



Fruitport Community Schools
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 11, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Fruitport Community Schools Central Office
Board of Education Meeting Room
3255 E. Pontaluna Rd.
Fruitport, MI 49415

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President, Dave Hazekamp. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited to open the meeting.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present – Elroy Buckner, Tim Burgess, Kris Cole, Susan Franklin, Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, and JB Meeuwenberg.
- III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Item 23-169. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Cole to approve the agenda, with the addition of the following amendment, as presented.

Add:

XIII. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

4. Overnight Trip Request - Middle School Robotics Team - State Championship

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

IV. **PRESENTATIONS:**

○ **Above and Beyond Recognition**

1. **Tanya Fehler:** Tanya was recognized for the Above and Beyond award and was presented with a certificate and Above and Beyond pin. The Board of Education was presented with the following information:

“Tanya keeps the feel good culture of the high school alive and kicking. She does an amazing job in decorating our office areas for each season, as well as with the showcase that is across from the Guidance Office. These areas always look amazing because of her above and beyond effort. She does all of this decorating after hours and on the weekends. Tanya is also an integral person when decorating for each and every dance and hallway competition. Tanya’s work is top notch and so appreciated.

A huge SHOUT-OUT should be given to Tanya for the work that she does! The Board of Education should be made aware of this outstanding work that Tanya puts forth to make the culture and climate of our high school building a place that students and staff enjoy being. Please consider Tanya Fehler for the Above and Beyond Award and this special recognition.”

- 2. Brad Vallie:** Brad was recognized for the Above and Beyond award and was presented with a certificate and Above and Beyond pin. The Board of Education was presented with the following information:

“As a result of my son becoming involved in the Bass Fishing Club at his school, I witnessed the tremendous impact that Brad Vallie has on kids and our school. Brad and his family single handedly run a summer bass fishing tournament series that regularly draws 30-40 teams from schools throughout West Michigan. The tournaments continue to grow. There is a small registration fee that covers liability insurance for the Club, with the remaining money going back into prizes each week for the anglers. Brad and his volunteer team do a fantastic, professional job in running these tournaments, and he represents Fruitport in a most outstanding way. Not just in West Michigan, but throughout the Midwestern and Southern United States. Fruitport has students that are going on to college to compete at the next level, and are even earning large scholarships to do so. There is so much more that goes on than “just fishing,” and it is hard to capture his impact in words.

In addition to being the coach and advisor for the Bass Fishing Team, Brad also serves as an announcer for football and basketball, and recently volunteered to announce powder puff football for the school. Further, he also served as the announcer at this year’s 5th Quarter Party for the Fruitport Education Foundation.

A huge SHOUT-OUT should be given to Brad! The Board of Education should be made aware of his outstanding work to support the entire school community. Please consider Brad Vallie for the Above and Beyond Award.”

V. COMMUNICATIONS:

○ Annual MAISD Audit Management Decision Letter:

The District received communication from the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District regarding the Annual MAISD Audit Management Decision in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget's Uniform Guidance 2. The letter commended Mark Mesbergen and the business management team of the District for a clean, unmodified opinion on its audit, with zero (0) findings, and zero (0) reportable conditions or recommendations. No management decision is required, and there are no disallowed costs, financial adjustments, or other actions required of the District.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

○ OK Conference Realignment Proposal

The Superintendent discussed a communication received from the OK Conference. A copy of the OK Conference Realignment Proposal #2 was provided to the Board. The communication from the OK Conference Commissioner stated that the realignment proposal #2 passed by a 35 - 6 vote, with the football only proposal #2 passing by a 29 - 10 vote. Both proposals met the required two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) approval needed from the athletic directors' advisory vote to move forward with the process. The OK Conference Executive Board has now recommended that both proposals be sent for a ballot vote. Member schools are required to complete, sign, and submit an official ballot to the OK Conference Office by 12:00 p.m. on Monday, December 18, 2023. The ballots will be counted that same day via Google Meet during the Executive Council meeting at 12:30 p.m. The District will vote yes on both of the realignment proposals.

○ Review of the West Michigan Conference Application

The Superintendent reviewed a copy of the completed draft application to the West Michigan Conference for membership consideration with the Board. The District will proof and finalize the draft application for submission to the West Michigan Conference by December 31, 2023.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

Item 23-170. MOTION by Kelly, SECOND by Cole to approve the Consent Agenda as listed below:

1. Approval of Bill Listing in the amount of \$542,368.17

2. Acceptance of Monthly Financial, Bond, and Capital Projects Report
3. Acceptance of Student Activity Summary Report
4. Acceptance of Credit Card and Utilities Report
5. Approval of Transfers and ACH Transactions Report
6. Approval of Personnel Report (includes confirmation of new hires, resignations, retirees, and transfers)
7. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes - November 20, 2023
8. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes - November 20, 2023

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

IX. GENERAL BOARD BUSINESS: None

X. BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Report of committee meeting held on December 1, 2023

Elroy Buckner reported on a Business and Finance Committee meeting held on December 1, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. Elroy Buckner, Kris Cole, Dave Hazekamp, Mark Mesbergen, and Jason Kennedy were present. The Committee discussed a contract from TowerPinkster to provide services on the property at 259 N. 3rd Avenue, Fruitport, MI 49415, and it also discussed the HVAC competitive bidding RFP results to improve HVAC controls at the middle school and Shettler Elementary as a part of the 2021 Capital Projects Fund. The Committee also discussed the OK Conference realignment proposal and future athletic conference options for the District. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

2. Acceptance of Bid for HVAC Building Controls

The District put an RFP out to update/replace the old HVAC controls at the Middle School and Shettler Elementary. There was only one bidder, but this is the same bidder that completed all of the controls work at the High School during that project. The bid from Control Resources was \$384,740 for the Middle School and \$159,860 for Shettler Elementary. The projected budget for this project was \$550,000.

Item 23-171. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Cole to approve the bid from Control Resource for \$544,600 to replace HVAC controls at the Middle School and Shettler Elementary, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

3. TowerPinkster Contract - 259 N. 3rd Avenue, Fruitport, MI 49415

With the purchase of the property at 259 N. 3rd Avenue, the District started preliminary discussions as to what the building's design would look like for a future administration building. During those talks, the District and its architectural firm, TowerPinkster, talked about having a separate contract as the thought was to have them design the building, but then Fruitport's team handles the oversight of the building. Therefore, the attached contract will allow TowerPinkster to bill us at actual hours worked which is different from the other contract we have with them (percentage of the budget). They will bill us every month and the business office will track those invoices.

Item 23-172. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Cole to approve the contract with TowerPinkster, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

XI. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Report of committee meeting held on December 4, 2023

Steve Kelly reported on a Personnel Committee meeting held on December 4, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, JB Meeuwenberg, and Jason Kennedy were present. The Committee discussed the Personnel Report for December 2023. The Committee also reviewed items appearing on the agendas for each of the other Board Committee meetings in December. Topics included: a Thrun Law Professional Staff Policy Update, an OK Conference update, an update on the TowerPinkster contract and the 3rd Avenue property, and an update on the HVAC controls RFP and bid process. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

XII. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Report of committee meeting held on December 4, 2023

Susan Franklin reported on a Student Affairs Committee meeting held on December 4, 2023 at 5:32 p.m. Tim Burgess, Susan Franklin, Dave Hazekamp, and Jason Kennedy were present. The Committee reviewed a first reading of the Thrun Law Firm Personnel Policy Updates to bring current policies into compliance with new legislative changes to the Michigan Public Employment Relations Act (PERA), the State School Aid Act, the Revised School Code, and the Teachers' Tenure Act. The Committee reviewed a realignment proposal (#2) from the OK Conference, and it discussed the completion of the District's application to the West Michigan Conference. An updated draft of the strategic

plan was reviewed with the Committee prior to moving forward with the development of a final draft and plan approval, and items appearing on the agendas for each of the other Board Committee meetings in December were reviewed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

2. Thrun Law Firm Professional Staff Board Policy Updates - First reading; No action taken

The policies below are being updated by Thrun Law Firm to bring them into compliance with new legislative changes to the Michigan Public Employment Relations Act (PERA), the State School Aid Act, the Revised School Code, and the Teachers' Tenure Act. The Board discussed and reviewed the first reading of the following policies:

- a. 4108 - Union Activity and Representation
- b. 4207 - Third Party Contracting
- c. 4402 - Placement
- d. 4403 - Performance Evaluation
- e. 4404 - Performance Based Compensation
- f. 4405 - Reduction in Force and Recall
- g. 4407 - Discipline
- h. 4408 - Termination
- i. 4409 - Non-Renewal
- j. 4503 - Performance Evaluation
- k. 4504 - Performance Based Compensation

3. Overnight Trip Request - Michigan Youth in Government

Item 23-173. MOTION by Franklin, SECOND by Burgess to approve the overnight trip request from Deeann Skov for high school students to stay overnight in Lansing on February 8-11, 2024 to participate in a mock legislature at the State Capital, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

4. Overnight Trip Request - Middle School Robotics Team - State Championship

Item 23-174. MOTION by Franklin, SECOND by Burgess to approve the overnight trip request from middle school robotics coach, Kris Cole, for middle school robotics students to stay overnight in Brighton, MI, and to go to the First Tech Challenge State Championship at Parker Middle School in Howell, MI on December 15-17, 2023, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

XIII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

Kris Cole shared that the middle school robotics team (Green Team) never lost a match during the Big Rapids qualifying tournament this past weekend. The team won the Inspire Award, the highest award at the competition, and the team also won the tournament. Both the Inspire Award and winning the qualifying tournament have qualified the team for participation in the First Tech Challenge State Championship at Parker Middle School in Howell, MI on December 15-17, 2023. The Green Team currently ranks 2nd in the world for their end game performance. The Blue Team finished in 7th place at the tournament, and was selected to compete on the 4th alliance team.

Susan Franklin wished everyone a happy holiday season.

It was also discussed that a policy be developed and reviewed with the Student Affairs Committee at an upcoming meeting to allow the Committee to approve overnight trip requests. This will be added to an upcoming Student Affairs Committee meeting agenda.

XIV. AGENDA ITEMS for FUTURE MEETINGS & SCHEDULING OF ANY SPECIAL MEETINGS

1. The Board of Education will meet on December 18, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. for a special meeting to conduct a student disciplinary hearing.
2. The Board of Education will meet on December 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. for a special meeting to conduct a student disciplinary hearing.
3. The Business and Finance Committee will meet on January 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
4. The Personnel Committee will meet on January 8, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
5. The Student Affairs Committee will meet on January 8, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
6. The Board of Education will meet on January 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

XV. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC: John Winkas shared with the Board that the basketball hoops for the new auxiliary gym are expected to be installed this week, completing the projects for the middle school auxiliary gym project.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Item 23-175. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Franklin to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Franklin, Board Secretary

Danielle VanderMeulen, Recording Secretary