

**Hesperia Community Schools
Board of Education
April 17, 2023
Regular Meeting**

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Board President Al Daniels called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 pm

All present took the pledge.

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

Members absent: Newman arrived during the closed session at 8:13 pm.

Introduction

Tyler Huntley, C.E.O. of Huntley's Clubhouse, a daycare provider who recently purchased Shaneanne's, is interested in purchasing the adult education building currently being leased to Shaneanne's.

Daniels- The board would like to have an internal discussion. I request that he assemble what he thinks it is worth and what improvements are needed for the facility.

Kraus- How does Hesperia fit into your business model?

Huntley- Our focus is on providing daycare options to rural communities.

Additional Agenda Items

None

Approval of the Consent Agenda

1. Approve March 21st, 2023, Work Session/Special Meeting Minutes
2. Approve the March 21st, 2023, Closed Session Minutes
3. Approve the March 28th, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes
4. Approve the March 28th, 2023, Closed Session Minutes

Approval of Bills

Motion by Kraus, supported by Maynard, to approve the April board bills as presented. Discussion:

Maynard- Why do we pay parents to transport their students?

Mey- While the district is not required by law to provide transportation to General education students, it is necessary for Special Education students. If, for any reason, the student needs special accommodations for transport, the district has the option to allow parents to self-transport, and we reimburse them for the mileage weekly based on the student's attendance. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0.

Nutrition Group Report

Dana Gierzak, Food Service Manager, presented the following information

The district will receive its new equipment from the annual equipment grant funding and the new furniture for the high school commons, which was part of the district's 2022 fiscal year spend-down plans.

On Thursday, March 23rd, the Elementary School hosted family for our students and parents. The food service staff made 34 pepperoni pizzas for the event.

On March 22nd, FSS served our wrestling team and their families at their annual banquet.

On March 19th, the Middle school hosted Grandparents Day. FSS baked cookies for the event and also supplied coffee and lemonade. Unfortunately, the event didn't entirely turn out as planned. The building had a fire during this time; staff helped students and family exit safely.

Participation has increased from February to March District-wide in Breakfast and Lunch.

Kraus asked if the Kitchen is fully staffed.

Dana replied that they have one more position to fill, but she feels she is in a good place.

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Elementary Principal Report

Denise Short, Elementary Principal, reported the following information.

Erin Reed, a Well-being, Healing, and Resilience Educator for Starr Commonwealth, will be in the Building from 8:00-11:30. She will discuss how trauma-informed resilience-focused services can support our school. The visit is intended to provide qualitative information for the needs assessment and get a snapshot of life in our building. This is not evaluative. During the visit, Erin will observe classrooms, hallways, and transitions and may ask staff questions as they are willing and able.

Arbor Circle recently hired Cindy Ackley as our new therapist. She was in the building last week for a tour and will have a slow start this week while receiving training from Arbor Circle. We are excited to have her start working with students. She comes from Greenville and plans to make a move closer to Hesperia.

Over spring break, the tech department installed most charging stations in the kindergarten, 1st grade, and resource rooms. Two 1st-grade classrooms each received 20 new iPad, and others also received a few new ones.

March 23rd was a huge success. Monica and Courtney put together a fantastic literacy night. Many students here enjoyed time together (almost 200 attended!). Thanks to Jordan, Angie, Stacy, Amanda, Jacob, Julie, Rachelle, Genny, Riley, and Becky for helping and making students smile. Elementary staff was able to send home a ton of books too!

Elementary will begin M STEP testing for 3-5 grades in the next few weeks.

Ms. Short said she finished her staff observations and will wrap them up next week.

Superintendent Mey referenced a New York Times article about the “Science of Reading.” He commended the elementary staff and our literacy coaches, Mrs. McAree, and Mrs. Niblick, on their early adoption and advocacy for the “Science of Reading” Theory.

Also, Mr. Mey referenced Mrs. Niblick’s “Science of Reading” Facebook group, which has reached over 90,000 members.

Middle School/High School Principal Report

Chad Paine, MS/HS Principal, reported the following information

8-11 grade students had a successful week of testing for the SAT/PSAT.

Four middle school staff members have been awarded \$750 grants for their classrooms through the fund. The middle school held grandparents reading day for MRM. Unfortunately, after 10 minutes of the event, we had a fire alarm go off and an event that required us to evacuate the building. Another date will be rescheduled soon.

The Administrative team has met twice in the past few weeks and plans to meet multiple times before school is out to recreate our district school improvement planning.

Denise, Audrey Fosburg, Amy Fairchild, and I met with MDE to learn about personal curriculum, graduation requirements, and standards-based teaching.

IM math PD - Middle school staff continues progressing through our first year of IM math. Monthly meetings continue as we navigate the implementation process.

5-12 Social studies curriculum planning - The social studies team is scheduled to meet again on Wednesday to dissect further our SS curriculum and plan for new resource implementation.

As we approach the end of the school year, many important events occur. I’ve attached a document with the end-of-year plans in the board’s packet.

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Athletic Director Report

Jason Stariha, the athletic director, presented the following information

A thorough review of the current spring sports and how each team performs.

Information about hosting district tournaments. We host the Ken Smith Invitational for Softball and Baseball in the spring. We will host MHSAA Districts, and Golf may host a 9th/10th-grade tournament. Stariha was looking to host more tournaments in the upcoming school year and provided a list of opportunities to the board.

There is a posting for the Varsity Basketball Coach he hopes to fill by June.

We currently work with Spectrum to host a free physical night for student-athletes.

Student Report

None

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Bryan Mey reported on the following issues

Legislative update, including the growing popularity of the cursive writing curriculum.

Status of the storm drain project and the resignations of the High School secretary, transportation director, and Varsity Basketball coach.

The district will have its last early release this month. Staff will participate in Professional Development about emergency protocols and countywide alignment on a common language.

Public Comment

Roxanne Kammer, H.E.A. Co-president, presented to the board a survey sent to all HEA members on March 17th, 2023. Monica McAree, Co-president, stated that there are approximately 30 members currently within the HEA. Of those members, 16 responded to the survey. The survey was entitled "Board Meeting Questions." A copy of the survey's results was presented to all board members.

Public Comment on Action Items

None

Informational Items

Bryan Mey, the Superintendent, gave an update to the board, informing them of a couple of trees that need to be removed on the grounds.

The board's "field trip," out to the athletic complex facilities, track, and Middle school storm drain area that requires repair, was postponed until next month due to in-climate weather.

Mark Kraus informed the board and public of the dates for the upcoming 2023 True North ARTS Art Contest and Exhibit are being hosted at the True North community building on Warner in Fremont. The Exhibit will be open for public viewing on April 28th and 30th. On May 1st the Exhibit will open until 5 with an awards ceremony at 7 pm.

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Action Items

Motion by Allen supported by Maynard to accept the resignation of Mr. Van Leone, effective April 19th, 2023. Discussion: The board thanked Van for his services to the district and wished him well in the future. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passes 6-0.

Motion by Maynard supported by Kraus to accept the resignation of Mrs. Janet Fairchild, effective August 4th, 2023. Discussion: The board thanked Janet for her years of service to the district, stating that she would be missed. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passes 6-0.

Note: All coaching positions are pending an acceptable number of student-athlete participation

Motion by Kraus supported by Maynard to approve contracting with EDU Staff to select and assign Mr. Gavin Schmitz as the JV Baseball Coach for the 2022-2023 season.

Board Discussion

None

Closed Session

Motion by Kraus supported by Maynard to adjourn to closed Session for Attorney-Client privilege. The meeting adjourned to a closed session by roll call vote at 8:00 pm. Kraus: aye; Maynard: aye; Rumsey: aye; Good: aye; Allen: aye; and Daniels: aye. Motion passes 6-0.

The board took a five-minute break before the Closed Session meeting was called to order.

Newman arrived during the closed session at 8:13 pm.

The meeting returned to an open session at 9:37 pm.

Action Items

Motion by Good, supported by Kraus, to adopt the Resolution as discussed in the closed session. Discussion: None. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion passes 7-0.

Following the adoption of the Resolution by board action, the board president, Al Daniels, made the following statement on behalf of the board: In mid-January, Thrun Law Office was contacted by the district's Administration. The board was unaware of this action. Between mid-January and the January 30th regular meeting, discussions with Thrun were limited to the Administration.

Late on January 30th, prior to the meeting, the Acting President was given direction from Thrun on the matters at hand and how they would be handled.

Until recently, the board has had minimal input as to the direction of progress in this matter. It is fair to say that after January 30th, the board was informed to limit communication in general relative to the ongoing investigation.

It is now our job to react to the advice given to us as a result of the prolonged investigation. Please understand that our ultimate goal is to resolve all issues of concern and return to the sense of normalcy that we have enjoyed in the past.

Following the president's statement was a reading of the full Resolution.

A public member asked for clarification on the wording of a section of the Resolution. Vice President Good responded that the full Resolution would be available to the public.

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Adjournment

Motion by Good supported by Maynard to adjourn the meeting. Discussion: None. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0.
Motion Passed 7-0.

Monica McAree stated, outside of public comment, that the HEA would be filing a “Vote of No Confidence against the Board of Education.”

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Michelle Allen, Secretary

Al Daniels, Board President