

**VICKSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
February 13, 2023 – 7:00 PM
Vicksburg Middle School Library
Vicksburg, MI 49097**

MINUTES

Members present: Jennifer Buikema, Tina Forsyth, Carol Lohman, David Schriemer, Dan Grabowski, Stephanie Willoughby and Virgil Knowles

Members Absent: None

Secretary Amy Manchester

Administrators Present: Keevin O’Neill, Steve Goss, Gail Van Daff, Adam Brush, Matt Hawkins, Rick Place, Amie McCaw, Sarah Bacalia, Jessica Ponton-Wheeler, Sarah Dyer, Joe Werkema, Allison Dygert, Dewey Waterman, Karen McKinstry, Alyssa Thompson, Sarah Dyer

Guests Present: Lisa Coe, Jennifer Lyle, Lauren Lyle, Donna Cubbage, Melissa Tutt, Jennifer Heeres, Christine Laaksonen, Tatiana Curtiss, Jody Young, Koti Post, Michelle Simmons, Saleem Ismail

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

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Recognitions

Supt. O’Neill announced that Tobey was named a 2023 Honorable Mention School of Character by www.character.org.

B. Legislative Update

Supt. O’Neill gave an update on the Read by Grade 3 discussion at the state level. Governor Whitmer’s budget proposal for education is very favorable and includes a 5% increase to the foundation. There is a proposed increase of \$80 million for special education, english learners, and teacher recruitment and retention. Pre-K for all 4 year olds is also included. The District is eagerly awaiting the budget from the House and the Senate. Supt. O’Neill believes this proposal is a great start and is supported by many education associations.

C. Important Dates

Supt. O’Neill directed the board to the listing of important upcoming dates included in the packet highlighting Middle School and High School band concerts, elementary concerts, Bus Driver Appreciation Day and mid-winter break on February 23.

II. REPORTS AND PUBLIC INQUIRY

A. Budget and Finance Report - Steve Goss

Asst. Supt. Goss presented the budget progress report for month ending January 31, 2023 showing total revenues of \$13,463,242; total expenditures of \$15,405,455 and deficiency of revenues over expenditures of \$(1,942,213).

B. Investment Portfolio Update

Asst. Supt. Goss gave an update on the District's investment portfolio.

C. Section 98b Progress Report - Gail Van Daff

Curriculum Director, Gail Van Daff, presented the Section 98b progress report and the data in a narrative format. The District is still responding to the loss of education time due to COVID.

D. Vicksburg Middle School Annual Report - Allison Dygert

Principal Dygert and Asst. Principal Werkema presented the Vicksburg Middle School Annual Report which included highlights of student activities, student data review, recognitions, and staff professional development.

III. AUDIENCE

No one wished to address the Board on a non-agenda item.

IV. BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

- A. Approval of the January 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes: A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Willoughby.

Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Approval of General Fund Invoices Totaling \$333,443.10 - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion for approval was made by Schriemer and supported by Grabowski.

Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.

- C. Approval of Purchase Card Disbursements for December 2022 Totaling \$164,293.75 - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion for approval was made by Lohman and supported by Forsyth.

Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.

- D. Approval of Series 2 Release 4A - High School and Middle School Asbestos Abatement Bid Award to Midwest Environmental in the amount of \$137,700 - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion for approval was made by Buikema and supported by Lohman.

Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.

- E. Approval of School Nutrition Services Bid Award to Stafford Smith in the amount of \$27,389.46 for a steamer at Sunset Lake Elementary: A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Willoughby.

Motion carried unanimously.

- F. Approval of VHS Band Field Trip to Disney World on March 22-29, 2023. All expenses to be paid by the students. A motion for approval was made by Lohman and supported by Forsyth.

Motion carried unanimously.

- G. Approval of VMS 8th Grade Field Trip to Cedar Point on June 12, 2023.
A motion for approval was made by Forsyth and supported by Willoughby.
Motion carried unanimously.

- H. 2nd Reading Approval VCS Policy 6700 - ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion for approval was made by Lohman and supported by Schriemer.
Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote.

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Knowles adjourned the meeting at 7:53 pm.

President Virgil Knowles
March 13, 2023

Secretary Amy Manchester