

Okemos Board of Education Okemos, Michigan 48864
REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

The regular meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Gebara at 7:06 p.m.
Members Present: Tom Buffett, Katie Cavanaugh, Shulawn Doxie, Mary Gebara, Melanie Lynn, Andy Phelps and Jayme Taylor

Administration: Superintendent John Hood; Assistant Superintendent Stacy Bailey; HR Director Mario Martinez

Deidra Wilson addressed the board regarding safety and security policies and procedures.

Superintendent Hood reported on the following: thanked Haslett Public Schools for lending OPS a telecommunications person to record the board meeting, as well as the Media and Tech department for their prompt response to technical difficulties; bond timeline and special meeting on January 6th; environmental testing at Kinawa; board book study; Panorama data and survey tool integration; board operating procedures status; board member badges; and the recent Varsity Football win.

Members reported on the following: football win and celebration; thanked Coach Efe; and data sets within Panorama.

President Gebara acknowledge correspondence from Valerie Levitt concerning walkers and bikers at Hiawatha; and Amy Burton concerning evening and weekend fine arts events.

Members reported on the following: painted senior parking spots; status of Flex days; recent ISOA meeting and sleep education and advocacy efforts; behavior threat assessment process; and student rep status.

MOVED by Andy Phelps, SUPPORTED by Melanie Lynn that the board approve items 1 through 3 for immediate implementation and appropriate action. Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 12, 2024; Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 26, 2024; and Item 3: Approval of the minutes of the Executive Session Meeting of August 26, 2024.

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

MOVED by Shulawn Doxie, SUPPORTED by Tom Buffett that the board certify the following winter tax rates for collection on behalf of Okemos Public Schools from Meridian Township, Alaiedon Township, and the City of Lansing of 9 mills non-homestead, 3.5 mills debt, and .4925 sinking fund mills; and from Williamstown Township of 18 mills non-homestead, 7 mills debt, and .9850 sinking fund mills.

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 2 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED by Katie Cavanaugh, SUPPORTED by Andy Phelps that the board approve the employment of Sarah Simons, Counselor at Bennett Woods and Central Montessori Elementary Schools, effective September 9, 2024 in accordance with sections 1230 (2) and 1230 a (2) of the Revised School Code conditioned upon receipt of acceptable criminal history checks and criminal records checks.

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

MOVED by Katie Cavanaugh, SUPPORTED by Shulawn Doxie that the board waive the reading and adopt first reading of board policies 3115-Nondiscrimination and Retaliation 3115 A - Definitions 3115 B- Designation of Coordinators 3115 C- Supportive Measures 3115 D - Informal Resolution 3115 E -Grievance Procedure and Remedies 3115 F - Complaint Dismissal and Appeals 3115 G- Additional Requirements to Prevent and Address Pregnancy Discrimination 3115 H- Training Requirements, Record Keeping and Policy Notice 3118 Nondiscrimination Covenant in Contracts with the District 4105B Religious Workplace Accommodations for Employees and Applicants 4229 Acceptable Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence 5202 Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Against Students 5206 Student Discipline 5206B Student Discipline - Students with Disabilities 5206D Student Discipline - Enrollment Following Misconduct at Another Public or Nonpublic School 5208.01 Acceptable Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence 5715 Student Oral Health Assessment.

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

MOVED by Andy Phelps, SUPPORTED by Katie Cavanaugh that the board endorse the OHS Choir trip to New York City proposed for February 13th through 16th, 2025 with the understanding that students will abide by all school policies and procedures.

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

Katie Cavanaugh will serve as the delegate to the MASB Delegate Assemble and Tom Buffett will be the alternate.

The board discussed survey results as they pertain to the upcoming board retreat to inform priorities and agenda items. The retreat planning sub-committee presented recommendations for agenda items as well as proposed a format for which they should be discussed, for example at the retreat or at a board meeting or not at all. The development of the agenda planning calendar was also discussed.

There were no comments from the public.

There were no other matters.

President Gebara adjourned the regular meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Andy Phelps, Secretary