

Okemos Board of Education Okemos, Michigan 48864
SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 26, 2024

The special meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Gebara at 6:32 p.m.

Members Present: Tom Buffett, Katie Cavanaugh, Shulawn Doxie, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Andy Phelps and Jayme Taylor

Administration: Superintendent John Hood

MOVED by Melanie Lynn, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Section 8(k) and 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of considering security planning and a personnel matter.

Roll Call Vote

Tom Buffett	Yes	Melanie Lynn	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Andrew Phelps	Yes
Mary Gebara	Yes	Jayme Taylor	Yes
Shulawn Doxie	Yes		

AYE: 7 NAY:0 ABSENT 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

The board adjourned to executive session at 6:33 p.m.

The board reconvened from executive session at 7:35 p.m.

Members Present: Tom Buffett, Katie Cavanaugh, Shulawn Doxie, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Andy Phelps and Jayme Taylor

Administration: Superintendent John Hood; HR Director Mario Martinez; Finance Director Elizabeth Lentz

OHS Choir Director Jessica Nieuwkoop presented information regarding a choir student trip to New York City. The trip is proposed for February 13 - 16, 2025 and is a performance experience for students. Fundraising and scholarship opportunities were reviewed.

George Nagle addressed the board.

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: community college advocacy; Artic Wolf cybersecurity update; student council selection process follow-up; transportation availability for athletics; board policy update; recent conversations with Jewish community and potential athletics scheduling conflicts; facilities concerns follow-up; and an upcoming ISOA Legislative Breakfast on September 24, 2024.

President Gebara acknowledge correspondence from Tiffany Evans regarding board policies.

MOVED by Malenie Lynn, SUPPORTED by Tom Buffett that the board approve items 1 and 2 for immediate implementation and appropriate action. Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 22, 2024; and Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 6, 2024.

AYE: 7 NAY:0 ABSENT 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

The board decided to delay addressing First Reading of several board policies until the September 9th meeting.

MOVED by Shulawn Doxie, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board authorize the superintendent to submit updated Emergency Operations Plans to the state as required.

AYE: 7 NAY:0 ABSENT 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Finance Director Lentz reviewed pertinent sections of the finalized state school aid bill and the 2024-25 budget impact to Okemos, including student foundation allowance and current enrollment, 31aa Mental Health and School Safety grant funding, and MPSERS offset.

Adam Clements addressed the board.

There were no other matters.

MOVED by Tom Buffett, SUPPORTED by Shulawn Doxie that the board adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing the superintendent evaluation.

Roll Call Vote

Tom Buffett	Yes	Melanie Lynn	Yes
Katie Cavanaugh	Yes	Andrew Phelps	Yes
Mary Gebara	Yes	Jayne Taylor	Yes
Shulawn Doxie	Yes		

AYE: 7 NAY:0 ABSENT 2 **MOTION CARRIED**

The board adjourned to executive session at 8:37 p.m.

The board reconvened from executive session at 9:45 p.m.

Members Present: Tom Buffett, Katie Cavanaugh, Shulawn Doxie, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Andy Phelps and Jayme Taylor

Administration: Superintendent John Hood

President Gebara adjourned the special meeting at 9:46 p.m.

Andy Phelps, Secretary