

DRAFT

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HANCOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RECORD OF MINUTES

No.10/21/2024

Regular Meeting  
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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District Board of the Hancock Public School District, Houghton County, State of Michigan.

Meeting open -Pledge of Allegiance.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Hancock Public Schools was held in the boardroom on Monday, October 21, 2024; at 5:30 p.m. President Jordan called the meeting to order.

Present: Catherine Jordan, Michael Lancour, Taylor Paul, Charlie Klein, Wendy Chynoweth, Emilie Lancour & Rod Paavola

Recognition of Individuals:

- Principal Recognition Month: Thank you to Hannah Asiala, Karen Eddy, and Dan Vaara
- Congratulations to Coach Smith, Towels and the Girl's Cross Country Team for their Division II UP Finals Championship for the fourth year!

Agenda Items:

Routine Matters

Adoption of Agenda

It was recommended by Superintendent Salani that the submitted agenda be adopted as presented. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Chynoweth, to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion unanimously carried.

Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes.

It is recommended by Secretary E Lancour that the submitted minutes of the regular meeting of September 16, 2024, be approved. Moved by Member E Lancour, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the submitted minutes for the September 16, 2024 regular meeting. The motion unanimously carried.

Approval of checks written for the Month of September 2024.

It is recommended by the CCISD Assistant Business Manager, Jeff Klein, with concurrence by Board Treasurer Wendy Chynoweth, that the checks written for the month of September 2024 be approved as presented. Moved by Member Chynoweth, seconded by Member Klein, to approve the checks written for the month of September 2024. The motion unanimously carried.

Visitor Comments: 3 visitors in attendance. No comments were made.

New Business:

Superintendent Report: Chris Salani

1. Governance/Board

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2. Business and Finance
  - a. School Social worker is split 60/40 with Lake Linden as a cost savings measure
  - b. Bond/Sinking fund
    - i. Cafeteria updates will start soon
    - ii. Signs are up on both campuses
3. Instructional Leadership
  - a. Applications for the new MS/HS principal have been submitted
4. Staff Relations
  - a. bi-weekly staff meetings are continuing
5. Community Relations
  - a. A focus group is being formed. Contact Chris Salani if you are interested.

Principal Reports:

Karen Eddy (Barkell Elementary)

- a. Fall Fest was successful
- b. Engineering Day was held on October 3rd
- c. Two fire prevention events were put on by The Hancock Fire Department and Chief Deweke of the Ripley Fire Department
- d. Barkell Staff continued work on PBIS/MTSS during the Oct 11th in-service, including the "Trails" social-emotional learning curriculum which will be implemented K-5
- e. 4th grade conducted sheep eyeball dissections
- f. the Halloween parade will be on October 31st at 1:15 pm
- g. the Pumpkin Drop will also be on October 31st at 9 am
- h. the Christmas Program will be on December 10th at 9 am

Chris Salani (MS/HS)

- a. MTSS/PBIS and Dean of Students roles are still being utilized
- b. The "Trails" Social-emotional learning curriculum will be implemented 6-12 as well
- c. It is Copper Bowl week! There are dress-up days in both the MS and the HS.
- d. SAT scores arrived today. (The following are overall averages.)
  - i. 11th grade (SAT) Hancock 1017 State 945
  - ii. 10th grade (PSAT) Hancock 962 State 883
  - iii. 9th grade (PSAT) Hancock 881 State 848
  - iv. 8th grade (PSAT) Hancock 891 State 821

Athletic Director report: Ryan Towles

- a. Recognition of Girls Cross Country
  - i. 2024 UP Division II Championship (4 years in a row)
    1. 5 out of 6 years for Coach Smith
- b. Posted for new hires: JV Ice Hockey, JV Boys Basketball, MS 7/8 Boys Basketball
- c. Copper Bowl Football game is Friday, October 25th in Hancock
- d. Volley Ball districts will be November 4-6-8th
- e. Further improvements to McAfee Field
  - i. Thank you to all who supported the work bees!

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## Liaison Reports:

HPS foundation: Will possibly meet next week

DDA: the old Coast to Coast building will need to be demolished due to the condition of the structure

Hancock Recreational Committee: M Lancour was unable to attend the last meeting

CCSBA: Chris Salani and Michael Lancour attended the Legislative Breakfast on Friday, October 18, four state legislatures were in attendance.

## New Business/Discussion/Action Items:

1. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the hire of Renee Erkkila, GSRP Paraprofessional Aide. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member M Lancour to approve the hire of Renee Erkkila, GSRP Paraprofessional Aide. Motion unanimously carried.
2. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to accept the resignation of Jessica Koski, kitchen Helper. Moved by Member Paul, seconded by Member Klein. Motion unanimously carried.
3. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the hire of Elizabeth Daavettila, Kitchen Helper. Moved by Member Paul, seconded by Member Paavola to approve the hire of Elizabeth Daavettila, Kitchen Helper. Member Chynoweth abstained. Motion unanimously carried.
4. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the hire of Taylor Pietila, MS Paraprofessional Aide. Moved by Member Chynoweth, seconded by Member Paul to approve the hire of Taylor Pietila, MS Paraprofessional Aide. Motion unanimously carried.
5. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the hire of Xander Nordmark, Custodian. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member M Lancour to approve the hire of Xander Nordmark, Custodian. Motion unanimously carried.
6. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the discontinuation of the Early Middle College Program for the 2024-2025 School Year. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member E Lancour, to approve the discontinuation of the Early Middle College Program for the 2024-2025 School Year. Discussion of costs, graduation rates, enrollment, and free tuition programs. Vote: Jordan yea, M Lancour, yea, E Lancour, yea, Chynoweth nay, Paavola nay, Klein yea, Paul nay. Motion carries.
7. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the snow removal/sanding bid with Superior Land Improvements for the 2024-2025 winter. Moved by Member M Lancour, seconded by Member Chynoweth, to approve the snow removal/sanding bid with Superior Land Improvements for the 2024-2025 winter. Discussion of bids and additional sanding costs was held. Motion unanimously carried.
8. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the Annual Tax Summer Tax Resolution. Moved by Member Paavola, seconded by Member Klein, to approve the Annual Summer Tax Resolution. Votes: Jordan yea, M Lancour yea, E Lancour yea, Chynoweth yea, Paavola yea, Klein yea, Paul yea. Motion unanimously carried.

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9. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the RFP's for pre-bond services for the following:
- Evaluation and assessment of the school facilities
  - Meetings with administration, bond committee (if any), school board, and community
  - Master planning and design concepts
  - Preparation and submittal of Preliminary Qualification of Bond Application to the Department of Treasury
  - Assistance with the Department of Treasury meeting, upon request
  - Assistance with website, newspaper, and/or social media advertisement
  - Information with bond campaign assistance
- Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paul, to approve the RFPs for pre-bond services. Motion unanimously carried.
10. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve a leave of absence for James Guzek, Elementary Paraprofessional Aide. Moved by Member Chynoweth, seconded by Member Klein, to approve the leave of absence for James Guzek, Elementary Paraprofessional Aide. Motion unanimously carried.

Adjournment to Closed Session

It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to adjourn Open Session to go into Closed Session for Personnel Issues. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member M Lancour to adjourn Open Session to go to Closed Session for Personnel Issues. Vote: Jordan yea, M Lancour yea, Chynoweth yea, E Lancour yea, Paavola yea, Klein, yea; and Paul yea. Motion unanimously carried.

Adjourn open session at 6:38 pm

Member Klein left the meeting at 7:05 pm

Returned to open session at 7:50 pm

It is recommended by Board Secretary E Lancour to approve the minutes of the Closed Session meeting. Moved by Member E Lancour, seconded by Member M Lancour, to approve the minutes of the Closed Session. Motion Unanimously carried.

Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by Member Paavola and seconded by Member M Lancour to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm. The motion unanimously carried.

Emilie Lancour  
Board Secretary



**Hancock Public Schools  
Gordon G. Barkell Elementary School**

**Principal's Report: October 21, 2024**

- **Fall Fest on Sept. 26th at Barkell Elementary was enjoyed by many students, parents, & grandparents**
  - Thank you to the PTO for all of their efforts.
- **Engineering Day (in partnership with MTU) was held during the afternoon of Oct. 3 at Barkell Elementary**
  - Thank you to Genevieve Nordmark & Jaclyn Johnson for coordinating this event as well as the MTU students that conducted the activities.
- **Two fire prevention assemblies (lower & upper elementary students) were put on by members of Hancock Fire Department & Chief Jack Deweke from the Ripley Fire Department**
  - Thank you to all members for their time to help teach our students about fire safety and for all they do to help our community.
- **Barkell staff continued foundational work on PBIS/MTSS during the inservice on October 11th**
  - Surveys were created by a team that will be provided to parents, staff, and students at the beginning of November to seek their input. Input will be utilized for planning purposes as we move forward to fully implement PBIS/MTSS in the fall of 2025.
  - Training on Trails – will soon begin teaching these SEL lessons
- **Fourth grade conducted hands-on sheep eyeball dissections as a culminating activity on study of the eyes**
- **Halloween parade scheduled for Oct. 31st at 1:15 PM.**
- **Christmas program scheduled for Dec. 10th at 9:00 AM with a backup date of Dec. 12th**