



Almont Board of Education Work Session Minutes

January 16, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

President Edwards called the Work Session of the Almont Community School Board of Education to order at 6:00 pm in the Media Center at Almont High School, 4701 Howland Rd., Almont, Mi 48003.

Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENT

Tim SaintOnge, Dallas Walton, Angela Edwards, Susan Frederiksen, Rick Battani, James Wade and Interim Superintendent Kimberly VonHiltmayer

Janaea Smith arrived at 6:16pm

Visitors: 4

Adoption OF AGENDA

Agenda Approved as presented

Questions and Comments: Audience

None

Questions and Comments: Board of Education

Mrs. Edwards stated that the 2023 Board of Education Committees would be used during tonight's work session, as the 2024 Committees had not had time to prepare for their new roles.

Work Session

NEW BUSINESS

A. Communications

1. Athletic Ad-Hoc Committee

- Discussion was held as to whether there is a need for a committee at this time. The BOE agreed that a committee is not currently necessary but could be on the table in the future. It was also agreed that more dialogue with the Athletic Director would be beneficial to planning.

2. Additional Section for MoCI at Orchard Primary

- Per the recommendation from Mrs. Calopisis, Coordinator of Special Education for the Consortium, due to the increasing enrollment numbers, there is a need



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to open another classroom for the MoCI program. Information was relayed to the Board in terms of teacher to student ratios, how the classrooms would be structured, etc.

B. Building and Site

1. Maintenance Update

- Jason Frederick updated the Board on the status of work orders.
- Presentation of Door Security Installation bids and timeline.
 - Recommended 3 to 0

C. Finance

1. Checks Written

2. Account Balances

3. Student Activity Accounts

4. Preschool

- Discussion: Mrs. VonHiltmayer discussed the current enrollment numbers and current programming.

Break from 7:18 pm to 7:23 pm

D. Personnel

1. Resignation(s)

- Discussion- Mr. Battani asked if the rumor prior to the holiday break was in reference to this resignation. Mrs. VonHiltmayer explained that to her knowledge, the prior rumor was unsubstantiated and at that time, the employee denied any intent to leave.
- Recommended 3 to 0

2. New Hire(s)

- ACS Direct Hires

- Discussion: Ms. Frederiksen stated the candidates' qualifications are absolutely outstanding and asked if mentors have been set up yet. Mrs. VonHiltmayer explained that was in the process of happening. Mrs. Edwards asked if the grant money used for some of the new hires was now exhausted. Mrs. VonHiltmayer confirmed that with the new hires, we have used the grant money in full per Business Manager.

- Recommended 3 to 0

- GECS

- Recommended 3 to 0

3. Change in Teacher Pay

- Recommended 3 to 0

E. Policy

1. School of Choice

- Recommended 3 to 0

2. Neola Updates (First Read)



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- Read through Policies 1540, 2370.01, 7217, 7540.03, 8305, 8531, 3131 and discussed NEOLA recommendations.
- Recommended 3 to 0

Questions and Comments: Audience

- Mrs. Toner asked about the warranty of the door barricades and if they had to be removed during any remodeling. Mrs. Toner also suggested that having all day preschool and offering Latchkey would be a huge help for parents and staff.
- Ms. Sample requested that if going forward the bid sheets for the paras can include classroom differentiation to avoid confusion/conflict when bidding on jobs.

Questions and Comments: Board

- Mr. SaintOnge asked about looking into additional support, such as a Dean of Students, at Orchard Primary.
- Ms. Frederiksen mentioned that if a community member emails the board, if someone responds, to please 'reply all' so that the Board is aware if the email is being taken care of. Ms. Frederiksen also asked if there has been a committee about the Reproductive Health. Ms. Frederiksen also mentioned that our Crisis Manual should be updated. Mrs. VonHiltmayer let her know that it was just updated in November 2023 and will be updated again with the new staff at Almont High School.
- Mr. Battani asked who would be trained with the NightLock Door Security Barricades. Mr. Battani also asked if we know the 'why' of families who live in Almont and choose to utilize School of Choice into another district. Mrs. VonHiltmayer stated she would look into that and see what can be found.
- Mrs. Edwards asked if the Board was okay moving the February Work Session to February 21st, 2024 to accommodate Winter Break. The Board agreed to the date change. Mrs. Edwards also asked if everyone was okay with completing the evaluation of the Superintendent on February 26th in a closed session. All Board members agreed to this. Mrs. Edwards mentioned that she was canvassing in the community over the weekend and had a lot of fun talking with community members about the upcoming vote on February 27th, 2024.

Future Agenda Items

- None



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ADJOURNMENT

Moved by D. Walton, supported by S. Frederiksen, the Work Session adjourned at 8:35 pm.
P, 23, 7,0,0

Angela Edwards, President

Dallas Walton, Secretary

Date