

Board of Education
LakeVille Community Schools
Minutes
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, September 27, 2016
LakeVille Middle School
11107 Washburn Rd. Otisville, MI 48463
Media Center

A. President Holly Selesky called the meeting to order at **7:11 pm**.
Holly Selesky led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present:

Holly Selesky		Chad Carriero	
Joe Krapohl		Jim Baier	
Kelly Zudell		Gary Peterson	
Jodie Hemingway			

Administrator Present

Vickie Luoma			

Absent

C. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Joe Krapohl moved the Board of Education to accept the agenda as presented. Jim Baier seconded the motion.

The motion carried 7-0.

D. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNATIONS

None

E. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

We want to remind everyone that our Hall of Honor Dinner and Induction will be held October 19 at Forest Township Hall. The inaugural event last year was great fun and a chance to recognize those from our school and community that have given back to the district, community and country. As happened last year when inductees were announced we have had individuals name others who should be inducted into the Hall of Honor. We know there are many deserving individuals, but they must be nominated by community members or others. The selection committee can only select nominees from those we have nomination forms for.

We applied for an early literacy grant Friday. The state supported grant provides funds to extend instructional time in literacy for K-3 students. Special thanks to Stacy Weber and Stephanie Stiles for gathering our data and providing the framework of the project in less than 24 hours that allowed us an opportunity to apply for this project.

We expect to expand our Robotics teams this year. The state of Michigan is expanding the grant funded program that provides seed money for Robotics programs to the elementary level. Columbiaville Elementary is interested in developing a team. This grant application is in progress. We are always happy when we can add clubs and activities for our students that allow them to have fun and develop academic, problem solving and team building skills.

Response to public comments –

We had a group of individuals speak at our last meeting to address the following concerns.

Parents would like more art education in elementary classrooms. They would like a dedicated art teacher in the building. We all agree art is very important. All K-5 teachers are certified to teach art and though you were told at our last meeting that is not happening, our classroom teachers do a marvelous job of embedding art in cross curricular activities every day. If you visit our elementary buildings you regularly see examples of student projects on display. It would be nice to have an art certified teacher – who was dedicated to teaching elementary art, but based on the number of elementary classroom sections we currently have, to maintain our core instructional hours and be fiscally responsible we would have to eliminate a physical education position. We do not believe that is a good option because as also noted by parents at our last meeting recess and physical activity that our students get through phys. ed. stimulate brain activity that heightens our students learning.

Parents were also concerned about class sizes. Class sizes across the state have gotten larger as school budgets have declined and remained stagnant. Many individuals claim smaller class sizes have a direct impact on improved academic success. Current educational research does not support that theory.

Research actually indicates that the effectiveness of the teacher in the classroom is the indicator that has the greatest impact on student achievement. We have outstanding teachers in our classrooms that are committed to providing our students with a quality education every day. Their efforts, as verified by the state assessment data we presented at our last meeting indicates that our students are making great strides and are above the county and state average in many tested grades in core content areas.

We had several individuals speak about our closing the preschool program at Kids Club. We, like everyone else are sorry that this was a necessary step. As GSRP and Head Start have added more free programs for our families the need for this family funded program has decreased. Contrary to the information presented at our last board meeting, in doing a bit of research on the topic, I found out this is an issue in many locations around us and that a neighboring district and several other county districts have also closed their paid preschool programs.

While we agree that the program is a valuable asset for the community it is no longer cost neutral and the Board determined several years ago that we cannot divert funds provided to the district to support K-12 programs to the community preschool program. We will continue to provide latchkey service on school days, including extended hours on half days, like the early release for homecoming.

We understand that snow days and other no school days present issues for working parents. If parents are interested in having child care available on professional development days or other scheduled no school days, they should contact Mrs. Stiles at Otisville. If there are enough people signed up and pre-paid a week before the date we will be happy to schedule staff on those dates. We are unable to pre-plan for snow days so will not be able to provide day care service on those days. If in the future there are enough families who want the preschool program to make it cost neutral we would also reopen that program.

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

G. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

H. CONSENT AGENDA

Joe Krapohl moved the Board of Education to approve the Consent Agenda, to approve the Consent Agenda, that includes the approval of minutes from the September 27, 2016, regular and special meetings, accept the personnel report with a request to accept the hire of Special Education Paraprofessionals Wendy Granger, Barbara Macsuga and Brandi Giuliani, Otter Lake Lunch/Recess Para Pro Christina Nevadomski and Assistant Boys Basketball Coaches Brian Fritz and Mike Brouillet, accept donations totaling \$3,400

(\$600 to High School Robotics, \$400 to High School Art Teacher, \$600 to Kindergarten Library and \$300 to each First and Second Grade Teachers) from Gary Crossen and Accounts payable in the amount of \$438,575.76. Chad Carriero seconded the motion.

****Roll Call Vote****

H. Selesky – Y, C. Carriero – Y, J. Baier – Y,
K. Zudell – Y, J. Krapohl – Y. G. Peterson – Y,
J. Hemingway – Y.

The motion carried 7-0.

I. OLD BUSINESS

J. NEW BUSINESS

- **Request to Release a Student**

Jim Baier moved the Board of Education to approve the release of Lindsay Schumacher to Kearsley Community Schools for the balance of the 2016-2017 school year. Chad Carriero seconded the motion.

The motion carried 7-0.

K. BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

The Board requested that the business office bring information to the next meeting regarding the preschool program.

L. INFORMATION CALENDAR

- 10/19/2016 – Hall of Honor Dinner – 6:00
- 10/21/2016 – Homecoming

M. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

N. ADJOURNMENT

Jim Baier moved the Board of Education to adjourn the meeting at **7:26 p.m.** Chad Carriero seconded the motion.

The motion carried 7-0.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gary Peterson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Gary Peterson, Secretary
Approved October 11, 2016

**Next Meeting: Tuesday October 11, 2016 at 7:00 pm –
Lakeville Middle School Media Center**