

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting      Administration Building      6:01 – 9:04 p.m.      December 20, 2023

### Members Present:

Arlene Cabana, Presiding Officer  
Bill Brockob  
Charles Zona  
Mary Lenzen  
Becky Walters  
Jason Nash  
Tarryne Marchione

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### ROLL CALL AND VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Dave Palzet were staff members Jennifer Ban, Griffin Sonntag, Beth Parker, Maura Raleigh, Jeanine Arundel, Tousha Summers, James Mukite, Paula Berger, Millie Vidakovich, Hannah Williams, Tracy VanZandbergen, and Katie Dittrich. Community members in attendance included Tom Arra and Karyn Lisowski.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by staff members from the elementary school who helped the school secure a National Blue Ribbon; these staff members include Paula Berger, Millie Vidakovich, Hannah Williams, Tracy VanZandbergen, and Katie Dittrich.

### OPEN FORUM

Tom Arra addressed the Board and thanked the Board for their support of the current zoning of the Willow Springs Property owned by Lyons Township High School. Additionally, Mr. Arra made comments/asked questions regarding the cost of potential district construction projects.

### ACTION NO. 8

Levy Hearing  
Opening

Motion by Lenzen, seconded by Brockob, that the Board of Education open the levy hearing at 6:08 PM. Motion carried by a roll call of 7 ayes (Brockob, Walters, Cabana, Marchione, Zona, Lenzen, and Nash).

### ACTION NO. 9

Levy Hearing  
Closed

Motion by Lenzen, second by Brockob, that the Board of Education close the levy hearing at 6:15 PM. Motion carried by a roll call of 7 ayes (Brockob, Walters, Cabana, Marchione, Zona, Lenzen, and Nash).

### ACTION NO. 10

Levy Hearing  
Adoption

Motion by Lenzen, second by Nash, that the Board of Education adopt the 2023 Tax Levy and related resolutions as presented in the Public Hearing and authorize the President and Secretary of the Board to sign all appropriate documents. Motion

carried by a roll call of 7 ayes (Brockob, Walters, Cabana, Marchione, Zona, Lenzen, and Nash).

#### ACTION NO. 11

##### *Consent Agenda*

Motion by Lenzen, second by Walters, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as presented consisting of meeting minutes of November 15, 2023 Regular Board meeting; minutes of November 15, 2023 Closed meeting; payment of November payroll/December warrants. Motion carried by a roll call of 7 ayes (Brockob, Cabana, Zona, Lenzen, Walters, Nash, and Marchione).

#### REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### *Strategic Plan Update*

Dr. Palzet provided the Board with an update on the progress of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee. The committee has developed a plan that includes a new district motto, mission statement, district beliefs, and goals. The plan will continue to be worked on by a subcommittee of the steering team and will be brought back to the full committee for review. The administration intends to bring a draft of the plan to the Board for review at the February meeting.

##### *Report on the Superintendent's Finance Advisory Team*

Board member Charles Zona provided an update on the Superintendent's Finance Advisory Team meeting, which met on December 18. At the meeting, Business Manager Griffin Sonntag provided an overview of the District's five-year financial projections. These projections allow the district to actively plan spending and help ensure its financial health. The projections are based on historical data and assumptions of future economic conditions. The full Board will receive a presentation on the projections at the January meeting.

##### *Review Fees*

The Board reviewed the proposed fees for the 2024-25 school year. The District Registration fees will remain flat for all grade levels for the next school year. The tuition for the Bright Beginnings Preschool program will increase by 2%. The fee schedule will be voted on at the January Board of Education meeting.

##### *Preliminary District Calendar*

The administration presented the draft calendar for the Board's consideration. The draft calendar is presented to the district calendar committee, composed of teachers, ESPs, administrators, and parents. The recommendations from the committee are considered before being presented to the Board. As noted in the meeting, the district seeks to align the calendar with Lyons Township High School as closely as possible. The school calendar will be on the January Board of Education meeting for approval.

##### *Students (sec. 7) and Community Relations (sec. 8) Board Policies*

The board reviewed policies 7:40, 7:100, 7:130, 7:140, 7:150, 7:170, 7:200, 7:230, 7:240, 7:270, 7:280, 7:310, 7:325, 8:25, 8:70, 8:80, 8:95, and 8:100. These policies will be on the consent agenda for the January board meeting.

Items for Next Agenda

Facilities Update; School Safety Report; Audit Report; Five-year Financial Update; Approve District Fees; Approve Students (sec. 7) and Community Relations (sec. 8) Board Policies; Approve 2024-25 District Calendar.

OPEN FORUM

No public comment was given at this time.

WRITTEN  
REPORTS

The Board fulfilled Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests from Katharine Casey regarding information on the District's curriculum materials for reading in grades K-3; and from Patrick Lee regarding IAQ and environmental testing.

ACTION NO. 12  
Closed Session

Motioned by Lenzen, seconded by Brockob, that the Board of Education move into closed session at 6:38 PM to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity; Student disciplinary cases; The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired; Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. Motion carried by a roll call of 7 ayes (Brockob, Walters, Cabana, Marchione, Zona, Lenzen, and Marchione).

The Board came out of closed at 9:03 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Brockob, second by Lenzen, that the regular meeting adjourns at 9:04 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried

App. \_\_ President \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_