

SELINGROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF MEETING – OCTOBER 14, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Selingsgrove Area School District's Board of Directors was held on Monday evening, October 14, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Selingsgrove Area Middle School, 359 Seals Avenue, Selingsgrove, PA 17870.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by the President, Mr. Larry D. Augustine.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by those in attendance.

A roll call indicated a quorum with the following members present: Mr. Larry D. Augustine, Mr. Thomas A. Badman, Ms. Mary E. Bannon, Mr. William L. Bechtel, Jr., Mr. John Molitoris, Mr. Andrew V. Paladino, Mrs. Amelia G. Stauffer, Mr. Kenneth B. Teats, Jr., Mr. Dennis R. Wolfe, and non-voting member, Dr. Chad L. Cohrs, Superintendent.

Others present were:

Mr. Troy Beaver, Mr. John Bohle, Mr. Matthew Conrad, Ms. Michelle Garman, Mr. Jeffrey Hummel, Dr. Frank Jankowski, Mrs. Susan Lipsey, Mr. Christopher Morrison, Mr. Kevin Oswald, Mr. Brian Parise, Dr. Jason Schmucker, J. Michael Wiley, Esq., and Ms. Claudia Beaver

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Molitoris and seconded by Badman to approve minutes, reports and bills lists, as presented. (copies of reports and bills lists to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

Announcements:

Mr. Augustine announced that the next regular monthly meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019. He referred to an addendum to the agenda which included additional staff elections.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Superintendent:

Dr. Cohrs referred to a handout of summary data from October reports that are sent to the state. He briefly reviewed each chart showing low income counts by school, ethnic breakdown of students, and English language learner students. (a copy of the handout to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

Dr. Cohrs mentioned that a Board/Administrator Retreat is scheduled for Thursday, November 14th at 5 p.m. The location for the retreat is still pending.

Dr. Cohrs reported that the After School Tutoring Program will begin on Tuesday, November 12th and will run through the end of March.

Business Manager:

Mr. Hummel reported that he has started planning for the 2020-2021 budget. He noted that the PA Department of Education just released the time-line, which will be affected by 3 weeks because it is based off of when the Presidential primary election is held. Therefore, by January 9th the Board would

need to place a preliminary budget on display or pass a resolution to stay within the Act 1 index. Mr. Hummel noted that the Board could pass an Act 1 Resolution at the December meeting, as he believes that we should be able to stay within the index for next year, based on some preliminary work that he has done. He explained that our base index for next year is 2.6%. Our adjusted index is 3.3% which is the maximum that real estate taxes could be increased. This translates into a millage increase of 2.277 mills. The Board would be required to pass a proposed final budget in May, with a final budget being passed in June.

Elementary School Principal:

Ms. Garman reported on a goal that she and Dr. Schmucker set last year to try to better communicate important information to parents. Since that time, they have started a monthly newsletter, they have purchased a reading connection subscription for parents, they speak at PTSO meetings, they have updated the Tier Intervention Program, and they have updated the report card somewhat. Ms. Garman noted that they are constantly asking for feedback from parents in order to continually improve.

Assistant Superintendent:

Dr. Jankowski reported that the district will begin working on the comprehensive planning process. He explained that, as a Phase 2 district, our Comprehensive Plan is due to the state in November of 2020. He noted that he will keep the Board up to date of where they are in the process over the next 13 months and that they will also be invited to participate as a stakeholder.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Finance: Mr. Molitoris, Chair, reported that a committee meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2019, at 5 p.m.

Buildings and Grounds: Mr. Badman reported that the Athletic Director has requested additional temporary handicap, van accessible, parking spaces for use during the playoff games.

Motion by Badman and seconded by Wolfe to authorize the district's Athletic Director to utilize five (5) parking spaces on Magnolia Avenue, alongside the curb, next to our three existing handicap spaces.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Badman reported that the committee will need to meet in the near future to address a request from the Borough regarding underground digging near the public swimming pool grounds.

Policy and Education: Ms. Bannon, Chair, reported that a committee meeting was held earlier in the evening and that a report will be forthcoming.

Extracurricular: No report.

Personnel/Meet and Discuss:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Stauffer to approve the following personnel matters:

Letter of Intent to Retire at the end of the 2019-2020 School Year: Karen A. Hoke as a Grade 8 ELA Teacher at the Middle School

Staff Resignations: Jenna Fisher as a Part-Time Reading Tutor Interventionist, effective September 30, 2019; and, Marylynn Forcina-Hibbert as a Special Education Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School, effective October 11, 2019

Staff Transfer: Joelle Billheim from Part-Time to Full-Time Reading Tutor Interventionist, effective retroactive to September 30, 2019 (due to the resignation of Jenna Fisher)

Staff Elections:

2019-2020 District Volunteers: Carrie Adams, Erica Amato, Susan Beiler, Amanda Bielskie, Gretchen Brouse, Rebekah Dodson, Katia Felty, Daniel Frantz, Gina Gessel, Michelle Hauck, Pamela Inch, Kristy Jordan, Ashley Kerstetter, Kathy Kling, Amanda Kovaschetz, Nicholas Kovaschetz, Gail Lehman, Patrick Long, Tanya Matlaga, Donna Prince, Colby Roman, Ashley Ruch, Antony Sandler, Nichole Sandler, Katie Sassaman, Marsha Schwab, Brian Scorsone, Tana Shaffer, Jennifer Strawser, Jennifer Troxell, Chanin Wendling, Kathryn Wolfe, and Kathy Zeigler (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

2019-2020 Volunteer Coaches: Aaron Fast, James Heinly, Christopher Houtz, Matthew Santa, Brett Treas, and Becky Geipel & Mandy Weiser (pending receipt of required paperwork) (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

Anne Parise as a Predictable Long-Term Substitute Grade 5 Teacher, effective January 21, 2020 through the end of the 2019-2020 school year (during the sabbatical leave of Lydia Jackson); Justin R. Aurand as Secretary/Clerical Assistant at the Intermediate School, at the probationary hourly rate of \$13.00, effective date to be determined (pending receipt of required paperwork) (due to the transfer of Lisa Hoot); and, Amanda Graybill as a Special Education Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School, at the hourly rate of \$10.25, effective October 15, 2019 (due to the resignation of Marylynn Forcina-Hibbert)

Substitutes: Teachers – Haley Gayoski, Sarah Kim, Erica Lauver, Kelsea Rebuck, Caitlin Seamster (pending receipt of required paperwork), Paula Shaffer, and Deanna Stock; Guest Teachers – Bronwen Sanders and Keanan Wolf; Crossing Guard – Jack Fegley; Paraprofessional – Marylynn Forcina-Hibbert; and, Food Service – Tina Einsig

On roll call vote: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

Negotiations: Mr. Molitoris, Chair, requested an Executive Session be held following adjournment to update the Board in regard to contract negotiations with the Education Association.

Transportation: Motion by Badman and seconded by Bannon to consider approving the following drivers: Leonard Long for Rohrer Bus Service; and, Tiffany Beaver, Jeremy Bowersox, Janeen Brosius, Kevin Ditty, Roy Ruhl, and Nicole Zimmerman for Weikel Busing, effective during the 2019-2020 school year.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Technology: No report.

SUN Area Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee: No report.

CSIU Board of Directors: Mr. Augustine, Representative, referred to the Board of Directors' Reports for August and September of 2019.

PSBA: Mr. Augustine, Liaison, reported that the annual fall 2019 PASA/PSBA School Leadership Conference began today with preconvention programs, and that he will attend beginning tomorrow.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Rotary Field Property Snow Removal:

Motion by Badman and seconded by Wolfe to remove from the table the recommendation of the Buildings and Grounds Committee to have the district take over snow removal of the sidewalks around the Rotary field property.

Discussion was held regarding the progress of the proposed rezoning of that area, and the school district's desire to put in an electronic sign. The rezoning would allow the district more freedom with the grounds than what we currently have. Mr. Augustine feels that, with the retirement of the Borough Manager, that a decision will not be made by January.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion by Badman and seconded by Bannon to amend the original motion to include to approve taking over the snow removal for the 2019-2020 school year only.

The majority ruled in favor of the amendment, with Stauffer and Teats voting no.

A roll call vote was taken to approve the recommendation of the Buildings and Grounds Committee to have the district take over snow removal of the sidewalks around the Rotary field property during the 2019-2020 school year only.

On roll call vote: 7 yes, 2 no (Stauffer & Teats), 0 absent

Mr. Badman noted that Mr. Beaver will keep track of the expenses incurred in regard to personnel and equipment necessary for the snow removal around the Rotary field property.

NEW BUSINESS

Business Matters:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Molitoris to consider the recommendation of the Business Manager to approve a list of requests for tax exoneration, as presented. (a copy of the list to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

Extended Day Field Trips:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Badman to consider approving the following:

A request from the High School Principal for four Selinsgrove students to attend an extended day field trip with SUN Area Technical Institute to Washington DC, on November 13, 2019. Selected students will visit the National Emergency Training Center in Maryland and the Pentagon. (There is no cost to the district.); and,

A request for an extended day field trip from the High School Principal made on behalf of the High School Chorus to travel to New York City to attend a Broadway show on Saturday, March 7, 2020. (cost associated covered by the Chorus Boosters) (Departure at 7 a.m. and return at 10 p.m.).

The motion was unanimously carried.

Board Discussion:

Mr. Molitoris noted that he has become aware that parents are not familiar with the availability of an Adults Athletic Pass which can be purchased for \$40 for admission to 10 regular season home games. He also expressed concern regarding the requirement of student athletes, who are already paying a participation fee, but still having to pay an admission fee to other sporting events. Mr. Badman noted that this concern could be discussed by the Extracurricular Committee. Mr. Molitoris also expressed concern regarding teams being denied access to fields by the Athletic Director. Dr. Cohrs indicated that he would speak to the Athletic Director regarding access to fields, as well as look into advertising of the athletic passes.

Mr. Teats questioned regarding possible hail damage to school facilities. Mr. Beaver responded that very minor damage was reported at the Intermediate and High School buildings. He indicated that he forwarded the results of the inspection to Mr. Badman, as chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Mr. Teats questioned if the district's bus routes are set up as efficiently as possible? Mr. Molitoris remarked that he has also wondered about that. Mr. Hummel noted that Mark Wolfberg, Transportation Coordinator, makes every effort to make the runs as economically efficient as possible.

Mr. Wolfe questioned if the original sewer authority is still holding out on new hookups? Dr. Cohrs responded that he believes that they are. Mr. Wolfe feels that this will result in lost revenue for the district. Discussion was held on how to proceed with voicing the district's concern in this regard.

Adjournment:

Mr. Augustine reminded Board members that an Executive Session regarding negotiations would be held immediately following adjournment.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia A. Beaver
Recording Secretary

cab/min 2019-10-14