



Fruitport Community Schools
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 18, 2024 – 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.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance at the meeting.
- III. **ROLL CALL:** Present – Elroy Buckner, Tim Burgess, Kris Cole, Susan Franklin, Dave Hazekamp, JB Meeuwenberg; Absent: Steve Kelly
- IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Item 24-42. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Cole to approve the agenda, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.
- V. **PRESENTATIONS:** None
- VI. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- **Muskegon County Public School Board Alliance Spring Dinner Meeting**

The Board reviewed a communication from the Muskegon County Public School Board Alliance pertaining to the Spring Dinner Meeting for the Alliance that will take place on April 17, 2024. The District must provide an RSVP to the MAISD for board members wishing to attend the dinner and business meeting by April 8, 2024.

- **West Michigan Conference Application Status Letter**

The Board reviewed a communication received on February 23, 2024 from the Athletic Committee of the West Michigan Conference (WMC). The letter stated that

representatives from the current membership of the WMC would be in touch with the District as the WMC navigates its expansion process. The WMC is currently adjusting its bylaws and expansion process after it recently expanded from eight (8) member schools to fourteen (14) member schools. It is expected that the bylaws of the WMC will be updated and ratified within the next few months. Once the bylaws and the expansion process are voted on and adopted by both the Athletic and Executive Committees of the WMC, the WMC will communicate a more accurate timeline and process, in response to the District's letter of interest.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- **Salary Schedules and Allowable Salary Increases (ORS FAQ Document)** - The Board was provided with a copy of a Frequently Asked Questions document that was recently issued by the Office of Retirement Services pertaining to salary schedules and allowable salary increases.
- **Schools of Choice Advertisement of Available Openings** - The Board was provided with a copy of the schools of choice advertisement of available openings by grade level for the 2024-2025 school year that was provided to the MAISD. The collaborative schools of choice window will be open from May 1-30, 2024, and will remain unchanged from the current year.
- **Kindergarten Oral Health Screening Requirement** - An update was provided to the Board for awareness. Public Act 316 of 2023 was recently enacted which changed Michigan's oral health assessment law. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, all children in Michigan enrolling into their first year of school are required to have an oral health assessment (dental screening); these assessments were previously optional.

VIII. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

Item 24-43. MOTION by Cole, SECOND by Buckner to approve the Consent Agenda as listed below:

1. Approval of Bill Listing in the amount of \$496,693.23
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 of February 19, 2024
8. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of February 19, 2024

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

X. GENERAL BOARD BUSINESS:

1. MAISD Annual Budget Review, Resolution, and Board Delegate Appointment

Item 24-44. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Franklin to approve and appoint Steve Kelly to serve as the Board of Education delegate to represent Fruitport Community Schools at the MAISD Annual Budget Review on Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. The Board approves and appoints Dave Hazekamp as an alternate delegate in the event that the appointed delegate cannot attend the meeting after first being approved and appointed, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

2. ARP/ESSER III: Return to Learn / Continuity of Services Plan Reconfirmation

Item 24-45. MOTION by Cole, SECOND by Meeuwenberg to approve and reconfirm the American Rescue Plan / ESSER III Continuity of Learning and Return to Learn Plan to include updated guidance on respiratory viral infections released by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), effective March 1, 2024, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

3. Project Management Stipend – 259 N 3rd Ave., Fruitport, MI 49415

Item 24-46. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Franklin to approve construction management stipends in the amount of \$2,500 (one to be paid in March 2024 and one to be paid in March 2025) for John Winkas. Time above normally worked hours has been necessary to complete the construction project at 259 N. 3rd Ave., Fruitport, MI 49415 to convert the newly acquired property into a central administration office. The stipend will be paid through a non-elective 403(b) plan contribution, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

XI. BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Report of committee meeting held on March 12, 2024

Elroy Buckner reported on a Business and Finance Committee meeting held on March 12, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Kris Cole, Elroy Buckner, Dave Hazekamp, Jason Kennedy, Mark Mesbergen, and Jessica Wiseman were present. The Committee discussed the need for the Board to consider approval of a request to relinquish federal funds form. The Committee also discussed an update regarding a recently

released FAQ document from the Office of Retirement Services regarding salary schedules and allowable salary increases for employees. The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

2. Request to Relinquish Federal Funds - Title III, Part A: Immigrant Students

Item 24-47. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Cole to approve the relinquishment of funds in the amount of \$1,134 from Title III, Part A – Immigrant Students, and authorize the Board President and Superintendent to sign and execute the Request to Relinquish Federal Funds Form with the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Educational Supports, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

XII. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Report of committee meeting held on March 11, 2024

JB Meeuwenberg reported on a Personnel Committee meeting held on March 11, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, JB Meeuwenberg, and Jason Kennedy were present. The Committee discussed the Personnel Report for March 2024, and it reviewed a recently released frequently asked questions document by the Office of Retirement Services (ORS) pertaining to salary schedules and allowable salary increases. The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

XIII. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Report of committee meeting held on March 11, 2024

Susan Franklin reported on a Student Affairs Committee meeting held on March 11, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. Tim Burgess, Susan Franklin, Dave Hazekamp, and Jason Kennedy were present. The Committee discussed a policy pertaining to overnight and out of state field trips requiring Board of Education approval, and reviewed the first Committee reading of policy 5506. The Committee also reviewed a trip request from Danielle Hershey for DECA students to participate in the International Career Development Conference and Competition held at the Anaheim Hilton and Convention Center in Anaheim, CA on April 26, 2024 through May 1, 2024. The Committee discussed a document pertaining to Section 21f of the State School Aid Act and a sample template to comply with this section from Wayne RESA. The Committee also discussed a proposal from the Instructional Council for a second time to consider reducing the number of credits required for graduation from the Alternative and Adult Education programs from 22 credits to the State mandated 18 credit minimum requirement, with all core course credits still being required. The Committee discussed a pathway presented to the District by the MAISD for a second

time that would support virtual learners and homeschooled students in earning credits through virtual programming. The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

2. Adult / Alternative Education Graduation Requirements

Item 24-48. MOTION by Franklin, SECOND by Burgess to approve the credit requirements for students graduating from the District's Alternative Education and Adult Education programs, effective immediately. The number of credits required for graduation from the Alternative and Adult Education programs will be reduced from 22 credits to the State mandated 18 credit minimum requirement. Graduates of these programs will be able to participate in the graduation ceremony; however, these students will receive a different diploma; All core course credits will still be required, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

3. Virtual Learning Pathway / Muskegon County Virtual Academy

Item 24-49. MOTION by Franklin, SECOND by Burgess to approve the Muskegon County Virtual Academy Virtual Learning Pathway, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

4. 15 Days of Virtual Instruction Under State School Aid Act Section 21f

Item 24-50. MOTION by Franklin, SECOND by Burgess to approve the District's Virtual Instruction Plan to provide up to 15 days of instructional time, as allowable under Section 21f of the State School Aid Act, for the purposes of emergency closure, student testing days, or professional development, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

5. Overnight Trip Request – DECA International Competition: Anaheim, CA

Item 24-51. MOTION by Franklin, SECOND by Burgess to approve the overnight field trip request by Danielle Hershey for DECA students to participate in the International Career Development Conference and Competition held at the Anaheim Hilton and Convention Center in Anaheim, CA on April 26, 2024 through May 1, 2024, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

6. Overnight Trip Request: High School Robotics Team State Championship Competition – Saginaw Valley State University

Item 24-52. MOTION by Franklin, SECOND by Burgess to approve the high school robotics team's overnight trip request to attend the Michigan State First Robotics Championships held at Saginaw Valley State University on April 4-6, 2024, pending qualification by the team, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

7. Overnight Trip Request: High School Robotics Team FIRST World Championship Competition – George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, TX

Item 24-53. MOTION by Franklin, SECOND by Burgess to approve the high school robotics team's overnight trip request to attend the FIRST World Championship Competition on April 16-22, 2024, pending qualification by the team, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

8. First Reading: Field Trips – Board of Education Policy 5506

The Board discussed the first reading of Policy 5506 - Field Trips, which would allow the Student Affairs Committee to approve overnight trip requests in the event that a request was received and needed approval before being able to be approved at the next scheduled Board of Education meeting. A second reading of the policy will be held on April 15, 2024 before being considered for approval.

XIV. SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION

1. Final Review of Superintendent's Evaluation: Year Ending December 31, 2023

The Board reviewed the final copy of the Board approved evaluation of the superintendent, for the year ending December 31, 2023, with the Superintendent. Susan Franklin read the Board of Education's narrative statement pertaining to the highly effective evaluation of Superintendent Kennedy.

XV. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

Susan Franklin shared that the musical performance of Mamma Mia! will be taking place on March 21-23, 2024 at the Fruitport High School Performing Arts Center. Susan encouraged those in attendance to purchase tickets for the show to support our students who have done an outstanding job in preparing for the performances.

JB Meeuwneberg shared that our middle school band and choir programs did an outstanding job at the District Festival. The programs received Division I ratings, which is the highest rating that a program can receive. JB also commended Katie Hildebrand for the volunteer work that she did to serve as a guest conductor for the middle school honors band after the program date was moved and the original conductors were not able to attend the rescheduled

performance date. JB also shared that our middle school MathCounts team finished in second place at a recent regional competition, which qualified the MathCounts team for the state competition.

Kris Cole shared that the high school robotics team competed in their first competition of the year at Orchard View High School on March 15-16, 2024. Kris shared that Fruitport did extremely well in the competition, as the team earned the Imagery Award, and was selected for alliance in the playoff round of the competition. ESPN3 was on site to film footage in Robotics Game Day fashion, and the MAISD was present to film a special clip of the Robotics Team to highlight the positive impact and contributions that the team makes on the school and community. The team will compete at Central Michigan University in two weeks.

Dave Hazekamp asked Superintendent Kennedy to share an update on the Michigan Alliance for Performing Arts (MAPA) Winter Drumline Competition held at Kent City High School on Saturday, March 16, 2024, as he was present for the performance and awards ceremony that evening. Superintendent Kennedy shared that Fruitport Independent took first place in their division and did an outstanding job representing our school and community!

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

1. The Business and Finance Committee will meet on April 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
2. The Personnel Committee will meet on April 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
3. The Student Affairs Committee will meet on April 8, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
4. The Board of Education will meet on April 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

XVII. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Pam Gustafson was present at the meeting and shared a special thank you to the Fruitport Lions Club for their continued commitment and support of literacy programs in the District. Pam shared that volunteers from the Lions Club read to each of the elementary schools for March is Reading Month. Pam also discussed concerns about Senate Bill 742, and a corresponding bill package that has been introduced to require that all school libraries be staffed by a certified school librarian. Pam shared concerns about this bill package and its potential impact on Fruitport Community Schools with the Board of Education.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Item 24-54. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Franklin to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent.

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Franklin, Board Secretary

Danielle VanderMeulen, Recording Secretary