

**ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2023**

The Regular Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of Armada Middle School, 23550 Armada Center Road, Armada, MI, 48005. The meeting was called to order by Board President, Cheryl Murray.

Board of Education Present: M. Meerschaert, S. Nieman, S. Wylin, S. Hill,
C. Murray, S. Wolak

Board of Education Absent: A. Blake w/notice

Administration Present: M. Musary, K. Skokna

23-21 Motion by M. Meerschaert, supported by S. Wolak, that the Board of Education approve the Agenda as amended with the Bills Payable voted separately on the consent agenda.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: M. Meerschaert, S. Nieman, S. Wylin, S. Hill, C. Murray, S. Wolak

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6 – 0

23-22 Motion by S. Nieman, supported by S. Wylin, that the Board of Education approve the minutes and the personnel report on the consent agenda.

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. February 21, 2023 (Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes)
 - b. February 21, 2023 (Board Workshop Minutes)
 - c. February 21, 2023 (Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes)
2. Personnel Report

Voice Vote:

Ayes: M. Meerschaert, S. Nieman, S. Wylin, S. Hill, C. Murray, S. Wolak

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6 – 0

23-23 Motion by M. Meerschaert, supported by S. Wolak, that the Board of Education approve the Monthly Bills Payable as presented in the amount of \$507,576.77.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: M. Meerschaert, S. Nieman, S. Wylin, S. Hill, S. Wolak

Abstain: C. Murray

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 5 – 0

23-24 Motion by S. Nieman, supported by M. Meerschaert, that the Board of Education approve the Resolution to amend the 2022/2023 General Fund Budget as presented. (Staff Report #1)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: M. Meerschaert, S. Nieman, S. Wylin, S. Hill, C. Murray, S. Wolak

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6 - 0

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**ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2023**

23-25 Motion by S. Wylin, supported by S. Hill, that the Board of Education approve Kevin's Lawn Care for a one-year lawn service contract in the amount of \$53,988.00 (Staff Report #2)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: M. Meerschaert, S. Nieman, S. Wylin, S. Hill, C. Murray, S. Wolak

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6 – 0

23-26 Motion by S. Wolak, supported by M. Meerschaert, that the Board of Education approve the sinking fund projects as presented for the estimated total cost of \$458,500.00. (Staff Report #3)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: M. Meerschaert, S. Nieman, S. Wylin, S. Hill, C. Murray, S. Wolak

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED: 6 - 0

See Motion 23-27 under New Business

23-28 President, C. Murray, adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m. with the motion to adjourn from M. Meerschaert and supported by S. Wolak.

Hearing of the Public:

K. Grand – asked for a follow up on his request for board agenda (back-up) materials to be placed on the website before the meetings.

Communications:

Mr. Musary took a few minutes to thank everyone for their understanding with the situation on Monday and the power outage on Tuesday. He wanted them to know that he was not able to share all of the details about the former students involved, but he was happy with the way law enforcement handled it.

Presentations

Mason's Grant Award:

Mark Zink and Roy Anderson from the Masons, Richmond Lodge, presented a \$500.00 educational grant award to Krause Elementary Kindergarten teachers. Sarah Rumble, the kindergarten teacher who wrote the grant proposal for fine motor tools for their literacy centers, accepted the award on behalf of the kindergarten team.

Student Awards:

Superintendent Musary introduced "Students of the Month" for March 2023, from Armada High School and Armada Middle School. They were each awarded with a certificate. He also presented several elementary students with Principal Awards. Athletic Excellence awards were presented to the girls and boys bowling teams as well as to four members of the wrestling team.

**ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2023**

Middle School Robotics Presentation:

The board members and guests were treated to a presentation and robot performance by the Armada Pi-Gears Team 14706, led by Justin Bigelow. They are currently the State of Michigan champions and will be attending the World Championship to be held in Texas in April 2023.

Armada Middle School Presentation:

Before the presentation, Board Members were treated to a coffee from the Tiger Café, led by Ms. Nicole Ewert. The Café is a student run coffee cart which serves up Friday morning “coffee with a smile!” Armada Middle School Principal, Todd Schafer, provided a presentation which covered a wealth of information about the school. Some of the topics were: M-STEP and PSAT results, curriculum and initiatives, student clubs and activities, points of pride and future goals. Matt Gillett, Middle School Assistant Principal and District Technical Coordinator, provided information on technology and counseling. The Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) program was explained by Nicole Ewert, Middle School resource teacher.

Superintendent’s Report:

2022-2023 General Fund Budget Amendment Highlights

- Total expenditures are \$1.8 million higher than the June 21, 2022 budget due to additional staffing, increased benefit cost, and additional grant funding. The district added six teachers, one school nurse, and three safety liaisons since the June 22’ budget was approved.
- Revenues are also up \$1.8 million vs. the June 21, 2022 budget due to additional grant funding – primarily GSRP, Child Care, Mental Health, Student Safety, and ESSER III 11t). The student count is down 9 FTE from the June 22’ budget – State Aid Membership is currently 1,736.
- The budgeted Fund Equity is only down \$15,000 vs. the June 21, 2022, but the expected actual Fund Equity could still increase.
- Potential favorable future budget concepts:
 - District historically does not spend entire budget – this means the district fund equity will likely remain stable as of June 30, 2023
 - Many of our grants, including ESSER funding will continue through the 2023/24 school year.
 - State revenues are better than projected which means a funding increase for schools.

Governor Whitmer has proposed a \$458 per pupil funding increase for 23/24.

Armada School Updates

- At Krause Elementary, the strings students went on a field trip to the Macomb Arts Performance Center on March 8.
- At the M.S., the Middle School Choir earned a Division 1 rating at the MSBOA Festival!
- At the H.S., the Symphonic Band and String Orchestra performed in the MSBOA District XVI Band and Orchestra Festival and the Symphonic Band earned straight Division 1

**ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2023**

ratings from all judges in both concert performance and in sight reading (best ratings ever). Our orchestra did very well and received an overall Division 2 rating. The Concert Choir earned a "2" and Chorale earned a "1" at festival and received an invitation to perform at the state festival! Finally, we had 5 students in 3 events that qualified for State Solo and Ensemble Festival when they received Division 1 ratings back at districts in early February. These five students performed at the state competition on Saturday (March 18).

- At MA2S, the Fighting Pi had their first competitions at Kettering University (March 10-11 – earned Sustainability Award) and are focusing on their next tournament at Troy Athens HS (March 25-26). The State Championship will be at SVSU (April 6-8) and the FIRST Championship will be in Houston, TX (April 20-23).

Curriculum Update: Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Curriculum, Kelly Skokna, provided the following information:

- I. Update on Elementary ELA Curriculum Review
- II. Upcoming Professional Development
 - A. March 31st PD: CPR training
- III. Cognia Review
 - A. March 30th
- IV. Spring Testing
 - A. WIDA Complete
 - B. PSAT/SAT: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 (*next year all digital)
 - C.

MISD Budget Review Representative Appointment – MISD –

Member Shawn Wylin agreed to be the Board's appointed representative for the MISD Budget Oversight Committee. The meeting is to be held at the Macomb Intermediate School District at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2023.

Board Reports:

Member S. Nieman reminded the board members of upcoming meetings and dates:

- MASB Spring Institute will have in-person sessions in Lansing on April 28 and 29.
- Macomb County School Boards Association will be holding the next dinner meeting at Chippewa Valley Schools on Tuesday, March 28, 2023.

Old Business:

The St. Baldrick's event was addressed and Mr. Musary said that any of their requested information has been shared with our buildings so that they may include it with their weekly or monthly bulletins. Mr. Musary also said that he would get back to Mr. Grand regarding his request for board packet information.

**ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2023**

New Business:

- Board President, C. Murray said that she would throw some dates out there for the members to meet for a workshop to continue to discuss board protocols.

23-27 Motion by S. Nieman, supported by S. Wolak, that the Board of Education begin the Superintendent evaluation process in May with completion and approval at the June Board meeting.

Points of Pride:

M. Meerschaert:

- Board member Meerschaert appreciates how the middle school teachers and administrators get the students pumped up for spring testing.

C. Murray:

- Board member Murray is proud of the security staff for handling the recent situation. She also enjoyed the Quiz Bowl and is proud of the Armada students for what they know.

S. Nieman:

- Board member Nieman was amazed at the first trimester survey that was shared. She thought that the teachers were very supportive of each other and made several positive comments and remarks about their fellow staff members.

S. Wylin:

- Board member Wylin shared her sincere appreciation for administration especially in the last 48 hours. She is thankful for all they do so that parents can feel ok.

S. Hill:

- Board member Hill is proud of the amazing accomplishments from all of the various groups of students.

S. Wolak:

- Board member Stacey said that she thinks the district is running like a fine-oiled machine.

K. Skokna:

- Mrs. Skokna shared that she enjoyed the recent play and the art showcase. She said that the talent of our students is amazing.

M. Musary:

- Mr. Musary is proud of all of the students and parents for trusting and working with the district through the challenges this week. He said that Tim Woelkers, his Director of Student Safety, is a huge resource for him as well as the other safety liaisons, and he thinks the kids and the parents appreciate them, too.



Michele Meerschaert
Secretary, Board of Education