



**Board of Education**

23033 Northline, Taylor, MI 48180 (734) 374-1200

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

March 22, 2021

**OPENING ITEMS**

**THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:01 P.M.**

**Roll Call**

Present: J. Thomas, A. Block, R. Danaj, A. McNew, D. Meyers, D. Thomas  
Absent: V. Horth

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**GOOD NEWS**

1. Athletics  
**Loren Ristovski, Director of Athletics**, gave an update on our district athletics. He also recognized one of our students that made it to the State Bowling Finals, Congratulations.
  
2. DECCA  
**Griff Mills, Superintendent**, gave an update to our DECCA program. He recognized 28 students that advanced from districts to the state competition. In addition, the district had 4 students win overall state finalist medals and two students moved on to the State Championship to compete for Taylor High School at the International Career Development Conference, both students were also state champions last year. This is the district's first two time state champions. Congratulations to all students.
  
3. Taylor Rotary, Taylor Public School Foundation "Champions" Taylor Public Library & Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority  
**Rhonda Danaj, Board President**, stated that she and Ms. Thomas met with the Taylor Rotary Club, Taylor Public School Foundation "Champions", Taylor Public Library & Alpha Delta Kappa and wanted to share all the wonderful things they do with our district. She also provided information regarding their meetings to the Board Members and Cabinet. Thank you for all they do.

**Rhonda Danaj, Board President**, stated that last week West Middle School had a concern and wanted to thank all the students and staff at Kinyon Elementary and West Middle School for the wonderful job they did. She also wanted to give a special Thank You to Corey Doyle, Suzie Sweet and Melissa Skopczynski for all they did to keep our students and staff safe.

**AGENDA-BOARD AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by D. Meyers and seconded by D. Thomas to accept the Agenda.

**ROLL CALL:**            **Yes:**            **Block, Danaj, McNew, Meyers, D. Thomas, J. Thomas**  
                                 **No:**            **None**

Absent: Horth  
Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Carried: 6-0

## SCHEDULED REPORTS

### 1. Back to School Update

**Griff Mills, Superintendent**, gave a back to school update:

- Students that chose face to face are now attending face to face and students that chose virtual will continue virtual.
- The district will also continue to do asynchronous Wednesdays and make adjustments as needed.
- Based on the recommendation of the Wayne County Health Department the district has decided to have all virtual classes the entire week we return from Spring Break with Wednesday, Thursday and Friday being asynchronous days.

### 2. Covid Update

**Mary Ann Cyr, Asst. Superintendent for Covid and Communications**, gave the following information regarding Covid:

- There has been an uptick in numbers in our community and schools
- The Wayne County Health Department is no longer giving a letter grade for Covid
- Will continue to work with and get advice from Thresa Bresovansky, Director for Environmental Health, with the Wayne County Health Department
- Addressed concerns regarding the district Covid dashboard. The dashboard is updated every night.
- Reviewed the protocol on how the district handles covid cases.

### 3. Finance

**Dave Jone, Chief Financial Officer**, gave the following projections on the districts financials for the year:

- Projections are based on 8 months (through February) of actual numbers and 4 month of projections
- Positive increase to fund balance of about 1.1 million
- Revenue is staying the same as in the past
- Good headway is in the area of expenses due to federal cares act grant covering covid related expenses and the other savings is due to not being in school all year
- The target for the district is to have our fund balance at a minimum of 10%, our current projections put us at a projected fund balance of 8.9%

Griff Mills, Superintendent, asked if Mr. Jones could update the Board on the Amended Budget.

Dave Jone responded that the Amended Budget would be ready by the next Board Meeting.

### 4. Apptegy Presentation

**Mark Leinhart** shared a presentation regarding the Apptegy Website below are some key points in regards to what the website offers:

- Offers a mobile app
- Update everything at same time on one site (facebook, twitter etc.)
- One or two click opportunity to get where you need to go
- Clean design website
- Website language can be changed based on your phone settings
- Website is ADA compliant
- Apptegy offers a dedicated support team with live support

Griff Mills, Superintendent, asked how many school districts does Apptegy have across the country.

Mark Leinhart responded that Apptegy currently has about 1900 school districts, private and public in all 50 states.

### 5. Reconfirm Taylor School District Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan

**Griff Mills, Superintendent**, shared a presentation regarding a quick review of what is required of the district according to the State of Michigan

- The district must share instructional options and what they will look like over the next 30 days
- The district must share the last four weeks of two way interaction/attendance
- The district must give the public the opportunity to comment about the plan

Superintendent Mills also added the district is monitoring the covid numbers and he understands there are growing concerns from parents. The district will continue to work with the Wayne County Health Department and their recommendations.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Grace Rowell had the following questions and/or concerns:

- Earlier in the year the covid dashboard was updated weekly and included quarantine cases and now daily, why?
- If numbers are reported on a daily basis is there a way stakeholders can access the history of the data?
- Quarantined staff and students were on the dashboard but are no longer, why?
- Is it possible to have a checklist of who staff see each day for contract tracing purposes?

Caroline Patts had the following questions and/or concerns regarding the website:

- Wanted to make sure the Board was aware that there was a contract just voted on last year for 1 year through Foxbright for \$8,900.00.
- How does the transition work between Foxbright and Apptegy?
- What is the cost for Apptegy?
- How long will it take for the site to be up and running?
- Requested a list of what districts are using Apptegy?

Jennifer Ferguson Berringer had the following questions and/or concerns:

- Would also like more information added to covid dashboard.
- The dashboard had more information at the beginning of the year.
- Heard that the district is not quarantining students.
- Need clarification on what is being counted. It is being told that the district is only reporting cases contracted at school.
- Would like to know why her child's teacher is not being allowed to work virtual instead children are being taught by a substitute teacher.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 1. Reconfirm Taylor School District Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan**  
**Griff Mills, Superintendent**, reiterated that this is the same plan with the change to the week after Spring Break being virtual.
- 2. First Reading of Updated Board Policies**  
**Griff Mills, Superintendent**, gave 1st reading of Updated Board Policies
  - Vol. 34, No. 2 Update
  - Title IX Regulations Special Update
  - Vol. 35, No. 1 Update
  - Telecommuting Special Update
  - Vol. 35, No. 2 Update
- 3. Global Psychological, PLC (GPS)**  
**Patricia DeLaTorre, Ex. Director for HR/LR**, stated that this is an addendum to the current GPS contract to fill Substitute Special Education Paraprofessionals until the district can find and secure regular full time employees to fill these positions.
- 4. Temporary Board Meeting Location Change for Recognition Purposes (April 14, 2021 & May 12, 2021)**  
**Rhonda Danaj, Board President**, the district would like to honor all of our union leadership in mid April and 2020 retirees in mid May. The district would not be able to accommodate them here therefore the

district was looking to use the City Council Chambers or the High School Gymnasium or do it virtually and deliver the awards.

Ann Block, Board Member, stated that the district may need to wait until the mandates are lifted.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Reconfirm Taylor School District Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan**

A motion was made by D. Meyers and seconded by D. Thomas to approve the TSD Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan.

**ROLL CALL:**                    **Yes:**                    **Danaj, McNew, Meyers, D. Thomas, J. Thomas, Block**  
**No:**                        **None**  
**Absent:**                    **Horth**  
**Yeas: 6    Nays: 0    Carried: 6-0**

**2. Global Psychological, PLC (GPS)**

A motion was made by D. Meyers and seconded by D. Thomas to approve the Global Psychological, PLC (GPS) addendum. The purpose of the addendum is to hire various Substitute Special Education Paraprofessionals in the District due to the lack of applicants and qualified substitutes.

**ROLL CALL:**                    **Yes:**                    **McNew, Meyers, D. Thomas, J. Thomas, Block, Danaj**  
**No:**                        **None**  
**Absent:**                    **Horth**  
**Yeas: 6    Nays: 0    Carried: 6-0**

**3. Request to Hire - School Improvement Coordinator**

A motion was made by D. Thomas seconded by D. Meyers to approve the Request to Hire School Improvement Coordinator, Huda Harajli.

**ROLL CALL:**                    **Yes:**                    **McNew, Meyers, D. Thomas, J. Thomas, Block, Danaj**  
**No:**                        **None**  
**Absent:**                    **Horth**  
**Yeas: 6    Nays: 0    Carried: 6-0**

**AGENDA-ADMINISTRATION (District Business)**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Mills shared a presentation regarding the 2016 bond and how money has been spent and how to utilize the remaining money at the next meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Minutes from the Special Board Meeting of March 8, 2021
- 2. Consolidated Items: Payment of Current Bills, Payment of Current Bills on Hold, Approval of Requisitions, Approval of Requisitions on Hold, Certified, Non-Certified and Administrative Reports.

A motion was made by D. Meyers and seconded by D. Thomas to approve the Consent Agenda.

**ROLL CALL:**                    **Yes:**                    **Meyers, D. Thomas, J. Thomas, Block, Danaj, McNew**  
**No:**                        **None**  
**Absent:**                    **Horth**  
**Yeas: 6    Nays: 0    Carried: 6-0**

**ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT AGENDA (Wednesday, April 14, 2021)**

- 1. Good News
- 2. Back to School Update
- 3. Covid Update

4. Leadership Recognition

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Amber McNew, Board Secretary**, would like to thank everyone for all their hard work getting school started.

**Griff Mills, Superintendent**, read a letter from Board Member, Vicky Horth, stating that she would be resigning her position as Board Member effective immediately. Superintendent Mills thanked Ms. Horth for her years of service.

**Rhonda Danaj, Board President**, also thanked Ms. Horth for her service to our district and our students.

**ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

A motion was made by D. Meyers and seconded by D. Thomas to go into closed session for material exempt from disclosure by state or federal statute.

Went into Closed Session: 7:04 pm

Returned from Closed Session: 7:47 pm

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	<b>Yes:</b>	<b>D.Thomas, J. Thomas, Block, Danaj, McNew, Meyers</b>
	<b>No:</b>	<b>None</b>
	<b>Absent:</b>	<b>Horth</b>
	<b>Yeas: 6</b>	<b>Nays: 0 Carried: 6-0</b>

**AFTER CLOSED SESSION**

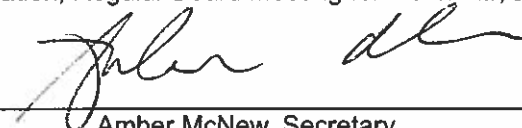
No action taken after closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by D. Meyers and seconded by J. Thomas to adjourn the meeting.

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	<b>Yes:</b>	<b>Block, Danaj, McNew, Meyers, D. Thomas, J. Thomas</b>
	<b>No:</b>	<b>None</b>
	<b>Absent:</b>	<b>Horth</b>
	<b>Yeas: 6</b>	<b>Nays: 0 Carried: 6-0</b>

The Taylor School District Board of Education, Regular Board Meeting for March 22, 2021 adjourned at 7:47 pm.

  
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Amber McNew, Secretary