

MAY 17, 2022

**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

Vice President Kennedy called the May 3, 2022 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He explained that Mr. Dashner had a scheduling conflict and was unable to attend the meeting this evening.

ROLL CALL

Present: Anthony Abbate, Stephanie Junkulis-Pierce, Eric Kennedy, Martin Leftwich, Dan Schwegler, Jennifer Urtel

Absent: Craig Dashner

Administration Present: Mr. Steve Archibald, Superintendent, Lisa Kudwa, Asst. Superintendent, Brian Toth, Asst. Superintendent, Stacy Witt, Asst. Superintendent

Administration Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

RECOGNITION: PEERS PROGRAM AT SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Mr. Brian Toth explained that staff and students from both South Lyon High School and South Lyon East High School were in attendance to share information about the PEERS Program. Both high schools offer this program. Mr. Toth emphasized that they were going to focus on South Lyon High School this week. PEERS stands for **P**ositively **E**mpowering & **E**ncouraging **R**elationships. The PEER's program is a general education course designed to educate and train student mentors in providing academic, social, and behavioral support to students who have identified struggles within these areas. Mentors take part in social activities both in and outside of school, helping to provide their peers with authentic high school experiences. The PEER's Program helps in creating a more inclusive school environment where everyone has the chance to learn, grow and belong.

The students who participated in the presentation are Alyssa Seiter, Maddie Cunningham, Kaelyn Sweich, Peyton Strange and Brody Weaver. The full presentation can be found on the district website with the meeting agenda and enclosures.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Kennedy noted how impactful these girls are and thanked Ms. Carolyn Hindersman and the students for the wonderful presentation of their program. He noted how impactful they are. Mr. Abbate noted that this simple connectedness can change an entire culture in school. He encouraged them to keep going with the program.

Mr. Archibald stated that he got into the field of education to make a positive difference. He is proud to have these young students as part of our district and will help the students along their journey in any way he can.

There was a short break for pictures.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Kennedy offered an opportunity for public comments and the following comments were shared.

- *Brenton Montie, teacher & SLEA representative*, shared the following “Good Things” that are happening in our district.
- *Grace Hoffman* has a seeing-impaired student. To help this student with graphing and grids, she and her dad literally made an enormous peg board coordinate plane grid out of wood for the student to be able to see, use and do the math in their systems unit.
- On May 18, the *D & D Magic Club* will have their final meeting of the 2021-22 school year. The club started during the 2019-20 school year when an 8th grade student asked Mrs. Wilson, a MMS 8th grade science teacher if she would sponsor this club. Starting from scratch, Mrs. Wilson got the club up and running in a couple weeks. Unfortunately, that spring, the year was cut short by circumstances beyond anyone’s control. During the 2020-21 school year, all the meetings were held virtually. This year students were on a waiting list due to limited space. The D & D Magic Club is a great way for students to be creative and collaborate with likeminded peers. The students are having so much fun, they don’t realize they are applying math concepts, problem solving and using critical thinking skills. It is a nice escape from the world for a while.
- Dawn Motley works with *Haley Haggin* and *Zach Brennan* at Dolsen. She is also blessed to have her 5th grade daughter in their classes. Haley is her daughter’s teacher, and Zach is her math teacher. Dawn asked to recognize them for their outstanding work with their 5th graders this year. The kids went to 5th grade camp this week. Haley and Zach were awesome with the parents and the students. They did a wonderful job getting the fifth graders some ‘normal’ back into their lives. They did an outstanding job!
- *Jacqueline Cherry, SLEHS teacher & SLEA representative*, continued to share more “Good Things”.
 - *CMS 6th Grade Science Teachers* - 6th grade students at CMS created models of hybrid fruits in their science class. They then presented these hybrid fruits to farmers (classmates) to try to sell their fruits. They explained how they created their hybrid fruit using genetic principles from the unit. They explained the traits of their fruits and how these were beneficial to consumers. They then had to explain how to continue to create this hybrid fruit consistently at their farms. Students enjoyed making creative models showing how much they learned in the unit.
 - This year our middle schools were without any track coaches, and the entire season may not have happened until *Mr. Brenton Montie* stepped in. He reached out and found staff members and parents to be coaches and saved the season. The teams are off to a great start, and the kids are loving being a part of the team. Without Mr. Montie’s dedication and commitment to the kids at both middle schools, they would have not been able to have this great experience. Everyone is encouraged to come out and cheer our middle school teams at their remaining home meets on May 18 and May 23.
- *Miriam Corvino* wanted to thank the people in our community that reached out to her and offered their support and feedback. She encouraged everyone to speak at the board meetings. She provided a State Board of Education update and spoke strongly for reaffirming parents’ rights in public education.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Mr. Kennedy announced that there was an amendment to the agenda that was needed. In Section B, the Preliminary Budget (Item 12f) needed to be presented before the Board could approve the Millage Rates (Item 11). Item 12f will be moved right before Item 11 when that time comes.

Moved by Ms. Junkulis-Pierce, supported by Mr. Leftwich to approve the agenda with the change as presented.

Ayes – 6, Nays – 0. Motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Ms. Junkulis-Pierce, supported by Mr. Leftwich to approve the following minutes as presented:

- *May 3, 2022 – Study Session*
- *May 3, 2022 – Regular Meeting*

Ayes – 6, Nays – 0. Motion carries.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Mr. Schwegler, supported by Mr. Abbate to approve the following bills as presented.

- *April 2022 Prepaids*
- *May 2022 Bond Bills*
- *April 2022 Wires & ACH Transactions*
- *April 2022 Revenue Report*

Roll Call: Mr. Schwegler-yes, Mr. Leftwich-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Abbate-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Ms. Junkulis-Pierce-yes. Motion carries 6 – 0.

SPANISH 1 MATERIALS COURSE

Ms. Lisa Kudwa explained that the proposed Spanish 1 textbook purchase, including six years of online licenses for each textbook, was brought to the May 3, 2022 Board of Education meeting for information. No changes were requested. She asked the Board to approve the purchase of Encuentros 2022 Level 1A from Vista Higher Learning for a total of \$96,531.60 for use beginning in the 2022-23

Moved by Ms. Junkulis-Pierce, supported by Ms. Urtel to approve the purchase of Encuentros 2022 Level 1A from Vista Higher Learning for a total of \$96,531.60 for use beginning in the 2022-23 school year.

Roll Call: Mr. Kennedy-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Ms. Junkulis-Pierce-yes, Mr. Leftwich-yes, Mr. Abbate-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes. Motion carries 6 – 0.

2022 OAKLAND SCHOOLS BIENNIAL ELECTION RESOLUTION

Mr. Archibald indicated that Oakland Schools is holding its biennial election for their Board of Education on June 6, 2022. The South Lyon Board of Education met at a special meeting on May 17, 2022 to discuss the election and to appoint two 6-year term seats open for the 2022 Oakland Schools Board of Education Biennial Election. Mr. Archibald asked the Board to approve the resolution.

Moved by Mr. Abbate, supported by Ms. Urtel to approve the 2022 Oakland Schools Biennial Election resolution in support of Connie Williams and Barb DeMarco as presented. Ms. Urtel read the resolution in its entirety out loud. The Board designated Mr. Leftwich as its representative and Mr. Schwegler as its alternate representative to serve on the 2022 electoral body responsible for electing members to the Oakland Schools ISD Board of Education.

Roll Call: Ms. Junkulis-Pierce-yes, Mr. Leftwich-yes, Mr. Abbate-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes. Motion carries 6 – 0.

2022-23 OAKLAND SCHOOLS ISD BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mr. Archibald stated that the resolution before the Board is the 2022-23 Oakland Schools ISD Budget Resolution. School districts are required by state law to pass a resolution expressing their support for or disapproval of the proposed Intermediate School District budget. The recommended action is to approve the resolution in support of the Oakland Schools ISD 2022-23 Proposed Budget.

Moved by Ms. Junkulis-Pierce, supported by Mr. Abbate to approve the 2022-23 Oakland Schools ISD Budget Resolution as presented. Ms. Urtel read the resolution in its entirety out loud.

Roll Call: Mr. Abbate-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Ms. Junkulis-Pierce-yes, Mr. Leftwich-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes. Motion carries 6 – 0.

2022-23 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Mr. Archibald asked Ms. Witt to present the 2022-23 Preliminary Budget Information before presenting the 2022-23 millage rates. The 2022-23 Preliminary Budget was provided to the Board by a PowerPoint presentation narrated by Ms. Stacy Witt, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance. The presentation is broken down in four basic categories, which include information at the state level, the specific 22-23 Preliminary Budget, a discussion on how it would affect our school district and offered a look at the financial forecast for the future. Ms. Witt shared that there will be a public hearing and Board approval of the proposed budget on June 6, 2022. The budget will be finalized in June/July and amended in the Fall based on actual student enrollment and per pupil funding amounts. There were no questions from the Board. The entire PowerPoint presentation can be found on the website with the agenda and enclosures for this meeting.

2022-23 MILLAGE RATES

Ms. Witt stated that this agenda item was being presented for action today because Washtenaw County now has a deadline of June 1 to receive tax levy. She indicated that PFM Financial Services reviewed our L-4029 to ensure accuracy prior to bringing the 2022-23 millage rates to the Board for approval. She asked the Board to approve the 2022-23 Millage Rates as presented. The enclosure with information can be found on the district website.

Moved by Ms. Junkulis-Pierce, supported by Mr. Abbate to approve the 2022-23 millage rates as presented.

Roll Call: Mr. Abbate-yes, Mr. Kennedy-yes, Mr. Leftwich-yes, Mr. Schwegler-yes, Ms. Junkulis-Pierce-yes, Ms. Urtel-yes. Motion carries 6 – 0.

SCIENCE UNITS OF STUDY FOR GRADES K-1

In response to Michigan's adoption of the Michigan Science Standards, Kelley Engblom, the Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, has worked with members of the Elementary Science Subject Area Curriculum Committee to make a recommendation for new science units for kindergarten through first grade.

The K-5 Subject Area Curriculum Committee had previously identified the Cereal City resources for adoption in order to align the elementary science program with the updated Michigan Science Standards. The unit adoptions were intended to be rolled out over a three-year period (first 4 & 5, then 2 & 3, finally K & 1). These are the final sets of units in the alignment process for elementary science.

Ms. Engblom was available to answer any questions anyone may have. This item will be brought back to the June 6 meeting for approval.

KINDERGARTEN SCIENCE MATERIALS PURCHASE

Ms. Kudwa noted that this item is related to the previous agenda item. She explained that as part of the new science units of study, several purchases have been made over the past few years. Last school year, the district purchased all of the needed first grade science materials so they could run a full pilot. At that time, they also purchased a second unit for kindergarten to pilot. This year's purchase of the remaining unit of materials completes our elementary science purchase updates. While the total dollar amount of the purchase is under the threshold for needing Board approval, they opted to bring this item for discussion and approval since all of the previous elementary science purchases in this sequence have come before the Board of Education.

Ms. Kudwa indicated that she is recommending the purchase of two sets of the Life Science Plants and Animals Live Here kits for each school's kindergarten sections from Cereal City Science for a total of \$16,470.00.

Ms. Engblom was available to answer any questions the Board may have. This item will also be brought back to the Board for approval at the June 6 meeting.

MARKETING TEXTBOOK PURCHASE

As of May of 2020, the Board of Education approved both the units of study for a Marketing course at each high school and the purchase of the online textbooks needed to accompany the course. The Marketing course was designed to include the hands-on running or co-running of the school spirit wear stores within each high school. Due to the virtual start to the 2020-21 school year, the course was tabled, and the online textbook purchase was canceled and refunded by the publisher.

The course did not start in 2021-22 as they were unsure if there would be enough staffing to support the course.

Ms. Kudwa indicated that at this time, they are ready to offer the course for 2022-23. It is therefore necessary to repurchase the textbooks at this time. She stated that her staff are still happy with their previous recommended textbook – Mod Marketing. They have asked the publisher, Stukent, for an updated quote. In 2020, the high schools had purchased the three-year licenses, so that is the length of time quoted by Stukent for this re-bid.

Several discounts are applicable with this purchase. The schools will receive 15% off for purchasing together as well as a 5% discount for purchasing the three-year license. This brings the actual three-year total for both schools to \$4,845.00. Teacher materials are included in the textbook costs and as the book is an online textbook, no shipping costs are incurred.

This item will be brought to the June 6 meeting for approval.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR NOVI VIRTUAL PROGRAM

Ms. Kudwa indicated that they surveyed the current virtual learning families within our district, and there is a limited interest in the VLP program for next school year. It is not cost effective for the district to continue to run a program when we do not have more than a handful of students per grade.

They were contacted by administrators from Novi regarding a possible cooperative agreement for our students to enroll in their virtual learning program. They are looking to continue their program but are interested in partnerships with other local districts to offset their costs and fill their classes.

The students attending Novi's virtual program under this agreement would remain students of South Lyon and would be able to participate in our school activities and athletics., much like students in the IA program or the Fire Cadet program with Livingston County.

Ms. Kudwa noted that they have been meeting with the Novi administration and the program they will be offering is a good match to the structure our VLP families are used to. In terms of costs, this is comparable to signing students up for 21st courses through vendors like Michigan Virtual, but the Novi program offers live instruction and is not self-paced. This structure works better for most students than a fully asynchronous program.

Our district would be responsible for Special Ed testing and services, pupil accounting, state and federal testing and extracurricular activities and events. Students would also have an SLCS mentor.

Ms. Kudwa stated that while administration is continuing to iron out details with the Novi administration, they do believe they will be able to come to an agreement and are bringing this item for information this evening and for approval on June 6. Draft copies of the agreement were provided, but they are still working with Novi and our legal counsel to finalize an agreement for Board approval.

UPDATE ON 11t EQUALIZATION PLAN FOR USE OF FUNDS

Ms. Kelley Engblom provided the Board with a slide presentation of an update on our district's plan for use of the 11t equalization funds. Background information regarding the 11t initial grant was previously shared in February. As a reminder the 11t Equalization Grant is one of the grant funds that our district has received as part of the American Rescue Plan or ARP Elementary and Secondary School Relief Funding. Ms. Engblom shared information on the federally allowable uses for this funding source, allocation information and expenditure period, requirements consistent with ESSER III, additional requirements, stakeholder input for plan development, stakeholder priority identification and guiding questions from the US Department of Education. The entire presentation is available on the website. (Enclosure 10)

2022 SUMMER TAX COLLECTION FEE

Ms. Witt stated that the 2022 summer tax collection fees were provided to the Board in their packets. They are the same as the 2020-21 taxes and have not increased at all. There were no questions from the Board. This item will be brought back before the Board on June 6.

NIGHTLOCK PURCHASE

Mr. Archibald explained to the Board that the Safety Advisory Team will be recommending the purchase of door barricade devices for use during a building lockdown event at the next board meeting. The purchase of these devices has also been reviewed with the Administrative Review Committee and the Facilities Planning Committee. These devices will increase the security of our classrooms, offices, and other lockdown locations throughout the district. The selected device is the Nightlock Model 16002. The manufacturer is Taylor Brothers Door Lock LLC, located in Mount Morris, MI. District maintenance staff will install the majority of the devices; however, there are several complex installations that the vendor will install. The target date for completion of this security improvement is September 1, 2022. The purchase and installation pricing has been competitively bid through the TIPS Cooperative purchasing system and is accepted by the Oakland Schools ISD Cooperative Contracts Network. The total cost of the purchase is \$61,697.50. Mr. Archibald noted that the district had applied to the Michigan State Police Competitive Safety Grant as the initial path to fund this project. It was learned a couple weeks ago that we did not receive the grant. It will be funded through the school carryover funds as well as the district's General Fund. This purchase will be brought back before the Board for action at the June 6 board meeting.

LEGISLATION

Mr. Archibald noted that the bills to eliminate the requirement to administer the ACT WorkKeys as part of the state test were approved out of the Senate Education Committee. They will move to the full body. There may be some administration that will become law at some point in the not-so-distant future.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Legislative** – Mr. Leftwich stated that he had nothing more to share other than what Mr. Archibald just stated.
- **Policy** – They discussed our graduation policy requirements for students with IEP's and need to speak to other committees before bringing anything forward to the Board,
- **Finance** – Nothing new to report.
- **Facilities Planning** – They have not had a recent meeting.
- **Curriculum & Communications** – Everything was discussed earlier under Information & Inquiry. They also discussed reading intervention at the middle schools.

OTHER

There was no other information to share.

REPORTS

South Lyon Educational Foundation – Ms. Junkulis-Pierce stated that the Foundation had hosted a photo shoot over the weekend. She thanked parents and families, as well as the two teachers who volunteered their time to take those pictures. They are now working on sponsorships for the kindergarten bags. They were a huge success last year. Star awards for SLCS staff are \$20 and are a great way to recognize staff.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Kennedy offered a second opportunity for public comments.

- *Miriam Corvino* took the opportunity to provide her own legislative update. She spoke on the amendment to the following House Bills.
 - *HB 6095* – Special Ed students that are not attending classes on Count Day and not receiving funding.
 - *HB 6050* – Recording of School Board meetings.
 - *HB & Senate Bill* – lowering standards for students to graduate. Evaluation of teachers for 2021-22 school year.
 - *Senate Bill* to increase transparency to allow families access to textbooks that are used in the classroom.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Kennedy acknowledged the following correspondence:

- *Retirement*
 - *Judith Wiemer – Administration Building, effective 6.30.22*
- *Resignations*
 - *John Hall – South Lyon East Physical Education Teacher*
 - *Heather Thomas – CMS 7th Grade Language Arts & ELA Facilitator*
- *Donation*

Hardy Elementary received a donation of items from the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel. The donation included classroom manipulatives for resource room students. The value of the items is approximately \$200.00.

MEETING DATES

Mr. Kennedy acknowledged the following meeting dates.

- May 31, 2022, Special Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- June 6, 2022, (Monday), Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- June 21, 2022, Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

BOARD COMMENTS

- **Ms. Urtel** mentioned that she is able to volunteer on Friday mornings at Centennial as a “copy” mom. She is also helping in the lunchroom as an aide due to lack of staff and volunteers. She encouraged anybody in the district to work as a volunteer and help in the schools. She mentioned that Food Truck Frenzy was at EHS this evening. It is a great fundraiser for the band. She noted that PEERS did a great presentation this evening. Unified sports are wonderful. Another great activity at the schools is Decision Day. The students wore clothes that represented where they will be going to school next year. While on social media she noticed that Kids in the Park will be at McHattie Park on Friday at 7 p.m. The acapella group choir and the jazz band will be performing. This is the first time they will be able to perform in three years.

- **Mr. Abbate** was glad that PEERS was able to come to the meeting this evening. The understanding of classmates helps them feel a part of everything that goes on in the schools. He hoped it continues to grow. He thanked Curriculum for their information this evening. He also congratulated Judy again and thanked her for spending so many Mondays with them and for passing the torch to Peggy.
- **Mr. Schwegler** also commented on how wonderful the PEERS program is. What a great way to build the leadership skills those kids will need and to take part at such a young age. He also commented on the experience his children went through at the MMS band program last week. He was very impressed with Ms. Watson's leadership. He also congratulated Judy and welcomed Peggy.
- **Mr. Leftwich** thanked everyone for coming to the meeting this evening. He wished the administration and staff to have a safe Memorial Day.
- **Ms. Junkulis-Pierce** stated that our district has really made it a position to focus on our social emotional learning dogs. Hardy Elementary is the first school to have an emotional learning dog (Hattie). She shared a story about how Hattie had helped to calm down a student who was upset and struggling. The dogs are making a huge difference in our schools, and she hopes the district and community continues to support them. The PEERS program does tremendous work. She thanked Mr. Monte and the SLEA for stepping up to run the middle school track team. She also thanked Ms. Engblom and Ms. Witt for their hard work.
- **Mr. Kennedy** stated he was humbled by the work that the staff and students do in this district. He is proud to be a part of South Lyon Community Schools. He welcomed Peggy and thanked Judy.

ADJOURN

Moved by Ms. Junkulis-Pierce, supported by Mr. Abbate to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Ayes – 6, Nays - 0. Motion carries 7 - 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Urtel
Board Secretary