

**ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 19, 2024**

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

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

Board of Education Absent: A. Blake with notice

Administration Present: M. Musary, K. Skokna

24-21 Motion by C. Murray, supported by S. Wolak, that the Board of Education approve the Agenda with a modification to the consent agenda listing the monthly bills payable as a separate motion.

Voice Vote:

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

Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6 – 0

24-22 Motion by S. Wolak, supported by S. Hill, that the Board of Education meet in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter and negotiations. The meeting will take place at the end of the regular meeting. (Staff Report #1)

Roll Call Vote: C. Murray, M. Meerschaert, S. Nieman, S. Wylin, S. Hill, S. Wolak

Ayes: All

Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6 – 0

24-23 Motion by C. Murray, supported by M. Meerschaert, that the Board of Education approve the minutes and the personnel report portion of the consent agenda as presented.

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. February 20, 2024 (Regular Meeting Minutes)
2. Personnel Report

Voice Vote:

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

Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6 – 0

24-24 Motion by S. Nieman, supported by S. Hill, that the Board of Education approve the Monthly Bills Payable as presented in the amount of \$ 470,579.78

Voice Vote:

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

Abstain: C. Murray

Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 5 – 0

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24-25 Motion by S. Nieman, supported by S. Wolak, that the Board of Education approve the resolution to amend the 2023/2024 General Fund Budget as presented.(Staff Report #2)

Voice Vote:

Ayes: M. Meerschaert, S. Wylin, S. Hill, C. Murray, S. Wolak, S. Nieman
Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6 – 0

Convened to Closed Session at 8:46 p.m.
Returned to Open Session at 9:33 p.m.

24-26 Motion by S. Wolak, supported by C. Murray, that the Board of Education approve the three year contract for the Instructional Paraprofessional Association which includes thirty employees for the period 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2027.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: M. Meerschaert, S. Wylin, S. Hill, C. Murray, S. Wolak, S. Nieman
Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6 – 0

24-27 Motion by S. Nieman, supported by S. Hill, that the Board of Education approve the three year contract for Armada Transportation Association which includes thirteen employees for the period of 7/1/2024 through 6/30/2027.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: M. Meerschaert, S. Wylin, S. Hill, C. Murray, S. Wolak, S. Nieman
Nays: None MOTION PASSED: 6 – 0

24-28 President, S. Wylin, adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m. with the motion to adjourn from C. Murray and supported by S. Nieman.

Hearing of the Public: None

Communications: None

Presentations

Student Awards:

Superintendent Musary introduced “Students of the Month” for February, 2024, 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:

Athletic Excellence awards were presented to the girls and boys bowling teams, three members of the wrestling team, and the members of the competitive cheer team. They have had an outstanding season.

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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 information about the school. Some of the topics were: 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:

2023/24 General Fund Budget Amendment Highlights

- Total expenditures are \$553,000 higher than the June 20, 2023 budget due to additional staffing, increased benefit cost, and additional grant funding.
- Revenues are up \$467,000 vs. the June 20, 2023 budget due to additional local & federal grant funding and additional state aid categorical funding. The student count is down 34 FTE from the June 23’ budget – State Aid Membership is currently 1,702.
- The budgeted Fund Equity is down \$86,000 vs. June 20, 2023, but the 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, 2024.
- State revenues are stable so no funding reductions expected.
- Governor Whitmer has proposed a \$241 per pupil funding increase for 24/25 (+2.5%).

Armada School Updates

- At Krause Elementary, they had kindergarten round up this month and the current enrollments stands at 13 Readiness and 113 Kindergarten including 39 (31%) school of choice students.
- At the M.S., the Middle School Band earned a Division 1 rating from all judges at the MSBOA District XVI Band and Orchestra Festival for the first time in 10 years!
- At the H.S., the Band & Orchestra will be performing over spring break on March 23rd at Disney Springs on the campus of Walt Disney World.
- At MA2S, the Fighting Pi had their first competitions at Kettering University (March 7-9) and were event finalists. The Fighting Pi were ranked 5th out of 40 teams after the qualification rounds. Also, Ava Lentz won the very prestigious Dean’s List Award and will compete at the State level for this award in the coming weeks.

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

Spring Testing:

- M-STEP, PSAT 8/9, PSAT 10, SAT windows open on April 8th
- AP Testing in May
- NWEA Spring testing in May
- WIDA testing complete

Professional Learning:

- Large attendance at this year's MACUL: Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning
- April 26th: Full day Professional Development. Elementary focus on CKLA and secondary on Disciplinary Literacy.
- Final full Professional Development day is May 10th.

CARE Bullying Presentations:

- March 5th--8th grade student presentations
- March 6th--Virtual parent presentation
- District Communication: "[Navigating the Online World](#)"

Additional Updates:

- Teacher Cadet course growing
- Secondary scheduling requests in
- March is Reading Month
- Elementary Glow Room

MISD Budget Review Representative Appointment

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 18, 2024. Susan Nieman agreed to be the alternate.

Board Reports: Member S. Nieman provided some legislative information from the Governor's State of the State.

Old Business: None

New Business: Member C. Murray reminded the members that the next MCSBA dinner meeting will be held at the MISD on April 23rd. It will be the Annual Education Leadership Dinner and is the last meeting of the school year. Also, the MASB Spring Institute will be held Friday, April 19th through Saturday, April 20th in Lansing. She encouraged the members to look into it and sign up if they are available or interested in taking a class.

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Points of Pride:

M. Meerschaert:

- Member Meerschaert is proud of the high school choral students who scored well at the MSVMA festival and proud of all of the athletes as well.

S. Nieman:

- Member Nieman is impressed with the central office staff in coordination with the construction management team who are involved in juggling all of the bond work. There is a lot going on behind the scenes and she appreciates it.

C. Murray:

- Member Murray is proud of the Armada Middle School staff and students, and especially their outreach programs. She is also pleased with the outstanding academics of the cheer team.

S. Wolak:

- Ms. Wolak appreciated the coffee that was provided by the Middle School Café and said that they have a great program.

S. Wylin:

- Member Wylin enjoyed the presentation by Nicole Ewert regarding the special services programs. She said it is awesome to see how much engagement has been put into it.

S. Hill:

- Member Hill agreed that the coffee was great. She is proud of all of the winter sports teams. She is also proud of the students who recently competed at DECA States, showcasing their business skills.

K. Skokna:

- Ms. Skokna was happy to hear about the Peer to Peer program at the middle school and is excited to see how that grows.

M. Musary:

- Mr. Musary is proud of all of the athletes and thanked the girls basketball team for ending a 42 year draught by winning the District Championship. He also believes we may lead Macomb County again this year with our All Academic students.



Michele Meerschaert
Secretary, Board of Education