

MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
Almont Community Schools Board of Education
February 26, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

President Edwards called the Regular Board of Education Meeting of Almont Community Schools to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Almont High School Auditorium.

Present

Tim SaintOnge, Janaea Smith, Rick Battani, James Wade, Angela Edwards, and Superintendent VonHiltmayer

Absent

Sue Frederiksen and Dallas Walton

Visitors: 24

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions- Approval of Superintendent's Evaluation and Approval of Superintendent's Contract Amendment after coming back from Closed Session.

COMMUNICATIONS

Student Council- Snowcoming was themed as "Winter Wonderland" which was a great success and was preceded by a Spirit Week that had a lot of participation. Rachel's Challenge handed out Candy Grams to every student in the High School.

Raider Recognition- Almont Middle School Principal, Mrs. Lewis, who was joined by teachers Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Petrovitch, Mrs. SaintOnge, and Ms. Ferman, along with several students, gave a presentation on the Big Ideas Math Curriculum. This included how the curriculum was working for the students and staff, along with examples given by the students on how to solve various mathematical problems.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: AUDIENCE

None

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: BOE

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by SaintOnge, supported by Smith, the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the January 22, 2024 Regular Meeting
- B. Approval of the Minutes from the January 25, 2024 MASB Workshop
- C. Approval of the Minutes from the February 12, 2024 Town Hall
- D. Approval of the Minutes from the February 21, 2024 Work Session

Discussion- Mrs. Edwards asked if everyone was able to see the updated minutes with corrections? All responded they did.

P, 38, 5-0-0

BILLS PAYABLE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Wade, supported by Smith, the Board of Education approved the bills payable and the financial reports as proposed by the administration and reviewed by the Finance Committee.

01/16/2024 to 02/15/2024	
General Fund Total	\$ 291,305.54
School Lunch Fund*	\$ 62,457.69
Student Activity Fund	\$ 54,485.48
2014 Sinking Fund	\$ 15,428.89
Sub-total	\$ 424,027.60
ACH/Wire Transactions:	
Payroll 1/29 & 02/15	\$ 990,203.77
EduStaff	\$ 11,948.74
Health Equity H.S.A.	\$ 12,264.99
Credit Card (BMO)	\$ 12,069.27
Health Insurance	\$ 231,841.12
Arbiterpay	\$ 10,000.00
Total Funds Spent	\$ 1,692,355.49
Check numbers	44184- 44322

Voided check(s): None

P, 39, 5-0-0

ORCHARD PRIMARY, ALMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND ALMONT HIGH SCHOOL, AND ATHLETIC STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCOUNT REPORTS

The Student Activity Accounts were approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. VonHiltmayer provided updates throughout the district:

Orchard Primary PTA sponsored a 'Breakfast with Bruno' for families to meet the new Principal. Data days helped teachers go over student achievement. March Is Reading Month plans are well underway. A Science Fair is planned for Family Reading Night.

Almont Middle School has a Book Fair coming up and a special thanks was extended to Mrs. Kuhn for her hard work. The annual Spelling Bee is scheduled for 2/28/24. Officer Manning has been conducting Cyber Safety Lessons for Grades 6 and 7. The Band Festival is also coming up for our Middle School band members.

Almont High School is seeing schedule planning in full swing for the 2024-2025 school year and Mrs. Norrod is working hard on schedules and setting up meetings. The High School band is going to the Band Festival the first weekend in March. There is a meeting for families interested in the 2024-2025 Trip Abroad on 2/28/24. Parent Teacher Conferences are coming up on March 7th.

The Director of Finance Position is currently vacant and Mrs. VonHiltmayer is working hard to schedule interviews and work with an outside company to finish our Budget Amendment for this school year.

Personnel

Resignations/Retirements

Moved by Battani, supported by SaintOnge, the Board of Education accepted the resignations of Maxim Shafik and Kerri Kohl and wished them well in the future.

Discussion- Mr. SaintOnge asked if it was true that Mr. Shafik was leaving due to a new position that is closer to home with better hours. Mrs. VonHiltmayer confirmed that was correct.

P, 40, 5-0-0

Approval of New Hire(s)

Moved by Battani, supported by SaintOnge, the Board of Education approved Mr. Adam Bruno as the Principal of Orchard Primary and welcomed him to the district.

P, 41, 5-0-0

Policy

Approval of Overnight Trip

Moved by Battani, supported by SaintOnge, the Board of Education approved the trip to Greece and Italy planned for March 2025.

Discussion- several Board members shared their excitement for the trip.

P, 42, 5-0-0

Approval of Overnight Trips for 2023-2024 School Year

Moved by Battani, supported by SaintOnge, the Board of Education approved Mr. Gauthier and/or Mrs. VonHiltmayer to approve any overnight trips for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

P, 43, 5-0-0

Recommendation to MASB for Region 5 Board of Directors position

Moved by Battani supported by SaintOnge, the Board of Education cast their vote for Janice Holz for the Region 5 MASB Board of Directors position.

P, 44, 5-0-0

Approval of Chief Negotiator for AEA Contract

Moved by Battani, supported by SaintOnge, the Board of Education approved the recommendation to appoint Ryan Murray from Thrun Law Firm to act as the Chief Negotiator in the upcoming AEA Contract Negotiation.

Discussion- Mrs. Edwards asked if Mr. Murray will be acting with Mrs. VonHiltmayer. Mrs. VonHiltmayer confirmed that Mr. Murray will be there to support the legal aspects of the negotiation.

P, 45, 5-0-0

Curriculum

Approval of High School Course Guide

Moved by Smith, supported by Wade, the Board of Education approved the 2024/2025 Almont High School Course Guide as presented.

Discussion- Mrs. VonHiltmayer thanked Mrs. Norrod for her outstanding work and thanked her for being present at the meeting.

P, 46, 5-0-0

COMMENTS: AUDIENCE

None

COMMENTS: BOE

Mrs. Smith welcomed Mr. Bruno and thanked him for being at the meeting.

Mrs. Edwards attended the 'Breakfast with Bruno' and said it was a great way to meet Mr. Bruno. She is excited for all the things he is going to bring to Orchard Primary. Mrs. Edwards also thanked Beth Mulak and her family for the amazing decorations for March is Reading Month.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None at this time

Closed Session

Moved by SaintOnge, supported by Battani, the Board of Education moved to go into Closed Session at 7:45pm for the Superintendent's Evaluation.

P, 47, 5-0-0

Open Session: 11:43pm

Approval of Superintendent’s Evaluation

Moved by Smith, supported by SaintOnge, the Board of Education approved the Superintendent’s Evaluation. Official evaluation to be attached to minutes and marked XII A.

P, 48, 5-0-0

Ayes- Wade, Battani, Smith, SaintOnge, Edwards

Nays- None

Approval of Superintendent’s Contract Amendment

Moved by Battani, supported by SaintOnge, the Board of Education approved the amendment to the Superintendent’s contract to update title, removing ‘Interim.’

P, 49, 5-0-0

Ayes- Smith, Wade, Battani, SaintOnge, Edwards

Nays- None

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Battani, supported by Wade, the Board of Education adjourned the February 26, 2024 Regular Meeting at 11:46 p.m.

P, 50, 5-0-0

Approved: March 18, 2024
Date

Signed: _____
Dallas Walton, Secretary

Signed: _____
Angela Edwards, President