

THE REGULAR ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION WAS HELD JANUARY 25, 2021, AT 6:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME ELECTRONICALLY PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-154 THROUGH ZOOM WITH IDENTIFICATON NUMBER 811 6819 0407.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Rutz, Nick Krzeminski, Kate Frederick, Ron Lanford, Jeff Holbrook, Clair Dean, Edward C. Lake, Jr. **ATTENDANCE**

BOARD MEETING ABSENT: N/A

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Terry Ann Whelan, Superintendent; Heather Harvey , Executive Secretary; Evelyn Grimes, Amanda Miller, Bill Milnes, Krista Searls, Julie Slusher, Adam Supianoski, Gary Dancer, Tobi Reardon, Julie & Todd Farmer and others

*In consideration of the health and safety concerns relative to COVID-19, this meeting was presented virtually, via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. The pledge was conducted and attendance called and recorded as noted above. District administrators, as well as several other district employees and community members connected through a ZOOM Meeting link that was published on the district’s website prior to the meeting. **ZOOM MEETING – CALL TO ORDER**

MOTION was made and supported respectively by Members Lanford and Rutz to appoint Member Lake Temporary Chairperson of the Board. Motion passed unanimously. **LAKE APPOINTED TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON**

Temporary Chairperson Lake appointed Member Dean as Temporary Secretary of the Board. **DEAN APPOINTED TEMPORARY SECRETARY**

The request for public participation forms was made by Temporary Chairperson Lake. Community Member Jason Hayes addressed the board and expressed various concerns, including his concerns regarding Covid-19, as well as transparency concerns directed to the Board of Education. **REQUEST FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FORMS**

Temporary Chairperson Lake called for additions and deletions to the agenda. Agenda accepted as submitted. **AGENDA ACCEPTED AS SUBMITTED**

Member Krzeminski nominated Member Lake to the position of President of the Board. Member Lanford moved to close further nominations. Member Dean supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously. President Lake immediately assumed the responsibilities of President of the Board of Education. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS – LAKE ELECTED PRESIDENT**

Member Krzeminski nominated Member Dean to the position of Secretary of the Board and moved to close nominations. Member Lanford supported the motion. **DEAN ELECTED SECRETARY**

Motion passed unanimously.
Member Dean declared Secretary of the Board.

Member Krzeminski nominated Member Holbrook to the position of Treasurer of the Board and moved to close further nominations.

Member Lanford supported the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Member Holbrook elected Treasurer of the Board.

**HOLBROOK
ELECTED
TREASURER**

Member Dean nominated Member Krzeminski to the position of Vice-President of the Board and moved to close further nominations

Member Lanford supported the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Member Krzeminski elected Vice-President of the Board.

**KRZEMINSKI
ELECTED
VICE-PRESIDENT**

It has been a past practice to appoint the Vice-President of the Board Of Education as the MASB liaison person.

President Lake nominated Vice-President of the Board of Education, Nick Krzeminski, to serve as the MASB liaison person for the 2021 calendar year.

Member Lanford moved to close nominations.

Member Dean supported the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

**MASB LIAISON
PERSON
APPOINTED**

Members of the board gave consideration to compensation for the 2021 calendar year.

MOTION made and supported respectively by Members Krzeminski and Dean that the Board of Education authorizes \$35 per meeting compensatory rate to all board members; inclusive of regular, special and committee meetings, with a limit of thirty-six (36) total meetings not to exceed a total annual payment of \$1,260 for the 2021 calendar year.

Resolution approved unanimously.

**2021 BOARD
COMPENSATION**

At this time, members of the board chose their positions on Board Advisory Committees for the 2021 calendar year, as recorded below.

**2021 BOARD
ADVISORY
COMMITTEES**

BUDGET & FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
(3 board members)

*Jeff Holbrook
Edward Lake, Jr.
Clair Dean

Terry Whelan, CFO, Supt.

Alternate: Kate Frederick

PERSONNEL / LIVING AGREEMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
(3 board members)

Edward Lake, Jr.
Clair Dean
Steve Rutz

Terry Whelan, Supt.

Alternate: Nicholas Krzeminski

BUILDING & GROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
(3 board members)

Nicholas Krzeminski
Ronald Lanford
Jeffrey Holbrook

Terry Whelan, Supt.

Alternate: Clair Dean

MASB VOTING DELEGATE: Delegate:
& Legislative Relations Network (LRN) Designee

Nicholas Krzeminski

Alternate: Edward Lake, Jr.

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
(3 board members)

Edward Lake, Jr.
Jeffrey Holbrook
Kate Frederick

Terry Whelan, Supt.

Alternate: Steve Rutz

ATHLETIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
(3 board members)

Nicholas Krzeminski
Ronald Lanford
Steve Rutz

Terry Whelan, Supt.
Alternate: Jeffrey Holbrook
Todd Farmer, Athletic Director

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
(3 board members)

Clair Dean
Ronald Lanford
Kate Frederick

Terry Whelan, Supt.
Alternate: Nicholas Krzeminski

Superintendent Whelan read Governor Whitmer’s proclamation recognizing the month of January as Local School Board Recognition Month. Whelan expressed her appreciation for the board’s dedication to the school district and shared that each board member was presented with a gift box of various chocolates that she delivered to them individually earlier in the day.

**BOARD MEMBER
RECOGNITION**

Students and staff of Coldwater Schools prepared a video to express their appreciation to board members with the intent of showing the video during the Zoom meeting for all board members and public to view. Due to technical difficulties, the video audio was not working. The video link was emailed to all board members to view at a later time.

Jefferson Elementary Principal, Tobi Reardon, prepared a video presentation concerning the Seesaw program for the board and members of the community to view during the meeting. Due to further complications with audio, the video could not be presented through Zoom. Principal Reardon provided an overview of the program and emailed the link to the video to board members to view at a later time.

**VIDEO
PRESENTATION ON
SEESAW FROM
JEFFERSON
ELEMENTARY**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 14, 2020 were given consideration for acceptance and approval.

**MINUTES APPROVED
AS SUBMITTED**

MOTION was made by Member Lanford, supported by Member Rutz, that the Board of Education approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 14, 2020, as submitted. Resolution approved unanimously.

President Lake called for communications. No communications were reported. Superintendent Whelan presented the personnel report in its entirety. Board Treasurer Holbrook offered the December Accounts for Payment Report and Financial Statements for approval.

**CONSENT AGENDA
APPROVED**

Member Frederick presented the recommendation to approve and accept gifts. MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Dean that the Board of Education approves the following recommendations:

After 31 years of service, the retirement resignation of Michael Renshaw, from the full-time teaching position at Legg Middle School, effective February 5, 2021;
the administrative recommendation to employ Megan Root for the part-time caregiver position at Kids Club Childcare Center, effective immediately upon board approval;
the administrative recommendation to employ Zoie Pearson for the part-time Supervisor position at Jefferson Elementary, pending background check;
and further,

M. RENSHAW

M. ROOT

Z. PEARSON

that the Board of Education gratefully accepts the gifts donated to Coldwater Schools as shown in the outline and recorded below:

DONOR	DESCRIPTION	<u>RECIPIENT</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	GIFTS
Shana Grife TTEE Hillquist Family Foundation	Monetary Funds	Lakeland Readers are Leaders	\$1,500.00	
Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc.	Monetary Funds	Legg Middle School Math and Science Programs	\$100.00	

and,

that a letter of appreciation, on behalf of the board, be sent to the donors as recorded above for their worthwhile and generous gifts;

and finally,

that the Board of Education approves the following December accounts for payment as submitted:

December General Fund accounts in the amount of \$1,818,665.54;

December Special Revenue accounts in the amount of \$78,096.00;

and approves the Financial Statements as presented.

Resolution approved unanimously.

**DECEMBER ACCTS
FOR PAYMENT**

President Lake called for Board Committee Reports.

Lake shared the Budget and Finance Committee recently met to discuss various terms in individual employee contracts.

President Lake called for the Superintendent's report.

Superintendent Whelan provided an update on the progress of the new 4/5 building, as well as an update on the number of employees who have been vaccinated or are in the process of being vaccinated for the Coronavirus. She further reported on the action items later in the agenda, including the Return to Learn Plan, the Refunding of Bonds, and the recommendation to not accept the agreement with ORS regarding the 3% IRS dispute.

Whelan further shared that there will be a community meeting held via Zoom on Thursday, January 28th to discuss the district's building needs and stated that the meeting link is referenced on the district's website.

Discussion ensued.

President Lake acknowledged the January Building Reports with no further discussion to follow.

**BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS/
SUPERINTENDENT/
CFO
REPORT/JANUARY
BUILDING REPORTS**

President Lake presented the recommendation to reconfirm the Coldwater Community Schools 2020-2021 Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan.

MOTION made and supported by Members Krzeminski and Dean that the Board of Education reconfirms the district's "Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan" in accordance with Public Act 149.

Discussion ensued.

Member Lanford opposed the motion.

Resolution passed with a 6-1 vote.

**ACTION ITEMS:
RECOMMENDATION
TO RECONFIRM THE
COLDWATER
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS 2020-2021
EXTENDED COVID-19
LEARNING PLAN –
APPROVED**

President Lake presented the review and acceptance of the 2020-2021 District Annual Education Reports.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Dean that the Board of Education approves the 2020-2021 Annual Education Reports, as posted on the District's website.

Resolution passed unanimously.

**REVIEW AND
ACCEPTANCE OF
2020-2021 DISTRICT
ANNUAL EDUCATION
REPORTS –
APPROVED**

President Lake presented the recommendation to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance and delegating the sale of Coldwater Community Schools 2009 Refunding Bonds.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Krzeminski that the Board of Education authorizes the refunding of bonds in order to save taxpayers money and reduce the number of years of payment;

and further, that the Board of Education approves the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delegating the Sale of Coldwater Community Schools 2021 Refunding Bonds, as submitted. The Resolution appoints the district's legal counsel, Thrun Law Firm, P.C., as bond counsel, and appoints, PFM Financial Advisors, LLC. as financial consultants;

and further, that the President or Vice President (in absence of the President) and Secretary of the Board be authorized to sign the Resolution and necessary documents on the District's behalf;

and finally, that the Superintendent be authorized and directed to execute any and all other necessary documents required to complete the approval and sale of the Bonds to the Purchaser; to appoint a paying agent for the Bonds; to execute and deliver the final Official Statement on behalf of the Issuer.

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Frederick, Lanford, Dean, Holbrook, Krzeminski, Rutz, Lake

Nays: None

Resolution passed unanimously.

**RECOMMENDATION
TO APPROVE
RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING THE
ISSUANCE AND
DELEGATING THE
SALE OF
COLDWATER
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS 2009
REFUNDING BONDS –
APPROVED**

President Lake presented the recommendation to not accept the closing agreement with ORS on the 3% IRS dispute.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Rutz that the Board of Education is choosing not to sign the Closing Agreement at this time, which was issued between the IRS and ORS;

and further, that the Board of Education will continue to work with its attorneys from Thrun Law Firm and follow their recommendations as more information becomes available for review.

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Rutz, Krzeminski, Frederick, Lanford, Holbrook, Dean, Lake

Nays: None

Resolution passed unanimously.

**RECOMMENDATION
TO NOT ACCEPT THE
CLOSING
AGREEMENT WITH
ORS ON THE 3% IRS
DISPUTE –
APPROVED**

President Lake made the following announcements:

1. A Board Workshop is scheduled for Thursday, February 11th, at 6:00 p.m. and will be held virtually to adhere to the Covid-19 guidelines. A Zoom meeting link will be available on the district's website prior to the start of the Workshop.
2. The next scheduled Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, February 22, 2021 at six o'clock in the evening via Zoom to adhere to the Covid-19 guidelines. A Zoom Meeting link will be available on the district's website prior to the start of the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Regular Organizational Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Clair Dean, Secretary Board of Education

Heather M. Harvey, Executive Secretary