

SELINGROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF MEETING – MARCH 9, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Selingsgrove Area School District's Board of Directors was held on Monday evening, March 9, 2020, 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 7:02 p.m. by the President, Mr. Dennis R. Wolfe.

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. William L. Bechtel, Jr., Mr. David W. Hess, Dr. Jennifer Rager-Kay, Mrs. Amelia G. Stauffer, Mr. Kenneth B. Teats, Jr., Mr. Dennis R. Wolfe, and non-voting member, Dr. Chad L. Cohrs, Superintendent. Mr. Larry D. Augustine, Board Member, was absent.

Others present were:

Mr. John Bohle, Mr. Jeffrey Hummel, Dr. Frank Jankowski, Mrs. Susan Lipsey, Mr. Christopher Morrison, Mr. Kevin Oswald, Mr. Brian Parise, Mr. Paul Roman, Mr. J. Michael Wiley, Esq., Ms. Claudia Beaver, Mr. Faron Hollenbach, Nina Billhime, Alexandra Mullen, Andy Paladino, Colby Snook, Brian Henninger, and Travis Martin

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Stauffer 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: 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Announcements:

Mr. Wolfe noted that an Executive Session regarding student affairs was held prior to the start of the Board Meeting. He announced that the next regular monthly Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2020.

Opportunity for Public Comment:

Sergeant First Class Brian Henninger, a PA Army National Guard Recruiter, addressed the Board and introduced himself as a newly assigned recruiter for the area and our district. He noted that he is responsible for providing future employment information to our students and for explaining the many benefits and incentives provided by PAARNG. Sergeant Henninger noted that the National Guard is all about keeping it local and keeping it in the community.

Board Discussion:

Mr. Bechtel addressed Mr. Teats regarding his comments at the February meeting. Mr. Bechtel acknowledged that there will be times when they don't agree, but it should be handled like adults. Mr. Teats apologized for his comments.

Motion by Bechtel and seconded by Stauffer to accept the resignation of Thomas A. Badman as School Board Director, effective March 6, 2020.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Interview and Appointment of School Board Members:

Mr. Wolfe noted that the Board currently has two vacancies to fill due to the recent resignations of John Molitoris (February) and Tom Badman. Both of these positions will become effective immediately through December of 2021. Mr. Wolfe indicated that the position of Board Member was advertised and five individuals expressed an interest in being considered. Those candidates are Andy Paladino, Alexandra Mullen, Matt Slivinski, Colby Snook and Nina Billhime. (Four of the five candidates were present at the meeting with the exception of Matt Slivinski who was out of the area and was listening/responding via cell phone)

At this point in time, all five candidates were given the opportunity to answer/respond to the following questions: 1) Tell us about yourself and why you want to serve as a Board member? 2) What do you see as strengths of the district? 3) What do you see as areas for improvement in the district and how would you suggest improving them? And, 4) What challenges do you see the district having to face in the short term and in the long term?

Mr. Wolfe expressed thanks to all of the candidates for their interest in the district and their thoughtful answers. At this time, Mr. Wolfe asked for nominations. It was noted that nominations do not require a second.

Motion by Bechtel and seconded by Hess to nominate Andy Paladino as Board Member.

Motion by Rager-Kay to nominate Matt Slivinski as Board Member.

Motion by Bechtel and seconded by Rager-Kay to close nominations. The motion was unanimously carried.

A voice vote was taken to appoint either Andy Paladino or Matt Slivinski, as follows: Bechtel – Paldino; Hess – Paladino; Rager-Kay – Slivinski; Stauffer - Paladino; Teats – Paladino; and, Wolfe – Paladino.

Mr. Andrew V. Paladino will serve as Board Member, effective immediately through December of 2021.

Motion by Hess and seconded by Bechtel to nominate Matt Slivinski as Board Member.

Motion by Teats to nominate Colby Snook as Board Member.

Motion by Stauffer and seconded by Teats to close nominations. The motion was unanimously carried.

A voice vote was taken to appoint either Matt Slivinski or Colby Snook, as follows: Hess – Slivinski; Rager-Kay – Slivinski; Stauffer – Slivinski; Teats – Snook; Wolfe – Snook; and Bechtel - Slivinski.

Mr. Matthew A. Slivinski will serve as Board Member, effective immediately through December of 2021.

It was noted that Mr. Paladino would be sworn in at the end of the meeting and that Mr. Slivinski would be sworn in at a future date.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Superintendent:

Dr. Cohrs expressed congratulations to Nate Schon, Coy Bastian, and Ryan Aument for participating in the State Wrestling Tournament. He noted that Nate Schon placed second in the state.

Dr. Cohrs announced that tickets are currently on sale for the High School Musical "Mamma Mia" which will be held March 19-21, 2020, in the Middle School auditorium.

Dr. Cohrs remarked that he is spending a lot of time monitoring the coronavirus and putting plans in place in regard to student field trips.

Business Manager:

Mr. Hummel noted that a Budget and Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled in the near future to review the preliminary 2020-2021 general operating budget as well as results of the local audit report.

Other Administrative Reports:

Mr. Bohle, MS Principal, recognized the following students for competing in the WITF Grand Championship Oral Spelling Bee: Emerson Zobal (Grade 8) finished 6th, Rui Wang (Grade 7) finished 13th; and, Kendrina Keller (Grade 7) finished 18th. Mr. Bohle noted that Emerson placed in the top ten of the competition all three years as a Middle School student.

Dr. Jankowski, Assistant Superintendent, announced that a presentation regarding Technology Safety will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2020, at 7 p.m. District parents have been invited to attend and the presentation is also open to the public. Dr. Jankowski noted that the district's middle school and high school students will also receive this presentation during the day on Thursday.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Finance: Mr. Hummel noted that a committee meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

Buildings and Grounds: No report.

Policy and Education: No report.

Extracurricular: Mr. Bechtel, Chair, announced that a meeting with Winter Coaches is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 2020, to evaluate the programs.

Personnel/Meet and Discuss: Motion by Rager-Kay and seconded by Stauffer to approve the following personnel matters:

Staff Elections: Amanda Eisenhauer as a Part-Time (3 hours per day) 1:1 Paraprofessional for a Middle School student, at an hourly rate of \$10.25, effective date to be determined (pending receipt of required paperwork); 2019-2020 District Volunteers: Garrett Benner, Amanda Erhardt, April Hollenbach, Katarina Keller, Colleen Moyer, and Shandra Wray (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation); and, 2019-2020 Volunteer Softball Coach: Tawyna Pliska (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation); and, William Hoffman as a Special Education Paraprofessional at the Middle School, at an hourly rate of \$13.50, tentatively effective March 25, 2020 (pending receipt of required paperwork) (due to the transfer of Paula Freed)

Leave of Absence: Brittany Bunting Specht for a Sabbatical Leave for Professional Development, during the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year

Substitutes: Teachers – Susan Reisinger and Amy Stauffer (pending receipt of required paperwork)

Staff Resignation: Denise L. Daniels as a Special Education Paraprofessional at the Selinsgrove Elementary School, effective March 27, 2020

Staff Transfer: Paula Freed from Special Education Paraprofessional at the Middle School to Part-Time Utility Aide at the Middle School, effective March 30, 2020 (due to the resignation of Kyle Kelly)

On roll call vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Negotiations: Mr. Wolfe noted that an Executive Session regarding negotiations will be held immediately following adjournment of the Board meeting.

Transportation: Motion by Stauffer and seconded by Teats to approve Lori Bower and LeeAnn White as drivers for Weikel Busing, effective during the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

On roll call vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Technology: No report.

SUN Area Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee: Mr. Teats, Representative, recognized those Selinsgrove students who recently placed at the SkillsUSA District 6 Competition and noted that they will move onto the State competition which will be held in Hershey later this month.

CSIU Board of Directors: No report due to Mr. Augustine's absence.

PSBA: No report due to Mr. Augustine's absence.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Board Policies:

Motion by Rager-Kay and seconded by Teats to approve second and final reading revisions to the following Board Policies: No. 201 – Admission of Students, and No. 233 – Suspension and Expulsion.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Bid Award:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Stauffer to approve awarding the base bid and alternate #2 to Gutelius Excavating in the amount of \$394,600, as presented. (a copy of the bid results to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Business Matters:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Stauffer 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 Rager-Kay and seconded by Stauffer to approve the following requests from the Middle School Principal for extended day field trips:

On behalf of MS chorus students to attend and participate in Chorus Fest held at the Lewisburg Area High School on Friday, May 1, 2020. (Departure at 8 a.m. and return after evening performance); and,

On behalf of Eighth Grade Class to travel to Philadelphia to tour historic sites (Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, etc.) on Wednesday, June 3, 2020 (departure at 8:30 a.m. and return at 8:30 p.m.)

The motion was unanimously approved.

Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit 2020-2021 General Operating Budget:

Motion by Hess and seconded by Stauffer to consider approving the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit 2020-2021 General Operating Budget, as presented. (a copy of the budget to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Special Education Plan - 7/1/20 to 6/30/23:

Motion by Rager-Kay and seconded by Teats to consider approving the Special Education Plan dated 7/1/20-6/30/23, as presented. (to be submitted to PDE after being on display for 28 days for public inspection) (a copy to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Settlement Agreement and Release:

Motion by Stauffer and seconded by Teats to consider approving the Settlement Agreement and Release, as presented.

On roll call vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

School Board Treasurer:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Rager-Kay to appoint Andrew Paladino as Board Treasurer to complete the unexpired term of Tom Badman, effective immediately through June 30, 2020.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Board Discussion:

Mr. Wolfe administered the oath of office to Andrew V. Paladino as required by Section 321 of the Pennsylvania School Code. (NOTE: Matthew Slivinski was sworn in on 3/26/20 by a Notary public. Copies of both sworn oaths of office to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

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

Adjournment:

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia A. Beaver
Recording Secretary

cab/min 2020-03-09