

MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
Almont Community Schools Board of Education
April 27, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

President Hoffa called the Regular Board Meeting of the Almont Community Schools Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. in Media Center at Almont Middle School, 4624 Kidder, Almont, MI 48003

Present

Steve Hoffa, Steven Manko, Jill O'Neil, John Miles, Scott Kmetz, Jonathon Owens, John Brzozowski and Superintendent Joseph Candela.

Visitors: 5

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: All Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was approved as presented

COMMUNICATIONS

Student Council

SC representative brought the BOE up to date on the following items:

Prom – over 200 tickets sold so far. Held at Boulder Point in Oxford on May 9.

MStep Testing – Students were having difficulty taking the test seriously

Upcoming events – staff appreciation and breakfast are being planned

SC interviews will be getting underway. They have approx. 20 application per grade and there is only room for 12 per grade.

Mr. Candela explained the frustration with MStep to the Board. Juniors just got done with ACT and MME and then two weeks or so later are taking the MStep. Teachers frustration from having the Juniors pulled from classes to take the test. They also have AP testing coming up as well.

Mr. Miles stated that as a facilitator of the test that he can say that the online version of the test works well and his students in his district liked the online version.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: AUDIENCE

Mrs. Boxey updated the BOE on the Youth on Main Street event held over the weekend. They had 33 kids ranging from 1st thru 12th grade participate. They painted, swept, and cleaned. Mrs. VonHiltmayer came with a group of students from the MS and helped as well. Mrs. Boxey said the district should be proud of the kids.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: BOARD

None

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Miles, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the March 23, 2015 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Approval of the Minutes from the March 23, 2015 Closed Session Quarterly Review
- C. Approval of the Minutes from the April 20, 2015 Work Session
- D. Approval of the Minutes from the April 23, 2015 Student Matter

Mr. Kmetz asked that the minutes for the April 20th Work Session be amended to state a 5-0-0 vote on Approval of Trip.

Amendment moved by Miles supported by Manko that the April 23 minutes reflect a 5-0-0 vote.

P, 50, 7-0-0

BILLS PAYABLE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Brzozowski, supported by Kmetz, the Board of Education approve the bills payable and the financial reports as proposed by the administration and reviewed by the Finance Committee.

March 2015

General Fund Total	\$ 1,024,280.62
School Lunch Fund	\$ 26,298.06
2006 Refunding Bonds	0
2012 Refunding Bonds	0
2013 SBL Refinance	0
2013 Refunding Bonds	0
QZAB Bond	\$ 3,500.00
Subtotal	\$ 1,054,078.68
General Fund (transfer in for Payroll)	\$ 51,045.40
PESG	\$ 9,286.20
Coach EZ	\$ 22,345.35
Participant Benefit Claims	\$ 50,000.00
TOTAL FUNDS SPENT	\$ 1,186,755.63
Check No. 33095-33196	
Void Checks: None	

Approval of check numbers covering these invoices range from check number 33095-33196 and voided checks as presented: Voided check(s): None

P, 51, 7-0-0

ORCHARD PRIMARY, ALMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND ALMONT HIGH SCHOOL TRUST AND AGENCY ACCOUNT REPORTS

The Trust and Agency Accounts were approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendents Report

Orchard Primary

READING & WRITING FESTIVAL

Thank you to the entire Orchard Primary staff for hosting a fantastic Reading & Writing Festival last Friday night! The theme was *Let the Adventure Begin!* Mrs. Weigand and the fourth-grade STEAM students brought David Weisner's wordless picture book *Tuesday* to life with an interactive display in the entryway. And throughout the evening, the teachers led a wide variety of fun hands-on activities, such as puppet-making stations, shadow puppet retellings, readers' theater activities, and letter-writing. Finally, the night came to an end with an animal magic show by Mark Rosenthal.

TITLE I INTERVENTION

Suzanne Herzog, Melissa Ashbaugh, and Paulynn Bartlett have begun an afterschool reading program for second-, third-, and fourth-grade students. The program is designed to assist ten students in each of these grade levels with reading and writing from now until the end of the year.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Kindergarten testing was completed last week. So far registration numbers are as follows: 66 students are registered for Kindergarten, and 21 students have committed to the full-day Begin Kindergarten program.

ANN ARBOR STEAM FIELD TRIP

On Tuesday, March 31, our last snow day, Kris Ruhala, Noelle Graver, Mike Flinn, Liz Kempf, and Jamie Weigand traveled to Ann Arbor to attend a STEAM expo at Northside Elementary. Northside became a full STEAM school last year. It participates in Project Lead the Way, but the staff is also learning to design their own curriculum projects under the guidance of a STEAM coordinator. Once Northside adopted STEAM, its enrollment skyrocketed by 250 students!

SPECIAL EVENTS

- CHOCOLATE FOUNTAIN PARTY
- FUN RUN

The PTA is also organizing a spring Fun Run event scheduled for May 18. The top prize for the run is a chance to be "Principal for the Day". Mrs. Weigand is planning a variety of activities for the winner, including a McDonald's lunch meeting with Mr. Candela.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Music concerts for first and second grades.....April 30, 6:00 PM & 7:00 PM
- K-12 Art Show at the High School.....May 1, 6:00-9:00 PM
- Teacher Appreciation Week.....May 4-8
- Memorial Day—No School.....May 25

Middle School

PLC/DCC Update

During the last PLC on 4-15-15, all departments/grade levels completed an Exit Form for the DCC. This form will help communicate the needs (next step, suggested professional development, etc...) of the district as we move forward with the PLC/Curriculum Process. All revised Pacing Guides are due on June 8th.

M-STEP Testing

Overall, the M-STEP Testing is going well at AMS! The teachers and support staff have been extremely helpful and flexible as we adjust to the online testing format. Online testing is conducted in the Computer Lab, Media Center, and the “Overflow Lab” (located across from the office). The AMS PTSA is providing nutritional snacks to all students before the Math and ELA Online Tests. Presently, the 5th and 8th graders are being tested.

STEM Update

A grant has been written and submitted to the Four County Community Foundation; awaiting status. An additional grant will be written to the Lapeer County Community Foundation before June 1st. AMS is interested to pursue curriculum/models from *Project Lead the Way*.

Google Classroom Training- Part II.

Staff is encouraged to attend additional *Google Classroom* Training on Wednesday, April 29th.

Sex Ed/Health Curriculum

Presently, Mark Weigand is conducting the Sex Ed sessions with AMS students. These sessions are scheduled throughout the remainder of the school year. Thank you to Jennifer Bassols and Andrea Malloy for presenting the 5th & 6th grade material.

Staff Recognition

Support Staff: Teresa Deneweth (M-STEP)

Teaching Staff: Shannon Chayka (Assistance with *Google Classroom*)

I-Team: Ryan Kline, Kimberly Odett, Ritchie Feys, Mary Mueller, Jose Andrades, and Mandy Gilbert (Continue to work hard to ensure academic and personal success for our AMS students)

School Improvement: Beau Beneson, Carol Purvis, and Angela Ferman (Assisting with School Improvement Plan/Best Teaching Practices for AMS)

R.O.C.K. Stars of February/March

Please come see pictures of our R.O.C.K. Stars of the month in the main office! **Note:** The students are chosen by administration, teachers, and support staff.

Mark Your Calendars! Busy Month Ahead!

4-26-15 thru 5-1-15	6 th Grade Camp Lael (Sullivan and Filar)
5-1-15 thru 5-3-15	Musical: <i>Mary Poppins</i> (Pinsoneault)
5-5-15	Teacher Appreciation Luncheon (PTSA/AMS)
5-6-15 thru 5-8-15	6 th Grade Camp Lael (Mueller and Pinsoneault)
5-12-15	PTSA @ 7:00 PM in Media Center
5-14-15	7 th Grade Cedar Point Physics Day Trip
5-21-15	<i>Steppin' Up Night</i> from 6:00-8:00 PM

High School

Kris Rohrbeck has received a grant for the Lapeer County Foundation for \$1295. The funds will be used to purchase a shed to house her bee keeping equipment.

Testing

The M-STEP testing required of all 11th graders has been completed. The M-STEP was the first State of Michigan assessment that was taken completely on the computer. AP testing is scheduled to start soon. Mr. Woelkers will

advise the Board as to the number of students that took the tests along and how they scored when he receives the results.

Scheduling

We are on track to have the master schedule complete by May 2nd. All student requests have been submitted and we are in the process of assigning students to their courses.

Duel Enrollment/Early College

The pilot for duel enrollment through St. Clair Community College has begun. The English Comp class is meeting during 3rd hour each day. It is going very smoothly and the students are working hard. We have had several students select Duel Enrollment as part of their course selection for next school year.

Evaluations

Teacher evaluations are ongoing at the high school. We are in the formal observation portion of the evaluations and will have them all completed by the end of May.

Educational Technology Programs

Many Almont ED TECH students placed at the recent SKILLS USA State competition. Two students have qualified to move on to the national competition.

Visual and Performing Arts Programs

One student placed second in the High School category of the Michigan Arson Prevention Committee. She will be honored at a luncheon at Weber's Inn, in Ann Arbor, on May 5th.

Athletics

Spring sports are well underway. Due to the inclement weather it has been a challenge getting in all the contests. It is going to make for a very busy May athletic schedule.

Upcoming Date

May 1 st -3 rd	High School Spring Musical "Mary Poppins"
	K – 12 Art Show at the High School Lobby
May 7 th	Blood Drive at the High School
May 9 th	Prom
May 15 -20	K – 12 Art Show at the High School Lobby
May 20 th	Senior's last day
May 26 th	Senior trip to Cedar Point

Other

Almont Athletic Hall of Fame

Committee members: Steve Edwards, John Bacholzky, Paul Bowman, Becky Byam, Pete Wedemeyer, Nathan Immekus, Sue Fredricksen, Don Eschenburg, Mark Weigand
They have met twice so far, working on Committee Guidelines, Funding, Awards, etc.

Early Warning Package Passes House

On Thursday afternoon, the House debated and on voted on [House Bills 4325-4330](#), which create an early warning system for schools in possible fiscal distress. The main bill, HB 4325, was passed by a vote of 60-49. Districts would have to submit their budget assumptions to the state that have less than an 8 percent fund balance and we would be one of these districts. This threshold limits the bill to about 300 school districts.

Bake Sale" Bill Approved by Committee

On Thursday morning, the House Committee on Education passed [Senate Bill 139](#), which would allow for the sale of foods that do not meet federal nutrition guidelines during school hours. Known as the "bake sale" bill, it was passed unanimously by committee and now goes before the full House for its approval. It was amended in committee to limit the number of sales to two per week and require notification to parents that a sale is scheduled.

Proposal 1 Vote May 5th

Election Day for Proposal 1 will be a one away from tomorrow. I will be hosting "Evening with Candela" on Wednesday to discuss the facts of Proposal 1

Board of Education: Questions

None

POLICY

Approval of Board Goals

Moved by Manko, supported by Owens the Board of Education approve the following goals developed at the March 14th and 19th, 2015 Board Goal Workshops:

GOAL STATEMENT 1: The Almont Community Schools shall continue to be fiscally responsible.

GOAL STATEMENT 2: The Almont Community Schools shall continue to analyze, evaluate and revise curriculum to meet the needs of the students.

GOAL STATEMENT 3: The Almont Community Schools shall communicate effectively with all Almont Community stakeholders.

GOAL STATEMENT 4: The Almont Community Schools shall continue to develop and incorporate technology initiatives.

P, 52, 7-0-0

Approval of New Policies, Bylaw Revisions, and Policy Revisions

Moved by Manko, supported by Kmetz, the Board of Education approve revisions to the following policies and bylaws:

1240 Evaluation of the Superintendent
1420 School Administrator Evaluation
3220 Professional Staff Evaluation
3120 Employment of Professional Staff
4120 Employment of Support Staff
3139 Staff Discipline
5320 Immunization
5517.01 Bullying and Other Aggressive Behavior toward Students
8400 School Safety
2260.01 Section 504/ADA Prohibition against Discrimination Based on Disability
5112 Entrance Age
5114 Foreign and Foreign Exchange Students
5460 Graduation Requirements
8390 Animals on District Property

P, 53, 7-0-0

Approval of Overnight Trip

Moved by Manko, supported by Kmetz, the Board of Education approve the overnight trip to Gaylord, Mi for the cross country team from July 27 – 31, 2015.

P, 54, 7-0-0

BUSINESS**Approval of Reimbursement Rates**

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Manko the Board of Education approve the per diem and mileage rates as listed below:

Brunch/Breakfast \$6.00

Lunch \$10.00

Dinner \$14.00

(per diem includes the tip)

Mileage .45 per mile

P, 55, 7-0-0

Approval of Latchkey Rates

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Manko, the Board of Education establish the following rate schedule for the 2015/2016 Latchkey Program:

Per Student Registration Fee: \$40.00 one time fee

Per Family Registration Fee: \$50.00 one time fee if more than one family member attends

Hourly Rate: \$ 3.50 per hour

Drop-In Fee: \$ 5.50 per hour

Late Fee(s): \$10.00 every 10 minutes (1st two occurrences)

\$20.00 every 10 minutes (3rd and subsequent occurrences)

Discussion:

Mr. Owens suggested that we amend the motion to take into consideration that should Latch Key need to be moved to a new location that could cost the district more money we would have the option to increase the rates.

New Motion:

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Manko, the Board of Education establish the rate schedule below for the 2015/2016 Latchkey Program knowing that if the latch key program has a change in location for 2015-2016 that costs the district more money the rates may be changed to reflect these new costs:

Per Student Registration Fee: \$40.00 one time fee

Per Family Registration Fee: \$50.00 one time fee if more than one family member attends

Hourly Rate: \$ 3.50 per hour

Drop-In Fee: \$ 5.50 per hour

Late Fee(s): \$10.00 every 10 minutes (1st two occurrences)

\$20.00 every 10 minutes (3rd and subsequent occurrences)

P, 56, 7-0-0

Approval of PreSchool Tuition

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Manko, the Board of Education establish the preschool tuition rate for the 2015/2016 school year at \$660.00 per fifteen (15) week semester.

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Discussion:

Mr. Owens suggested that we amend the motion to take into consideration that should PreSchool need to be moved to a new location that could cost the district more money we would have the option to increase the rates.

New Motion:

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Manko, the Board of Education establish the preschool tuition rate for the 2015/2016 school year at \$660.00 per fifteen (15) week semester unless the PreSchool is moved to a new location that will cost the district more money for 2015-2016. Should this be the case the rates will be adjusted at that time.

P, 57, 7-0-0

Approval of Athletic Pricing

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Kmetz, the Board of Education establish the following rate schedule for Athletics during the 2015/2016 school year.

Ticket Prices:

Varsity Game:	\$5
JV or Freshman Game:	\$4
Middle School Game:	\$3
Almont Student Grades 4-12	
Student with ID:	\$3
Students without ID:	\$5
Tournaments:	\$5

Pay to Participate:

High School: \$125 for 1st sport, \$100 for 2nd sport, \$75 for 3rd sport

Middle School: \$95 for 1st sport, \$70 for 2nd sport, \$45 for 3rd sport

(this includes all paid coach sports and clubs)

Students who qualify for free lunch pay \$0 and students who qualify for reduced lunch pay ½ price.

Family Pass Pricing will also be available:

2 adults and school age children \$150.00

Two adult passes \$100.00

One adult pass \$50.00

Student pass \$40.00

Replacement fee for lost pass \$5.00

Discussion:

Mr. Hoffa asked if we set the tournament price. Mr. Candela stated that no we do not but MHSAA does and it is \$5.00

P, 58, 7-0-0

Approval of Summer Wage Rate

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Manko, the Board of Education establish the rate of pay for temporary summer help as \$8.15 per hour.

P, 59, 7-0-0

Approval of Sub Teacher Rates

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Manko, the Board of Education keep the following Substitute Teacher rate schedule for 2015/2016:

\$71.25 per day

\$85.50 after 10 consecutive days in the same assignment

\$104.50 after 20 consecutive days in the same assignment

P, 60, 6-0-1

Mr. Kmetz abstained citing that his wife is a substitute teacher in the district.

COMMENTS: AUDIENCE

None

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm

Approved _____
Date

Signed: _____
John Miles, Secretary

Signed: _____
Steve Hoffa, President