

The Board of Education of La Harpe Community School District #347 held a regular School Board meeting 15 October 2024 in the Board room. President Detherage called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Roll Call was answered by Blythe, Collins, Deitrich, Gebhardt, Detherage, absent Allen, absent Walker. Superintendent Janet Gladu and Board Secretary Shelly Rahn, and Principal Ryan Hopper were also in attendance.

Visitors in attendance Liz McCarter, Chad Burt, Joy Pollock, Cathy Jones, Jay Jones, Hannah Moss, Lee Wibbell, Shasta Heidbreder, Alissa Tucker Architects Jason Shimp, Jacques Reynolds and Tim King from King's financial.

A Moment of Silence was observed.

Public Presentations: No public presentations.

Business Items:

The Approval of 15 October 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Financial Report:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>FY2024</u>
Education	\$2,834,133.74
Building	\$363,093.84
Debt Service	\$302,007.95
Transportation	\$170,752.22
IMRF	\$141,286.80
Capital Projects	\$0.00
Working Cash	\$179,091.95
Tort	\$188,626.31
Fire Prevention & Safety	\$267,285.63
Total	\$4,446,278.44
Increase/Decrease from Prior Year	11.44% increase

FY 2024	\$3,989,710.38
FY 2023	\$3,255,648.28
FY 2022	\$3,124,559.86
FY 2021	\$2,498,538.23
FY 2020	\$1,358,522.62

Consent Agenda: The Consent Agenda included the Closed and Open Minutes of the 15 October 2024 Regular Board Meeting and Financial Report, Individual fund balances, payment of bills, and Closed Session Records- deletion of items 18 months and older. Resignation of Kelly Sturek due to retirement effective January 2, 2025.

FY 2024 AFR (Annual Financial Report): The Audit was great. Our cash balances page 9 of the budget. Excluding Debt Services (Bonds) and including student activity accounts was \$3,216,372. Our total cash balance for the year prior was:

	Audit Pg	23-24	22-23	21-22
Fund Balance (without bonds)	9	\$3,216,372	\$2,509,772	\$2,310,239
Expenditures (without bonds)	9	\$4,019,347	\$4,101,436	\$3,758,002
Financial Profile (0-4)	4	3.9 - recognition	3.9 - recognition	3.8 - recognition
Days Cash on Hand	4	319.84	240.35	233.46

Approval of the Agenda as Presented: Motion made by Collins and seconded by Blythe to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll Call: yes; Deitrich, yes; Detherage, yes; Gebhardt, yes; Collins, yes; Blythe. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Athletic Entrance fees: Motion made by Detherage and seconded by Collins to not charge La Harpe Students in grades 5-8 to come to home athletic/extracurricular events. Roll Call: yes; Collins, yes; Deitrich, yes; Gebhardt, yes; Blythe, yes; Detherage. Motion carried 5-0.

Athletic Co-Op with Dallas City: Board discussion was to have a meeting to discuss and workout issues and the current co-op agreement ends June 30, 2025. **No board actions.**

Architechnics Cost Comparison: Architects explained all the different items that would need to be done to old existing building for it to be up to code. He also explained that new construction would already have these things configured in. **No board actions.**

Architechnics Preliminary Floor/Site Plan & early cost estimate of new cafeteria/multi-purpose room: Discussion on all options. We looked at Option A, C and D. Board likes option C. The architects will be coming back to November board meeting with more information. Discussion only. **No board actions.**

Kings Financial: Tim King told everyone about himself and his business. He explained how the bond process works and also methods of sale, debt limitations, existing debt, EAV and rate history, financing options and bonding options. Informational. **No board actions.**

Playground equipment: The students were surveyed and asked what equipment they would like. We will table and discuss more. Discussion only. **No board actions.**

Operational Funds Balance Reduction Plan: This is a new requirement that took effect this year. We have to compare our operational costs (expenditures) over the last 3 years to our fund balances. If the ratio is greater than 2.5% we have to do a fund balance reduction plan. Our current ratio is 0.836%. **No board actions.**

2024 Tax Levy: This will be on November's agenda for approval. It's required to let the levy sit for at least 20 days before approval. It is due by the last Tuesday of December. Informational. The 2024 Tentative tax levy was presented. It is a 4.999% increase from 2023 tax levy. **No board actions.**

Approval for the Superintendent to seek Bus bids: Motion was made by Gebhardt and seconded by Collins to grant permission for the superintendent to seek bids on new passenger buses. Roll Call: yes; Deitrich, yes; Gebhardt, yes; Blythe, yes; Detherage, yes; Collins. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Staff Christmas Gift: Motion made by Deitrich and seconded by Blythe to approve the annual staff Christmas gift of a ham and turkey. Roll Call: yes; Detherage, yes; Collins, yes; Deitrich, yes; Gebhardt, yes; Blythe. Motion carried 5-0.

Reports:

- Principal/Athletic Director/Transportation Director Things are going well. First quarter just ended and report cards are going home. Baseball went 8-8 and a good year. Seventh grade girls BKB is 7-2 and eight grade girls BKB is 6-3. Both are going very well. The BKB starts on Monday 10/21/2024. Things are going to get busy. Transportation is going well. Shelly and I are making sure everything goes as smoothly as possible.
- Superintendent: Presented to the board the team member for the month of September Madison Mershon. Presented a letter from the library board and also discussed the Veterans Day Program.

Motion to adjourn to closed session at 7:11pm to discuss items per 5 ILCS 120/2/(c)(1). The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District, (7) sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts and (14) closed session minutes.

Motion made by Collins and seconded by Detherage to adjourn to closed session. Roll Call: yes; Deitrich, yes; Gebhardt, yes; Blythe, yes; Detherage, yes; Collins. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion made by Detherage to call closed session to order at 7:21pm on 15 October 2024. In attendance Collins, Deitrich, Gebhardt, Blythe, Detherage, Superintendent Gladu and Principal Ryan Hopper.

Motion made by Deitrich and seconded by Detherage to adjourn closed session at 8:57 pm. Roll Call: yes; Gebhardt, yes; Blythe, yes; Detherage, yes; Collins, yes; Deitrich. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion made by Deitrich and seconded by Detherage to return to open session at 8:57pm. (voice vote).

Approval of the closed session minutes from 17 September 2024: Motion made by Blythe and seconded by Collins to approve the closed session minutes from 17 September 2024. Roll Call: yes; Deitrich, yes; Gebhardt, yes; Blythe, yes; Detherage, yes; Collins. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn. (voice vote).

A motion was made by Blythe and seconded by Collins to adjourn the 15 October 2024 board meeting at 8:57 pm. (voice).

The next regularly stated meeting is scheduled for 19 November 2024 at 6:00 pm.


Board President


Board Secretary

November 19, 2024
Approved