

Regular Meeting  
Monday, November 11, 2024 7:00 PM

Indian Lake Elementary  
11901 S 30th Street  
Vicksburg, MI 49097

## Minutes

Board Members Present: Ron Centofanti, Tina Forsyth, Dan Grabowski, Virgil Knowles, Stephanie Willoughby, Dave Schreimer, Carol Lohman

Absent: None

Board Secretary: Tamara Young

Administrators Present: Keevin O'Neill, Steve Goss, Dewey Waterman, Sarah Bacalia, Amie McCaw, Gail Vandaff, Joe Werkema, Sarah Dyer, Allison Dygert, Matt Hawkins, Adam Brush, Kelli Luke, Jessica Wheeler,

Guests: See sign in sheet

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

### I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

I.A. Recognitions Welcome all. Supt O'Neill honored those who served on this Veteran's Day by reading a message. Introduced Sarah Bacalia, principal of IL.

Bacalia turned it over to the choir. Patty Heintzelman introduced the choir and performed. Student council members were introduced and gave a description of their duties, positions, etc.

Supt O'Neill stated November is a month of thanks. Thanks to all the support from staff, students, and community members. Also thanks to IL for the snacks and presentation. Supt O'Neill announced the community reception for Dec 11th. He congratulated Rick Burmeister and Lisa Hostetler on the election.

I.B. Legislative Update. Legislative update included in the packet. Supt O'Neill will pass on details as they come. Lansing was quiet during the campaign, things will pick up now.

I.C. Important Dates. Play was highlighted that will be at the HS. December dates are also included due to the busy time of the year.

I.D. Lacrosse Chicago Trip. Out of state trip, they would like to travel to Illinois.

### II. REPORTS AND PUBLIC INQUIRY

II.A. Audit Presentation - Plante Moran. Mike and Kristen. Goss introduced them. He's grateful the audit is complete. Turned over to auditors. Nov 1 it was due to the government. Documents included in the packet that were submitted to the State. Vicksburg has 2 consecutive years of no findings. Kristen reviewed the numbers as of June 30, 2024. Schreimer asked questions regarding the retirement numbers and the difference in spending/community services. Goss will look into this. He stated it might be that other larger school districts run more community service programs. Goss thanked Mike and Kristen for

their hours. Rebecca Durant was also thanked. Sarah Dyer was thanked for the food service part. Gail and Shelly were integral with the curriculum section. Knowles thanked Goss for his efforts.

II.B. Human Issues Proposal - Dan Ouellette. Changes to the HS due to tech center opening. We are losing elective offerings. He is proposing the reintroduction of a class that was in the social studies department previously. He would like to change it to an English class. This class would be a 1 semester section, offered each semester. It would be for students not ready for AP research. It aligns with school improvement. It better prepares students for the “real world” and will help them create a positive influence on our community. Prerequisites will include English 1 and 2 to attract older students. New topics will be introduced every few weeks for research. They will work together with AmySue Manley in the library. Personal position papers will also be a part of each unit. No textbooks are requested due to keeping things current and changing with the times.

II.C. School Nutrition Annual Report - Sarah Dyer. Presented her presentation. they are trying to use more fresh options vs canned/dried. Participation in meals is up due to the federal food program. Smart Mouth Pizza- 4000 pizzas served in September alone at the high school. One staff member is dedicated to pizza alone. Pasta bar, chicken alfredo, bosco sticks, grilled cheese sandwiches, walking tacos, and breakfast sandwiches are some of the favorites. Excess funds are being used to purchase new serving lines. They may be installed around Christmas. Current serving lines are approximately 50 years old. Food service team stood and were thanked.

II.D. Budget and Finance Report - Steve Goss. Activity through the end of October presented. First installment of state aid came through. 10 more installments will be received. Ebbs and flows are routine for this time of the year. We are able to cover the expenditures due to planning for this shortfall. Auditors pointed out we have been building fund equity, it will start to be drawn down due to the end of ESSR funds. Staffing continues to be robust. Also, the district has started absorbing 100% of the hard cap of the subsidy for healthcare. Grabowski asked questions about the ebb and flow. Goss reported some of the curriculum is higher due to replacement of textbooks. Fiscal year will catch up as the school year progresses. State starts their fiscal year Sept 1. Collective bargaining created a substantial increase in our healthcare costs. Fund equity is higher now to avoid borrowing until the state money comes in.

II.E. Investment Holdings Update - Steve Goss. Interest rates are starting to fall off a bit. This has an effect on our investment income. We will continue to maximize this as we can. Water heater replacement at the High School is the only other item. 2 water heaters need to be replaced. This water does not include heating/cooling purposes and kitchen hot water. Grabowski asked about summer projects. Goss reported they are finishing items from last summer and gearing up for next summer. 2026 would be the next bond request, hopefully it will be a consistent mileage. Lots of discussion about how our district has planned well to continue improvement.

II.F. Indian Lake Elementary Annual Report - Sarah Bacalia. Presentation on many school updates. She discussed attendance challenges, socktober, positive behavior interventions, the PTSO, test scores/goals, and their four building instructional goals (formative assessment,

whole group & small group instruction, professional learning communities, and students empowered). She closed by sharing some touching testimonials.

III. Audience. No members of the audience wished to speak.

#### IV. BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

IV.A. Approval of the following Board Meeting Minutes - October 14, 2024. A motion for approval was made by Lohman and supported by Forsyth. Motion carried unanimously.

IV.B. Approval of the Recommendation to replace water heaters at VHS. A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Centofanti. Motion carried unanimously.

IV.C. Approval of Lacrosse trip to Chicago, IL A motion for approval was made by Lohman and supported by Forsyth. Motion carried unanimously.

IV.D. Approval of Human Issues Proposal. A motion for approval was made by Willoughby and supported by Forsyth. Motion carried unanimously. Stephanie,

IV.E. Approval of General Fund Invoices Totaling \$408,451.44 - ROLL CALL VOTE. A motion for approval was made by Lohman and supported by Schriemer. Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote. Schreimer noted chickens as a line item.

IV.F. Approval of Purchase Card Disbursements Totaling \$226,687.29 - ROLL CALL VOTE. A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Lohman. Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.

IV.G. 1st Reading Approval of the Following Policies 3120.08, 8321, 7540.09, 5500, 5340, 6320- ROLL CALL VOTE. A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Willoughby. Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.

IV.G.1. PO 3120.08 Employment of Personnel for Co-curricular/extra-curricular activities

IV.G.2. PO 8321 Criminal Justice Information Security

IV.G.3. PO 7540.09 Artificial Intelligence

IV.G.4. PO 5500 Student Conduct

IV.G.5. PO 5340 Student Accidents

IV.G.6. PO 6320 Purchasing

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Knowles adjourned the meeting at 8:47pm.

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President Virgil Knowles  
December 9, 2024

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Secretary Tamara Young