

NORTON BOARD OF EDUCATION – 20-9
Special Session of April 9, 2020

The Norton Board of Education met in Special Session on April 9, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. via Google Meet/Video Meeting. President Inks called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Treasurer called the roll:

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Bennett - Present
Mr. Inks – Present
Mr. Santelli - Present
Mr. Ule - Present
Mrs. Webel - Present

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Dana Addis, Superintendent
Mrs. Stephanie Hagenbush, Treasurer

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS

None.

APPROVE AGENDA

20-58 Mr. Santelli moved that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

Mr. Ule seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mrs.Bennett,Mr.Inks,Mr.Santelli,Mr.Ule,Mrs.Webel
NAYS: None - Motion Carries 5-0

BOARD BUSINESS

20-59 Mrs. Webel moved that the Board of Education approve the Resolution Amending Board Policy Regarding Public Participation at Board Meetings and Board Member Physical Attendance at Board Meetings.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ohio House Bill 197, Section 12, signed into law by Governor DeWine on March 27, 2020, members of a public body may hold, attend, and participate in meetings by means of teleconference, video conference, or any other similar electronic technology; and

WHEREAS, in conformance with the Executive Orders of the Governor's Office and the Ohio Department of Health, issued in March, 2020, prohibiting large gatherings of people and closing school buildings in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Board has determined to exercise its authority to hold today's meeting by means of Google Meet and

WHEREAS, current Board Policy BDDF provides that a member of the Board must be physically present in order to vote at a meeting of the Board; and

WHEREAS, holding a meeting via telephone or video-conference may preclude members of the public from participating by way of public comment, as otherwise required by Board Policy BDDH and KD; and

WHEREAS, to ensure compliance with its own Policies, the Board desires to amend the prohibition against telephonic or video-conference voting by Board members under Board Policy BDDF, and amend Board Policies BDDH and KD regarding public participation; and,

WHEREAS, the Board deems the current need to immediately amend Board Policies BDDF, BDDH and KD to constitute an "emergency" so as to waive the time frames set forth under Policy BF for amendment of Board Policy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Norton City School District, Norton, Ohio, that:

Section 1. Pursuant to and in accordance with Board Policy BF, "Board Policy Development and Adoption," the Board of Education hereby finds that an emergency condition exists to permit the immediate amendment of Board Policy BDDF, and hereby amends, from the date of this meeting through December 1, 2020, Board Policy BDDF, "Voting Method," as follows:
The second-to-last paragraph is amended to state as follows:

"For passage, most other actions require an affirmative vote by a majority of those present **either physically or electronically (i.e. by teleconference, video conference, or any other similar electronic technology)** and voting. Board members must be physically present or **electronically present (i.e. by teleconference, video conference, or any other similar electronic technology)** at the meeting in order to vote."

The intent of this action is to permit members of the Board to vote during public meetings held by means of teleconference, video conference, or any other similar electronic technology, in which such 2 Board members are participants, consistent with Ohio House Bill 197, Section 12.

20-59 cont.

Section 2. Pursuant to and in accordance with Board Policy BF, "Board Policy Development and Adoption," the Board of Education hereby finds that an emergency condition exists to permit the immediate amendment of Board Policies BDDH and KD, and hereby amends, from the date of this meeting through December 1, 2020, Board Policies BDDH and KD, "Public Participation at Board Meetings," to add the following sentence at the end of each such Policy:

"In the event the Board's meeting is conducted electronically consistent with Section 12 of House Bill 197, the Board will announce at the start of each meeting whether or not public participation will be permitted for the meeting based upon whether such participation is practical given the electronic nature of the meeting."

The intent of this action is to recognize that meetings occurring electronically may not provide a practical means by which public participation may occur.

Section 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in these formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with the law.

Mr. Santelli seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mr.Inks,Mr.Santelli,Mr.Ule,Mrs.Webel,Mrs.Bennett
NAYS: None - Motion Carries 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

20-60 **Mrs. Bennett** moved that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 1:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel and negotiations.

Mrs. Webel seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mr.Santelli,Mr.Ule,Mrs.Webel,Mrs.Bennett,Mr.Inks
NAYS: None - Motion Carries 5-0

Mr. Addis and Mrs. Hagenbush were invited into the meeting.

Mr. Inks called the meeting back to public session at 2:42 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

20-61 **Mrs. Bennett** moved that the Board of Education adjourn the Special Session at 2:45 p.m.

Mr. Santelli seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Mr.Ule,Mrs.Webel,Mrs.Bennett,Mr.Inks,Mr.Santelli
NAYS: None - Motion Carries 5-0

"Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the provisions of Policy and Regulations of the Board of Education which was adopted in accordance with §121.11 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Procedures Act."

Chris Inks, President

Stephanie Hagenbush, Treasurer