

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF SOUTH LYON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT #63-240 COUNTIES OF
OAKLAND, LIVINGSTON, AND WASHTENAW**

CALL TO ORDER

President Abbate called the September 19, 2023 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Martin Leftwich, Anthony Abbate, Ann Rimanelli, Patrick Maguire, Teresa Laszlo

Absent: Daniel Schwegler, Jennifer Urtel

Administration Present: Steven Archibald, Superintendent, Brian Toth, Asst. Superintendent
Lisa Kudwa, Asst. Superintendent, Chris Gray, Asst. Superintendent

Administration Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board, administration and the audience joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION

Mr. Toth introduced Ms. Kelli Spalding, SLCS Transportation Director. Ms. Spalding shared that there were several members of the Transportation Department present tonight at the Board meeting. She gave a presentation sharing information about the Transportation Department staff members, bus routes, safety (including training, inspections, and evacuations), preparing for winter months, a day in the life of a driver and paraprofessional, and Oakland County's Excellence in Transportation Award.

Mr. Toth shared that Kelli does a wonderful job at celebrating her staff. He also noted that Kelli has done a great job staffing her department since she has started at South Lyon.

Mr. Archibald said that he enjoys being a part of their celebrations with the amazing group of Transportation staff members. He also expressed that they do an amazing job on the road.

Mr. Abbate thanked the Transportation Department for taking care of our students. He said it can be a very tough job.

Mr. Maguire noted that it is a lot of work. He thanked them for all that they do.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Abbate offered an opportunity for public comments.

Sue Woodley, SLEA Representative shared the "Good News" happening around the district.

- Lisa Post stated that the Brummer staff organized and planned an amazing fundraiser to help her son, who is battling his 4th brain tumor. Mrs. Post wanted to thank all of them for all of their love and support.

- Eric Davis is the founder of the Jacob Michael Davis (JMD) Foundation. This charity helps families while their child is battling cancer. Mr. Davis started this foundation after losing his own child to leukemia in 2005. When Mr. Davis heard about Mrs. Post's son, he worked with the JMD Foundation to donate \$1,270.00 from the SLHS Penny Wars to Lisa Post and her family.
- Melissa Robinson is helping Salem Elementary celebrate their 60th Birthday. She came in early one morning to decorate the halls, so the students and staff could enjoy the celebration at the start of the school year.
- The 10th Annual Victory Day happened this past Saturday at SLHS, where students with special needs and disabilities were able to participate in football and cheer along with their peers. Ms. Woodley said that it was an amazing showcase of what South Lyon represents.

REGULAR MEETING

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Abbate asked the Board to approve the agenda as presented unless they had any additions or deletions.

Moved by Mrs. Rimanelli, supported by Dr. Laszlo to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion carries 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Abbate asked the Board to approve the minutes as presented unless they had any additions or deletions.

Moved by Mr. Maguire, supported by Mr. Leftwich to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented.

Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion carries 5-0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Mr. Abbate asked the Board to approve the following bills as presented:

- August 2023 Wires & ACH Transactions
- August 2023 Revenue Report
- August 2023 Prepays
- August 2023 Bond Run (including Sept. 1, 2023)

Moved by Mrs. Rimanelli, supported by Mr. Leftwich to approve the bills listed as presented.

Roll Call: Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes. Motion carried 5 - 0.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 324 AFL-CIO

Mr. Toth stated that they have a tentative agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324 AFL-CIO that has been ratified by the Membership. He shared that the contract has a three-year term of July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026.

Mr. Toth asked the Board to approve the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324 AFL-CIO Bargaining Agreement as presented.

Moved by Mr. Leftwich, supported by Dr. Laszlo to approve the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324 AFL-CIO Bargaining Agreement as presented.

Roll Call: Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

HIRING OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

Mr. Toth reported that open positions have required the hiring of the following staff members.

- *Emily Baldwin – Bartlett, Teacher*
- *Leah Carroll – CMS & MMS, Teacher*
- *Ebonne Clark – SLHS Special Education Social Worker*
- *Kacey Davidson – Hardy, Speech and Lang. Pathologist*
- *Laura Erickson – Hardy, Teacher*
- *Cooper Green – SLEHS, Teacher*
- *Daniel Habkirk – MMS, Teacher*
- *Ashley Harmala – Hardy, Teacher*
- *Ebony Harris – CMS, Teacher*
- *Nicole Heinz – Brummer, Speech and Lang. Pathologist*
- *Rebecca Lemecha – Hardy, Social Worker*
- *Shant Massoyan – SLHS, Teacher*
- *Bailey Naumann – Brummer, Teacher*
- *Christina Rundle – Kent Lake, Special Education Teacher*
- *Mary Schemanske – Kent Lake, Teacher*
- *Kaitie Szostek – Hardy, Social Worker*

Mr. Toth noted that Daniel Habkirk was in the audience tonight. Mr. Habkirk shared that he was a 2012 graduate of South Lyon East High School. He also stated that he attended Millenium Middle School, where he will be teaching.

Mr. Toth asked the Board to approve the hiring of the instructional staff as described.

Moved by Mrs. Rimanelli, supported by Mr. Maguire to approve the hiring of the instructional staff as described.

Roll Call: Mr. Maguire – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

BRUMMER CAFETERIA TABLE PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION

Mrs. Gray stated that the district seeks to purchase cafeteria tables for Brummer Elementary. Mrs. Gray shared that the pricing from the vendor is through the competitively bid consortium contracts. She noted that the building's SIP Committee recommended this purchase to replace old, existing cafeteria tables. The quoted price from School Specialty is for 14 tables for a total of \$30,046.10. Mrs. Gray stated that general funds are budgeted for the purchase.

Mrs. Gray asked the Board to approve the recommended purchase as presented.

Moved by Mr. Maguire, supported by Mrs. Rimanelli to approve the recommended purchase as presented.

Roll Call: Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

OAKLAND COUNTY PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Kudwa shared that the current PAC Representative, Amanda Fitch has been recommended to serve another three-year term as our Special Education Parent Advisory Committee Representative. She stated that Mrs. Fitch's term would run through June 2026.

Mrs. Kudwa asked the Board to approve the Oakland County Parent Advisory Committee Representative recommendation as presented.

Moved by Mrs. Rimanelli, supported by Mr. Leftwich to approve the Oakland County Parent Advisory Committee Representative recommendation as presented.

Roll Call: Mr. Abbate – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

Mr. Toth shared that Dolsen Elementary received a \$1,000.00 donation from Fredi the PizzaMan which is to be used for sensory equipment.

Mr. Toth asked the Board to accept the gift listed above in accordance with Policy 7003.

Moved by Dr. Laszlo, supported by Mrs. Rimanelli to accept the gift listed above.

Roll Call: Mr. Leftwich – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

2020 SLCS BOND UPDATE – IDS/BARTON MALOW

Stephanie Buhagiar and Charlie Haas reported on the 2020 SLCS Bond construction updates happening around the District. The presentation can be found at this [link](#).

LEGISLATION

Mr. Archibald shared a couple of items in the Legislative session right now.

- Currently there are significant restrictions for retired school personnel to return to work in a public school. In addition to a waiting period before a retired person can return to work, there are significant implications related to how their earnings that would negatively impact their retirement benefits (i.e. health insurance, pension). The proposed legislation is an effort to address these restrictions.
- There are bills going through the House and Senate pertaining to the educator evaluation reform.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Legislative** – Mr. Leftwich shared that in addition to Mr. Achibald's report, there is some talk about possibly some movement on limiting the restrictions on the school calendar, the start date, and waivers regarding Labor Day.
- **Policy** – Mr. Abbate stated that the committee had their first meeting of the school year today. The committee is looking to make an adjustment in a policy regarding the sale of District items, with making it a recommendation versus a vote of the Board. Also, they would like an adjustment to designate the Policy Committee to be part of reviewing the 6000 series of policies. The committee also discussed the transportation bus availability, Food Services policies, along with a series of recommendations proposed by Miller, Johnson.
- **Finance** – Mrs. Rimanelli said the committee was given an update on the audit. She stated that the field work is completed and that there were no issues to report at this time.
- **Facilities and Grounds** – Nothing to report.
- **Curriculum & Communications** – Dr. Laszlo said they have not met for this school year yet.

REPORTS

Mr. Maguire thanked Clean Juice in New Hudson for sponsoring a fundraising event that raised \$200.00 for the South Lyon Educational Foundation. He shared that he will be joining other Board Members and SLEF as they will be participating in the Pumpkinfest Parade.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Abbate offered a second opportunity for public comments.

There were no public comments.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Abbate shared the resignations and donations with the Board. Mr. Leftwich inquired about the staff that had left the district and asked if Mr. Toth knew the reasons for their resignations. Mr. Toth shared that some staff were leaving for other districts in which they live or where they grew up. Mr. Toth reported that the district was still in need of Social Workers.

MEETING DATES

- October 3, 2023, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- October 17, 2023, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- November 14, 2023, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- December 5, 2023, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- January 16, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (Fiscal/Organizational Meeting)*
- February 13, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- March 5, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*

- March 19, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- April 16, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- May 7, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- May 21, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- June 3, 2024 (Monday), *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- June 18, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*

BOARD COMMENTS

- **Mr. Leftwich** thanked the SLCS bus drivers. He said that they are the first and last staff members that the students encounter each day. Mr. Leftwich said we are lucky to have such a great team of bus drivers. He gave a warm welcome to the new staff members.
- **Dr. Laszlo** thanked Kelli Spalding for the presentation which included a day and the life of a bus driver. She thanked the Transportation Department for keeping our students safe. Dr. Laszlo stated that they make a tangible difference in the education of our community. She thanked Sue Woodley for sharing the good things that are happening around the district. Dr. Laszlo thanked Flushmate for their donation to Dolsen Elementary.
- **Mrs. Rimanelli** thanked the Transportation Department, especially for being a part of the Summer Program. Their participation made it possible for certain students to attend and helped make that program a success. She welcomed the new staff members. Mrs. Rimanelli thanked Sue Woodley for sharing the district's good news and the support that is going on in our community.
- **Mr. Maguire** stated that the Transportation is doing a great work and they are very much appreciated. This being the first Board Meeting since school started, he welcomed everyone back to school. Mr. Maguire said that the start of the school appeared to go smoothly and successful, thanks to administrators, staff, and everyone working behind the scenes to make it a very successful start of the school year.
- **Mr. Abbate** stated that it takes so much to launch a new school year. He appreciates all our families and students who have given us grace to get things rolling the right way. Mr. Abbate thanked all who have contributed to making this a successful start of the school year. He commented that it was great to have the Transportation Department here tonight. Mr. Abbate thanked all the students that are riding the bus the correct way.

ADJOURN

Moved by Dr. Laszlo, supported by Mr. Leftwich to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Teresa Laszlo, Acting Secretary
Board of Education