

**ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2024**

The Regular Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building Board Room, 74500 Burk Street, Armada, MI 48005. The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President, Cheryl Murray.

Board of Education Present: C. Murray, S. Nieman, M. Meerschaert, S. Wolak, , A. Blake

Board of Education Absent: S. Wylin, S. Hill with notice

Administration Present: M. Musary, K. Skokna

24-74 Motion by M. Meerschaert, supported by S. Wolak, that the Board of Education approve the Agenda as presented.

Voice Vote: C. Murray, S. Nieman, M. Meerschaert, S. Wolak, A. Blake

Ayes: All

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 5 - 0

24-75 Motion by S. Wolak, supported by M. Meerschaert, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. August 20, 2024 (Regular Meeting Minutes)
2. Monthly Bills Payable in the amount of \$3,072,576.15
3. Personnel Report

New Hires: Trina Picciurro, HS Para; Kelly Kiewicz and Jennifer Crosby, Krause Lunch Aides; Andrea Szasz, Bus Driver; Sophia Wise, GSRP Associate Teacher; Sarah Pierno, MS Lunch Aide

Resignations: Walter Mueller, Bus Driver

Voice Vote: C. Murray, S. Nieman, M. Meerschaert, S. Wolak, A. Blake

Ayes: All

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 5 - 0

24-76 Vice President, C. Murray, adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m. with the motion to adjourn from M. Meerschaert and supported by S. Wolak.

Hearing of the Public:

None

Communications: None

Superintendent Report:

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- At Krause Elementary, the Open House was well attended. Parents and teachers have been pleased with the new parking lot. The average K-5 class size is 24.7.
- At the M.S., the “parent back to school night” was last week and was well attended too – parents attended all six of their child’s classes in 12 minute stints and met the teachers to go over the class curriculum. Also, N.W.E.A. testing is wrapping up. In addition, fall sports are off and running.
- At the H.S., fall sports are underway highlighted by the boys tennis team 2-0 in the BWAC; boys soccer is 5-2 in the BWAC; the girls cross country team won the first 8-team BWAC jamboree; and the football team is 3-0 on the season. The homecoming parade will be Friday, September 27th at 4:30 pm followed by a varsity football game at 7:00 pm vs. Yale. Also, there will be four college representatives on campus this week – Michigan, Kettering, Alma, and St. Clair Community College.
- District K-12 enrollment is currently 1,720. We budgeted 1,702.
- The district will host a community safety forum at 5:30 pm on October 15th with the location TBD.

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

- Buildings are finishing NWEA testing
- Professional Development Committee Met
- PLC Leaders Meeting Held
- State Testing Results were shared

Board Reports:

S. Nieman reported that at the county legislative meeting last week they spoke about the fact that the State did not give public schools an increase in their foundation and they have cut the budgets for mental health. They did provide funding for GSRP preschool for all four year old children and they are allowing private entities to become eligible to provide those services. After the election, during the lame duck session, a supplemental bill could be passed regarding foundation.

On Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at the Macomb Intermediate School District, the State Board of Education Candidate Forum will take place at 6:30 p.m.

On October 8, 2024, the MASB Region 8, Legislative Priority Meeting will take place at the MISD beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business:

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Member C. Murray reminded the group that there is still time to sign up for the Leadership Conference in Lansing October 24th through October 27th. Since Lansing is fairly close, it would be possible to make it a day trip.

She also reminded everyone that Armada Area Schools will be hosting the October Macomb County School Board Association dinner on Tuesday, October 22, 2024. It will be held the week after our regular Board of Education meeting.

New Business:

Member Murray mentioned that Kathleen Moore, former MASB President, had sadly passed away. Kathleen was presented with the MASB President's Award just a few weeks ago at a reception in her school district. Don Wotruba, Executive Director, presented to Kathleen just before he came to Armada to present Cheryl Murray with her MASB President's Award.

Points of Pride:

C. Murray:

- Member Murray is proud of the many staff members that come to school before their start date to prepare their classrooms so that the students feel welcomed on their first day.

M. Meerschaert:

- Member Meerschaert is proud of the Equestrian team who won the District Championship and will be going to regionals in one week. They also won the Spirit Award and the Sportsmanship Award.

S. Nieman:

- Member Nieman is proud of the elementary staff and parents for adapting to the new traffic pattern and the high school students and athletes who are working around the construction.

S. Wolak:

- Member Wolak said that she was impressed with the test scores that were presented and that her children's bus had broken down on the way home from school today, but they were only five minutes late and the situation was handled quickly.

A. Blake:

- Mr. Blake was also impressed with the test scores. He said that he had two of his employees move their students from another district to Armada because they see such a difference.

K. Skokna:

- Ms. Skokna is pleased with all of the parent groups and booster clubs that support the teachers and students.

M. Musary:

- Mr. Musary is proud of the athletic boosters who always offer to provide help with anything. It has been a great start to the new school year, aside from having to cancel one school day due to a non-credible threat.



Michele Meerschaert
Secretary, Board of Education