

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Almont Community Schools Board of Education**  
**September 26, 2016**

**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 Media Center at Almont High School, 4701 Howland Rd., Almont, MI 48003

**Present**

Steve Hoffa, Jill O'Neil, John Miles, Jonathon Owens, Scott Kmetz, and Interim Superintendent Tim Edwards.

**Visitors:** 19

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Brzozowski absent; Mr. Manko arrived at 7:07

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Addition to Agenda – Approval of 4/7<sup>th</sup>'s teacher position at the High School

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Student Council – a member of the student council said that the SC is currently working on homecoming plans.

**QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: AUDIENCE**

None

**QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: BOARD**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Miles, supported by Owens, the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the Regular Meeting August 22, 2016
- B. Approval of the Minutes from the Special Meeting MLI August 31, 2016
- C. Approval of the Minutes from the Special Meeting Work Session September 19, 2016
- D. Approval of the Minutes from the Special Meeting Closed Session September 19, 2016

**P, 198, 5-0-0**

**BILLS PAYABLE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS**

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

**September**

General Fund Total	\$ 1,135,394.38
School Lunch Fund	\$ -
2012 Refunding Bonds	\$ -

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2013 SBL Refinance	\$ -
2013 Refunding Bonds	\$ -
2016 Refunding Bonds	\$ -
Sinking Funds	\$ 449,119.70
QZAB Bond	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 1,584,514.08</b>
General Fund (transfer in for Payroll)	\$ -
PESG	\$ 849.27
Coach EZ	\$ 31,733.11
Participant Benefit Claims	\$ -
<b>TOTAL FUNDS SPENT</b>	<b>\$ 1,617,096.46</b>
Check #'s - 34888-35044	
Void Checks - 34828	

Approval of check numbers covering these invoices range from check number 34888 to 35044 and voided checks as presented: Voided check(s): 34828

**P, 199, 5-0-0**

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

The Trust and Agency Accounts were approved as presented.

(Mr. Manko arrived 7:07)

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Superintendents Report**

**Middle School**

**Josten’s Leadership Conference at MSU**

Over 50 seventh and eighth graders attended a Leadership Conference at Michigan State University on September 14th. The motivational speakers encouraged the students to take ownership of their school’s culture.

**Constitution Day**

AMS celebrated Constitution Day by doing the following: *The National Anthem* was played at the start of the school day, the band and choir performed for the student body during lunch, and Mrs. VonHiltmayer approached students who were wearing red, white, and blue to answer government trivia questions. For correct responses, candy and a gift card were awarded!

**AIMSweb**

Presently, the AMS teachers are administering *AIMSweb* to all students (benchmark for reading fluency and comprehension). Per the results, students who struggle will be placed in the *Read Naturally* intervention.

## **District Curriculum Council Update**

The DCC Team met this past Wednesday. Some of the topics discussed were: K-5 Reading PILOT, STEAM/STEM programming and the upcoming grant opportunity (through L&L Products), and upcoming Professional Development

## **Teacher Evaluation Update**

The Teacher Evaluation Committee met this past Tuesday. The teachers were made aware of the upcoming changes with this year's evaluation.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

- September 27th- Curriculum Night for 5th and 6th Grades @ 6:30 PM
- September 28th- Curriculum Night for 7th and 8th Grades @ 6:30 PM
- October 14th- AMS Annual Fun Run
- October 20th and October 21st- Advanc-ED/NCA Conference

## **Orchard Primary**

**STEAM and The Outdoor Classroom:** Students have been very busy making homemade salsa in their STEAM special using fresh ingredients from the OP garden. All ingredients were hand picked by the students and then the discussion and work began to prepare the salsa. Students learned about the plants and how the ingredients created something delicious and good for you

**The OP Garden:** The OP garden is alive with veggies ripe for the picking. While the students picked the ingredients needed to make their OP salsa there still were a lot of vegetables that were harvested but were not needed - the garden was very plentiful this year! In order to ensure that no vegetable went to waste all harvested veggies that were not used were put out in front of the school at each dismissal zone to be given away to our families.

**Tiny Teaching Tuesdays (TTT):** The OP is embarking on a new and exciting way to learn and grow! It is called a Tiny Teaching Tuesday or TTT. This is how it works - we choose a topic that a majority of the staff is interested in learning about and we get together on a Tuesday morning to share, learn, and grow. It is completely voluntary and is true professional development - topics chosen and led by staff.

**New Dismissal Procedure:** Our new dismissal procedure is off to a great start. In order to lessen the congestion around the bus loop we now have a lower elementary pick up zone at the north end of the building and an upper elementary pick up zone at the south end of the building. Parents are now able to go to these zones to pick up their children - this makes pick up time much faster for our families and keeps the bus loop area open and clear for students to safely get on their buses

**Reading to Classrooms:** In order to get to know the students and staff at the OP Mrs. Szhlacta has been working to get into every classroom to read a story to the children. She is also taking a few minutes to talk about our Positive Behavior Support Program - R.A.D. Raiders.

**OP Curriculum Night:** The annual curriculum night was held on Wednesday, Sept. 7th. Teachers were able to spend time sharing all kinds of important information with our parents. We had a great turn-out with 63% of our students represented.

## High School

Freshman Orientation was a popular success with 90% of our ninth grade population represented that evening. Many of the staff attended as well. Parents toured the school after hearing from staff, and had the chance to meet freshmen teachers in their classrooms.

Teacher Professional Development was held on Thursday, August 25 in the Media Center where teachers heard a presentation on the subject of TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury). Staff learned of the educational, social, mental, and physical implications of TBI. Teachers next analyzed the PSAT10 test and results from last year's sophomore class and used that information to guide their review and updating of curriculum pacing guides. In the afternoon session, teachers received and reviewed Section 504 Plan information specific to students on their class rosters. **Mr. Bostian** concluded the day's professional development with technology training for teachers related to their new laptops.

The school year began smoothly for students and staff on Monday, August 29.

Day 2 consisted of Class Meetings organized by grade level. The presentations focused on creating and maintaining a positive school culture through respect, following the school rules, and meeting high expectations

**Mr. Bob Jones** did a fine job of creating a workable solution for the traffic congestion in the AHS parking lot that was created by the road construction.

The AHS Staff welcomed our new teacher for the Cognitively Impaired, **Mrs. Mary Meeker**, at the District Breakfast held on August 25, and again at the AHS Staff meeting on August 26.

Multiple meetings were held regarding the SECEP (STEM Early College Expansion Program) initiative being implemented by most of the county's middle and high schools. Visitors heard from staff members about the progress being made in the area of STEM, and visited classrooms at AHS and AMS.

The National Honor Society, under the guidance of **Mary Campbell**, has begun lunchtime tutoring and homework assistance on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in Room 1.

The Almont Athletic Hall of Fame Awards were presented at Halftime of Capac – Almont Varsity Football game held Friday, September 9. Honorees were presented with plaques that will be displayed in the hallway outside of the gymnasium.

Seniors met with the Jostens representative to receive cap and gown placement information on Monday, September 19.

In an effort to receive feedback from the parents of this year's freshman class, AHS teachers, counselor, and principal met with parents at 7:00 p.m. in the high school media center. Approximately 20 parents attended the meeting, and constructive discussion was held.

### Upcoming Events

Oct 4	BWAC Band Extravaganza: Port Huron
Oct 5	Student Count Day
Oct 7	Homecoming vs. Yale
Oct 8	Homecoming Dance 7-11:00 p.m. in the Gym
Oct 11	Marching Band Festival
Oct 19	PSAT Testing: Juniors
Oct 27	Blood Drive

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Dr. Edwards thanked the administrative staff for all of their help and support. Everyone has pitched in to ensure the school year started smoothly. Mrs. VonHiltmayer has really step in to help with various committees and answer questions since at this time she is the veteran administrator.

Orchard Primary roof leak: The leak coming from around the roof vent seems to be repaired but today a leak in the foyer was discovered. The next few days will be a good test. We will not pay any more invoices until the project is completed to our satisfaction.

Athletic Game Night workers: It is becoming increasingly more difficult to find volunteers to work at our home games. Mark Weigand, Rob Watt and I have met to discuss and develop a plan to attract more help. Mark Weigand has surveyed the BWAC league as to how they attract helpers and he found that everyone provides some sort of compensation. Next month we will have a proposal for your consideration.

## **Board of Education: Questions**

Mr. Miles asked about Mr. Woelkers return.

Ms. O'Neil asked what kind of volunteers we were having an issue finding.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Personnel**

#### **Approval of Resignation**

Moved by Owens, supported by Manko, the Board of Education accept the resignation of Mrs. Linda Bone and wish her well in the future.

**P, 200, 6-0-0**

#### **Approval of New Hires**

##### **RECOMMENDATION #1**

Moved by O'Neil, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve Ana-Liza Merriman as a Para Educator beginning immediately.

**P, 201, 6-0-0**

##### **RECOMMENDATION #2**

Moved by O'Neil, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve Nicole Koval as non-classroom ParaProfessional beginning immediately.

**P, 202, 6-0-0**

##### **RECOMMENDATION #3**

Moved by O'Neil, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve Lisa Weidner as sub bus driver beginning immediately.

**P, 203, 6-0-0**

##### **RECOMMENDATION #4**

Moved by O'Neil, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve Brendon Marklin as tech support beginning immediately.

**P, 204, 6-0-0**

## **RECOMMENDATION #5**

Moved by O'Neil, supported by Manko, the Board of Education approve Brendan Feys for work based learning beginning immediately.

**P, 205, 6-0-0**

## **Approval of Teacher**

### **Recommendation**

Moved by O'Neil, supported by Manko, the Almont Board of Education authorized the Superintendent to fill the 4/7<sup>th</sup> position at the High School.

**P, 206, 6-0-0**

## **Business**

### **Approval of Support of Hall of Fame**

Moved by Kmetz, supported by Manko, the Board of Education commit an amount up to \$1000.00 to the Almont Athletic Hall of Fame each year, beginning with the 2016/2017 school year, for plaques to be hung in the AHS Hall of Fame hallway.

**P, 207, 6-0-0**

### **Discussion**

**Miles – thought that this was not an allowable expense**

**Dr. Edwards – consulted lawyer and it is as long as the plaques are for the school to display**

### **Approval of Parent Advisory Representative**

Moved by Kmetz, supported by Manko, Board of Education approve Holly Ardman as a representative to the Parent Advisory Committee for a 3 year term.

**P, 208, 6-0-0**

### **Approval of Project Graduation Parking Lot Fundraiser**

Moved by Kmetz, supported by Manko, Board of Education **TABLE** the Project Graduation fundraiser "Parking Spot Painting" until Mr. Woelkers has had time to discuss options and bring to the Board.

**P, 209, 6-0-0**

### **Discussion:**

**Board expressed concern about graffiti, how it will look esthetically, peeling paint, processes for approving designs, make-up day, possible discipline issues, etc. Mr. Manko stated that he has seen it and thinks it a great idea and we should try it. Dr. Edwards stated that once Mr. Woelkers is back we can look closer and get more details for the Board.**

### **Approval of Bus Lease**

Moved by Manko, supported by Owens, the Board of Education **TABLE** the attached lease proposal from Holland Bus Company.

**P, 210, 6-0-0**

### **Discussion:**

**Mr. Owens questioned 14 vs. 15 busses and the cost of the lease. Decided to table until exact numbers are brought to board.**

## **COMMENTS: AUDIENCE**

Pam Ferzacca – feels project graduation idea is awesome. Would like to see the Board give kids that chance. Feels we have great kids and we need to have faith in that. Don't concentrate on the few that may cause an issue.

Jeanne Dupuis – Gutter issue at OP. Dr. Edwards stated they are getting a quote.

A student stated that the Seniors are excited about the parking space project and she does not want to see it turned down because of what a few kids might do.

**Comments: BOE**

Mr. Miles stated that he is supportive of the painting project he was just questioning the current flyer and looking for holes in it.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**Superintendent search will be taking place soon. Keep up on calendar.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Miles supported by Manko the September 26, 2016 Regular Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 8:09 pm.

**P, 211, 6-0-0**

Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Miles, Secretary

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Hoffa, President