

ATHENS AREA SCHOOLS
Board of Education
East Leroy, Michigan 49051
August 19, 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 Harvey: X Knowles: X
Loew: X McClure: X Stanton: Absent/Excused

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: _____ Setlak _____.
Ayes: 6 . Nays: 0 .
Passed: X . Defeated: _____.

3. Public Comments.

Ted Hunt – Shared a list of questions to the Board of Education regarding a variety of questions that he would like written responses to, including athletics, budget fund equity, and other processes. ***See attached list of questions given to the Board.***

Travis Smith – Shared concerns regarding a delay/lack of progress over new wrestling room and possible missteps during the process, as well as lack of volunteer participation in youth athletic programs (including rocket football and summer baseball/softball programs.)

Gary Taylor – Shared additional comments regarding issue over delay in wrestling room.

Nate Kiefer – Asked a question regarding where the process went wrong regarding the delayed wrestling room. Is there time to remedy that wrong?

Travis Smith (second comment) – Asked follow-up questions regarding the process for the delayed wrestling room, specifically to Mr. Mike Harvey (as he had experience with this project/issue.)

Rod Weber – Asked a question regarding where we are in this process now, regarding the delayed wrestling room.

4. Presentations/Discussions:

A. New Staff Hires.

Superintendent Beaudoin shared information about the following new staff hires for the 2024-2025 school year:

- *Mary Troyer, Title I teacher*
- *Megan Rowley, substitute bus driver*
- *Tim Parker, golf coach*
- *Lee Karasiewicz, substitute teacher*
- *Dylan Jergens, paraprofessional*

B. Handbook Changes.

Superintendent Beaudoin shared updates to the school handbooks and the athletic handbook.

C. District Emergency Plan.

Superintendent Beaudoin presented the District Emergency Plan previously to the Facilities Committee. Recommendation by the superintendent to adopt the District Emergency Plan as is, with further review and possible updates to come later.

5. Routine Matters.

A. Presentation of Minutes of Prior Meetings.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve of the minutes of the July 15, 2024 Regular Meeting, as presented.

Motion: _____ McClure _____.

Second: _____ Penick _____.

Ayes: 6 . 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 July 31, 2024.

Motion: _____ Harvey _____.

Second: _____ Setlak _____.

Ayes: 6 . Nays: 0 .

Passed: X . Defeated: _____.

6. Reports.

A. Board President.

None.

B. Facilities/Strategic Planning Committees.

Received permit for occupancy at East Leroy Elementary School. Update on costing for removal of unleaded gas tank and replacement with an above-ground tank.

C. Superintendent.

See attached report. Putting together a school improvement team, with Ms. Teri Loew as the Board of Education representative. Request tonight to increase substitute pay, in order to be competitive with neighboring districts.

D. High School Administrator.

See attached report. Start of school year prep nearly complete. Still seeking a middle school/high school guidance counselor and two paraprofessionals.

E. Elementary Principal.

See attached report. Start of school year prep nearly complete. Two full days of professional development planned for staff this week. Three new teachers beginning this year.

F. Athletic Director.

See attached report. Current coaching vacancies: JV boys' basketball. Update to admission fees with all events that charge an admission, including middle school events, will be \$5. We will still have a discounted Athens student rate.

G. Special Education, Assessment, and Compliance Officer.

All special education staff returning for the 2024-2025 school year. State assessment scores still under embargo from last school year. Continuing the write-to-learn curriculum again this year.

7. Action Items.

A. Increase in Substitute Pay.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the increase of the EduStaff substitute teacher pay to \$130.00 for a full day, \$150.00 for a long-term substitute, and \$70.00 for a half day, and that the substitute paraprofessional pay be increased to \$13.75 per hour.

Motion: _____ Penick _____.

Second: _____ Setlak _____.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Penick: ___Y___ Setlak: ___Y___ Harvey: ___Y___ Knowles: ___Y___
Loew: ___Y___ McClure: ___Y___ Stanton: ___Absent/Excused___

Ayes: ___6___ Nays: ___0___.

Passed: ___X___ Defeated: _____.

B. New Staff Hires.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the hiring of Mary Troyer as a Title teacher.

Motion: _____ Setlak _____.
 Second: _____ Loew _____.
 Ayes: ___6___. Nays: ___0___.
 Passed: ___X___. Defeated: _____.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the hiring of Megan Rowley as a substitute bus driver.

Motion: _____ Harvey _____.
 Second: _____ Penick _____.
 Ayes: ___6___. Nays: ___0___.
 Passed: ___X___. Defeated: _____.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the hiring of Dylan Jergens as a paraprofessional.

Motion: _____ Loew _____.
 Second: _____ Setlak _____.
 Ayes: ___6___. Nays: ___0___.
 Passed: ___X___. Defeated: _____.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the hiring of Lee Karasiewicz as a substitute teacher.

Motion: _____ McClure _____.
 Second: _____ Penick _____.
 Ayes: ___6___. Nays: ___0___.
 Passed: ___X___. Defeated: _____.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the hiring of Timothy Parker as a golf coach.

Motion: _____ Setlak _____.
 Second: _____ Loew _____.
 Ayes: ___6___. Nays: ___0___.
 Passed: ___X___. Defeated: _____.

C. District Emergency Plan.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the District Emergency Plan as presented.

Motion: _____ Penick _____.
 Second: _____ Harvey _____.
 Ayes: 6 Nays: 0.
 Passed: X Defeated: _____.

8. Public Comments.

Gary Taylor – Shared a printed copy of a Facebook post from Mr. John Knowles.

Lucinda Swartz – Commented regarding the shared Facebook post from Mr. John Knowles that was shared by another public commentor.

Joe Harrington – Asked what the Board of Education is going to do to promote the District, and attract students and families to Athens?

Kelly Hulce – Asked a question regarding what new curriculum will be explored with the improvement team?

Hope Thompson – Shared the importance of higher standards that we hold student athletes to, and how that has helped a lot of kids throughout the years.

Break out at 8:25 p.m.

Break back in at 8:34 p.m.

9. Closed Session.

A. Superintendent Evaluation.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education go into closed session for the consideration of the superintendent for his evaluation.

Motion: _____ Penick _____.
 Second: _____ Setlak _____.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Penick: Y Setlak: Y Harvey: Y Knowles: Y
 Loew: Y McClure: Y Stanton: Absent/Excused

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0.

Passed: X Defeated: _____ Time: 8:34 p.m.

B. Board President returns meeting to open session.

Time: 9:46 p.m.

10. Adjournment.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move the meeting be adjourned.

Motion: _____ McClure _____.

Second: _____ Setlak _____.

Ayes: 6. Nays: 0.

Passed: X. Defeated: _____.

Time of adjournment: _____ 9:47 p.m. _____.

Minutes signed by: Seri S. Loew, 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: _____ September 16, 2024 _____ (date)