

**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 May 7, 2024 regular meeting to order at 7:41 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Anthony Abbate, Daniel Schwegler, Jennifer Urtel, Martin Leftwich, Teresa Laszlo, Patrick Maguire, Ann Rimanelli

Absent: None

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

Dr. Weber and Mrs. Engblom recognized Dr. Andrea Zellner and Ms. Dalyce DePauw, consultants with Oakland Schools for the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Teacher Leader Cohort. Dr. Weber thanked them for all that they have done to help UDL practices grown in our district for the past two years. Mrs. Engblom was excited to share that next year we will be offering a third professional learning cohort, utilizing the UDL framework to remove barriers for learning and to design learning that is accessible to all students.

They introduced the following teachers, Erica Joslin, Jen Myslinski, Melissa Cherry, Sarah Prokop, and Courtney Rose who shared what the group has done this year. Each of the teachers gave examples of how the UDL Cohort is improving learning in their classrooms. They noted that the students are provided with different options for assessment, projects, and learning styles. The teachers gave examples of how UDL is being used in 5th grade Social Studies classes, Middle School ELA, Science, and Math classes. Students can choose what option helps them learn best in the classroom such as reading, interacting, watching or listening. The teachers noted that flexible seating is very helpful in their classroom. They also discussed “time robbers” to their students and how that takes away from their productivity. The teachers shared that students in their classroom use flexible means to meet goals. The UDL teachers give their students reflection forms to help them prepare and take ownership of their learning. The Cohort was very thankful to have this opportunity and to continue in next year.

Mr. Archibald was at the celebration for the UDL recently and shared that the discussion was very energizing. He stated that he was awestruck. Mr. Archibald asked the teachers if they noticed a difference in student engagement and behavior. The teachers shared examples of the positive behavior that they observed in their classrooms.

Mr. Abbate commented that this program places the student at the center of attention. He said the teachers seem great and energized.

Mr. Archibald highlighted that the work in our district has been shared with the Oakland County Board of Education. He stated that it was important to note that other districts throughout the county are modeling and adopting our district's work related to UDL.

Mr. Abbate thanked Dr. Weber and Mrs. Engblom for the work with this program.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Abbate offered an opportunity for public comments.

Brenton Montie, SLEA Representative shared the "Good Things" happening around the district.

- *Jen Shottroff, Kindergarten Teacher at Kent Lake* was nominated because she went above and beyond to organize the school's Spring Fling. She made the event super fun for the students and families. It was a huge success.
- *Zach Maghes and Sarah Prokop, Teachers at Salem* started a running club at the school. They meet the students on the track before school. On Wednesday mornings excited students and parents run together. The students show off their toe token necklaces for each lap completed. Students can complete the season with the Salem Flay Day 5K run. Thank you to Zach and Sarah for bringing something new and exciting for Salem students to stay active and healthy.
- *Evelyn nominated the SL East Yearbook Staff.* The staff was named Program of Excellence by Jostens published. They have received this national recognition five times since 2018. They had to create a yearbook that met three criteria; include 50% or more of the student at least three times, met all of their five major deadlines on time, and reach a student buy rate of 70%. The SL East Yearbook Staff met all three requirements and is proud to receive this recognition.
- *Nichole Abermanis* was thankful for the SLHS Senior Service Day at Bartlett. The students loved having SLHS Seniors helping them with their learning that day. The teachers enjoyed seeing familiar faces of past students. Ms. Abermanis shared that it was an amazing experience and she appreciated those who organized the event and made it happen. She is looking forward to this opportunity again next year.
- *Brook Morris nominated Gretchen Coles, Lexi McPhee, and parent volunteer Rich Monk* for organizing an after-school 1 mile run called Spring Into Summer Fun Run for the Pearson Community. The event supports the Pearson Point of Pride, Healthy Me and Community. The event is scheduled for May 17th at 4:30 p.m. which starts and stops at the Pearson parking lot and runs through Elkow Farms.
- *Niki Keena* shared the SLHS and SLEHS CAC One Art Show at the Administration Building. This is a partnership between the high school Art Departments and the Cultural Arts Commission of South Lyon. She is very honored to display the student's artwork.
- *Brenton Montie* shared news about this year's middle school track season. He stated that Robby Green, Robert Ball, Amy Harvey, and Steven Bosworth stepped up to take assistant coaching positions, which allowed the season to continue as normal. Mr. Monite expressed that these individuals were fantastic, dedicated and brought enthusiasm, patience, skills, and ideas to the program. He thanked these community members who stepped up for the track teams.

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 Mr. Leftwich to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried 7 - 0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Abbate asked the Board to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2024 Board of Education Regular Meeting.

Moved by Mrs. Urtel supported by Mr. Leftwich to approve the minutes as presented.

Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried 7 - 0.

HIRING OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

Mr. Toth shared that open positions required the hiring of Emma Greffe, Special Ed Social Worker at Hardy Elementary and Salem Elementary, as well as Jozie Appelgren, Special Ed Social Worker at the Early Childhood Center. Mr. Toth asked the Board to approve the hiring of instructional staff as listed.

Moved by Dr. Laszlo, supported by Mr. Maguire to approve the hiring of the instructional staff listed as described.

Roll Call: Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Schwegler – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mrs. Urtel – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

REVISIONS TO POLICY 6002 – 2ND READING

Mr. Toth stated that the following policy was brought to the March 5, 2024 Board of Education Meeting for information and no changes were requested. He shared that at the April 16th Board of Education Meeting the policy was directed back to the Policy team for revision.

- Revisions to Policy 6002 (Threat Assessment)

Mr. Toth asked the Board to approve the policy as presented.

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

Roll Call: Mr. Maguire – yes, Mrs. Urtel – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Schwegler – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

UPDATED SECONDARY DRESS CODE

Mrs. Kudwa shared that a committee developed an updated Secondary Dress Code. She stated that the proposed dress code was brought to the April 16th Board of Education meeting and no changes were requested.

Mrs. Kudwa asked the Board to approve the updated Secondary Dress Code as presented.

Dr. Laszlo gave some background information on the committee and the reasons for updating the dress code. Mr. Abbate thanked the committee for all of their work on the updated dress code.

Moved by Dr. Laszlo, supported by Mr. Maguire to approve the Secondary Dress Code as presented.

Roll Call: Mrs. Urtel – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Mr. Schwegler – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR NOVI VIRTUAL PROGRAM 2024-25

Mrs. Kudwa explained that the district is currently in a cooperative agreement with the Novi Community School District in which SLCS students can enroll in the Virtual Program at Novi while remaining students in our district. She stated that the district would like to continue that partnership for next school year. Mrs. Kudwa shared that it has been a good partnership. She added that students can still participate in extra-curricular activities with South Lyon while attending this program. She asked the Board to approve the cooperative agreement with Novi Community School District to provide spots within their Novi Virtual Program for our students for the 2024-25 school year.

Moved by Mrs. Urtel, supported by Mrs. Rimanelli to approve the cooperative agreement with Novi Community School District to provide spots within their Novi Virtual Program for our students for the 2024-25 school year.

Dr. Laszlo shared that this item was presented to the Curriculum and Curriculum Committee prior to tonight's meeting. Mr. Schwelger asked how many students participated this year in the program. Mrs. Kudwa noted that enrollment was an average of 20-25 students throughout the year. Mr. Archibald shared cooperating in the agreement helps the district meet a need (virtual learning) without having to make the financial commitment. Mrs. Kudwa noted that students are able to participate in extra-curricular activities with South Lyon Community Schools. She shared that Novi has been fantastic to work with.

Roll Call: Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Schwegler – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Mrs. Urtel – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

2024-25 OAKLAND SCHOOLS ISD BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mrs. Gray explained that school districts are required by the Michigan School Code to pass a resolution expressing their support or disapproval of the proposed ISD budget. The proposed budget was presented to the Board at the April 16, 2024 Board of Education meeting. She asked the Board to approve the resolution in support of the Oakland Intermediate School District 2024-25 Proposed Budget.

Moved by Mr. Leftwich, supported by Mr. Schwegler to approve the resolution in support of the Oakland ISD 2024-25 Proposed Budget as presented.

Roll Call: Mr. Abbate – yes, Mr. Schwegler – yes, Mrs. Urtel – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

2024 SUMMER TAX COLLECTION FEE RECOMMENDATION

Mrs. Gray stated that in accordance with the Michigan School Code, the Superintendent or his designee is authorized and directed to negotiate on behalf of the district with each of the governing bodies in which the district is located for the reasonable expenses for collection of the district's summer property tax levy that the city and township may bill under MCLA 280.1611 or MCLA 280.1612. She presented the Board with the anticipated costs associated with the summer tax collection fees. Mrs. Gray asked the Board to approve the summer tax collection fees as presented.

Moved by Mr. Schwegler, supported by Mrs. Rimanelli to approve the summer tax collection fees as presented.

Roll Call: Mr. Leftwich – yes, Mr. Schwegler – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mrs. Urtel – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

2020 BOND BID PACK #21 CHANGE ORDER APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION (Item #13)

Mrs. Gray shared that the FPC meeting is was decided that they were going to do more investigation on this change order and bring it back to the ARC Committee. She noted that the findings would be emailed out to the FPC committee for the next board meeting.

Moved by Mr. Leftwich, supported by Mr. Schwegler to table item #13.

Roll Call: Mr. Maguire – yes, Mrs. Urtel – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Schwegler – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

LEGISLATION

Mr. Archibald stated that the main focus coming out of legislature is what's going to happen with the school aid budget. He shared that we may hear something by mid-June. He noted that he is meeting with K12 Alliance and legislators on May 21st.

REVISIONS TO POLICY 5002 – 1ST READING

Mr. Toth shared the revision for this policy. He noted that it was a small revision to the first paragraph. Mr. Toth reported that they are recommending changing "preceding year's" to "year's end" expenditures.

GRADES 6-8 MATHEMATICS UNITS OF STUDY

Dr. Weber explained that last year the Middle School Math SAC team recommended the purchase of a new resource for mathematics for 6th, 7th, and Pre-Algebra. She stated that in response to the purchase they revised the units of study for middle school math courses. Dr. Weber provided the Board with unit calendars and sample units of instruction. She shared that this item would return on May 21st for Board approval.

HEALTHY SEXUALITY MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT AND CURRICULUM CHANGES

Dr. Weber stated that the Middle and High School Health SAC teams met this year to make updates to the secondary Healthy Sexuality Units of instruction. She shared four documents with the Board.

- 7th grade Healthy Sexuality pre/post assessment
- High School Healthy Sexuality pre/post assessment
- Slide #12 from the STD slide deck
- High School Unit Vocabulary Reference Sheet

The Healthy Sexuality Advisory Committee, made up of teachers, administrators, parents, health professionals, a clergy member, and a high school student, discussed each item, made revisions, and voted to recommend the materials be presented to the Board for approval. Dr. Weber noted that two public hearings were held, in which no one attended either one of the public hearings. She shared that this item will return May 21st for Board approval. Dr. Weber also review the goals of the program.

2024 TAX LEVY RATE REQUEST INFORMATION

Mrs. Gray informed the Board that she does not have the calculations finalized yet. She stated that she will provide them at the next meeting. Mrs. Gray noted that information provided from each county was not available yet. Mrs. Gray shared that once the final information is received PFM, the District's Bond Financial Adviser will be able to provide the district with our debt levy calculations. Once those calculations are received back from PFM, a recommended levy will be made and requested for the debt levies on the L-4029. This item will be brought back at the next Board meeting.

OAKLAND SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

Mr. Archibald shared with the Board the names of the four candidates running for Oakland Schools Board of Education. He gave some background information that he had on a couple of the candidates. Mr. Leftwich stated that he received bios for two of the candidates and will share them with the rest of the Board. Mr. Archibald shared the three items that need to be completed by the Board. A sample resolution was given to the Board. At the May 21st Board meeting the Board will discuss the candidates. After the discussion, they will choose two candidates to vote for and they will also choose one of the Board members and an alternate to cast those votes. The resolution will be completed and signed at the next meeting.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- *Legislative* – Mr. Leftwich had nothing more to add to Mr. Archibald's report.
- *Policy* – Mr. Abbate discussed that the one policy was sent back for a revision.
- *Finance* – Mr. Schwegler shared that the committee will meet on May 20th.
- *Facilities and Grounds* – Mrs. Urtel noted that they met tonight and discussed the change order which was tabled tonight.
- *Curriculum & Communications* – Mrs. Urtel shared that they discussed the new units of study for 6-8 grade math, the Novi Virtual Program, and the Middle & High School Healthy Sexuality curriculum.

OTHER

Mr. Archibald shared that the 9th Annual Arts Education Show is on display at the Administration Building, showcasing artwork from our high school students. He stated that there is phenomenal art on display. Mr. Archibald shared that we have amazing art teachers in the district. Mr. Archibald expressed his appreciation to the staff around the district. He mentioned that was able to work with WHMI 93.5 and record a message for the teachers and staff appreciation month. Mr. Archibald stated that there is no place that he would rather be and that it is in large part because of the wonderful staff that we work with. He said he was proud to be part of this organization and to be your Superintendent.

REPORTS

- *South Lyon Educational Foundation* – Mr. Maguire reported that the 3rd Annual Grub Crawl will be held on May 30th from 5 – 10 p.m. He shared that there are eight restaurants participating in the event. He encouraged everyone to attend.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were no additional public comments.

MEETING DATES

- 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

- **Dr. Laszlo** welcomed the new Special Ed Social Workers to the district. She thanked the UDL Cohort presenters for coming out tonight. Dr. Laszlo stated that she is looking forward to UDL Cohort #3. Dr. Laszlo shared that the Bartlett 4th & 5th grade concert was fantastic. She thanked Mr. Montie for sharing the “good things” from the district.
- **Mr. Schwegler** appreciated the UDL Cohort team and how they explore different ways for students to learn. He shared that he would love to see the program expand and grow. Mr. Schwegler welcomed the new staff members. He wished good luck to everyone for the rest of the school year.
- **Mr. Leftwich** celebrated the teachers and their dedication, commitment and professionalism, and the relationships they build with our students and the community.
- **Mrs. Rimanelli** shared that we love our SL teachers, and we couldn’t do it without you. She encouraged everyone to check out the amazing artwork in the lobby. Mrs. Rimanelli welcomed the new staff members. She thanked the UDL presenters, she said it’s nice to see us doing something new, different, and innovative to help our students learn and be better students.
- **Mrs. Urtel** thanked the UDL team and expressed how the program helps students learn differently. She reminded everyone that on May 18th the South Lyon Theatre group is performing *Broadway Goes Pop* which is a fundraiser for Blessings in a Backpack. Mrs. Urtel wished the teachers and students good luck for the rest of the school year.
- **Mr. Maguire** was impressed with the UDL Cohort presentation. He thanked the teachers during this teacher appreciation week. Mr. Maguire was appreciative of Dr. Laszlo, Mrs. Kudwa, Dr. Weber and the Dress Code committee for all of their hard work. He said it felt like all voices were heard during the dress code revising process.
- **Mr. Abbate** agreed with everything that the other Board Members said. He hoped that the staff has had a successful year. Mr. Abbate encouraged everyone to recharge over the summer. Mr. Abbate shared that it is meaningful to have our students be with the teachers every day and that we are indebted to you for the things that you are doing to bring them along.

ADJOURN

Mr. Abbate asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Leftwich, supported by Mrs. Rimanelli to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Urtel, Secretary
Board of Education