

**Hesperia Community Schools
Board of Education
December 19, 2022
Regular Meeting**

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Board President Al Daniels called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm

All present took the pledge.

Members who are present: Kraus, Rumsey, Maynard, Broton, Daniels, Good, Allen

Members absent: None.

Additional Agenda Items

None.

Presentation

Kim Lindsay, the Lead auditor with Rehmann auditing firm, presented the District Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

He started with the single audit, highlighting that ESSER funding has caused a lot of complexities for finance offices across the state. With Federal funding, districts, for the first time in History, could supplant the Federal dollars for General Fund money. He reflected on the district's financial statements and management letters. He has been working with Stephanie Price, the business manager, to review office processes, and he feels she understands how school finance works. He reminds the board that this is Stephanie Price's third year in school finance and first solo audit, a significant undertaking. These obstacles, in combination with the complexities of ESSER funding. He does not have any significant concerns about the district's business office.

Hesperia received \$2,550,921 in federal revenues.

The General fund balance is \$1,827,108

The General fund increased in fund balance by \$664,773. The district has a 16.3% fund balance. The fund balance is right where the district wants to be as the ESSER funding ends, and the future funding is unknown. Lindsey also stated during the presentation that the current 16.3% balance covers approximately two months of the district's total operating cost.

Food Service had another excellent year and will need to present a spend-down plan again in fiscal year 22-23

The district drew 1.46 Million against Michigan's School Bond Loan Revolving Fund.

Repaid 1.89 Million of Principal and bonded debt.

Board member Rumsey- It is essential to acknowledge that much of our district funding is from one-time grant funds.

Lindsay- Correct, it is important to utilize one-time funds to make one-time purchases and cautioned the board on creating new positions and hiring additional staff that the district may be unable to sustain once the funds are spent.

He recommends purchases of technology, paying for third-party contracts, vehicles, fixed assets, licensing fees, and professional development as better allocations of the ESSER federal dollars.

Rumsey- What can the district do to avoid issues once this funding is gone?

Lindsay- Maintain student counts, and make your district appealing to the community around you.

Broton- Can we expect the net pension liability to go away?

Lindsay- I do not anticipate it going away in our lifetimes. We will know the rate for 2024 in the spring.

The board thanked Kim for his time.

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Approval of Bills

Motion by Maynard, supported by Kraus, to approve the December board bills.

Discussion: Staff reimbursements will be presented on a separate report as we advance. Ayes: 7. Nays 0.

Motion passes 7-0.

Elementary Principal's Report

Denise Short, Elementary Principal, reported Santa Shop generated \$7,000 in sales.

Friday elementary hosted the K-4 music program. We continue to look for other opportunities to host the music program next year.

It is impossible to please everyone. Ms. Short reminds the community and board that the program is about the kids. They work hard, and having the program during school allows all the kids to participate.

Hot lunch is hosting a luncheon for staff tomorrow in the media center. All district staff members are invited.

NWEA testing begins in January.

There have been a lot of sicknesses recently. Teachers and the Principal are working with Ken to re-establish sanitation protocols. Teachers are wiping classroom surfaces, and maintenance keeps all sanitation stations stocked.

We will be posing for a resource room position, as our current aide Cheryle Billings has put in her retirement letter. We congratulate Cheryle on her retirement, thank her for many years of service, and wish her well as she moves on.

Middle School/ High School Principal's Report

Chad Paine, MS/HS Principal, reported that new hires and TEACH track teachers had completed peer observations.

HS exams are underway.

He has met with Craig Mast, Oceana County Sheriff, about roadblocks the district runs into with legal jurisdiction for students and requests deputizing our School Resource and Truancy officers in Newaygo and Oceana Counties. He agreed, and she now has complete legal jurisdiction in both counties.

Mr. Grimard, the retired athletic director, invited two students from the outdoor Rec class to participate in a doe hunt.

Athletic Director Report

Winter sports will have all started. And the district just finished nine athletic events in 12 days! Wrestling has one invitational during the holiday break. Student eligibility has been excellent, and there are no significant concerns with student-athletes.

On January 6th, the basketball team will host a free throw contest.

Mr. Elenbaas took his team to a University of Michigan women's basketball game.

We had a bleacher inspection earlier this week.

Middle school and High school volleyball will have aligning seasons next year, and the district will need to purchase additional equipment for both teams to have practices simultaneously.

The district has waived pay-to-play for two years and will need to revisit the June amendment if this is something the board wants to continue.

Deanna encourages coaches to fundraise and hopes that if we can increase fundraising, there will not be a need for pay-to-participate.

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Student Report

Student Council member, Sky Milner, presented to the board. The student council is working on Snowcoming plans.

Upcoming blood drive on January 13th.

She invited the board to attend the NHS inductions.

Superintendent's Report

Bryan Mey, the Superintendent, reported visiting the new Viking athletic center in Whitehall. It includes an indoor track, three basketball courts, and other amenities. He would like to start conversations about Community Rec Center needs in Hesperia.

Legislative Update-

Lame-duck- nothing happened.

Dyslexia bills are gaining momentum, as well as reading interventions and coaching.

Third-grade reading retention and the mandatory retention rule may go away.

Significant penalties for uncertified teachers to be in classrooms, but they can have a non-degree holding substitute as a long-term sub. Region III representatives pressure lobbyists to get legislation changes to correct this discrepancy.

Correspondence

None

Public Comment

None

Public Comment on Action Items

None

Informational Items

Superintendent Mey suggested the board participate in a MASB Board Self Assessment in January and have MASB present results in February or March. He also gave the board the first-year board member orientation packet to review. He stated it has a lot of good information for all of us to check on board meeting procedures and the duties of the board.

The district received the new emergency flip charts from the ISD and will distribute them to buildings this week.

Action Items

Motion by Kraus, supported by Rumsey, to accept the audit report for the fiscal year 2021-2022 as presented. Discussion: None. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion by Allen, supported by Maynard, to approve the 2023 Board Meeting Calendar.

Discussion: None. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion by Maynard, supported by Kraus, to approve the Retirement Notice Incentive of \$2,500.

Discussion: None. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion passes 7-0.

Action Items Continued

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Motion by Kraus, supported by Allen, to approve The Schedule B Assignments as Presented Discussion: None. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion passes 7-0.

Motion by Maynard, supported by Broton, to accept Ms. Cheryl Billing's Retirement effective December 21st, 2022. Discussion: The Board thanks her for her years of dedicated service. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion passes 7-0.

Board Discussion

Open enrollment for staff insurance closed on December 15th.

Approved a district day porter to help fight the spread of germs during winter.

Currently, the administration has approved the day porter for two months. We will reappraise the situation in February.

Closed Session

Motion by Kraus Supported by Maynard to adjourn to closed session to discuss superintendent mid-year review. No Action will take place during the closed session.

The meeting adjourned to a closed session by roll call vote at 8:21 pm Kraus: aye; Maynard: aye; Broton: aye; Kraus: aye; Allen: aye; and Daniels: aye.

The meeting returned to open session at 9:30 pm

Adjournment

Motion by Rumsey, supported by Maynard to Adjourn. Discussion: none. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion passes 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Michelle Allen, Secretary

Al Daniels, Board President