

MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
Almont Community Schools Board of Education
September 25, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

President Edwards called the Regular Board Meeting of the Almont Community Schools Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center at Almont High School, 4701 Howland Rd., Almont, MI 48003. Meeting was also available on Zoom for viewing only.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Janaea Smith, James Wade, Dallas Walton, Rick Battani, Tim SaintOnge, Sue Frederiksen, Angela Edwards

Absent: none

Visitors: Approximately 50

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A. Additions

- a. Raider Recognition under Communications, item 'B'

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Student Council updated on events going on in AHS, success of Homecoming events, fundraisers coming up at the High School.
- B. Raider Recognition
 - a. Ms. Lewis, Principal of Almont Middle School, updated the Board of Education on the new Positivity Project initiative taking place and had two teachers (Mrs. Bartlett and Mr. Johnson) give examples of how this is being implemented at the Middle School. P2 is already in practice at Orchard Primary.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: AUDIENCE

- Amy Bowers spoke to being excited about the Bond proposal and the district need for it
- David Bishop presented a petition to the Board of Education President Edwards stating it had many signatures and relates to the Bond.
- Heather Throop spoke to being grateful/thankful to the Board of Education and the need for the Bond to move forward.
- Gail Brinker stated that community needs more information and that the survey in regards to the bond was not a fair representation of the community
- Michelle Campbell spoke to the need of knowing operating costs for big projects outlined on the Bond
- Dennis Campbell spoke of our current budget being tight and taking on more costs with additional building space the Bond could add

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- Pam Ferzacca stated the general community is not aware of what is going on. More information about bond should be available. Can we split the Bond between infrastructure and 'field house'?
- Questions in regards to what is given to Treasury for approval and if public has access to those documents
- Ms. Irwin spoke in support of Bond
- Shannon Winkler agrees with Mrs. Throop but disappointed in some answers BOE provides
- Rob McKinney spoke in favor of the Bond
- Mandy Ott asked where we can find information on the Bond once it makes it to Treasury?
- Thomas Schoen in support of what our children need and that we need to be united.
- Beth Ann Tesluk spoke about lack of communication from district, in general
- Kevin Bice asked that the district focuses on keeping great staff and getting more support for students

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: BOARD

- President Edwards wants the public to be aware that any Facebook pages about the Bond are not official sources of information and are not being run by the district.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Walton, supported by Frederiksen, the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting August 28, 2023
- B. Approval of the Minutes from the Special Board Meeting September 07, 2023
- C. Approval of the Minutes from the Work Session September 18, 2023

P, 180, 7-0-0

BILLS PAYABLE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

08/17/2023 to 09/19/2023

General Fund Total	\$	147,220.44
School Lunch Fund*	\$	61,119.62
Student Activity Fund	\$	8,595.20
2014 Sinking Fund	\$	13,600.85
Sub-total \$		230,536.11

ACH/Wire Transactions:

Payroll 8/30 & 9/15	\$	888,708.19
EduStaff	\$	3,710.16
Health Equity H.S.A	\$	37,852.56
Credit Card (BMO)	\$	8,008.66
Health Insurance	\$	101,052.45
State Aid Note Payments - August	\$	324,577
Arbiterpay	\$	3,000.00
	\$	
ProCare Fees	24.13	
Meal Magic Fees	\$	350.00
<u>Total Funds Spent</u>	\$	<u>1,597,819.34</u>

Check Numbers 43590 - 43699

P, 181, 7-0-0

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

The Student Activity Accounts were approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. VonHiltmayer gave updates on all 3 schools, along with recent and upcoming events around the district.

FINANCE

Approval of Snow Maintenance Contract

Moved by Wade, supported by Smith, the Board of Education to contract with Yard Services for snow removal services from October 15, 2023 to May 1, 2023.

Discussion- Mr. Walton asked if issues brought up during the Work Session were resolved. Mrs. VonHiltmayer confirmed that they were. Mr. Walton stated he appreciated Mrs. VonHiltmayers effort for getting that done.

P, 182, 7-0-0

Approval of Preliminary Treasury Specifications

Moved by Wade, supported by Smith, the Board of Education approve the preliminary treasury specifications, attached to this motion and title Appendix A, as previously discussed at our Board retreat.

P, 183, 6-1-0

Ayes-6, Nays-1 (S. Frederiksen)

PERSONNEL

Approval of Resignations

Moved by Walton, supported by Frederiksen, the Board of Education accept the resignations of Jennifer Edson and Stacey Rzadkowolski and wish them well.

P, 184, 7-0-0

Approval of New Hires

Moved by Walton, supported by Frederiksen, the Board of Education approve the ACS direct hires as listed above and welcome them to our district.

Discussion- President Edwards is excited to have Mrs. Martin back working in the district.

P, 185, 7-0-0

Change in Teacher Pay

Moved by Walton, supported by Frederiksen, Board of Education advance Shannon Chayka to the appropriate level of the salary schedule in accordance with provisions outlined in the Master Agreement between the Board of Education and the Almont Education Association, and commend her for her commitment to continued learning.

Discussion- President Edwards said she was proud of Mrs. Chayka and well done to her for her continued education.

P, 186, 7-0-0

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POLICY

School of Choice

Moved by Battani, supported by Walton, the Board of Education accept the students on the attached list for the 2023/2024 school year through the 105 and 105C Schools of Choice Programs.

P, 187, 7-0-0

Comments: Audience

- Mr. Bowman asked when the decision was made in regards to the Snow Removal Contract, Mrs. VonHiltmayer stated she just made the recommendation. Mr. Bowman also asked if the MASB workshop is open to the public. It was confirmed that it was open to the public.
- Mr. Bishop stated it is hard to hear during the meeting. Board stated that is something they are actively working on. Mr. Bishop also asked if Board Meetings could be recorded. President Edwards stated the Board could discuss that.
- Mrs. Ferzacca stated that zoom audiences also cannot hear meetings/audience

Comments: BOE

- J. Smith thanks everyone for attending and commended Ms. Lewis for doing a great job at the Middle School. A. Edwards and R. Battani echoed this sentiment and stated their children are very happy at AMS.
- T. SaintOnge said that the petition is good and shows the community is involved. Thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Motion to go into Closed Session

Moved by Walton, supported by Frederiksen, the Board go into Closed Session for the Superintendent's Quarterly Review at 8:14pm.

P, 188, 7-0-0

Open Session - 9:03pm

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Walton, supported by Frederiksen to adjourn the September 25, 2023 Regular meeting at 9:04 p.m.

P, 189, 7-0-0

Approved 10/23/23
Date

Signed: Dallas R. Walton
Dallas Walton, Secretary

Signed: Angela Edwards
Angela Edwards, President