

MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
Almont Community Schools Board of Education
June 24, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

President Hoffa called the Regular Board Meeting of the Almont Community Schools Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room at Almont Elementary School.

Present

Steven Hoffa, Nancy Boxey, John Brzozowski, Jon Owens, John Miles, Stephan Manko and Superintendent Joseph Candela.

Visitors: 27

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Scott Kmetz absent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Candela approved the agenda as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

- The Almont Athletic Coaches Council presented a 'check' to the Board of Education and thanked them for their faith in them. The Council was able to raise \$34,990.42 from fund raisers which included:
Ace of Spades (current jackpot over \$25,000 dollars); and
Palace Concessions

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: AUDIENCE

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Boxey, supported by Brzozowski, the Board of Education approve the following Minutes:

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the May 21 Regular Meeting
- B. Approval of the Minutes from the May 21 Closed Session
- C. Approval of the Minutes from the June 6 Special Meeting (Apple Lease)
- D. Approval of the Minutes from the June 11 Special Meeting (Apple Lease)
- E. Approval of the Minutes from the June 20 Special Meeting Work Session

(P), 79, 6-0-0

BILLS PAYABLE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Brzozowski, supported by Owens, the Board of Education approve the bills payable and the financial reports as proposed by the administration and reviewed by the Finance Committee.

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May 2013	
General Fund	\$1,400,834.71
School Lunch Program	\$26,250.54
2002 Debt Fund	\$250.00
2004 Refunding Bonds	\$112.50
2006 Refunding Bonds	\$112.50
2012 Refunding Bonds	\$100.00
2013 SBL Refinance	\$100.00
QZAB Bond	\$387.50
General Fund Transfers for Payroll	\$0.00
Total	\$1,428,147.75
Voided Checks: 29609, 30583, 30644	
Check Numbers: 30605-30724	

Approval of check numbers covering these invoices range from check number 30505 to 30724, voided checks as presented.

(P), 80, 6-0-0

ORCHARD PRIMARY, ALMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND ALMONT HIGH SCHOOL TRUST AND AGENCY ACCOUNT REPORTS

The Trust and Agency Accounts were approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Candela discussed the following:

Orchard Primary

On May 23, Mrs. Tenzca held her 1st art show as well as Mrs. Divito facilitating the 2nd and 4th grade music concerts. There was a packed house during the events and nothing but positive comments were overheard. Great job ladies!

On May 24, our PTA and parent volunteers were out in force to raise funds for improving playground equipment at the 2nd annual Fun Run. Students collected pledges for each lap they completed around the soccer field.

On June 3, Mrs. Bassols organized a wonderful Field Day for the students complete with an Olympic theme. Again thank you to our parent volunteers. Without their support at the variety of activities this event could not take place.

On June 11, students in grades K-3 experienced "Move Up Day", in which they learned who their teacher would be next year and then spent time in the classroom meeting the teacher and their classmates.

Students were given a welcome letter as well as a suggested supply list. It was a positive experience for everyone and hopefully will become an annual event.

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August 29 from 3:00-4:00pm, stop by Orchard Primary School for “Popsicle Pop In”. Students and parents will be able to locate the classroom and drop off any school supplies, as well as enjoy a popsicle.

Almont Middle School

Last Staff Meeting at AMS

Roy Sovis, Coordinator for Instruction at Genesee Intermediate School District, was invited to come to AMS to discuss Common Core State Standards and Assessments. Teachers had the opportunity to ask questions and address curriculum concerns at this time. As there is uncertainty with what will happen with the CCSS at this time, teachers will need to stay abreast of decisions made by the state. Multiple resources were provided by Roy as well.

AMS Talent Show 2013

There were approximately 15 different acts for the Talent Show this year. The acts included singing, dancing, playing of musical instruments, and magic shows. The students performed very well and provided much entertainment for our staff, students, and parents. A special thank you to Mrs. Pinsoneault for organizing this show.

“Hats/Jeans On” to the Oklahoma Families/Schools

As to end the school year on a COMPASSIONATE note (R.O.C.K.), the AMS staff and students had the opportunity to participate in a charity effort for our devastated families (struck by multiple tornadoes last month) in Oklahoma. Staff/Teachers were able to wear jeans for a week if they made a donation to the American Red Cross. Our students were able to wear a hat for a \$1.00 per school day. AMS raised **\$1063.00**. Thank you so much for all who participated in this effort.

R.O.C.K. School-wide Assembly

Thank you to all of our staff and parents for their continued support in making our PBIS(*MiBLSi*) initiative the best ever!! Staff receiving a “pie in the face” (from Box Top Contest) were:

5th Grade- Mr. Feys; 6th Grade- Mr. Beneson

7th Grade- Mrs. Purvis; 8th Grade- Ms. Martin

Administrators- Mrs. VonHiltmayer ☺ and Mr. LaCavera

A VERY special thank you to Missy Lane for her continuous, generous support. She donated two bikes and several other prizes for our AMS students. Students were able to earn some awesome prizes with their R.O.C.K. tickets at our ROCK SHOP last week.

High School

5/22

Seniors’ Last Day

The Class of 2013 finished their high school years with 2,600 water balloons and a full-out splash battle in the softball outfields. Originally implemented to move the seniors out of the parking lot and away from the inherent dangers therein, the water balloon fight has provided a fun and safe way over the past few years for seniors to celebrate their last few minutes at AHS. No problems occurred in the parking lot or in town after school. Thanks to the top academicians of the junior class for their help in filling all of those balloons!

5/24

Staff Meeting

A brief staff meeting was held to update staff on the status of the Secure Mode action taken this day, and to announce my retirement to the teaching staff.

5/31

Graduation Practice

Custodians set up 140 chairs in the gym and seniors arrived by 2:00 in a downpour to practice for indoor graduation. Students received their 4 reserved seating tickets for the event before or after practice. Thanks to **Mrs. Burkland and Mr. Bourque** for their help in organizing and conducting the practice.

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6/2

Graduation

We had to put our faith in the hands of the weather prognosticators on this breezy, cloudy day and set up for graduation outdoors in order to avoid the heat of a gymnasium packed with anxious people. Fortunately, the forecast held true and Commencement was held in a much more comfortable setting. One-hundred thirty-two students crossed the stage to signal the end of their AHS experience and begin the next phase of their lives. The audience heard five distinctively different and entertaining speeches from the class' top students:. One of our seniors sang the National Anthem, and the senior band members were recognized as they were called to play in their final song as members of the AHS Concert Band. The **Class President** led the class in the ever-popular "Changing of the Tassel". **Mrs. Molly Schack** led the band in the playing of the Recessional and finally the Almont Fight Song to bring the ceremony to a close. Kudos to the custodial staff for their work in quickly changing venues and getting everything ready in time for the ceremony. Kudos also to **Joyce Burkland and Dawn Wedemeyer** for the help that afternoon doing a variety of tasks to help make the day a success. Other staff members lending assistance included **Eric Bourque, Mary Campbell, Vincent LaCavera, Ruxandra Marita, Clemencia Paul, Kris Rohrbeck, and Colleen Ulmer.**

6/4

Evaluation Committee

The committee creating Almont's new model for teacher evaluation met again to hammer out most of the remaining details. The model is divided into two pieces: the instructional piece and the student growth piece. The committee worked to explain how each piece would be configured and how the details of each will impact a teacher's evaluation. **Kris Rohrbeck** created a visual aide and used it in her **June 6** staff meeting presentation to the high school staff. The committee spent approximately 75-80 hours in training and meetings as it worked to create a fair and balanced evaluation tool.

6/4

Grade 8 Visits

With the help of the student council, eighth graders visited the high school on this day to become better oriented with their new future surroundings.

6/5

iPad Committee

The iPad Committee met to finalize policy and deployment organization. The committee decided on "iRaider" as the initiative's name, and **Mr. Bostian** worked with a student to create a new iPad-related Raider logo. The committee is awaiting delivery of 1,020 iPads and is preparing for the August 7 "dry run" for deployment to students and parents that will occur the following week.

6/5

Undergrad Awards

Two-hundred thirty-eight student names were called to receive the Core Academic Awards this year! Additionally, class officers, student council members, perfect attendance honorees, students excelling in some core subject areas, and the Top Ten students in each grade level were recognized. Staff members contributing to the success of the evening were **Secretaries Joyce Burkland, Kelly Eble, and Colleen Tomaszewski; Assistant Principal Vince LaCavera, and Teachers, Eric Bourque, Mike Finton, Kris Rohrbeck, Mike Savage, Colleen Ulmer, Dawn Wedemeyer. Mary Campbell and Allison Jacobson** were unable to attend the ceremony, but did make arrangements for other staff members to recognize their students for their work.

Other

We have designed a tee-shirt for the iPad initiative that will be available; it features our Raider logo with an iPad in the horse's mouth.

NEW BUSINESS

Business

Approval of MHSAA Membership

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Boxey, the Board of Education adopt the Michigan High School Athletic Association membership resolution for the 2013/2014 school year.

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(P), 81, 6-0-0

Approval of Human Resource Services

Moved by Brzozowski supported by Manko the Board of Education approve the "Customer Contracting Agreement" between the Board of Education and COACHEZ (a division of PESG) as presented, a copy of which to be marked VIII (B) 2.

(P), 82, 6-0-0

Approval of Thrun Law Firm

Nancy Boxey asked that the Motion be amended to include:

Not to exceed \$1600.00.

Moved by Brzozowski supported by Manko the Board of Education approve the Legal Retainer Agreement with Thrun Law Firm covering the period of July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014. Retainer is not to exceed \$1600.00.

(P), 83, 5-0-0

Personnel

Approval of Resignations/Retirements

Moved by Boxey supported by Brzozowski the Board of Education accept the resignation of Mr. Rob Watt with regrets, best wishes for the future, and thanks for his years of dedicated service to the students, staff and administration of Almont Community Schools..

(P), 84, 6-0-0

Moved by Boxey supported by Manko the Board of Education accept the resignation of Mrs. Valerie Wallace with regrets, best wishes for the future, and thanks for her years of dedicated service to the children of Almont Community Schools.

(P), 85, 6-0-0

Moved by Boxey supported by Owens the Board of Education accept the resignation of Ms. Verschaeve and wish her well as she pursues her new opportunity.

(P), 86, 6-0-0

Approval of Contracts

Moved by Boxey, supported by Owens, the Board of Education approve the employment contracts of the following individuals as presented, with copies of the individual contracts to be VIII C(2) and attached to the Official Minutes of this meeting

Administrators

Jack Bostian – Technology Director

Mrs. VonHiltmayer – MS Principal

Central Office Staff

Mrs. Campbell – Executive Assistant

Ms. Kosinski - Secretary

Program Coordinators/Supervisors

Mr. Jones – Transportation/Maintenance

Ms. Byam – Athletic Coordinator

(P), 87, 6-0-0

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Approval of CoachEZ Coaches (3rd Party)

Moved by Boxey supported by Manko, the Board of Education staff the following positions with personnel provided by CoachEZ:

Varsity Football Assistant Coach
JV Football Head Coach
7th Grade Football Coach
8th Grade Football Coach
JV Volleyball Coach
Varsity Cheer Coach
JV Cheer Coach
Dance Team
Varsity Tennis Coach
Varsity Boys Soccer
JV Boys Soccer
Jr. High Cheer Coach

(P), 88, 6-0-0

Approval of ACS Coaches

Moved by Boxey supported by Manko the Board of Education approve the employment of the following coaches for the Fall 2013/2014 fall sport season:

- Varsity Cross Country – Richard Filar
- JH Cross Country – Shannon Greenway
- Assistant Varsity Football – Ritchie Feys

(P), 89, 6-0-0

Approval of Teacher Tenure

Moved by Boxey supported by Manko, the Board of Education award tenure status to Michelle Nizich.

(P), 90, 6-0-0

Finance

Approval of General Fund EOY Amendment 2012/2013

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Owens, the Board of Education adopt the revised General Fund Budget for the 2012/2013 school year, with Revenues totaling Eleven Million Nine Hundred Eighty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Five (\$11,988,455) Dollars and Expenditures totaling Twelve Million Five Hundred Ninety One Thousand Seven Hundred Sixteen (\$12,591,716) Dollars, with the difference to be taken from Fund Reserves as presented, a copy of which to be marked VIII(D)(1) and attached to the Official Minutes of this meeting.

(P), 91, 6-0-0

Approval of School Service Fund EOY Amendment 2012/2013

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Boxey, the Board of Education adopt the revised 2012/2013 School Service Fund Budget as presented, a copy of which to be marked VIII(D)(2) and attached to the Official Minutes of this meeting.

(P), 92, 6-0-0

Adoption of 2013/2014 General Fund Budget

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Owens, the Board of Education adopt the 2013/2014 General Fund Budget as presented, a copy of which to be marked VIII(D)3 and attached to the Official Minutes of this meeting.

(P), 93, 6-0-0

Adoption of 2013/2014 School Service Fund Budget

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Manko the Board of Education adopt the 2013/2014 School Service Fund Budget as presented, a copy of which to be marked VIII(D)4 and attached to the Official Minutes of this meeting.

(P), 94, 6-0-0

Approval of Refunding Bond Issue

Moved by Brzozowski, supported by Owens Board of Education adopt the resolution authorizing the issuance and delegating the sale of Almont Community Schools 2013 Refunding Bonds as presented, a copy of which to be mark VIII(D)5 and attached to the Official Minutes of this meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Manko, Owens, Miles, Brzozowski, Boxey, Hoffa

No: None

(P), 95, 6-0-0

Policy**Approval of Overnight Trip – Volleyball**

Moved by Miles, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve the overnight trip to Bronson, MI for the Varsity Volleyball team on August 23, 2013.

(P), 96, 6-0-0

Approval of Overnight Trip - Football

Moved by Miles, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve the overnight trip to Traverse City, MI for the Varsity Football team Sunday July 28, 2013 – Wednesday July 31, 2013.

(P), 97, 6-0-0

Acceptance of School of Choice Students

Moved by Miles supported by Manko the Board of Education accept the students on the attached list for the 2013/2014 school year through the 105 and 105C Schools of Choice Programs.

(P), 98, 6-0-0

Adoption of Publicly funded Health Insurance Contribution Resolution

Moved by Miles supported by Manko, the Board of Education adopt the resolution to comply with the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act as presented. Said resolution to be marked VIII (E) 3 and attached to the official minutes of this meeting.

(P), 99, 6-0-0

COMMENTS: AUDIENCE

Mr. Flaherty asked who would be attending camp with the football team since the overnight trip for July was approved but the head coach was not.

Mr. Hoffa stated that at this point the current head coach would be going because as of now he is the coach.

Mr. Flaherty asked why the Head Coach position was not approved.

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Mr. Hoffa stated that it is a personnel issue and those are not discussed in public meetings.
Mr. Mulligan wanted to know what was going on with the Head Coach position.
Mr. Hoffa stated again that personnel issues are not discussed at public meetings.
Mr. Mulligan wanted to know if they should write letters to the BOE.
Mr. Hoffa stated that if they want to write letters that was fine.
Mr. Russell wanted to know what the process was for a Coach to get approved.
Mr. Hoffa stated that the athletic director recommends the coach to the Superintendent who recommends to the Board.
Mr. Russell wanted to know why the Board had not approved the Coach.
Mr. Hoffa stated that the Board has not got the recommendation from the Superintendent.
Mrs. Flaherty wanted to know when the contracts expire.
Mr. Hoffa stated that they would look into it.
Mrs. Flaherty stated that by not approving a Coach it is causing the players to worry.
Mr. Hoffa stated that at this time it is a necessary step to hold off.
Mr. Candela restated that it is not legally responsible for the Superintendent and the BOE to discuss personnel issues in a public forum.
Mr. Russell asked what date they need to have a contract in place.
Mr. Candela stated that by Aug 12th because this is the official start of practice. All goings on now and until then are voluntary for the athletes.
Mr. Candela stated that if there is a concern he has an open door policy and they can call or make an appointment to see him.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

CLOSED SESSION: SUPERINTENDENT'S QUARTERLY REVIEW and NEGOTIATIONS

Motion by Boxey, supported by Brzozowski, the Almont Board of Education go into closed session for the purpose of the Superintendent's quarterly review and negotiations as permissible under the Open Meeting Act.

Roll Call Vote: Aye's – Brzozowski, Owens, Miles, Boxey, Manko, Hoffa; Nays- None

(P), 100, 6-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

President Hoffa indicated that no further business will be conducted after the closed session of the board.

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:00 pm

The Board went into Open Session at 9:53 pm

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55pm

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Approved _____
Date

Signed: _____
Nancy Boxey, Secretary

Signed: _____
Steve Hoffa, President