

**VICKSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
February 12, 2024 – 7:00 PM
Vicksburg Middle School Library
348 E Prairie Street
Vicksburg, MI**

M I N U T E S

Members Present: Ron Centofanti, Tina Forsyth, Carol Lohman, Dan Grabowski, David Schriemer, Stephanie Willoughby and Virgil Knowles

Members Absent: None

Board Secretary: Amy Manchester

Administrators Present: Keevin O'Neill, Steve Goss, Gail VanDaff, Adam Brush, Matt Hawkins, Allison Dygert, Joe Werkema, Sarah Bacalia, Dewey Waterman, Kelli Luke, Sarah Dyer, Karen McKinstry

Guests Present: Lisa Coe, Noreen Heikes, Michelle Simmons, Julie Koeman, Bren Mumbower, Lisa Hostetler, Joe Cash

President Knowles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Recognitions

Supt. O'Neill announced Kelli Luke as the new Principal of Pathways HS and shared how happy the district is to have her continue with us in her new role.

B. Legislative Update

Gov. Whitmer introduced the budget proposal last week. She highlighted two educational initiatives, including a full phase of expanding Great Start Readiness preschooling for all four year olds. She would also like Community College to be free to all HS graduates. She proposed 2.5% increase to the foundation and adding \$125 million for special ed, at risk and english learners. Supt. O'Neill doesn't anticipate much going on until after the elections in April, but will keep the Board informed of any updates.

C. Important Dates

Supt. O'Neill referred to the listing of important dates including VHS band concerts, upcoming Indian Lake, Tobey, and Middle School spring shows. He reminded the board about the upcoming mid-winter break on February 22, 2024.

II. REPORTS AND PUBLIC INQUIRY

A. Budget and Finance Report - Steve Goss

Asst. Supt. Goss presented the monthly budget progress report for January 2024 showing total revenues of \$15,031,585; total expenditures of \$16,683,814 and a deficiency of revenues over expenses of \$(1,652,229).

B. Investment Holdings Update - Steve Goss

Asst. Supt. Goss provided an update of the district's investment accounts.

C. VMS Annual Report - Allison Dygert and Joe Werkema

Principal Dygert and Asst. Principal Werkema presented the Vicksburg Middle School's annual report which highlighted student data and achievements.

III. AUDIENCE

Julie Koeman addressed the Board to remind them that parents and other community members have not forgotten about the bathroom issues and their concerns regarding it. She asked for a public statement from the Superintendent.

Lisa Hostettler spoke to the Board regarding the bathroom situation at Sunset Lake Elementary. She is unhappy with the time limit for public comment.

IV. BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

A. Approval of the following Board Meeting Minutes

1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - January 15, 2024: A motion for approval was made by Willoughby and Supported by Lohman.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Special Board Meeting Minutes - February 6, 2024: A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Lohman.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of General Fund Invoices Totaling \$298,329.40 - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion of approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Lohman.

Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.

C. Approval of Purchase Card Disbursements for December 2024 Totaling \$109,643.85 - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion for approval was made by Willoughby and Grabowski.

Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.

D. Approval of Reinstatement Request of Student 2021-22B for the Second Semester of the 2023-24 School Year: A motion of approval was made by Lohman and supported by Forsyth.

Motion carried unanimously.

E. Approval of Kelli Luke as Vicksburg Pathways High School Principal Effective January 24, 2024: A motion for approval was made by Willoughby and supported by Forsyth.

Motion carried unanimously.

F. Approval of Retirement of High School Social Studies Teacher, Brian Lambdin, after 26 Years of Service: A motion for approval was made by Grabowski and supported by Schriemer.

Motion carried unanimously.

- G. Approval of Resignation of High School English Teacher, Maureen Mead, effective March 1, 2024: A motion for approval was made by Centofanti and supported by Forsyth.
Motion carried unanimously.
- H. Approval to Accept Quote from Denooyer Ford to Purchase Two F-350 Trucks Totaling \$100,780 (\$49,990/each) for the Maintenance Department. Dewey Waterman addressed questions from the Board: A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Willoughby.
Motion carried unanimously.
- I. Approval of a Third Year of a Five Year Probation for the Following Teachers - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion for approval was made by Lohman and supported by Willoughby.
Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.
1. Megan Lynn - VMS
 2. Jay Bennett - VMS
- J. Approval of Bid from Learning Environments in the amount of \$13,418.09 to Purchase High School Cafeteria Tables - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Grabowski.
Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.
- K. Approval of Bid from Great Lakes West in the amount of \$143,931.69 to Purchase Serving Lines for Indian Lake, Sunset Lake, and VHS - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Willoughby.
Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.
- L. Approval of VHS French Students Field Trip to Chicago on April 24, 2024, with Transportation Costs Paid by the French Club: A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Lohman.
Motion carried unanimously.
- M. Approval of the Annual Cedar Point Field Trip for VMS 8th Grade Students on June 10, 2024: A motion of approval was made by Centofanti and supported by Willoughby.
Motion carried unanimously.
- N. Approval of VHS Agriscience Student Field Trip to Ireland in the Summer of 2025. Noreen Heikes gave an overview of the trip: A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Schriemer.
Motion carried unanimously
- O. 2nd Reading Approval of the Following Policies - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion for approval was made by Lohman and supported by Forsyth.
Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.
1. Policy 0122 - Board Powers

2. Policy 1420 - School Administrator Evaluation
3. Policy 3131 - Staff Reductions/Recalls
4. Policy 3142 - Probationary Teachers
5. Policy 3220 - Professional Staff Evaluation
6. Policy 3120 - Employment of Professional Staff
7. Policy 3139 - Staff Discipline
8. Policy 3130 - Assignment and Transfer
9. Policy 3132 - Vacancies
10. Policy 3140 - Termination and Resignation

President Knowles adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

President Virgil Knowles
March 11, 2024

Secretary Amy Manchester