

**Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
Board of Education
Harbor Springs Public Schools**

February 8, 2021

Via Zoom

Board Members Present: Gary Morse, Vice President
Diane Novak, Secretary
Margo Damoose, Trustee
Paul Fairbairn, Trustee
Tina Honeysette, Trustee

Board Members Absent: Tim Davis, President
Brad Backus, Treasurer

Staff Present: Michael Behrmann, Superintendent
Pam Zazula, Chief Financial Officer
Maresi Witte, Executive Secretary
Chris Cerrudo, Technology Director
Nathan Fairbanks, Elementary School Principal
Brad Plackemeier, High School Principal
Heather Keiser, Interim Middle School Principal
Leigh Inglehart, HSEA Co-President

Regular Meeting

I. Call to order

Vice president Morse called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Damoose, seconded by Fairbairn, to approve the agenda as amended.

Item XII.F. Approval of Middle School Principal Appointment was added.

Ayes: Morse, Novak, Damoose, Fairbairn and Honeysette (5)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

IV. Board President's Report - None

V. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Behrmann reported on:

- Thrilled to be able to play winter sports; basketball starting tomorrow
- Proud of students and staff on how they handled the emergency response; thanked parents for their patience and support
- Snow day concerns

VI. Committee Reports

A. Finance

Morse reported that the committee discussed the following: January invoices; budget amendment; bond counsel discussion; administrative contracts; High School flooring/locker project; Jazz Band trip; possible resolution for winter sports competitions; in-person board meetings resolution and High School gym floor refurbishing and repair.

B. Communications

Damoose reported that the committee discussed the following: received athletic update; bond counsel discussion; administrative contracts; High School flooring/locker project; Jazz Band trip; possible resolution for winter sports competitions; in-person board meetings resolution and High School gym floor refurbishing and repair.

C. Facilities

Fairbairn reported that the committee discussed the following: receive athletic update; possible resolution for winter sports competitions; in-person board meetings resolution and High School gym floor refurbishing and repair.

VII. Administrative Reports

- High School principal Plackemeier reported on the following: third week of second semester; Face-to-Face instruction; new schedule; ski team regionals; boys ski team qualified for States; Basketball starts tomorrow; Student Council working on Coming Home event; Face-in-the-Stand fundraiser.
- Middle School principal Keiser reported on the following: third week of second semester; 6/7th grade starting new Michigan Virtual online learning; successful Ski Team; Basketball starting this week; contact tracing for 7th graders; Student Council received donation for social emotional learning activities.
- Elementary principal Fairbanks reported on the following: report cards sent home this week; ‘secure mode’ event; Ms. Erxleben’s students wrote thank you letter to H.S. Police Department; XC skiing and snow shoeing activities during P.E.; third grade skiing rescheduled for later in February; March is Reading Month; swim instruction coming up.

VIII. General Announcements

Vice president Morse commend everyone on handling the emergency situation.

Superintendent Behrmann asked for a moment of silence in memory of Coach Charlie Paige who passed away last week.

IX. Public Input - None

X. Consent Agenda Items

A. Approval of Invoices

1. General Fund - \$808,937.66
2. Community Schools Fund - \$8,646.12
3. Food Service Fund - \$13,558.93
4. Building & Site Fund - \$5,982.43
5. Fiber Build Project Fund - \$350.00
6. Athletic Improvement Project Fund - \$120.00

B. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular Meeting - January 11, 2021

A motion was made by Novak, seconded by Fairbairn, to approve the consent agenda as follows: General Fund \$808,937.66; Community Schools Fund \$8,646.12; Food Service Fund \$13,558.93; Building & Site Fund \$5,982.43; Fiber Build Project Fund \$350.00; Athletic Improvement Project Fund \$120.00 and the minutes from the January 11, 2021 regular meeting.

Ayes: Morse, Novak, Damoose, Fairbairn and Honeysette (5)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

XI. Recommended for Action - Old Business

Reconfirmation of Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

A motion was made by Fairbairn, seconded by Novak, that the Harbor Springs Public Schools will continue to provide full day face-to-face learning as well as an onlin/virtual option for all students, K-12.

Ayes: Morse, Novak, Damoose, Fairbairn and Honeysette (5)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

XII. Recommended for Action - New Business

A. Adopt 2020-21 Budget Amendment Resolutions for General Fund, Community Schools Fund, Food Service Fund and Student Activities Fund

A motion was made by Fairbairn, seconded by Novak, to adopt the 2020-21 Budget Amendment resolutions for General Fund, Community Schools Fund, Food Service Fund and Student Activities Fund as presented.

Ayes: Morse, Novak, Damoose, Fairbairn and Honeysette (5)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

B. Adopt Resolution to Permit School Boards to Meet in Person

A motion was made by Fairbairn, seconded by Honeysette, to adopt the resolution to permit School Boards to meet in person.

**RESOLUTION TO PERMIT
SCHOOL BOARDS TO MEET IN PERSON**

WHEREAS, school districts have been strongly encouraged to begin offering in-person instruction by March 1, 2021 and Harbor Springs Public Schools has been successfully able to implement face-to-face learning, PreK-12, since September 1, 2020, and

WHEREAS, Harbor Springs Public Schools has worked diligently to prepare for and implement the return to in-person learning for all students in grades PreK, K-12 and post-secondary; and

WHEREAS, all students and staff are permitted by the state of Michigan, including the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, to attend school in person; and

WHEREAS, members of school boards are the only individuals within their school districts who are not permitted to meet in person; and

WHEREAS requiring school boards to meet virtually while encouraging students to attend school in person and for staff to work in person sends a mixed message to our community and staff, and

WHEREAS, Harbor Springs Public Schools would like the ability to meet in person with strong health and safety mitigation measures in place that are consistent with measures taken for all other school classes and activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Harbor Springs Public Schools requests that MDHHS and the Governor of allow school boards to have the option to meet either virtually, in-person or a combination of the two beginning immediately.

Ayes: Morse, Novak, Damoose, Fairbairn and Honeysette (5)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

C. Approval of Letter of Understanding for COVID-19 Leave Extension for HSEA

A motion was made by Fairbairn, seconded by Damoose, to sign the Extension of Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act (EPSLA) as created by the Family First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) Letter of Understanding with the Harbor Springs Education Association (HSEA). This LOU would cover the time period from January 1, 2021 – March 31, 2021. It would expire at 12:00 AM on April 1, 2021.

Ayes: Morse, Novak, Damoose, Fairbairn and Honeysette (5)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

D. Approval of Letter of Understanding for COVID-19 Leave Extension for HSESP

A motion was made by Novak, seconded by Fairbairn, to sign the Extension of Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act (EPSLA) as created by the Family First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) Letter of Understanding with the Harbor Springs Educational Support Personnel (HSESP) unit. This LOU would cover the time period from January 1, 2021 – March 31, 2021. It would expire at 12:00 AM on April 1, 2021.

Ayes: Morse, Novak, Damoose, Fairbairn and Honeysette (5)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

E. Approval of High School Gym Floor Project

A motion was made by Fairbairn, seconded by Novak, to approve the High School Gym Floor Project as presented by Floor Care Concepts in the amount of \$22,869.30.

Ayes: Morse, Novak, Damoose, Fairbairn and Honeysette (5)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

F. Approval of Middle School Principal Appointment

A motion was made by Novak, seconded by Damoose, to approve Heather Keiser’s appointment as principal of Harbor Springs Middle School beginning July 1, 2021.

Ayes: Morse, Novak, Damoose, Fairbairn and Honeysette (5)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

XIII. Information & Proposals

A. Monthly Review of Two-Way Interaction Rates

Superintendent Behrmann reported on the two-way interaction rates for January 2021.

XIV. Public Input - None

XV. Public Comments on Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan - None

XVI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Fairbairn, seconded by Novak, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Ayes: Morse, Novak, Damoose, Fairbairn and Honeysette (5)

Nays: (0)

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Novak
Secretary