

**ALLENDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 9, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.  
OAKWOOD BOARD ROOM**

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda.

**I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:00 PM**

**II. MISSION STATEMENT**

Allendale Public Schools commit to educate, inspire, and support all students.

**III. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Cannata, DeJong, Hendricks, Holstege, Mango, Ramey, Thurkettle

**Administration:** Cooper, Park, Dykstra, Mullen, Nyboer, Plain, Torno, VanderLaan, Voss

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**V. STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT – PRINCIPLE 3.15** The Board strongly encourages an administrative team concept of management. (Vice-President - Hendricks)

**VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

Members of the audience are welcome to make comments at the time designated on the agenda. Please register on the sign-up sheet and limit your comments to 3 minutes when your name is called. Out of respect for all individuals, please refrain from personal criticisms in an open forum.

**VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Cannata, seconded by Ramey, to amend the agenda to include Action Item F.: The purchase of new vans for the Transportation Department. Motion carried.

**VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Minutes**

September 11, regular meeting minutes

September 25, work session minutes

**B. Financial Reports**

a. Financial Statement Notes

b. Cumulative Fund Activity Report

c. General Fund Summary

d. Check Register

Wires: #4903 - 4928; Checks: 227590 - 227659;

EFT: 15930 - 16020; Wires, EFT, & checks totaling = \$891,932.84

e. Business Services Checklists

f. Bond Spending Summary

**C. Personnel Report**

**D. Leave of Absence**

Motion by Cannata, seconded by DeJong, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**IX. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHT**

**A. 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Audit Report** Presented by Dave Nielsen

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jason Dykstra  
Krista Yetzke  
John Stelmach  
Bob Pickard

**XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Ad Hoc (SEAB)**

**XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**A. Dates**

OCT 10~NHS Induction, 7:00 PM, CFAC  
OCT 12~Allendale High School Choir Concert, 7:30 PM, CFAC  
OCT 17~Middle School Beginning Band Informance, 7:00 PM, CFAC  
OCT 18~1/2 day for Young 5-12th Grade, Parent/Teacher Conferences  
OCT 19~1/2 day for Young 5-12th Grade, Parent/Teacher Conferences  
OCT 20~No school  
OCT 23~BOE Work Session, 6:00 PM, Oakwood Board Room  
NOV10~Veterans Day Ceremony, 11:00 AM, CFAC

**B. Enrollment Update**

**C. Other**

**XIII. BOARD COMMENTS**

DeJong  
Holstege  
Ramey  
Cannata

**XIV. PRESIDENT COMMENT**

Mango

**XV. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Selection of architect bond planning, proposal and implementation**

**Background:** After interviewing multiple architectural firms, and getting referrals from other districts, the recommendation is to use TMP Architectural for our bond project. They have a lot of experience across the state of Michigan, and got high praise from Spring Lake. They have also collaborated with Triangle, who is the construction manager we are partnering with, on other projects.

Motion by Holstege, seconded by Ramey, to approve TMP Architectural for our bond planning and project as presented. Motion carried.

**B. Approve Book request for 7th grade**

**Background:** The book, “A Work in Progress” by Jarrett Lerner, would be read from October to November and would take the place of a current read aloud fulfilling the same requirements and following the same standards. Students will participate in before, during, and after, reading activities to enhance their comprehension and enjoyment of the book, as well as learn Notice and Note reading strategies to dive deeper into a text. In addition, we will connect our students with another 7th-grade class from around the world, also reading A Work in Progress. Through collaboration with others, we will be able to share our opinions and experiences with the novel.

Motion by DeJong, seconded by Cannata, to approve the use of “A Work in Progress” by Jarrett Lerner in 7th grade ELA. Motion carried.

**C. Approve Book request for HS Resource English**

**Background:** The book, “Mississippi Trial, 1955”, is a novel that has been used in the past in our HS Resource Room ELA class, but not for quite some time, which is why we are seeking approval to use it again. This unit helps students develop a deeper understanding of the past and its relevance to the present. While set in the past, some issues raised in *Mississippi Trial, 1955* are still relevant today, making it an excellent tool for exploring similar modern day issues through class discussion and other daily tasks.

Motion by DeJong, seconded by Cannata, to approve the use of “Mississippi Trial, 1955” in HS Resource Room ELA. Motion carried.

**D. Approve Removal of Board Policy 8450.01**

**Background:** This policy is no longer required by law or CDC/MDHHS mandates. It has been suggested that this policy be removed.

Motion by Holstege, seconded by Ramey, to approve the removal of Board Policy #8450.01. Motion carried.

**E. Approve Conference Resolution**

**Background:** Conversations have been ongoing for years regarding Allendale Public Schools affiliation with the OK conference for athletics. The driving force behind these conversations was to evaluate the situation in order to determine the best course of action for our students and athletes. At this time, we have an opportunity to move to a new conference, made up of districts that share our same vision and desire for competitive balance, fair play and opportunities for collaboration outside of athletics. The resolution in question, would be sent to the OK Conference letting them know of our intention to leave that conference at the end of this Spring sports season.

It is important to note that participation in a new conference will not change the opportunities for our athletes to compete in MHSSA tournaments, nor exclude them for consideration for All-State Honors.

Motion by Thurkettle, seconded by Holstege, to approve the resolution concerning our intent to leave the OK Conference. Motion carried.

**F. Approve the purchase of vans for the Transportation Department**

Motion by Thurkettle, seconded by Holstege to purchase two new 10 seater vans for the Transportation Department.

Motion amended by Thurkettle, seconded by Holstege to approve the purchase of two new vans at the cost of \$77,600 for each van. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Cannata - YES; DeJong - YES; Hendricks - YES; Holstege - YES; Mango - YES; Ramey - YES; Thurkettle - YES

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT at 7:22 PM**

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Vissers