

Board of Education
High School Library
June 21, 2021

President Dave Loomis called the regular monthly meeting of the School District of Howards Grove to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Loomis noted that the meeting had been posted as prescribed by law and the news media notified.

Board members present: Mrs. Bramstedt, Mr. Loomis, Mr. Pahl, Mrs. Siemers, and Mr. Stoeckigt. Administrators present: Josh Swanson. Advisory Board Members present (virtually): Jeff Grunewald and Grant Howard. Also in attendance: Sara Demmon, Julie Johnson, Peter Marotz, and Lisa Schultz. Approximately 25 staff and community members viewed the meeting by remote access technology.

Motion by Mr. Pahl, second by Mrs. Siemers, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl, to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2021, regular board meeting with one correction as noted; and the May 5, 10, 12, 18, 19, 21, 26 and 27 special board meetings. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mr. Pahl, to approve the treasurer's report as presented by Mrs. Siemers, along with the following vouchers payable for the month of May:

#10 - General Fund	}	
#27 - Special Education Fund		\$ 941,173.95
#50 - Food Service Fund		
#30 - Debt Service Fund		\$ 0.00

Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl, to approve an amendment to the 2020-2021 adopted budget. Motion carried, 5-0. There are several budget amendments for the 2021-22 budget. They are in the general fund and referendum debt service fund. The general fund needs budget amendments for Common School Funds (decrease in revenue of \$2,035 and increase in expenditures of \$5,311) to recognize the updated allocation of grant funds and the spend down of prior year carryover. CARES & ESSER funds grant revenue increase of \$90,882 and increase in expenditures of \$26,023. Legal expenses increase of \$75,000. Textbook increase of \$42,065, this was approved to be purchased out of committed fund balance, although only \$25,000 was committed. Copier lease revenue and expense to recognize the capital lease of the 5 new copiers. Referendum debt service is to increase debt proceeds by \$1,244,668 and increase debt payments by \$1,280,814 in order to recognize the debt refinancing and proper allocation of debt defeasance.

Fund Balance Projections

The general fund is projected to have a slight increase in fund balance of approximately \$35,000. Peter discussed several maintenance needs and the estimated cost. Additional options are to retire fund 38 debt (this is my recommendation in order to free up \$68,000 of general fund levy. Board has until October to determine if fund 38 debt should be retired), transfer to capital improvement trust fund, or retain in fund balance as assigned or committed for specific purposes. No board action is needed at this time.

ADVISORY MEMBER REPORTS:

A report from Jeff Grunewald indicated that many people were thankful for the listening sessions and involvement of parents and staff in the interview process to fill the principal positions.

STUDENT LEARNING PRESENTATION/STUDENT ADVISORY REPORTS:

There were no Student Learning Presentations or Student Advisory Reports this month.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl, to approve the staff resignations as presented. Motion carried, 5-0. Mrs. Bramstedt read the names of those resigning Tracy Bandt, David Hickman, Megan Quade, Kayleigh Sherrer, Courtney Seipel, Chris Woller, Daniel Butler, and Angie Houston. Mr. Stoeckigt thanked these staff members for their years of service to the district.
2. Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl, to approve a teacher contract for Carol Christiansen as the new high school biology teacher. Motion carried, 5-0.
3. No action was taken on this item.
4. No action was taken on this item.
5. Motion by Mr. Stoeckigt, second by Mrs. Siemers, to only offer in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year, subject to change should there be a significant health emergency. Motion carried, 5-0.

OTHER REPORTS:**1. Building Reports:****Pupil Services** – Submitted by Tracy Bandt, Special Education Coordinator & School Psychologist

We are finishing out all the special education paperwork for the school year.

Graduation notices have been sent as well as consent for file retention and pick-up.

We are finishing end-of-year reports for DPI.

We have begun interviews for special education teachers at the middle school and will wait for a new administrative team to complete hiring of a school social worker and special education teacher at the high school

Northview Elementary – Submitted by Jason Cole, Principal

We had a wonderful end of the year celebration, which included an all-school cookout, classroom field day, and Pen Pal water balloon toss. Thank you, Jeff Wunsch, for volunteering to cook the hamburgers and hotdogs for everyone.

Congratulations to Colten Thiel for the winning design of the 2021-2022 school year.

Open positions: Early Childhood (2 applicants), School Counselor (18 applicants), **Phone Screeners were conducted on June 14th for the following positions (top 6 candidates from grade level teams and additional candidates I felt were worth a call) Many candidates applied for multiple positions.** Kindergarten (17 applicants), (2) First grade positions (34 applicants), Second grade position (27 applicants), **4th grade phone screeners still need to be conducted.** Fourth Grade position (25 applicants)

Middle School - Submitted by Heather Zizis, Principal

Summer School Update:

We have finished our first week of summer school. It was a lot of fun to see the students in the buildings excited for more learning. There are 8 high school helpers assisting with classes. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students, and we are grateful for their help. At the end of May we did reopen the window for students to enroll in Summer Fitness due to low enrollment. We increased the number of students enrolled from approximately 30 to just over 70. I would like to thank all of those who have put a lot of time and energy into organizing summer school: Courtney Athrop, Sharry Ringmeier, Shelly Kuether, Chris Woller, Kathy Manderle, Tammy Harms-Gerber, and Krista Neave. It is truly a team effort to have a successful summer school program.

Open Positions at the MS: There are three open special education teacher positions at the Middle School. The interviewing committee did go through one round of interviews on June 10th, and we are hoping to secure one teacher. We also have one 7th grade position open (reading/writing). A committee has been formed for this vacancy and they will be working with the new principal to fill the position.

High School – Submitted by Scott Fritz, Principal

We had a great end of the year celebration at the HS. Thank you to Kim Hager and Lizzy Hill for organizing the event. Thank you to the staff for helping create the end of the year awards for staff.

Thank you to Karen and Melanie for help with end of the year procedures in the HS office.

Open Positions at the HS: K12 School Social Worker, HS Special Education Teacher, HS Math/Athletic Director

Thank you to Kim Hager for working with English Credit Recovery students this summer

District Update – Submitted by Chris Peterson, Superintendent

Thank you to the Board of Education for helping to organize and sponsor our end of the year celebration. Many staff members have expressed gratitude for the event and enjoyed the chance to conclude the year in a such a positive way.

I have been working with Shannon Kilton on ensuring a smooth transition for her into the role of superintendent.

Best wishes to all our current and departing Howards Grove staff members.

2. **American Transmission Company (ATC):** Kari Bramstedt and Dave Loomis volunteered to work with Mr. Yancy to raise awareness in the community regarding the proposal from ATC for a new high-voltage electric transmission line. The preferred route for the proposed high-voltage lines would run along the north playground/soccer field of Northview Elementary School. The alternative route would go along CTH FF. As a school district, we would prefer the lines to go long FF, away from the schools. The intent is not to stop ATC, but to advocate for the right route to support it.

Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mrs. Siemers, to convene in closed session as set forth in Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(c) to consider the employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of employee(s); Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(e) to consider an employee health insurance proposal, and to discuss a transportation contract with Harms Bus.. Vote by the Board: Bramstedt, aye; Stoeckigt, aye; Siemers, aye; Pahl, aye; Loomis, aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Pahl, to approve the administrative contracts for Shannon Kilton-Superintendent; Jon Hess-High School Principal; Angie Houston-Middle School Principal; and Sarah Ellinger-Elementary School Principal, as presented. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mr. Stoeckigt, to approve the Harms Bus Company contract as presented. Motion carried, 4-0-1. Mr. Pahl abstained from voting.

Motion by Mrs. Siemers, second by Mrs. Bramstedt to contribute 15% to the employee staff HAS for the 2021-2022 school year as presented. Motion carried, 5-0.

The Board recognized Josh Swanson's contribution to the district over the past year and wished him well in his future position.

Motion by Mr. Pahl, second by Mrs. Siemers, to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Motion carried, 5-0.



Kari Bramstedt, Board Clerk