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# MEETING NOTES

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1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Mark Abate, Paul Lambert, and Nadia Long were present.  
Heather Keck was absent. Lisa Whiting attended by skype but was not able to vote.
3. Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. The Board of Education adopted the agenda as presented.
5. The Board of Education approved the following trip requests:
  - a. Bradley Cheer, Springboro, OH – January 19, 2020
  - b. Darby JSA Debate Club, Arlington, VA – February 13, 2020
  - c. Darby, Massillon, OH – February 2, 2020
6. The Board of Education approved and congratulated the following 2019 Darby HS Winter Graduates:
  - a. Avery Elizabeth Klezli
  - b. Jacob Brunsdale Wells
7. The Board of Education approved the Hilliard City School Board’s Support for Military Students and Families Resolution:

WHEREAS, our country owes our daily freedoms to the members of the Armed Forces, their family members and loved ones who share in their service and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the exceptional service, strength and character of military-connected students and families in Hilliard City Schools; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that military families face unique challenges due to deployment, reintegration, service in combat zones and frequent relocations based on duty assignments; and

WHEREAS; the School Board of Hilliard City Schools affirms their commitment to providing the resources and programs to support military-connected students academically, socially and emotionally; and

WHEREAS; the School Board of Hilliard City Schools calls for the continued creation of opportunities for military families and community members to purposely partner with schools in supporting student achievement, aspirations, and social-emotional development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of Hilliard City Schools officially supports all military children and families; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of Hilliard City Schools encourages all school staff and community members to initiate, support and participate in appreciation activities designed to recognize the exceptional role and unique sacrifices our military-connected youth make in our nation's best interest; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be spread across the official minutes.

This resolution was presented by Davidson High School in their efforts to become a Purple Star school in recognizing our support of military veterans and their families.

8. Discussion Topics:

a. Grant Us Hope Award

Dr. Keith Kline, Executive Director of Grant Us Hope, brought Hope Squads to our schools. Hope Squads have made such a difference in the culture in our schools and helped remove the stigma around mental health and reaching out to your friends for help. Dr. Kline remarked that with the help and leadership of Dr. Marschhausen and Mike Abraham, our district has six functioning Hope Squads (one at each of our middle schools and high schools). Dr. Kline presented Dr. Marschhausen with the Grant Us Hope Award for his commitment to making a difference in student academics and wellness.

b. Tolles Update

We received a request from Emmy Beeson, Superintendent at Tolles Career and Technical Center, to pass two resolutions. The first resolution is to appoint a board member for a one-year term, and the second resolution is to appoint a board member for a three-year term. These two resolutions would allow Tolles to stagger the board member terms. These resolutions will be on the December 9 board agenda. Once the boards of the Tolles member schools have adopted their resolutions, Tolles can then adopt their resolution requesting approval from the Ohio Department of Education for the one-time variation of the requirements in Ohio Revised Code. Dr. Marschhausen is also recommending that the Board appoint Doug Maggied as our Tolles Board Member. This recommendation will be on the January organizational agenda.

c. Financial Literacy Curriculum

The Curriculum Team (John Bandow, Samantha Althouse, Herb Higginbotham & Mark Tremayne) presented an overview of the updated financial literacy curriculum. Our curriculum has been updated to align with the State standards. Elementary financial literacy standards are embedded in social studies and math. Ohio Revised Code makes financial literacy a graduation requirement, but it allows districts to integrate the standards into current course work.

The standards are broken down by grade bands into topics, so teachers know how to organize the instruction. There is a progression across the grade level bands, making the instruction grade-level appropriate. Ultimately, we want our students to be savvy consumers and make informed financial decisions. *Family consumer science* and *personal decisions* are two courses in middle school that focus on financial literacy. *Family consumer science* focuses on credit cards,

advertising, and being efficient, knowledgeable shoppers. *Personal decisions* focus on savings, planning for the future, living expenses, and childcare. At the high school level, there are business and AP courses students may take to fulfill the financial literacy requirement. Financial literacy is also embedded in our *Life skills* classes for our special needs students.

One of our students has already applied her knowledge of *Excel* from her *Personal finance* course to work in the “real” world. This student’s mother has a business and was keeping the books by hand for many years. The student created a spreadsheet to track the business’s finances that resulted in huge savings.

d. High School Literacy Curriculum and Book Selection

Nikole Abate, Secondary Literacy Instructional Leader, gave an overview of the updated literacy curriculum. It’s a standards-based curriculum, which means the standards are first, and the content (literature) is second. The standards guide everything we do, and the texts are selected based on what can best help students achieve the standards. The teachers have the opportunity and the responsibility to select texts that will help students meet the standards but also meet the changing social-emotional and academic needs of kids. This is very different from the type of curriculum we have worked with in the past. Our curriculum used to be very prescribed, meaning teach this text at this time.

Our teachers had a lot of questions about how to choose texts that meet the standards and also keep students engaged. After researching our Board policy regarding the selection of instructional materials, I found that we have multiple policies in support of diverse instructional materials. Teachers understand they have a responsibility to meet the district's goals and objectives in educating every student. We want students to be able to think critically, understand different cultures, live compassionately, make sound decisions, and have a diversity of perspectives. Based on her research on policy and recommendations from the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), Nikole created a commitment plan to help our teachers in the selection of texts.

If a parent has a concern about a particular text, teachers may also use this commitment plan to facilitate discussion with parents. If the parent ultimately does not want his/her child to read a particular text, the teacher will provide an alternative text, as is our current practice.

e. Master Facilities Update

Mike McDonough, Deputy Superintendent, provided an update of the Master Facility Plan process. We recently had our virtual community dialogue. We had 437 people complete the online survey, and over 500 people watched the video. We are working through all of the feedback, and a few of the recurring themes are the desire for all-day kindergarten in all buildings, an interest in a third sixth-grade school, willingness to expand the preschool program, and open to grade configuration changes to facilitate these desires. The next step is the work sessions to study the findings and develop proposals for each district building. Our goal is to develop a short, mid, and long-term facilities plan. These proposals will be presented to the steering committee for their review and feedback. In January, we will provide another update to the Board and will engage additional community groups as we move forward.

f. Veteran's Day Programming

We have some questions about why we have classes on Veteran's Day. With students in class, we can celebrate and educate them much better about Veteran's Day rather than giving them a day off from school. Some of the activities at our schools include programs and assemblies, inviting veterans to engage with students.

9. At 7:41 p.m., the Board of Education caucused to executive session to discuss negotiations with another political subdivision respecting requests for economic development assistance. After returning from executive session, we will not be taking any action.