

Fowler Public Schools

Board of Education | Minutes

Regular Board Meeting, Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:00pm | Fowler High School Media Center

Meeting called to order by President Ryan O'Rourke at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance: Recited.

Roll call taken: Ryan O'Rourke, Lori Miller, Matt Epkey, Kristin Phillips, Jason Smith, Brett Thelen, and Bill Sillman present.

Prior to the Board of Education meeting, the Policy Committee met. Ryan O'Rourke, Matt Epkey, and Bill Sillman were in attendance.

Superintendent/ HS Principal Patrick O'Rourke, Business Manager Teresa Pline, and Secretary Tiffany Martin were also present.

Presentation: None

Superintendent/High School Principal report: Patrick O'Rourke provided an update on the High School.

Elementary/Middle School Principal report: Paul Minns provided a written report for the Elementary and Middle School.

Athletic Director's report: Kris Ernst provided a written report for the Athletics Department.

Board Member Comments and Observations about Our Community Schools- None

Board Committee Reports

Ryan O'Rourke provided a policy committee update. The policy committee was able to meet and discussed policy update mechanics.

Public input on District COVID Response Plan for 2023-2024 School Year – None

Public Participation 1 Guest – No comments.

Old Business

A. Second Reading of Board policy items: po0122, po1420, po3120, po3130, po3131, po3132, po3139, po3140, po3142, po3220. A motion was made by Bill Sillman to move from a discussion item to action item 13N. Supported by Kristin Phillips. Motion carried 7-0.

B. Bond Update- Patrick O'Rourke provided an update on the bond.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Jason Smith approving consent agenda items Regular Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2023, and Approval of General Fund monthly bills paid and funds transferred. Supported by Lori Miller. Motion carried 7-0.

New Business for Action:

Nomination by Jason Smith to appoint Ryan O'Rourke as President and to close nominations. Supported by Lori Miller. A motion was made by Kristin Phillips to elect Ryan O'Rourke as President. Supported by Lori Miller. Motion carried 7-0.

Nomination by Kristin Phillips to appoint Lori Miller as Vice- President and to close nominations. Supported by Matt Epkey. A motion was made by Jason Smith to elect Lori Miller as Vice- President. Supported by Brett Thelen. Motion carried 7-0.

Nomination by Matt Epkey to appoint Jason Smith as Secretary and to close nominations. Supported by Lori Miller. A motion was made by Kristin Phillips to elect Jason Smith as Secretary. Supported by Bill Sillman. Motion carried 7-0.

Nomination by Jason Smith to appoint Brett Thelen as Treasurer and to close nominations. Supported by Lori Miller. A motion was made by Kristin Phillips to elect Brett Thelen as Treasurer. Supported by Bill Sillman. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Kristin Phillips to approve Treasurer Brett Thelen and Secretary Jason Smith as authorized signatures on school accounts. Supported by Jason Smith. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Matt Epkey to designate Business Manager Teresa Pline as authorized representative for ACH receipts. Supported by Brett Thelen. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Lori Miller approving the designation of depositors Huntington Bank, Bank One, US Bank, the Michigan School District Liquid Asset Fund Plus (MILAF), Journey (Credit Union), Fifth Third, MBIA, Wells Fargo for the calendar year 2024. Supported by Kristin Phillips. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Matt Epkey to set the 2024 Board Meeting dates as proposed, including January 13, 2025, to every second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the HS Media Center. Supported by Lori Miller. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Kristin Phillips approving the Lansing State Journal as our newspaper of record for the 2024 calendar year. Supported by Lori Miller. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Bill Sillman designating the Superintendent's Office responsible for public postings. Supported by Kristin Phillips. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Brett Thelen designating the Superintendent's Office responsible for the election duties of the school district. Supported by Lori Miller. Motion carried 7-0.

President Ryan O'Rourke proposed the following board members to the following committees for 2024. Motion by Kristin Phillips to approve the proposed committees. Supported by Lori Miller. Motion carried 7-0.

Athletics

Bill Sillman - Chair
Jason Smith
Kristin Phillips

Construction

Lori Miller - Chair
Bill Sillman
Brett Thelen

Personnel/Finance

Ryan O'Rourke - Chair
Brett Thelen
Lori Miller

Building & Grounds

Jason Smith - Chair
Ryan O'Rourke
Matt Epkey

Curriculum

Kristin Phillips - Chair
Jason Smith
Matt Epkey

Policy

Matt Epkey - Chair
Ryan O'Rourke
Bill Sillman

Technology

Brett Thelen - Chair
Kristin Phillips
Lori Miller

Motion by Brett Thelen to remain with Thrun Law Firm, P.C., as our legal representatives for 2024. Supported by Lori Miller. Motion carried 7-0.

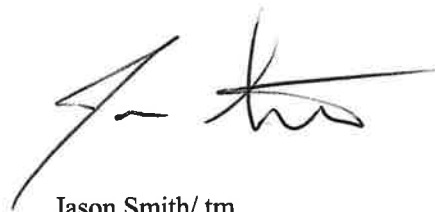
Motion by Kristin Phillips to approve Board policy items: po0122, po1420, po3120, po3130, po3131, po3132, po3139, po3140, po3142, po3220. Supported by Jason Smith. Motion carried 7-0.

New Business for Discussion:

- A. Retirement of Patty Schmitt, Kindergarten Teacher
- B. Board Retreat
- C. School Board Recognition Month

Motion made by Kristin Phillips to adjourn meeting. Supported by Lori Miller. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Smith', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jason Smith/ tm

Secretary