

MINUTES
Board Meeting
Almont Community Schools Board of Education

August 1, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

President Hoffa called the Board Meeting of the Almont Community Schools Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center at Almont High School.

Present

Steven Hoffa, Jill O'Neil, John Brzozowski, John Miles, Scott Kmetz, Stephan Manko, and Superintendent Joseph Candela.

Visitors: 11

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: John Owens was absent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was amended to include Letter of Agreement VI (1) D

COMMUNICATIONS

Comments: Audience

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel

Approval of Resignation

Moved by Kmetz, supported by Manko, the Board of Education accept the resignation of Mr. Joseph Candela as Almont Community Schools Superintendent effective 8/01/2016 and wish him well in the future.

P, 154, 6-0-0

Approval of Interim Superintendent

Moved by Kmetz, supported by Manko. the Board of Education employ Dr. Tim Edwards as Interim Superintendent. Contract to be attached to official minutes and marked VI (1) B.

P, 155, 6-0-0

Approval of Contract

Moved by Kmetz, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve the employment contract for Mr. Mark Weigand as presented, with copies of the individual contract to be marked VI (1) C and attached to the Official Minutes of this meeting.

P, 156, 4-2-0

Nay – O'Neil, Miles

Discussion:

Mr. Candela explained that Mr. Weigand will be named AD and Dean of Students. This will be helpful while Mr. Woelkers is out and we are transitioning to Dr. Edwards.

Mrs. O'Neil stated that she thought they had decided in previous discussions to hold off on this decision until later in the month when we had firmer student count numbers. She suggested that other avenues would possibly save the district money such as a 6 month contract for Mr. Weigand as Dean of Students, hire an interim principal, or have Mr. Leusby fill in and sub his position out.

Approval of Letter of Agreement

Moved by Kmetz, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve the attached Letter of Agreement which states that Mr. Candela will be paid a set fee to negotiate with the AEA for a maximum of 3 additional sessions. Letter to be attached and marked VI (1) D.

P, 157, 5-1-0

Nay – O'Neil

Discussion

Mr. Miles questioned the reasoning behind having Mr. Candela stay on for the negotiations.

Mr. Hoffa stated that they had consulted the lawyer who felt that it would be prudent to save the district money and since Mr. Candela had started the negotiations and they seemed to be close.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: AUDIENCE

Mr. Bowman has questions about the letter regarding funding the Hall of Fame

Mr. Hoffa asked him to get the letter to him as he has not seen it yet

Mr. Candela explained the legal aspects of the school donating the money to organizations

Gynnae Bourdeau had concerns about administrative coverage at the high school this past year and again going forward.

Mr. Bowman asked if there were additional costs for Mr. Candela leaving and if these had been budgeted for.

Mr. Hoffa stated that as part of Mr. Candela's contract he does get 2 years of retirement purchased by the district. This has not been budgeted for.

Pam Ferzacca asked if the para-educators received a raise for 2016-2017.

Mr. Candela stated yes.

Ms. Ferzacca hopes that if one of the teachers that works at OP is unable to come back in the fall due to health issues we use a certified teacher for that position.

Ms. Ferzacca hopes that going forward the BOE will look at all facts and in their search for a Superintendent looks for someone that puts together a 0 balanced budget.

QUESTION AND COMMENTS: BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Manko talked about the tour him and Mr. Brzozowski did last week as part of the Building and Site Committee with Mr. Candela and Mr. Jones. He said that after taking the tour the Board may need to shift the Sinking Fund dollars around a little and address more immediate needs of the district.

Mrs. O'Neil asked if Mr. Novak received the letter about closing on the AE building by Aug 5th.

Mr. Candela stated that the lawyers have been communicating on this and he is not sure if the check will be there on Friday.

Mr. Hoffa stated that Mr. Candela's separation agreement will be discussed on the 8th when the lawyers are done looking at it.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Miles, supported by Manko, the Board of Education adjourn the August 1st, 2016 Special Meeting, at 7:25p.m.

P, 158, 6-0-0

Approved _____
Date

Signed: _____
John Miles, Secretary

Signed: _____
Steven Hoffa, President