual impressive employability/salary information in comparison to their peers.

Communications

None

Introductions

1.) Five of the six new teachers were introduced: Rachel McIntyre --Special Education Teacher; Megan Fey--Secondary Mathematics Teacher; Karla Parenteau--Elementary Teacher, grade 2; Trevor Fistler--Elementary Teacher, grade 4; Jennifer Lucindo--Elementary Teacher, grade 5. *Kelli Hoffman --Elementary Teacher, grade 3 was unable to attend.*

2.) Superintendent Musary introduced members of the audience that were present after the approval of Staff Report #1: a.) Members of the family of former Superintendent Dan Eskin—wife Mrs. Nellie Eskin, daughter Laurie Kinch, and grandson Ryan; b.) Tennis Coach Dave Fredette; c.) Softball Coach Chris Pollock.

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Musary provided a quick visual update of various items including photographs of the High School Parking Space Fundraiser, new High School gymnasium lights, new High School football field speakers, and the new High School Counseling Department. He also provided the following school updates:

- The Elementary Back-To-School Picnic was well attended on August 31st. The parents were very happy to hear that the district added four new elementary teachers this fall.
- At the Elementary and Middle School, NWEA testing is underway.
- The Middle School Open House is this Thursday from 6 pm to 8 pm
- The week of September 25-29 is spirit week at both the Middle School and High School. The High School homecoming football game will be September 29th at 7 pm and is against Cros-Lex.
- The High School completed their tryouts for the fall play The Addams Family, which will take place November 10-12, 2017.

- At MA²S, the new staff and students are settling in nicely and offices and classrooms are getting organized. The new staff room is being set up.
- Technology Update—This month, the installation of new computers for the new teachers and additional computers are being added in areas of need.

Curriculum Update

Assistant Superintendent Phil Jankowski provided the following Curriculum Update:

- **Summit Learning Visit**—Brittney Mauney from Summit Learning met with teachers on September 14th. This was Phase 1 of Competency Based Learning roll out.
- **Dexter Visit**--Our elementary and middle school teachers will be visiting Dexter to see the implementation.
- **Great Start Readiness Program**—The GSRP has been approved and will begin in November. There will be 16 slots and the sum of \$116,000 has been allocated.
- **PowerSchool Unified Classroom Rollout**—Trimester 1 is dedicated to attendance and grading, trimester 2 is dedicated to parent portal and communication, and trimester 3 is dedicated to Advanced Analytics and Assessment Suite.
- **Hope not Handcuffs**—An October 23rd Hope not Handcuffs presentation is planned during drug awareness week.
- **Teacher Evaluation Training on Edivate**—Administrative training will take place on September 26th, and staff training to follow at October building staff meetings.
- **Competency Based Learning**—There was a meeting today with State Superintendent Brian Whiston and Tim Kelly. Funding is scheduled to become available soon.
- **Academy Research Update**—AP Research program is a small cohort. Freshmen and Sophomores have a small research projects while juniors and seniors will complete research integrated into classes.
- **Textbook Update**—Final costs were provided for the AP Biology and AP Spanish textbooks approved at the August meeting. The costs of both textbooks were substantially lower than the initial quotes.
- **Legislation**—a.) A-F Report Cards are back on the table. b.) Information about the Stealth SOC legislation with Blaine Amendments were provided.
- **NWEA 16-17 Growth Summary**—For the first time, all grades and all subjects hit growth targets. A written summary was provided and reviewed.
- **M-STEP/SAT Scores and Rankings**—A written M-STEP/SAT summary of scores was provided and reviewed.

Reports

The Student Representative reported on various activities at the High School such as that the student body is more involved with athletic events, Homecoming week is next week and themes were provided, NHS has started this week, Student Council and fund-raising activities. He added that there was a good turn-out for the play tryouts.

Susan Nieman indicated that a Legislative Committee Meeting was held on September 12, 2017. She provided board members with a written summary and reviewed same. Items discussed were that retired Judy Pritchett and her replacement reported on the State School Board meeting, The School Reform Office is officially dissolved, there are state funds available for reimbursement for school water testing, the State Board is preparing a position paper to the US Congress on DACA, Joe DeVault gave a Legislative update, Legislature is looking at expanding Education Savings Accounts, Bill Schuette and Brian Calley are the GOP frontrunners for governor for the 2018 Election and Gretchen Whitmer and possibly Andy Levin are the democrats for the 2018 Election, and the new construction code was reviewed.

Old Business

1.) Tami Seago inquired about the status of a crosswalk. The Superintendent indicated that he is hoping to have flashing solar lights installed on the top of signs before daylight savings time. Tami Seago was pleased to hear this and added that she felt that there could be some community interest in fund-raising to cover the cost as well as possible grant opportunities. The Superintendent indicated that the cost is about \$3,000 for each and currently is looking for grant opportunities. 2.) Judy Tobey indicated that the Middle School wind turbine is never on--even on windy days.

New Business

1.) Cheryl Murray requested that the Superintendent send a communication to administrators to ask them to check on the condition of their flags as some are not in good condition. 2.) Tami Seago wondered if the district could consider doing a resource section on the website for community families as part of our outreach covering Hope Not Handcuffs, Meet & Eat Up (a summer meal program for children who don't have access for food during the summer), etc. The Assistant Superintendent indicated that the Counseling Office intends to add items to their page. Vice President Murray added that L'Anse Creuse does something called Peachtree, which is like a warehouse for flyers. 3.) Cheryl Murray stated that Sue DeMille dropped off information about getting buses with seatbelts. The Superintendent responded about his research and his discussion about this subject with our Transportation Supervisor along with bus drivers. His findings are contrary to this promotional material. 4.) Tami Seago mentioned that there have been concerns expressed about the large graduating class of 2018 (209) and consideration of having it indoors at the High School or another venue. The matter was discussed, and ultimately the administration did not have any concerns for accommodating a large crowd. 5.) Tami Seago mentioned the Kiwanis fund-raiser for the Macomb County homeless she received, and it was confirmed that the other board members received this information. 6.) Cheryl Murray inquired if the millage plan is progressing, and the Superintendent responded affirmatively.

Points of Pride

S. Nieman: The enormous number of applicants we received for the teaching positions that we posted. She added that this district is so admired for its staff, administration, students, parents, and community that it attracts good teachers.

J. Tobey: 1.) The administration for letting the seniors decorate a parking spot as she thinks this is awesome. 2.) The soccer team, who is doing very well this year and she is very impressed.

E. Genord: Our fall sports teams appear to be doing well across the board.

T. Seago: 1.) The fall sports. 2.) The Armada Athletic Boosters as they recently raised \$12,000 at their recent outing.

Student Representative: The school district has encouraged raising money and for school supplies for the students of the hurricane. In addition through PLT, they started a money fund-raiser and have printed posters with QR codes (that sends you to a link to donate money). Teacher Hundey is also collecting cash for donations for this fund-raiser.

P. Jankowski: All of our new teachers as they are a great group and it is just amazing how they have hit the ground running.

M. Musary: 1.) Proud of all of our staff and students working hard to hit their NWEA targets. 2.) Fall sports He specifically mentioned football, soccer, girls cross country. He added that the girls' cross country team had their first jamboree and won the BWAC race. He attended last Saturday where there were 17 teams and the girls took 4th in Holly. Superintendent Musary indicated that they have an excellent shot at going to State this year if they stay healthy and on pace with where they are at as a team.

C. Murray: Mr. and Mrs. Finkbeiner as they not only organized the hurricane fundraiser but are also going to drive to and deliver the materials to Houston during Thanksgiving break. .

Judy Tobey, Secretary
Armada Board of Education