

ATHENS AREA SCHOOLS
Board of Education
East Leroy, Michigan 49051
October 21, 2024

REGULAR MEETING
Jr./Sr. High School Media Center
7:00 P.M.

Athens Jr./Sr. High School
300 E Holcomb St., Athens, MI 49011
TELEPHONE: 729-5414

1. Call to order, _____ Knowles _____ presiding at _____ 7:00 p.m. _____.

A. Membership count to determine quorum presence:

Present: Penick: X Setlak: X – In Late _____ Harvey: X Knowles: X
Loew: X McClure: X Stanton: X

A quorum X is, _____ is not, present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. Approval of Agenda.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

Motion: _____ Harvey _____.

Second: _____ Penick _____.

Ayes: 6 . Nays: 0 . (Note: *Setlak* not yet present as of this vote.)

Passed: X . Defeated: _____.

3. Public Comments.

None.

4. Presentations/Discussions:

A. Annual Financial Audit Report.

No findings or areas of concern found during this year's audit. Final revenue/expenditures for the 2023-2024 general fund: \$173,326 (Revenue - \$7,900,186; Expenditures - \$7,754,553).

B. Calhoun County Commissioner 6th District Candidate Matt Saxton (R).

Running for a seat on the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, as a Republican in the 6th District, in the Nov. 5 General Election. Areas of focus: roads, county facilities, and economic development. Discussed removal of previously designated school safety and mental health dollars, as well as the importance of the positive impact of school resource officers.

C. Fuel Tank Bids.

Received one bid (by the deadline) for the removal of the existing underground diesel tank and the installation of two above-ground tanks. Superintendent's recommendation to award bid to Oscar W. Larson Company for a cost of \$141,937.

Board discussion concluded that tabling this item might be necessary so the District can explore:

- *Research the cost for "renovating" the current fuel tank system*
- *Using a local vendor and possibly pumping gas at stations (v. on-site)*

D. Policy Updates.

Policy Committee met and reviewed the proposed policy updates, and recommends that they be submitted to the Board for a first reading.

These policy updates focus on federal grant dollars, Title IX changes, and new policies regarding artificial intelligence (AI).

5. Routine Matters.

A. Presentation of Minutes of Prior Meetings.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve of the minutes of the September 16, 2024 Regular Meeting, as presented.

Motion: _____ McClure _____.

Second: _____ Penick _____.

Ayes: 7 . Nays: 0 .

Passed: X . Defeated: _____.

B. Presentation of Financial Statements.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education receive and place on file for audit the financial reports for the District for the period through August 31, 2024.

Motion: _____ Harvey _____.

Second: _____ Stanton _____.

Ayes: 7 . Nays: 0 .

Passed: X . Defeated: _____.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education receive and place on file for audit the financial reports for the District for the period through September 30, 2024.

Motion: _____ Harvey _____.

Second: _____ Setlak _____.

Ayes: 7 . Nays: 0 .

Passed: X . Defeated: _____.

6. Reports.

A. Board President.

Invited Calhoun County Commissioner 6th District Candidate Matt Saxton (R) tonight.

B. Policy Committee.

Presented proposed policy updates during the "Presentations/Discussions" portion of tonight's meeting. Possibly looking at Board of Education training regarding NEOLA policies.

C. Superintendent.

See attached report. Attended the Calhoun Intermediate School District (CISD) training on curriculum/school improvement. Shared sinking fund flyer that was mailed/distributed throughout the community.

D. High School Administrator.

See attached report. Good turnout for parent/teacher conferences. Next blood drive scheduled for Dec. 6, 2024 at Athens Jr./Sr. High School. A math consultant from the CISD conducted professional development for staff on Oct. 18, 2024.

E. Elementary Principal.

See attached report. Shared additional details about the CISD math professional development for staff on Oct. 18, 2024. Focus on behavior, technology, and systems of support. Shared "points of pride" from recent M-STEP data from 2024 spring state assessment. Held a kindergarten-5th grade fire prevention assembly on Oct. 23, 2024 with Athens, Leroy, and Newton township fire departments.

F. Athletic Director.

See attached report. No current coaching vacancies. Volunteers are desperately needed for concessions during home games.

G. Special Education, Assessment, and Compliance Officer.

See attached report. Adjusting to new special education rules around qualifications for special education referrals. See additional attached graphs for 2024 spring state assessment data and "quality points" (comparing Athens Area Schools with neighboring districts, the CISD, and the state overall).

7. Action Items.

A. Approval of Fuel Tank Bid.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the bid from _____ in the amount of _____.

(This motion was **TABLED** until the Nov. 18, 2024 Regular Meeting).

Motion (to table): _____ McClure _____.

Second: _____ Harvey _____.

Ayes: 7 . Nays: 0 .

Passed: X . Defeated: _____.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education authorize and submit as first reading of the NEOLA policy updates, as presented by the Policy Committee. (Policies 1130, 2264, 3110, 4110, 6110, 6111, 6112, 6114, 6325, 6550, 7310, 7450, 3120.08, 5330.02, 5340, 5500, 7440.03, 7540.09, 8321).

Motion: _____ Setlak _____.
Second: _____ Stanton _____.
Ayes: 7. Nays: 0.
Passed: X. Defeated: _____.

8. Public Comments.

Public Comments

***Lori Doubleday** – Asked if Narcan was currently available in both of the district's buildings? Also asked if defibrillators were available in both of the district's buildings?
(**Superintendent Beaudoin confirmed that yes** – Narcan is available with our school resource officer and defibrillators are available in both buildings).*

***Brian Jackson** – Introduced himself as a write-in candidate for Athens Area Schools Board of Education in the upcoming Nov. 5, 2024 General Election.*

Board Comments

***Teri Loew** – Thanked Tonia Vorce and administration staff for their work on our annual financial audit. Thanked Eric McClure for his work on the sinking fund flyer for the November General Election.*

***John Knowles** – Reminder to get out and vote before or on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024 for the November General Election.*

9. Adjournment.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move the meeting be adjourned.

Motion: _____ Stanton _____.
Second: _____ Penick _____.
Ayes: 7. Nays: 0.
Passed: X. Defeated: _____.

Time of adjournment: _____ 8:11 p.m. _____.

Minutes signed by: Eric N. McClure, Acting Secretary Secretary of the Board of Education

Minutes prepared by: _____ Eric McClure, Board of Education Secretary _____

Approved for publication by the Board of Education on: _____ November 18, 2024 _____ (date)