

**ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR
December 21, 2021**

The Regular Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Macomb Academy of Arts and Sciences Gallery, 23211 Prospect Street, Armada, MI 48005. The meeting was called to order by President, Scott Kline

Board of Education Present: S. Kline, M. Meerschaert, C. Murray, S. Wylin, S. Nieman, E. Cooper

Absent: A. Blake, Student Representative M. Marasco

Administration Present: M. Musary, K. Skokna

21-102 Motion by E. Cooper, supported by S. Wylin that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: All: E. Cooper, S. Kline, M. Meerschaert, C. Murray, S. Nieman, S. Wylin

Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6-0

21-103 Motion by M. Meerschaert, supported by C. Murray, that the Board of Education approve a closed session to take place at the end of the regular meeting for the purpose of discussing negotiations. The meeting will take place in the Gallery.
(Staff Report #1)

Roll Call:

Ayes: E. Cooper, S. Nieman, C. Murray, S. Wylin, M. Meerschaert, S. Kline

Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6-0

21-104 Motion by C. Murray, supported by S. Wylin that the Board of Education designate its regular/organizational January meeting be held on Tuesday, January 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. Further, that any current Board officers, Superintendent of Schools, and Director of Business and Operations be authorized to sign checks on behalf of the district until the election of officers takes place. (Staff Report #2)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: All: E. Cooper, S. Kline, M. Meerschaert, C. Murray, S. Nieman, S. Wylin

Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6-0

21-105 Motion by C. Murray, supported by M. Meerschaert that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. November 16, 2021 (Policy Committee Meeting Minutes)
 - b. November 16, 2021 (Regular Meeting Minutes)
2. Monthly Bills Payable for a total amount of \$362,528.13

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3. Personnel Report

- New Hire – Lauren Caruss – Permanent Sub Teacher - Krause
- Resignation – Jennifer Jones – Permanent Sub Teacher - Krause

Voice Vote:

Ayes: All: E. Cooper, S. Kline, M. Meerschaert, C. Murray, S. Nieman, S. Wylin

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

21-106 Motion by S. Wylin, supported by E. Cooper, that the Board of Education Approve the attached Annual Summer Tax resolution, which allows the district to collect 50% of its taxes in the summer of 2022. (Staff Report #3)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: All: E. Cooper, S. Kline, M. Meerschaert, C. Murray, S. Nieman, S. Wylin

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

21-107 Motion by S. Nieman, supported by S. Wylin, that the Board of Education Approve the district option to an 80/20 plan for employees required to co-pay on health insurance beginning January 1, 2022. (Staff Report #4) *Request to change the word “cost” to “premium”

Voice Vote:

Ayes: All: E. Cooper, S. Kline, M. Meerschaert, C. Murray, S. Nieman, S. Wylin

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

21-108 Motion by C. Murray, supported by E. Cooper, that the Board of Education approve the second reading of the changes to the Board of Education’s Policy Manual (Volume 36, No. 1 – September 2021 updates) as recommended by NEOLA and the Board of Education’s Policy Committee. (Staff Report #5)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: E. Cooper, S. Nieman, C. Murray, S. Wylin, M. Meerschaert, S. Kline

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

21-109 Motion by C. Murray, supported by E. Cooper, that the Board of Education ratify the agreement with the Armada Instructional Paraprofessional Association, for a 2.5 year contract beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 6/30/2024.(Staff Report #6)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: E. Cooper, S. Nieman, C. Murray, S. Wylin, M. Meerschaert, S. Kline

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

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21-110 Motion by S. Wylin, supported by S. Nieman, that the Board of Education approve the updated hourly wage scale for hourly employees in the district effective January 1, 2022. (Staff Report #7)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: E. Cooper, S. Nieman, C. Murray, S. Wylin, M. Meerschaert, S. Kline

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6-0

21-111 President, Scott Kline, adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m. with the motion to adjourn from M. Meerschaert and supported by E. Cooper.

Hearing of the Public:

Ms. Alicia Beneteau

Mr. Kevin Grand

Communications:

None

Superintendent's Report:

Armada Schools Update:

- At Krause Elementary, several kindergarten classes made lawn signs to spread kindness. The TCB held their 2nd annual Christmas ornament contest and we had great participation. Also, students were greeted this morning by the AHS band and choir singing Christmas carols.
- At the M.S., the winter band concert was held on December 7th and the winter orchestra concert was held on December 9th at the AHS auditorium.
- At the H.S., the play (High School Musical) was very successful and one of our juniors competed in the solo music theatre category at the state thespian festival and received a Superior (top rating) for his performance. The AHS band and orchestra concerts were held on December 16th.
- At MA2S, Violet Fiddes computer club students participated in a cybersecurity competition and advanced to the State finals in the Gold Tier. There are thousands of teams across the US and we scored in the top half.

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Curriculum Update: Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Curriculum, Mrs. Kelly Skokna, provided the following information:

I. Empower/Schoology Feedback

- A. Recommend move to Schoology for 22-23
- B. K-2 to still use Seesaw

II. January Professional Development

- A. Time for PLCs to work together
- B. Will include response to trauma/crisis
 1. Look at emotional health in the midst of crisis, how to communicate with students, and how to care for self

III. Care of SE Michigan Resource

- A. Increased coverage to include elementary
- B. Also have included an employee assistance program

IV. Reproductive Health Community Survey

- A. Forming committee
- B. Revisiting "New Me"

V. Middle school/high school "Wellness Week"

Board Reports:

Mrs. Sue Nieman gave a legislative update that included legislation related to state appropriated funds for i.e. school resource officers and COVID testing; proposed legislation that would cut funds schools receive from the Michigan lottery; legislation regarding substitute teacher requirements, and a bill that would require seizure training for staff.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Mrs. Sue Nieman proposed looking at bringing in a facilitator for our strategic planning. She recommended reaching out to MASB and/or the Michigan Leadership Institute to hear their presentation(s) and see if it may be something the board would be interested in pursuing. Mr. Scott Kline said he would work with Mr. Musary to schedule a presentation.

Mr. Scott Kline noted that there appears to be a missing 25 MPH speed limit sign when going west. He also noted that the school safety meeting offered some suggestions/considerations to look at moving forward, including: training of substitute teachers; more resource officers; consideration of metal detectors; a separate communication alert for students; social workers in every building; student dismissal procedures; reinstating our mentor hour; using Skype at the onset of receiving threat, instead of bringing administration together.

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Mrs. Cheryl Murray noted that the next county board meeting will be January 25, 2022.

Points of Pride:

S. Wylin:

- Member Wylin is proud of the school safety meeting today.

C. Murray:

- Member C. Murray is proud of the music departments at each school. She is proud of the various band and choir concerts.

S. Nieman:

- Member Nieman recognized the music department, Mr. Bobek, and Mrs. Ulinski, for singing Christmas carols outside the elementary school today.

M. Meerschaert:

- Member Meerschaert applauded the music department, specifically Mr. Bobek, the band and orchestra, for working to learn and record the Oxford fight song.

E. Cooper:

- Member Cooper praised the office staff at all of the buildings for their work in helping with the unanticipated early release on Thursday, December 2nd.

S. Kline

- Member Kline noted that 2021 proved to be another difficult year. As a learning organization, we got through it, and he is proud of the students, staff, community, for making it work.

K. Skokna:

- Mrs. Skokna is proud of the work the various groups have done to help support and work with the community, including the Culinary/Marketing teaming for "Treats for Tots," the Chorale singing at the senior center, and the BPA/Marketing/NHS Coat Drive.

M. Musary:

- Superintendent Musary is proud of the students and staff and thanks them for getting through another difficult year.



Michele Meerschaert
Secretary, Board of Education