

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HANCOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**RECORD OF MINUTES**

No.11/18/2024

**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, November 18, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. Vice President M Lancour called the meeting to order.

Present: Catherine Jordan, Michael Lancour, Taylor Paul, Charlie Klein, Wendy Chynoweth (left at 7:10 pm), Emilie Lancour, and Rod Paavola

Recognition of Individuals:

- Congratulations to the Varsity Girls Volleyball for the District and Regional Championship wins.
- Congratulations to the new Honor Society inductees.

Presentation by Leanne Laakonen was provided discussing Flex Farm - A donation with a \$5000 value was made by an anonymous donor from Marquette. The donation includes the FlexFarm equipment and a K-12 curriculum. The food grown by the system will be used by the food service program. Lettuce will be the first crop.

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 Paavola, 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 October 21, 2024, be approved. Moved by Member E Lancour, seconded by Member Klein, to approve the submitted minutes for the October 21, 2024 Regular Meeting. The motion unanimously carried.

Approval of checks written for the Month of October 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 October 2024 be approved as presented. Moved by Member Chynoweth, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the checks written for the month of October 2024. The motion unanimously carried.

Approval of the finance statement for the month of October 2024

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

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Visitor Comments: 18 visitors

- Marta Thompson: the new sign at Barkell is bright and flashes in her house despite their fence; she recommends it being removed or turned off
- Allyson Jabusch: Her children attended HPS. She cares about the school. The sign is too bright and shines in her living room. It is not only the brightness but also the style. The style is more for advertising and is not appropriate for a school. She recommends replacing the LED with a sign that mirrors the school's identification.
- Tom Levanen: The sign is too bright. He recommends it be turned off on the weekends or at night. Also, the first street light is too bright. Recommends a shield so that it only shines on the sidewalk.
- Marty Thompson: The sign is too bright for the residential area. The high school sign is okay. The streetlights are also too bright.

New Business:

Superintendent Report: Chris Salani

1. Governance/Board
  - a. The Constituent Focus Group is starting
2. Business and Finance
  - a. The audit was returned. Thank you to Jeff K and Anderson Tackman
  - b. Bus garage official requests for offers Dec 13th deadline
  - c. exploring new/competing vendor for district health coverage
3. Instructional Leadership
  - a. Great turnout for parent-teacher conferences (MS 144 visits, HS 132 visits.)
4. Staff Relations
  - a. The bi-weekly staff meetings, monthly department meetings, and monthly grade-level meetings are continuing successfully
  - b. First semester PD Series (12/11 STAR Renaissance and PBIS)
5. Community Relations
  - a. A new sidewalk from Fir Street to Campus Drive will be installed.

Principal Reports:

Karen Eddy (Barkell Elementary)

- a. Choir for grades 3-5 has started; led by Bob Hiltunen
- b. Six CTE students started working with students the first week of November
- c. Smiles on Wheels was held Nov 4-6
- d. TV6 Can-a-thon will run until November 30th (857 items collected thus far)
- e. 99% of families attended parent-teacher conferences! Thank you!
- f. Pancake Breakfast will be on Saturday, December 7th 7:30-11:30 am
  - i. volunteers are welcome
- g. The Christmas Program will be on December 10th at 9 am
- h. A Vex Robotics competition was held over the weekend. Thank you to Genevieve Nordmark, Brian, and parent volunteers.

Chris Salani (MS/HS)

- a. Thank you to Mr. Hauswirth for helping set up and coordinate our Veterans Day Ceremony and to those that attended
- b. Current faculty Observations and evaluations are taking place

- c. 6th-grade students will attend the MidTrekks at MTU on Dec 10th
- d. tomorrow, November 19th, send off for Varsity Volleyball at 9:30 am
- e. Thanksgiving Break Wednesday through Friday, Nov 27-29th

Athletic Director report: Ryan Towles

- a. Fall Sports Awards banquet tonight at 7:30
- b. The MacInnes Holiday Hockey Tournament 12/27-28 at the SDC
- c. The winter sports schedule is finalized
- d. There will be 2 overnight Hockey trips this year
- e. JV hockey will be five students from Jeffers
- f. Boys Basketball should be able to have a JV team this year

Liaison Reports:

HPS foundation: the meeting was canceled

DDA:

- The old Coast to Coast building will need to be demolished due to the condition of the structure
- The city is interested in the bus garage.

Hancock Recreational Committee:

- Disc golf property was discussed
- Discussion about the use of alleys for walking/skiing trails
- Bathrooms on the Quincy Green was discussed
- The bid was higher than expected for cabins at the campground

CCSBA: no report

New Business/Discussion/Action Items:

1. It is recommended by Athletic Director Towels to renew the winter athletic coaches: Pete Rouleau, Varsity Hockey Coach; Kyle Hawswirth, Assistant Varsity Hockey; Jeff Mikesch, Jim Hanner and Matt Marchel, Volunteer Assistants; Ward Helakoski, Varsity Girls Basketball; Carsen Chynoweth, JV/Varsity assistance girls Basketball; and Zackary Ohtonen, Varsity Boys Basketball. Moved by Member Jordan, Seconded by Member Klein, to renew the winter athletic coaches: Pete Rouleau, Varsity Hockey Coach; Kyle Hawswirth, Assistant Varsity Hockey; Jeff Mikesch, Jim Hanner and Matt Marchel, Volunteer Assistants; Ward Helakoski, Varsity Girls Basketball; Carsen Chynoweth, JV/Varsity assistance girls Basketball; and Zackary Ohtonen, Varsity Boys Basketball. Member Chynoweth abstained. Motion carried.
2. It is recommended by Athletic Director Towels to approve the hire of Charlie Klein, volunteer middle school boys basketball coach. Moved by Member Paavoal, seconded by Member Paul, to approve the hire of Charlie Klein, volunteer middle school boys basketball coach. Member Klein abstained. Motion carried.
3. It is recommended by Athletic Director Towels to approve the hire of Marcus Sutherland, JV boys assistant basketball coach. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paul, to approve the hire of Marcus Sutherland, JV boys assistant basketball coach. Motion unanimously carried.

4. It is recommended by Athletic Director Towels to approve the hire of Fred Jaehnig, JV Head Hockey Coach, Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the hire of Fred Jaehnig, JV Head Hockey coach. Motion unanimously carried.
5. It is recommended by Athletic Director Towels to approve the hire of Matt Freeman and Steven LaCourt, JV Volunteer Hockey Assistants. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paul, to approve the hire of Matt Freeman and Steven LaCourt, JV Volunteer Hockey Assistants. Motion unanimously carried.
6. It is recommended by Athletic Director Towels to approve the hire of Mario Paoli, Varsity Hockey Volunteer. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the hire of Mario Paoli, Varsity Hockey Volunteer. Motion unanimously carried.
7. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the district audit conducted by Anderson, Tackman, and CO, PLC. Moved by Member Paul, seconded by Member Jordan, to approve the district audit conducted by Anderson, Tackman, and CO, PLC. Jordan, yea; M Lancour, yea; E Lancour, yea; Chynoweth, yea; Paavola, yea; Klein, yea; and Paul, yea. Motion unanimously carried.
8. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Great Lakes Recovery Centers. Moved by Member Paavola, seconded by Member E Lancour, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Great Lakes Recovery Centers. Motion unanimously carried.
9. Discussion on Elementary Sign Display
  - a. tone it down (eliminate white at night, possibly 8 pm) (it has been reduced to 10%)
  - b. adjustments can be made
  - c. continue training staff
  - d. continue emailing and communicating with community members
  - e. there are times when it can be on and off
  - f. (also, Chris Salani will follow up about the street light shield)

#### 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 Chynoweth, seconded by Member Klein 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 6:30 pm

Member Chynoweth left the meeting at 7:10 pm

Returned to open session at 8:15 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 Klein, to approve the minutes of the Closed Session Session. Motion Unanimously carried.

It is recommended by President Jordan to approve the evaluation status of effective for Superintendent Salani. Moved by Member Paavola, seconded by ember E Lancour, to approve the evaluation status of effective for Superintendent Salani. Jordan, yea; M Lancour, yea; E Lancour, yea; Paavola, yea; Kelin, yea; and Paul, yea. Motion unanimously carried.

Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by Member Klein and seconded by Member Paavola to adjourn the meeting at 8:17pm. The motion unanimously carried.

Emilie Lancour  
Board Secretary