

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION WAS HELD NOVEMBER 21, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME, IN THE DISTRICT AT ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER, 401 SAUK RIVER DRIVE, COLDWATER, MICHIGAN.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Member Lyon-Welch, Member Frederick, Member Lanford, Member Holbrook, Member Dean, Member Lake **ATTENDANCE**

BOARD MEETING ABSENT: Member Steel

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Terry Ann Whelan, Superintendent; Heather Harvey, Administrative Assistant; Penny Brockway, Rachelle Roby, Bill Milnes, Krista Searls, Julie Slusher, Adam Supianoski, Gary Dancer, Tobi Reardon, Julie Farmer, Todd Farmer, Bill DeBeau, Tamara Santora, Emily Hale, Katie Fleming, Paisley Harvey, Alaa Alsoofi, Pierce Smith, Julianna Cowles, Jason Harvey, Presley Harvey, Frank Cowles, Penny Dewitt, Cece Dewitt, Jim Billsborrow, and others **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

President Lake brought the Regular Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. **CALL TO ORDER**

Pledge to the flag was conducted. Roll call for attendance of the board was taken as recorded above. **PLEDGE TO FLAG AND ATTENDANCE**

President Lake called for presentations and building program highlights. **PRESENTATIONS AND BUILDING/PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Legg Middle School Principal, Julie Slusher, addressed the board and shared information regarding the new WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) mentoring program for 6th-grade students. Slusher explained that through the WEB program, 6th-graders would have the opportunity to be paired with an 8th-grade student mentor to help guide them through 6th-grade orientation and provide various support throughout the school year. Slusher further explained how the program started and said that through special grant funding, training and resources were provided to staff and students who wanted to participate as program advisors and student mentors. Slusher then introduced WEB Advisor and LMS Teacher, Katie Fleming. Fleming explained in detail the many benefits the program offers students, and the successes she has seen so far. Fleming proceeded to introduce four of the program's 8th-grade mentors, including Alaa Alsoofi, Julianna Cowles, Paisley Harvey, and Pierce Smith, who shared the experiences they have had with their 6th-grade mentees. Each of them spoke enthusiastically of the activities and support offered through the program and all shared that they hope it continues for future 6th-grade students.
- Retired High School Teacher, John Petzko, and CHS Teacher, Sarah Davis, addressed the board on behalf of the Interact Club, which is responsible for the organization of the annual ABC Challenge. Petzko shared that the Interact Club received a \$10,000 donation from the Branch County Women Who Care, and that the Interact Club wanted to give back to the community. Petzko further spoke of the ABC Challenge, its activities, and the positive experiences shared by all involved in past events. He explained that because of Covid, the ABC Challenge was not able to take place in 2020 or 2021; however, there was a successful turnout in August of 2022, with several participants of all ages from various areas. He shared that because of the successful turnout of the Challenge, the Interact Club decided to provide stipends to various supporters of the Challenge, including Coldwater Community Schools. Stipends were given to the school with the most participants, which was Legg Middle School, as well as the teacher with the most participants from a class, which was Ashley Metcalfe-Macklin from Max Larsen Elementary. Petzko shared that over \$4,000 was given in stipends

this year. Petzko concluded by thanking Coldwater Schools for their continued support of the ABC Challenge.

President Lake made the request for public participation forms. [1] form was submitted.

- President Lake called for Community Member, Jim Billsborrow. Mr. Billsborrow addressed the board with continued concerns regarding the reprimand he received from Athletic Director, Todd Farmer.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Closed Session held on October 24, 2022 were given consideration for acceptance and approval.

MOTION was made by Member Lanford, supported by Member Dean, that the Board of Education approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Closed Session held on October 24, 2022, as submitted.

Resolution approved unanimously.

President Lake called for agenda additions or deletions.

Superintendent Whelan requested to amend the meeting agenda by adding a *fourth (4th) action item to the agenda. The meeting agenda was accepted as amended.

President Lake presented one communication on behalf of Superintendent Whelan, regarding her formal announcement to retire from her position as Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer of Coldwater Community Schools, effective end of day on June 30, 2023.

Lake read a letter written by Whelan that was addressed to the board and stated her intent to retire. In her letter, Whelan also expressed her appreciation for the board, administration, and staff for all that has been accomplished during her years of service, including the passage of the 2017 bond that allowed the district to build a new 4-5 elementary building. Whelan highlighted many other projects and successes of the district, stating, "it takes the coming together of the entire community to make a difference, and that we have".

President Lake presented the personnel report in its entirety.

Board Treasurer Lanford offered the October Accounts for Payment report and financial statements for approval.

Member Holbrook presented the Acceptance and Approval of Gifts on behalf of Member Steel.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Lyon-Welch that the Board of Education resolves to approve the following recommendations:

accept with deep regret, after 9 years of dedication and service to Coldwater Community Schools, the retirement resignation of Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer, Terry Ann Whelan, effective end of day on June 30, 2023;

accept with deep regret, after serving as Assistant Principal at Legg Middle School since the 2019-20 school year, with 17 years of total service to Coldwater Schools, the resignation of Adam Supianoski, effective end of day on December 16, 2022;

approve the administrative recommendation to hire the following teachers and support staff for the extended day tutoring positions at Jefferson Elementary, effective immediately upon board approval; Susan Mueller, Kelli Redman, Rachel Hoard, Leslie Welker, Michelle Fondren, Chris Roberts, Debra Evans, Amber Lutman, Diana Salto, Nadia Askar, Jenna Thomas;

approve the request from Abby Spence-Mencke to extend her leave as an unpaid leave, beginning

VISITORS,
DELEGATIONS, AND
COMMUNICATIONS

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES: REGULAR
AND CLOSED
SESSION FOR
10/24/22

APPROVAL OF
AGENDA ADDITIONS/
DELETIONS

COMMUNICATIONS

LETTER FROM SUPT.
WHELAN

CONSENT AGENDA

T. WHELAN
A SUPIANOSKI

S. MUELLER
K. REDMAN
R. HOARD
L. WELKER
M. FONDREN
C. ROBERTS
D. EVANS
A LUTMAN
D. SALTO
N. ASKAR
J. THOMAS

Monday, November 14, 2022, through Monday, January 2, 2023, with a return to work date of January 3, 2023;
 approve the administrative recommendation to hire Breanna Eddy as a Y5 teacher at Max Larsen Elementary for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year, effective Monday, December 5, 2022;
 accept with regret, the resignation of Sarah Swain from the part-time Paraprofessional and Supervisor position at Max Larsen Elementary, effective November 23, 2022;
 accept with regret, the resignation of Danielle Kelly from the extra duty position of Cross Country Coach for Coldwater High School, effective immediately upon board approval;
 approve the administrative recommendations for the following extra duty position as outlined below:

A. SPENCE-MENCKE

B. EDDY

S. SWAIN

D. KELLY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
Ryan Martin	JV Wrestling Assistant Coach

R. MARTIN

and,

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

October General Fund accounts in the amount of \$2,063,669.85;

October Special Revenue accounts in the amount of \$36,342.16;

and approves the Financial Statements as presented;

and finally,

the Board of Education gratefully accepts the gifts as outlined below, and;

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

ACCOUNTS FOR
 PAYMENT AND
 FINANCIAL
 STATEMENTS

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>RECIPIENT</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>GIFTS</u>
McDonald's of Coldwater	400 Free Happy Meal Coupons	Jefferson School Students	N/A	
Eby-Klein Youth & Family Center	Good, Better, Best Grant	Sarah Davis, Coldwater High School	\$500.00	
Eby-Klein Youth & Family Center	Good, Better, Best Grant	Aimee Fedore, Lakeland Elementary	\$300.00	
Eby-Klein Youth & Family Center	Good, Better, Best Grant	Elizabeth Stahl, Legg Middle School	\$407.00	
Eby-Klein Youth & Family Center	Good, Better, Best Grant	Karie Foulk, Legg Middle School	\$407.00	
Eby-Klein Youth & Family Center	Good, Better, Best Grant	Ryan Brueck, Legg Middle School	\$100.00	

Coldwater Choir Boosters	Monetary Funds for Balladiers Dresses	Coldwater High School	\$891.31
Toby Gates	Monetary Funds for Veterans Day Breakfast	Jefferson School	\$250.00

Resolution approved unanimously.

President Lake acknowledged the November Building Reports.

Principal Milnes shared additional information regarding the upcoming Snow Ball for CHS students and spoke of the Gowns for Gals and Ties for Guys.

No further discussion took place.

President Lake shared that there were no committee reports, however, stated that the Board recently met for two board workshops for the purpose of board training and to be presented with information from two different consultants regarding each of their processes for conducting a Superintendent Search.

Superintendent Whelan shared with the board that the quarterly publication of the Cardinal Chronicle has returned and will be done "in-house" by Heather Harvey and Sean Watson. Whelan stated that the first publication would be inserted in the Shoppers Guide on November 23, 2022.

Whelan also advised that auditors from Hungerford Nichols will be present at the December board meeting to provide the board with a formal presentation of the district's 2021-2022 fiscal year audit.

Superintendent Whelan shared information with the board regarding some potential changes in the legislature regarding the state tax on retirement earnings. She further reported on the Michigan State Police Grant that is available to districts that qualify to hire a School Resource Officer. She said that although the district already has a school resource officer that is shared between LMS and CHS, she is hopeful the district's application for this grant will be approved for the hire of an additional officer so that each of the secondary buildings could have an officer on-site.

Whelan provided an update on the sale of the Fremont School property, and explained that there is a discrepancy in land ownership relevant to only a small portion of land near the Fremont School. Due to an oversight of property lines, a small area of the land near the building has shared ownership between the district and only a few of the neighboring residents. Whelan has contacted the residents affected by this matter and expects the issue to be easily resolved.

Whelan further provided the board with information regarding the covid test kits recently received by the district for students and their families to use over winter break in an effort to avoid an outbreak of covid cases among students and staff upon their return to school.

Superintendent Whelan also provided the board with an overview of the action items on the agenda and further reported that the furnace at ASC is not working and may need to be replaced in the very near future.

Whelan then acknowledged and thanked Chef Emily from Chartwells Food Services for providing the board with freshly baked muffins.

Whelan concluded her report by thanking LMS Assistant Principal, Adam Supianoski, for his years of service.

President Lake presented the second reading and adoption of amended and new policies and bylaws.

MOTION made and supported by Members Frederick and Lanford that the Board of Education approves the second reading of the amended and new board policies and bylaws, as submitted and are hereby adopted.

**BUILDING REPORTS
BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

**ACTION ITEMS:
SECOND READING
AND ADOPTION OF
AMENDED AND NEW
POLICIES AND
BYLAWS
-APPROVED**

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Holbrook, Dean, Lanford, Lyon-Welch, Frederick, Lake

Nays: None

Resolution unanimously approved.

President Lake presented the request to consider levying summer tax in the City of Coldwater. MOTION made and supported by Members Dean and Lanford that the Board of Education, pursuant to Public Act 451 of 1976, as amended, hereby invokes, for 2023 its previously adopted ongoing resolution imposing a summer tax levy of 100% of annual school property taxes, including debt service and sinking fund, upon property located within the City of Coldwater and continuing from year to year until specifically revoked by this Board and requests the City of Coldwater to collect those summer taxes; and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to forward to the City of Coldwater a copy of this Board’s resolution imposing a summer property tax levy on an ongoing basis and to collect the summer levy for 2023 in the amount specified in this resolution. (Such forwarding of the resolution and the requests to collect the summer tax levy shall be performed so that they are received by the City of Coldwater before January 1, 2023); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, pursuant to and in accordance with Section 1613(1) of the Revised School Code, the Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to negotiate on behalf of the district with the City of Coldwater for the reasonable expenses for collection of the district’s summer tax levy that the City may bill under MCLA 380.1611 or MCL 380.1612. Any such proposed agreement shall be brought before the Board for its approval or disapproval.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes its secretary to sign the Annual Summer Tax Resolution on its behalf.

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Lyon-Welch, Frederick, Lanford, Holbrook, Dean, Lake

Nays: None

Resolution passed unanimously.

President Lake presented the recommendation to approve the contract for the Informal Transportation Bargaining Unit effective September 29, 2022, through July 31, 2024.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Lyon-Welch that the Board of Education approves the contract for the Informal Transportation Bargaining Unit, effective September 29, 2022, through July 31, 2024, as presented, with salary and benefits opened annually.

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Frederick, Lanford, Dean, Holbrook, Lyon-Welch, Lake

Nays: None

Resolution passed unanimously.

President Lake presented the added request to approve the contract for Superintendent Search.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Dean that the Board of Education approves entering into a contract with Michigan Leadership Institute for the purpose of a Superintendent Search, as presented.

Roll call vote taken.

Members Lyon-Welch, Frederick, Lanford, Holbrook, Dean, Lake

Resolution passed unanimously.

REQUEST TO
CONSIDER LEVYING
SUMMER TAX IN THE
CITY OF COLDWATER
-APPROVED

RECOMMENDATION
TO APPROVE
CONTRACT FOR THE
INFORMAL
TRANSPORTATION
BARGAINING UNIT –
APPROVED

ADDED ITEM:
REQUEST TO
APPROVE
CONTRACT FOR
SUPERINTENDENT
SEARCH –
APPROVED

President Lake made the following announcement:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The next Regular Meeting of the Coldwater Board of Education will be held on Monday, December 12, 2022, at six o'clock in the evening at the Administrative Service Center located at 401 Sauk River Drive in Coldwater.

Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:02p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Clair Dean, Secretary, Board of Education
(Heather Harvey, Executive Secretary)