

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION WAS HELD ON APRIL 24, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME, IN THE DISTRICT AT ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER, 401 SAUK RIVER DRIVE, COLDWATER, MICHIGAN.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bob Steel, Kate Frederick, Ronald Lanford, Jeff Holbrook, Clair Dean, Dr. Edward C. Lake

**ATTENDANCE**

**BOARD MEETING ABSENT:** Kristin Lyon-Welch

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Terry Ann Whelan, Superintendent; Gordon VanWieren Heather Harvey, Rachelle Roby, Penny Brockway, Bill Milnes, Krista Searls, Julie Slusher, Jacob Kumor, Gary Dancer, Tobi Reardon, Julie Farmer, Todd Farmer, Christine Hamblen. Krista Dibert, Lesley Hagelgans, Bill DeBeau, Kristin Smith, Courtney Ruhl, Paul Flynn, Penny and CeCe Dewitt, and others

President Lake brought the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.  
President Lake then introduced and welcomed Mr. Paul Flynn, who was in attendance.

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Lake called for presentations.

**BUILDING PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Kristin Smith, Director of Quality at ProMedica Regional Hospital in Coldwater, presented the board with a ProMedica Cardinal Connect Clinic update, including information on a recently awarded grant for the Designation of the MDHHS School Wellness Program at Legg Middle School, beginning May 1, 2023. Smith also provided the board with a vaccination update and other information regarding the physical health and mental health services being provided to students through the clinic.  
Discussion ensued.
- Penny Brockway, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, was accompanied by Lesley Haglegans, Secondary Instructional Coach, to provide the board with additional information regarding the Curricular Resource Request being presented to the board for approval later in the agenda.  
Discussion ensued.
- Gary Dancer, Principal at Lakeland Elementary, was accompanied by Christine Hamblen, K-5 Instructional Coach, and Krista Dibert, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher. Hamblen and Dibert presented the board with a presentation about the award of the 2023 Focus Grant, which allowed Lakeland Elementary to introduce the 2023 We Are Writers program. Hamblen and Dibert explained the many activities that students participated in to encourage their interest in writing and spoke of the positive impact that the program had on the students who participated.  
Discussion ensued.

President Lake made the request for public participation forms.  
No forms were submitted at this time.

**VISITORS, DELEGATIONS, AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Closed Session held on Monday, March 20, 2023, were given consideration for acceptance and approval.

MOTION was made by Member Lanford, supported by Member Steel, that the Board of Education approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Closed Session held on Monday, March 20, 2023, as submitted.

Resolution approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: REGULAR AND CLOSED SESSION – MARCH 20, 2023**

President Lake called for agenda additions or deletions. The agenda was approved as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS**

President Lake called for communications.

No communications were reported at this time.

Superintendent Whelan presented the personnel report in its entirety.

President Lake took a moment to express his appreciation to Coldwater High School Principal, Bill Milnes, whose resignation will be effective at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 school year.

Milnes, in return, addressed the board and thanked them for the opportunity to serve Coldwater Schools, its students, and staff.

Board Treasurer Lanford offered the March Accounts for Payment Report and Financial Statements for approval.

Member Steel presented the gifts report in its entirety.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Frederick that the Board of Education resolves to:

accept with regret, after 15 years of service to Coldwater Schools, the resignation of Bill Milnes from the principal position at Coldwater High School, effective the end of the day on June 30, 2023;

**B. MILNES**

accept with regret, the resignation of Brian Petrosoff from the English teaching position at Coldwater High School, effective August 4, 2023;

**B. PETROSOFF**

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Bryan Shirk for the Lead Teacher position for Summer School at Max Larsen Elementary, effective June 12, 2023;

**B. SHIRK**

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Suzanne Gonzalez, Andrew Esterline, Angela Booth, Julia Stetler, and Hannah Muckel as Summer School Teachers for Max Larsen Elementary, beginning June 12, 2023;

**S. GONZALEZ  
A. ESTERLINE  
A. BOOTH  
J. STETLER  
H. MUCKEL**

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Lindsey Dixon for the Lead Teacher position for Summer School at Jefferson Elementary, effective June 12, 2023;

**L. DIXON**

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Laurie Stout, Susan Mueller, Nancy Mahle, Karen Buys, John Howk, Jill Avery, Olivia Stempien, Abby Mencke, and Kayla Trnka for the Summer School teaching positions at Jefferson Elementary, effective June 12, 2023;

**L. STOUT  
S. MUELLER  
N. MAHLE  
K. BUYS**

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Crystal Walczack as a teacher for Summer School Camp, effective June 12, 2023;

**J. HOWK  
J. AVERY  
O. STEMPIEN**

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Krista Searls as Lead Teacher for the Summer School at Coldwater High School, effective June 12, 2023;

**A. MENCKE  
K. TRNKA  
C. WALCZACK**

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Joseph Closson, Arielle Norris, William DeBeau, Kayla Sellers, Ryan Scheetz, and Debra Warner for the Summer School teaching positions at Coldwater High School, effective June 12, 2023;

K. SEARLS  
J. CLOSSON  
A. NORRIS  
W. DEBEAU  
K. SELLERS  
R. SCHEETZ  
D. WARNER  
B. EDDY

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Breanna Eddy for the full-time Young Fives teaching position at Max Larsen Elementary, effective the 2023-2024 school year;

K. ANDERSON

accept with regret, the resignation of Kayleah Anderson from her third-grade teaching position, effective the end of the 2022-2023 school year;

P. HICKS

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Phillip Hicks for the High School Math position at Coldwater Community Schools, effective the 2023-2024 school year;

C. LEWIS

accept with regret, after 22 years of service to Coldwater Schools, the resignation of Catherine Lewis, from the English teaching position at Coldwater High School, effective July 31, 2023;

T. O'BRIEN

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Tiffany O'Brien for the part-time lunch supervisor position at Legg Middle School, effective immediately upon board approval;

R. WELKE  
M. MAYO  
K. FRIEND

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Renee Welke, Melissa Mayo, and Karrie Friend for the paraprofessional positions for Summer School at Max Larsen Elementary, effective June 12, 2023;

N. ASKAR  
D. SALTO  
J. KELLEY

approve the administrative recommendation to employ Nadia Askar, Diana Salto, and Jessica Kelley for the paraprofessional positions for Summer School at Jefferson Elementary, effective June 12, 2023;

K. INMAN

accept with regret, the resignation of Kristine Inman from the assistant teacher position at Kinder Learning Academy, effective May 31, 2023;

C. THOMAS

approve the administrative recommendation to hire Chloe Thomas for the part-time caregiver position at Kids Club, effective immediately upon board approval;

T. WEAGEL

approve the administrative recommendation to hire Tanya Weagel for the Summer Camp paraprofessional position at Legg Middle School, effective June 12, 2023;

C. PRESCOTT

accept with regret, the resignation of Cassandra Prescott from the part-time bus monitor and LMS lunchroom supervisor positions, effective April 17, 2023;

approves the administrative recommendations for the following extra duty position as outlined below:

M. KLOTZ

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
Madison Klotz	LMS Assistant Track and Field Coach

and,  
that the Board of Education approves the following March accounts for payment as submitted:

- March General Fund accounts in the amount of \$2,816,645.10;
- March Special Revenue accounts in the amount of \$400,798.27;

ACCOUNTS FOR  
PAYMENT

and further,

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

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>RECIPIENT</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL OF GIFTS</u>
Eby-Klein Youth and Family Center	Good, Better, Best Grant	Arielle Norris, Coldwater High School	\$395.00	
Eby-Klein Youth and Family Center	Good, Better, Best Grant	Rachel Hoard, Jefferson Elementary	\$500.00	
Eby-Klein Youth and Family Center	Good, Better, Best Grant	Janette Jones, Max Larsen Elementary	\$460.00	
Eby-Klein Youth and Family Center	Good, Better, Best Grant	Becky Heaton, Coldwater High School	\$500.00	
Russell Cellular, Inc	Monetary Funds	Suzie Gonzalez, Max Larsen Elementary	\$97.01	

and finally,

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

Discussion ensued.

Resolution approved unanimously.

President Lake acknowledged the Building Reports. Principal Milnes noted that the CHS Prom was a success.

President Lake reported that the Budget and Finance and Personnel Committees recently met to discuss various pending matters of the district, including open positions, teacher resignations, and union negotiations.

Superintendent Whelan provided the board with an update on the projects taking place at Jefferson School. Whelan shared that the new boilers are in place and work has started on the piping and controls; however, with the recent drop in temperatures, the district purchased 16 space heaters to put in classrooms to keep the students and staff warm.

Whelan also provided the board with additional information relative to the action items on the agenda, including further detail regarding the social media litigation.

Discussion ensued.

President Lake presented the recommendation to approve the Superintendent Employment Contract for Paul Flynn.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Frederick that the Board of Education that the Board of Education approves the terms of the Superintendent Employment contract for Paul Flynn, beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026, as presented.

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Holbrook, Steel, Dean, Lanford, Frederick, Lake

Nays: None

Resolution passed unanimously.

President Lake presented the recommendation to extend the administrators' contracts.

MOTION made and supported by Members Frederick and Lanford that the Board of Education approves the contract extensions as presented below, without tenure in position:

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

**ACTION ITEMS: RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT FOR PAUL FLYNN – APPROVED**

**RECOMMENDATION TO EXTEND ADMINISTRATORS' CONTRACTS – APPROVED**

- Mr. Gary Dancer Principal – 2-year contract to June 30, 2025
- Mrs. Tobi Reardon Principal – 2-year contract to June 30, 2025
- Mrs. Krista Searls Asst. Principal – 2-year contract to June 30, 2025
- Ms. Julie Slusher Principal – 2-year contract to June 30, 2025
- Mr. Jacob Kumor Asst. Principal – 2-year contract to June 30, 2025
- Mr. Todd Farmer Athletic Director – 2-year contract to June 30, 2025
- Mrs. Julie Farmer Principal – 2-year contract to June 30, 2025
- Mrs. Penny Brockway Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction – 2 year contract to June 30, 2025

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Frederick, Lanford, Holbrook, Steel, Dean, Lake

Nays: None

Resolution passed unanimously.

President Lake presented the board with the recommendation to approve the continuation of services provided by Prater Studios for Student Pictures.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Frederick that the Board of Education approves to continue receiving photography services provided by Prater Studios for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented.

Resolution passed unanimously.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE CONTINUATION OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY PRATER STUDIOS FOR STUDENT PICTURES – APPROVED**

President Lake presented the recommendation to approve the field trips for Max Larsen.

MOTION made and supported by Members Frederick and Steel that the Board of Education approves the field trips for Max Larsen, as presented:

<u>TRIP PARTICIPANTS</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Max Larsen Elementary – First-Grade Students	Binder Park Zoo	Battle Creek, MI	May 15, 2023
Max Larsen Elementary – Kindergarten Students	Kids “N” Stuff Children’s Museum	Albion, MI	May 16, 2023 (3 classes) May 22, 2023 (3 classes) May 23, 2023 (3 classes)

Resolution passed unanimously.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE FIELD TRIPS FOR MAX LARSEN – APPROVED**

President Lake presented the recommendation to approve an overnight stay for the high school boys’ soccer teams.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Dean that the Board of Education approves the overnight stay for the boys’ JV and Varsity Soccer teams to stay at Kimball Camp, in Reading, MI, on Saturday, August 12, 2023, as presented.

Discussion ensued.

Resolution passed unanimously.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE OVERNIGHT STAY FOR HIGH SCHOOL BOYS’ SOCCER TEAMS – APPROVED**

President Lake presented the recommendation to approve the changes to the Athletic Handbook for the 2023-2024 school year.

MOTION made and supported by Members Dean and Steel that the Board of Education formally

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE CHANGES TO THE ATHLETIC HANDBOOK FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL**

approves the changes to the Athletic Handbook for the 2023-2024 school year, as submitted.  
Member Lanford proposed to amend the following changes to the handbook:

- *he/she* completes – changed to *they* complete
- who have not been selected *not to* – changed to *to not*
- administration will omit *you* – changed to omit *the student*
- in the next sport *to* which – changed to *in* which
- which *you* participate – changed to *they* participate

Resolution unanimously approved as amended.

YEAR – APPROVED  
AS AMENDED

President Lake presented the recommendation to join the social media lawsuit by signing the resolution and attorney-client fee contract.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Frederick that the Board of Education approves the resolution to join the lawsuit against Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, and other social media platforms for targeting minors in order to maximize their profits. Frantz Law Group, out of California will be representing the districts that join the litigation;

and further,

that the Board of Education also approves the Attorney-Client Fee Contract and authorizes, Terry Ann Whelan, Superintendent to sign on behalf of the district.

Discussion ensued.

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Lanford, Dean, Steel, Frederick, Holbrook, Lake

Nays: None

Resolution passed unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION  
TO JOIN THE SOCIAL  
MEDIA LAWSUIT BY  
SIGNING THE  
RESOLUTION AND  
ATTORNEY-CLIENT  
FEE CONTRACT –  
APPROVED

President Lake presented the request to approve 2023-2024 curriculum resources for 6<sup>th</sup> grade math, 7<sup>th</sup> grade math, 8<sup>th</sup> grade math, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2.

MOTION made and supported by Members Steel and Lanford that the Board of Education approves the adoption of the 2023-2024 curriculum resources for 6<sup>th</sup> grade math, 7<sup>th</sup> grade math, 8<sup>th</sup> grade math, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2, at a cost of \$218,119.08 with funding to come from ESSER III Funds, as presented.

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Dean, Holbrook, Steel, Frederick, Lanford, Lake

Nays: None

Resolution passed unanimously.

REQUEST TO  
APPROVE 2023-2024  
CURRICULUM  
RESOURCES FOR  
6TH GRADE MATH,  
7TH GRADE, MATH,  
8TH GRADE MATH,  
ALGEBRA 1,  
GEOMETRY, AND  
ALGEBRA 2 –  
APPROVED

President Lake presented the second reading and adoption of revised policies.

MOTION made and supported by Members Lanford and Frederick that the Board of Education approves the recommendation from the Policy Advisory Committee to adopt board policies 1615, 3215, 4215, 5512, 7434, 9160, 7540.02, 7540.03, 7540.04, 8300, 8305, 8315, 9700.01, 2623, 6325, 8390, 8400, on second reading, as submitted.

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Holbrook, Steel, Dean, Lanford, Frederick, Lake

Nays: None

Resolution passed unanimously.

SECOND READING  
AND ADOPTION OF  
REVISED POLICIES –  
APPROVED

MOTION made and supported by Members Dean and Lanford that the Board of Education enter to into executive session for:

REQUEST TO  
CONDUCT  
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
– APPROVED

- The purpose of discussing strategy connected with the negotiation of a collecting bargaining agreement under MCL15.268 (c).
- The purpose of attorney-client privilege under MCL15.268(h)

Roll call vote taken.

Yeas: Members Frederick, Lanford, Holbrook, Steel, Dean, Lake

Nays: None

Open session of the regular meeting recessed, and the Board of Education entered into closed session at 7:03 pm.

Open Session of the regular meeting reconvened at 9:05 pm.

President Lake made the following announcements:

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, May 22, 2023, at six o'clock in the evening at the Administrative Service Center located at 401 Sauk River Drive in Coldwater.

Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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Clair Dean, Secretary, Board of Education

Heather Harvey, Executive Secretary