

ATHENS AREA SCHOOLS
Board of Education
East Leroy, Michigan 49051
March 18, 2024

REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M.

Athens Jr./Sr. High School Media Center
300 E. Holcomb St., Athens, MI 49011
TELEPHONE: 269-729-5414

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

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.

None.

4. Presentations/Discussions:

A. Calhoun Area School Board Association (CASB) Professional Award Winner: Don Myers.
Don was a teacher for 28 years, a principal for three years, and a superintendent for seven years. He also served on the Harper Creek Community Schools Board of Education for 12 years. The CASB Annual Awards Ceremony is Wednesday, April 24, at 5:45 p.m. at Homer High School. Board members to let Kipp know if we'd like to RSVP to attend.

B. School of Choice.

Every year, we vote to accept students under the School of Choice statutes. We are required to do this before our Kindergarten Roundup event, so we have been doing it earlier every year.

C. Calhoun Intermediate School District (CISD) 2024-2025 Budgets.

Annual approval of the CISD budgets. The budgets are in line, and show stable and sound fiscal management. Board does have ability to provide comment on the CISD budgets; Kipp will make sure we are aware of this opportunity for next year.

D. Varsity Volleyball Team Overnight Stay.

The Varsity volleyball team is seeking approval for an overnight stay to compete in their tournament in August 2024. The Board must approve any out-of-state and/or overnight stays.

E.

5. Routine Matters.

A. Presentation of minutes of prior meetings.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the February 19, 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 February 29, 2024.

Motion: _____ Harvey _____.

Second: _____ Setlak _____.

Ayes: 6. Nays: 0.

Passed: X. Defeated: _____.

6. Reports.

A. Board President.

Calhoun County Sheriff Hinkley will give a presentation at our April 15, 2024 Regular Meeting regarding current drug usage/dangers for students.

B. Policy Committee.

Met and reviewed batch of NEOLA policies. No concerns with any of these policies by the committee.

C. Superintendent.

See attached report. Have been working with NHBP education team (gave a tour of the school.) Working with both Business Manager Tonia Vorce and Transportation Director Molly Fuller regarding future bussing needs. Continuing to work on curriculum and school improvement. Shared report of an approximate \$14,300 increase in Sec. 31aa grant dollars

D. High School Administrator.

See attached report. 6th graders visited Youth Council's maple syrup house on Feb. 27. Science Olympiad: Middle school team and high school team competed (placed 8th and are headed to the state competition!) Shared positive feedback from the trip to Charitable Union for free prom dresses (sponsored by the Athens Area Community Foundation.)

E. Elementary Principal.

See attached report. Family engagement night on March 12 had over 200 attendees! Spring Musical on March 21. Kindergarten Roundup on May 1-2.

F. Athletic Director.

See attached report. Coaching vacancies: Middle school football, 7th grade volleyball, 8th grade volleyball. Good showing in students participating in spring sports.

G. School Improvement, Assessment, and Compliance.

See attached report. Doing last prep prior to beginning state testing in spring/early April. Included data around graduation/dropout rates.

7. Action Items.

A. School of Choice.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education of Athens Area Schools, exercising the option permitted under Section 105 and 105c of the School Aid Act of 1979, as amended by Public Act 300 of 1996, will, for the purposes of Section 105 and 105c, accept students, as capacity allows, from non-resident students from outside our school district who reside within the Calhoun Intermediate School District, of which this district is a constituent district, and the contiguous districts for enrollment in our school district for the 2024~~3~~-2025~~4~~ school year and will operate a schools of choice program in our district in compliance with the statutory requirements of Section 105 and 105c for both first and second semesters.

Motion: _____ McClure _____.

Second: _____ Loew _____.

Ayes: 6 , Nays: 0 .

Passed: X , Defeated: _____.

B. Calhoun Intermediate School District Budgets.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education of Athens Area Schools approve the Calhoun Intermediate School District 2024-2025 budgets as presented.

Motion: _____ Harvey _____.

Second: _____ Setlak _____.

Ayes: 6 , Nays: 0 .

Passed: X , Defeated: _____.

C. RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education authorize and submit as first reading of the NEOLA policy changes, as presented by the Policy Committee. (Policies: 0100, 0167.2, 0167.3, 1420, 1422.01, 1422, 1615, 1616, 1623, 1662, 2210#2, 2210, 2260.01, 2260, 2265, 2266, 2410, 2412, 2414, 2418, 2628, 3120, 3122, 3123, 3210, 3215, 3216, 3220, 3362.01, 3362, 4122, 4123, 4162, 4215, 4216, 4362.01, 4362, 5113.02, 5230, 5335, 5341, 5342, 5343, 5511, 5512, 5517.02, 5517, 5610, 5611, 6107, 6108, 6110, 6114, 6152, 6321, 6325, 6605, 6700, 6800, 7300, 7434, 7440.01, 7440.03, 7440, 7450, 8210, 8310, 8320, 8321, 8330, 8400, 8402, 8462#2, 8462, 8500, 8510, 8600, 8640, 8805, 9150.)

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

D. RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Education approve the Varsity volleyball team for an overnight stay TBA.

Motion: _____ Setlak _____.
Second: _____ Loew _____.
Ayes: 6 . Nays: 0 .
Passed: X . Defeated: _____.

8. Public Comments.

Rachel Hunt: Excited by additional funding for mental health/safety. Concerned that funds might be spent more towards facilities. Question about agendas and minutes for Board of Education committees (other schools post and share these.)

Board Comments.

Mike Harvey: Great job by all at the recent home wrestling event!

9. Adjournment.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the meeting be adjourned.

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

Time of adjournment: _____ 7:53 P.M. _____.

Minutes signed by: Teri S. Loew , Acting Secretary/Secretary of the Board of Education.

Minutes prepared by: _____ Eric McClure, Board Secretary _____.

Approved for publication by the Board of Education on: _____April 15, 2024_____ (date.)