

**ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2021**

The Regular Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 17, 2021. The meeting was held in-person in the Macomb Academy of Arts & Sciences Gallery, 23211 Prospect St. Armada, MI 48005. The meeting was called to order by Board President, Scott Kline.

Board of Education Present: S. Kline, E. Cooper, S. Nieman, C. Murray A. Blake, S. Wylin

Board of Education Absent: M. Meerschaert/w notice

Administration Present: M. Musary, K. Skokna

School Personnel Present: M. Carlson

- 21-78 Motion by A. Blake, supported by E. Cooper that the Board of Education approve the Agenda as presented.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: E. Cooper, S. Nieman, C. Murray, S. Kline, A. Blake

Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 5-0

New Member Shawn Wylin was sworn in before the rest of the voting.

- 21-79 Motion by C. Murray, supported by A. Blake, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as presented.

1. Approval of Minutes

- a. July 20, 2021 (Special Meeting Minutes)
- b. July 20, 2021 (Regular Meeting Minutes)
- c. August 10, 2021 (Policy Committee Meeting Minutes)

2. Monthly bills payable in the amount of \$523,562.28

3. Personnel Report

Voice Vote:

Ayes: E. Cooper, S. Nieman, C. Murray, S. Kline, A. Blake, S. Wylin

Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6-0

- 21-80 Motion by A. Blake, supported by E. Cooper, that the Board of Education approve the updated hourly wage scale for paraprofessionals/aides and subs for the 2021/2022 school year. (Staff Report #1)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: E. Cooper, S. Nieman, C. Murray, S. Kline, A. Blake, S. Wylin

Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6-0

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- 21-81 Motion by C. Murray, supported by S. Nieman, that the Board of Education approve the First reading of the changes to the Board of Education’s Policy Manual (Volume 35, No. 2 – Spring 2021 updates, the Nondiscrimination Policies and the EDGAR updates) as recommended by NEOLA and the Board of Education’s Policy Committee. (Staff Report #2)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: E. Cooper, S. Nieman, C. Murray, S. Kline, A. Blake, S. Wylin

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

- 21-82 Motion by E. Cooper, supported by C. Murray, that the Board of Education approve the recommended AP Environmental Textbook as presented in the previous Curriculum Committee meeting. (Staff Report #3)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: E. Cooper, S. Nieman, C. Murray, S. Kline, A. Blake, S. Wylin

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

- 21-83 President, Scott Kline, adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m. with the motion to adjourn from C. Murray and supported by E. Cooper.

Hearing of the Public: Several members of the public were present and respectfully spoke during public comment regarding their stance on the wearing of masks for children.

Communications:

None

Superintendent’s Report:

2021/22 School Safety Protocols:

- No governmental agency is requiring students or staff to wear face masks, therefore we will continue with face masks being optional for students and staff this fall. The CDC, MDHHS, and MCHD are strongly recommending wearing face masks, but they are not mandating masks. Also, 84% of our teaching staff is fully vaccinated.
- Federal law still requires face masks for those traveling on “public transportation”, which the CDC specifically states includes “school buses”. Accordingly, students and bus drivers must wear a mask on school buses until further notice.
- Secondary students will have a two-week block schedule with three classes per day.
- Secondary students will not be assigned hallway lockers; however, lockers will be used for physical education classes and athletics.

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- We will cohort each elementary classroom and keep them separated from other classrooms.
- All students will eat lunches in their classrooms.
- Parent volunteers will not be allowed in classrooms during the school day.
- We will not be taking temperatures or testing students for COVID-19, but we are still requesting that any student that does not feel well or is having COVID-19 symptoms to please stay at home for 24 hours.
- We will assess all safety protocols after each trimester.
- At this time, the only unresolved protocol is contact tracing and quarantine requirements. This information will be communicated later next week as we want to minimize the number of quarantined students and staff to the best of our ability.

ARMADA DISTRICT UPDATE

- At Krause Elementary, they will have their welcome back picnic outdoors from 4:00 – 6:00 pm on Thursday, August 26th.
- At the M.S. and H.S., Tiger Days will be Monday and Tuesday (August 23 & 24).
- The teachers first day will be Wednesday, August 25th.
- The students first day begins on Monday, August 30th with a half day of school.

Following the Superintendent’s report, Superintendent Musary conducted the swearing in of the newly appointed Board Member, Shawn Wylin. Shawn was appointed at the July 20, 2021 regular Board of Education meeting to fill a vacancy. She will fill the seat until the next regular school election for which the vacant seat is qualified.

Curriculum Update: Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Curriculum, Kelly Skokna, provided an update of the following:

- I. 5 Year AP Score Trend
- II. Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
 - A. Optional administration
 - B. Focus on training and preparing this year
- III. Professional Development for Teachers
 - A. PLC and August PD approved by state for SCECHs
 - B. Still planning on Empower training, but met with Schoology and also looks promising
- IV. Resuming PLC Leader meetings in the Fall
 - A. Focus will be on supporting the School Improvement Goals
- V. Secondary Schedule for 2021-22
 - A. Waiver was applied for, have not heard back
 - B. Prior communication with auditor suggested should not be necessary

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Board Reports: S. Kline noted that we should be able to introduce our student Board Representative at the September meeting

Old Business: None

New Business: S. Nieman reminded the members that the November MASB convention will take place in Grand Rapids this year and encouraged them to sign up for classes soon if they are interested in attending.

Points of Pride:

E. Cooper:

- Member E. Cooper is proud of the maintenance team and their dedication to cleaning up from the tornado.

S. Nieman:

- Member S. Nieman is proud of administration and maintenance staff for their cleanup efforts and for handling the insurance claims. It was an enormous undertaking and everyone acted quickly.

C. Murray:

- Member C. Murray is especially proud of the PAL camp volunteers, some who came from out-of-state, as well as our newest board member. It was great to see the staff, students, campers, alumni coming together “like a machine in motion”.

S. Kline:

- Member S. Kline reminded the attendees that the public is always welcome to reach out to them. The board members’ emails are on the website. He is also proud of the people who step up and are willing to donate their time to be board members.

A. Blake:

- Member A. Blake said that he is proud of the community in general and the parents that attended the meeting. He knows that everyone is just trying to make the right decisions for their families and he is proud of what he calls “uniquely Armada”.

S. Wylin:

- Member S. Wylin is proud of the tornado clean-up efforts, especially seeing the community come together and seeing the football team helping out.

K. Skokna:

- K. Skokna is proud of the custodial and secretarial staff for their efforts in getting the school year off to a good start. A lot of work goes into preparing for a new school year.

M. Musary:

- M. Musary is proud of his Administrative Assistant, Terri, as the office has been busy with lots of employee turnover, job postings and interviews.

Michele Meerschaert
Secretary, Board of Education