

**MIO AUSABLE SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
July 12, 2021**

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PRESENT: Holzwarth, Hunter, Irelan, La Vigne, Long, Szymanski, Whaley  
ABSENT: None  
ADMINISTRATION: Ciske, Ahearne, Shiffer  
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: None  
RECORDING SECRETARY: McVeigh

President Irelan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Organizational Business issues are conducted annually at the July board meeting, with the remainder of the organizational meeting held in January of each year.

**2021-2022-1**

Szymanski/Hunter

to approve consent agenda items:

- a) Minutes of regular & special meetings of June 14, 2021 and June 28, 2021
- b) Monthly finance.
- c) **Meeting Dates** – the regular meeting of the Mio AuSable Schools Board of Education for 2021-2022 shall be held on the second Monday of each month, except for November which will be held on the first Monday. Regular board of education meetings will start at 6:30 p.m., not to exceed 9:30 p.m., to be held in the Mio AuSable School.

Accordingly, the meeting dates are as follows:

July 12, 2021	January 10, 2022
August 9, 2021	February 14, 2022
September 13, 2021	March 14, 2022
October 11, 2021	April 11, 2022
November 1, 2021	May 9, 2022
December 13, 2021	June 13, 2022

Additionally, the first regular board meeting of the 2022-2023 school year will be July 11, 2022.

NOTE: Any changes from the above dates or the announcement and dates of any special meeting(s) shall be posted in the lobby of the school.

- d) **Depositories and Signatures** – The Mio AuSable Schools designates Fifth Third, Huntington, mBank and the Michigan School District Liquid Asset Fund Plus as the official depositories for school monies. Said designation conveys approval of all necessary forms for transacting business with

said depositories and authorizes the President, Treasurer, Superintendent and his designees to sign necessary forms, vouchers, checks, receipts, wire transfers, etc., related to the district's use of specified depositories. Food Service account depositories and signatures: Treasurer, Food Service Director, Superintendent and his designee.

- e) **Authorization for posting notices** – the Superintendent, or his designee, shall be designated as the person responsible for posting notices of all regular, rescheduled or special Board of Education meetings.
- f) **Auditors** – the Board of Education shall retain the firm Weinlander Fitzhugh as the school district's auditors for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.
- g) **Legal Counsel** – the Board of Education shall retain the firm of Thrun Law Firm, P.C. as the school district's legal counsel and representative for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.
- h) **Board Member Compensation** – the Board of Education establishes the following rates of compensation for all Officers and Trustees for the 2021-2022 fiscal year: \$30.00 per meeting attended; \$0 for absent members; \$10.00 per committee meeting attended, plus mileage at the prevailing rate; maximum compensation shall be for 52 meetings.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

**Athletic Director's Report** – In the absence of AD Courtney Beltz, HS Principal, Mr. Ahearne, provided an athletic update. The motion to allow Tawas into the North Star League was defeated at the recent league meeting. An MHSSA informative calendar was provided for the fall, winter and spring sporting events.

**Elementary Principals' Report** – Mrs. Shiffer presented the elementary report. Due to the first-grade hire accepting a position closer to home, interviews will be held again this week for that replacement. Kindergarten position has been filled by Yvonne Gusler. Joining the paraprofessional staff will be Heidi Scott. Kindergarten Connection was held on June 15, with four students attending. Kindergarten registration is ongoing. Summer School for those third-grade students that were invited was well attended. Mrs. Shiffer stated that she is in the process of learning a new system for Skyward report cards, scheduling and updating the student/family handbook, the paraprofessional handbook and creating a staff handbook for teaching staff. She will be working with Mr. Ahearne to plan an open house, coordinate PD and create the staff handbook. It is anticipated that there will be two grade level sections of each grade for 2021-2022. Mrs. Shiffer recognized the custodial staff for working so diligently, as well as working around schedules, in order to get things set up and in order for the start of school in the fall.

**Middle School / High School Principals' Report** – Mr. Ahearne provided an update. Custodial Supervisor, Matt Lewis, and the maintenance and custodial crew have been working hard to prepare for the fall. Mandie Willey has been hired to teach Spanish and create/offer a World Cultures class. Go Guardian, a mobile device monitoring system, will be implemented in the fall to assist teachers with monitoring and managing students' Chromebook activities. Red Rover and EduStaff will be implemented in the fall to help meet substitute needs. Mr. Ahearne reported that he has met with a few teachers to discuss 2021-2022 professional development. Mr. Ahearne also stated that he is extremely interested in bring some mental health awareness to the staff through our In-School Behavioral Health Therapist and our School Social Worker. School nurse, Hannah Miller, will prepare training for staff in the use of the AED. Mr. Ahearne also

plans to introduce a Reading Apprenticeship Improving Secondary Education (RAISE) program, which is a cross curricular teaching strategy. In addition, he will be introducing a Positive Culture Project which will help to maintain enthusiasm and promote student inclusion, as well as a Links Crew program which is similar to the Big Brother Big Sister program.

**Buildings and Grounds Report** – Mr. Ciske reported that the plumbing, electrical and mechanical inspections have been completed in the Wellness Center. Once the final building inspection is complete, it should be ready to go. We have contracted with Omega Electric to change the bus compound lights to LED. The portable classroom for teaching small engines is in place. Summer cleaning is progressing nicely. Gym floors have been refinished and the classroom cleaning is ahead of schedule. In the past few years we have made massive investments in technology devices. So much so, that there is less need for computer labs. We will be decommissioning two of the three computer labs. The lab in the high school will be now be called Room 101 and will be used as a meeting room or a classroom if needed. The lab in the elementary will remain Room 309 and will be subdivided as spaces for itinerant staff.

**Superintendents' Report** – Mr. Ciske presented the Superintendent Report and stated that he will be out of town on November 8, so he would like to propose the November board meeting be held on the first Monday. As previously reported, the first-grade hire reconsidered her acceptance. That position was reposted. As of July 1, the custodians became official employees of Mio AuSable Schools. The third-party company has picked up their equipment and the district made purchases as needed. We have signed with EduStaff and Red Rover for the management of our substitutes and will be working with them in the upcoming weeks to enroll our substitutes. Letters have been sent out to regular substitutes so that they are aware of the upcoming transition. The Michigan House and Senate both approved a school aid bill that raises the base foundation grade from \$8,111 to \$8,700, which is a per pupil increase of \$589.00. At this time, Mr. Ciske is not aware of any line item vetoes. The auditors began their pre-audit work today. They will return August 30-September 2 to complete the audit. They are scheduled to present the audit at the board's regular meeting in October. There were two seniors who did not pass all of their classes required for graduation. Those two students attended summer school and completed the required classes to earn their diplomas. The procedure for the student activity funds will change, with the individual funds running through the General Fund.

**Citizens' Comments** – None

**Action Items** –

**2021-2022-2**

**Hunter/Holzwarth** consider approval of preliminary budget for Student Activity Fund accounts for 2021-2022.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved

**Board Members' Comments** – Mrs. Long reported that a wrestling banquet was held to honor the wrestling athletes. Mrs. Whaley and Mrs. Holzwarth added that their grandchildren will be attending Mio AuSable Schools for the upcoming school year.

**Correspondence** - None

There was no other business.

**2021-2022-3**

Whaley/Szymanski to adjourn at 7:04 p.m.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeannette McVeigh, Recording Secretary

Cheryl La Vigne, Board Secretary