

**Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting and the Business Meeting of the  
Board of Education of Hawthorn Community Consolidated District Number 73, Lake County, Illinois  
conducted remotely per Executive Order 2020-07 in response to COVID-19.**

**7:00 p.m. on the 2nd day of April, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Robin Cleek called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:03p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Secretary George Fievet called attendance, the following members attended remotely, Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Victoria Helander-Heiser, Sonali Patil, Wesley Polen, Matt Jacobs and Robin Cleek. Also attending remotely were Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan and Abe Singh, CSBO, Director of Finance and Business Operations. School Board Member Victoria Helander-Heiser was unable to maintain an audio connection remotely and is thus not included in the voting counts.

**RECOGNITION** - President Robin Cleek recognized the entire Teaching and Learning department for working non-stop to get everything in place for E-learning and to meet the needs of our students. Thank you so much to Allison Stein, Dr. Karen Maturo, Dr. Arturo Abrego, Dr. Carie Cohen, Renee Ullberg, Lauren Boardman, Alma Tamayo; John Reid and the entire Technology Department. And thank you to the entire Hawthorn staff for getting this working as quickly and professionally as possible, we are trying to make the best of a bad situation. Also, thank you to the Key to 73 Foundation for purchasing \$18,000 worth of Wi Fi hot spots with unlimited data for three months to 150 families to ensure internet connectivity for online learning.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – No Public Comment was emailed in.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None scheduled

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** – Dr. Hannigan thanked the entire Hawthorn community for their flexibility, cooperation and patience as we navigate these challenging days together. He understands first-hand the challenges that school closures present to parents. In order to best meet the needs of our students and families we have adjusted our priorities as follows to best meet the needs of the community: Priority one is to feed and care for the needs of our students here and non-students and the community at large. Two, that we are communicating effectively with our community and sharing a cohesive message with our staff, students and community. Three, is to provide the continuity of learning for our 4200 students. Over the coming weeks we are putting plans in place to enhance our students' learning experience. We are planning to deploy devices to our students in grades pre-K through 5 who may not have consistent access to a device at home. Our goal in the coming weeks is to provide an interactive, comprehensive and formalized remote learning experience for all. As educators we do realize the current reality for our families, our first priority is to protect our students physical safety and emotional well being. With regards to home learning we are asking families to simply do the best they can under these circumstances. Once we resume school we will implement plans to ensure that students receive any additional academic support to ensure their academic success. I'm very proud of how our staff has gone the extra mile to ensure everything is in place for the students. Thank you to the Teaching and Learning department and to the Technology department to provide support and guidance for remote learning including device, student and staff support. Thank you also to CSBO Abe Singh, HR Director Adam Palmer, Director of Operations Mike Labbe and the Key to 73 for all of their support as we prepare to deploy approximately 1800 devices starting mid next week and to feed 200 families breakfast and lunch on a daily basis. Lastly, thank you to our building administrative teams and staff. They have a direct impact on our students and families every day and go above and beyond to ensure that our students and staff have a sense of togetherness, I cannot thank you enough. We look forward to seeing everyone soon.

**BOARD REPORTS**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Robin Cleek thanked the community again for their support and flexibility, this was certainly unexpected. Thank you to Dr. Hannigan for the excellent communication to our community.

**ED-RED** – Due to audio connectivity issues, School Board Member Vickey Helander-Heiser did not share her Ed-Red report at this time.

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SEDOL – Matt Jacobs indicated that there wasn't a SEDOL report at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Joel Finfer *made a motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting, seconded by Matt Jacobs; CoW meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. **All in favor.***

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**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER – Robin Cleek called the Regular Business Meeting to order at 7:10p.m.

ROLL CALL – George Fievet, called attendance with the following Board of Education members attending remotely: Joel Finfer, Sonali Patil, Wesley Polen, Matt Jacobs, George Fievet and Robin Cleek. Also attending remotely were Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan and Abe Singh, CSBO, Director of Finance and Business Operations. Victoria Helander-Heiser was unable to connect.

PUBLIC COMMENT – No additional public comment was emailed in during the business meeting.

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION – Resolution - Emergency Suspension of Policy due to COVID-19 Pandemic.  
Dr. Hannigan has explained the emergency resolution as a safeguard in case it is needed. The Resolution will be voted on as an action item during tonight's meeting. No questions were asked.

Door Hardware Supplier Contract for Middle School North Project - CSBO Abe Singh explained that this was part of Phase 2 of the EFMP, The company that we had contracted with decided to close their business and this precipitated our conducting a separate bid for a new contract, the bids were below our estimation for bids. The low bidder of \$168k was from Hardgrade Builders, which takes our total to \$933,000 for the project. Once reviewed it will be an action item at the next board meeting. No questions.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 10.1 Board Meeting minutes, 3/12/20
- 10.2 Closed Session minutes, 3/12/20
- 10.3 Closed Session minutes, 3/26/20
- 10.4 2020/2021 Board of Education Meeting Schedule  
No Personnel Report

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the **Consent Agenda**, Matt Jacobs seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Wesley Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet and Matt Jacobs.

**Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays, 1 absent**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

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- 11.1 Resolution - Emergency Suspension of Policy due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

**MOTION:** Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the Resolution for Emergency Suspension of Policy due to COVID-19 Pandemic, Matt Jacobs seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Wesley Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet and Matt Jacobs.

**Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays, 1 absent**

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11.2 Bridges Math Program

Board Member question: Any chances since it was listed on the March 12th agenda? No changes.

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the Bridges Math Program, George Fievet seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Wesley Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet and Matt Jacobs.

**Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays, 1 absent**

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11.3 Eder, Casella & Co Auditor Services Agreement

MOTION: Sonali Patil moved that the Board of Education approve the Eder, Casella & Co Auditor Services Agreement, Joel Finfer seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Wesley Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet and Matt Jacobs.

**Motion carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays, 1 absent**

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Media clips
2. FOIA log, Dr. Hannigan reported that there was 1 new FOIA request since the last board meeting which is in the process of being responded to as identified in Section 12.2 of the Board agenda.
3. Enrollment

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION:

- No topics for future discussion at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Joel Finfer *made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Matt Jacobs, meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m. All in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbi Elftmann

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Robin Cleek, President

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George Fievet, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_