

SELINGSGROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF MEETING – OCTOBER 12, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Selingsgrove Area School District's Board of Directors was held on Tuesday evening, October 12, 2021, 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, Mr. Andrew V. Paladino, Atty. Matthew A. Slivinski, Mrs. Amelia G. Stauffer, Mrs. Kara L. Taylor, Mr. Kenneth B. Teats, Jr., Mr. Dennis R. Wolfe, and non-voting member, Dr. Frank R. Jankowski, Superintendent. Mr. Larry D. Augustine, Board Member, was absent.

Others present were: Mr. John Bohle, Dr. Matthew Conrad, Mr. Erick Decker, Ms. Michelle Garman, Mr. Damian Gessel, Mr. Jeffrey Hummel, Mrs. Susan Lipsey, Mr. Paul Roman, Mr. Justin Simpson, Mr. J. David Smith, Esq., Mr. Mark Wolfberg, Mr. Troy Hickman, Ms. Claudia Beaver, Angelo Picerno, Mike Herrold, Megan Herrold, Kaylin Herrold, Rich Zeigler, Susan Crawford, Danielle Sawyer, Ashley Shaffer, Joe Sawyer, Kim Rigel, Stephanie Heddings, and Jill Beatty

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Stauffer and seconded by Teats 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: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Announcements:

Mr. Wolfe announced that an Executive Session regarding personnel was held earlier in the evening. He also announced that the next regular monthly Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021.

Opportunity for Public Comment:

Mike and Megan Herrold were present to inquire concerning election to the position of Library Clerical Assistant at the Intermediate School. Mr. Wolfe noted that the election is not on the agenda for action that evening and that personnel matters cannot be discussed publicly.

Mr. Wolfe reminded those individuals present to complete a request to comment form if they wish to address the Board.

Board Discussion

Dr. Jankowski reported that there are no proposed changes to the Health and Safety Plan which remains the same as was Board approved on September 13, 2021.

Discussion was held concerning the proposed School Board Resolution Regarding Local Decision Making. Dr. Jankowski reviewed the resolution and noted that "from the Board's perspective, the lack of an informed communicative approach with local decision-makers from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Pennsylvania Department of Education continues to cause confusion and unnecessary hardship to the District, the community, and most importantly the students."

Dr. Jankowski stated that, in short, we are notifying respective departments of the Commonwealth that we are not pleased with the fact that we are continually on the receiving end of decisions, when we are not consulted on how to handle things at the local level, and our input is not sought.

Motion by Stauffer and seconded by Hess to consider the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a Local Decision-Making Resolution, as presented. (a copy of the resolution to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Superintendent:

Dr. Jankowski commented that, October 27th, the end of the first marking period, is quickly approaching. He noted the district is working towards creating more formal communication approaches between our staff and our families. Dr. Jankowski reported that Parent/Teacher conferences are being scheduled at the K-5 level to enhance that communication so that we can continue to work together to meet the needs of our students.

Business Manager:

Mr. Hummel reported that the audit of the 2020-2021 fiscal year is wrapping up and final financial statements should soon be available for review by the Budget and Finance Committee. He also reported that the preliminary stages of planning for the 2022-2023 budget has begun. Mr. Hummel noted that the state released the Act 1 index, which is the percentage increase that the district is allowed on real estate taxes. The base index is 3.4% and the adjusted index is 4.4%, which is a little over three mills which would be the cap on what the district can increase its' millage by. Mr. Hummel noted that the district is not proposing a three mill increase at this time.

Director of Facilities and Athletics:

Mr. Simpson reported that the Boys' Golf Team competed in the District IV AAA tournament and won, they then lost at the Regional Tournament and will not move on. Sam Wetmiller played in District Singles and will move on to play in the Regional Tournament on Tuesday, October 19, 2021. He reported that Fiona Finnerty and Avery DeFazio competed in the Girls' Tennis District IV Singles tournament and will move on to play in the semi-finals in South Williamsport. The Girls' Tennis team competed in the District IV Tournament, beating Jersey Shore, and will move on to play Thursday. Mr. Simpson noted that, at this time, all other teams are still in the regular season.

Mr. Simpson brought the Board up to date on capital projects which included the completion of three campus paving projects and noted that the Middle School elevator repair project continues to be delayed due to obtaining a controller.

School Safety Coordinator/Chief of Police

Mr. Wolfberg reported that Gary Martinez, the district's newest officer, was sworn in that day at the Snyder County Courthouse and will begin working in full uniform as of tomorrow.

High School Principal

Dr. Conrad reported that the High School is currently celebrating Homecoming Spirit Week where each day of the week has a different theme with contests hosted by the Student Council. Friday will be the Homecoming football game where the court will be recognized as well as three distinguished alumni. He also reported that the Alumni Association will be holding their first annual golf tournament on Friday at the Country Club.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Finance: No report.

Buildings and Grounds: Mr. Teats, Chair, reviewed the minutes of the meeting held on October 4, 2021. (a copy of the minutes to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Teats to consider approving the recommendation of the committee to purchase a Kubota Model D1105 tractor with a V-plow and salt spreader attachments for a cost of \$26,039.20. (CO-STARS state contract pricing) (funding through capital reserve). (a copy of the quote to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (Stauffer), 1 absent

Policy and Education: Mr. Hess, Chair, reviewed the minutes of the meeting held on October 4, 2021. (a copy of the minutes to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Teats to consider the recommendation of the committee to approve revisions to Board Policy No. 122 – Extracurricular Activities, as presented. (a copy of the policy to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

Extracurricular: Mr. Bechtel, Chair, commented that interviews were held, and the committee is recommending Justin Keiser as Boys' Varsity Basketball Head Coach.

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

Staff Resignations: Jason Daniels as Learning Support Paraprofessional at the High School, effective October 8, 2021; Stuart Zeiders as Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach and as Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach, effective immediately; Thomas Kerstetter as Grade 8 Boys' Basketball Coach, effective immediately

Staff Elections: Susan S. Roupp as a Utility Aide at the Intermediate School, at the hourly rate of \$11.00, effective retroactive to October 5, 2021; Gerald Mull as a Crossing Guard, tentatively effective October 13, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$16.14 (pending receipt of required paperwork); Justin Keiser as Boys' Varsity Basketball Head Coach, effective October 12, 2021; Jamie Shambach as 7th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach, effective October 11, 2021; Faithe Bastian as 8th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach, effective October 11, 2021; Aidan Finnerty as Girls' Tennis Assistant Coach, effective September 20, 2021; Paul Herrold as a Volunteer Jr. High Softball Coach, effective September 20, 2021; 2021-2022 Elementary Girls' Basketball League Coordinator – Denyel Decker

2021-2022 Elementary Girls' Basketball Program Volunteer Coaches: Adanma Akujieze, Rob Beierschmitt, Mike Berge, Ryan Hammaker, Jenica Hummel, Frank Jankowski, Crystal McCarthy, Marcus Nino, Nakita Robinson, Susan Roupp, Jamie Shambach, Steve Shambach, Ryan Shamp, Amiee Snyder, Shaunda Snyder, Brett Treas, Alex Ulsh, Mandy Weiser (pending receipt of required paperwork, without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

2021-2022 District Volunteers: Joslyn Gower, Theresa Hackenberg, Pamela Inch, Jennifer Kerstetter, Mindy Kobel, Tara Lerch, Jessica Long, Trisha Mull, Maureen Pugh, Adrienne Robbins, Nate Roman, Christina Sampsell, Talayna Schell, and Christine Witmer (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

Substitutes: Teacher – Brett Swineford (pending receipt of required paperwork); Guest Teacher – Amy Ward; Aide – Devon Somers

On roll call vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Transportation: No report.

Technology: No report.

SUN Area Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee: No report.

CSIU Board of Directors: No report.

PSBA: Mr. Hess, Liaison, reported that there are several pieces of legislation currently going through the State House that the Board needs to pay attention to. He named HB 1892, HB 1254, and HB 1685, which all pertain to Cyber and Charter School funding and expansion. He suggested that Board members read through the written descriptions provided in PSBA's Daily Editions and click on the links indicating where they stand on the issue.

NEW BUSINESS

Business Matters:

Motion by Stauffer and seconded by Teats to consider the recommendation of the Business Manager to approve a list of requests for tax exoneration, as presented.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Extended Day Field Trip:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Hess to consider approving a request from the High School Principal for an extended day field trip made on behalf of the High School Chorus to travel to Carnegie Hall in New York City, Friday, March 18 through Monday, March 21, 2022.

Dr. Jankowski commented that the High School Chorus is being honored with an opportunity to perform at Carnegie Hall in NYC. However, NYC has an indoor expectation which requires proof of vaccination status. He wanted to clarify that the school district is not requiring them to be vaccinated. Dr. Jankowski added that this is not a required event, and the district is not saying that they can't go, but if they go, they must meet the vaccination expectation set forth by New York City.

On roll call vote: 7 yes, 1 no (Stauffer), 1 absent

Board Discussion:

Dr. Jankowski noted that, as mentioned by Mr. Parise at the September meeting, the district is in the process of updating its' current Comprehensive Plan, which is due to be submitted by the end of November. He noted that a draft of the plan can be found on the district's website on the Curriculum and Instruction page and that the plan will be on the November agenda for Board consideration.

Dr. Jankowski reported that in June the Board approved the purchase and installation of Promethean Boards in district classrooms using a portion of ESSER Funds. He announced that these interactive screens are being delivered this week and installation will begin at the high school level and will continue throughout the district over the next few weeks.

Mr. Wolfe spoke regarding his idea to speak to Civics and WAHG classes regarding School Boards and how they operate as well as the workings of local government. He explained that he was unable to do so because of the COVID shut down and restrictions and that his time on the Board is coming to an end. Mr. Wolfe asked that the Board does not let the idea drop.

Mrs. Stauffer requested the approximate number of students who are out on a daily basis due to COVID. Dr. Jankowski responded that there has been a total of 91 confirmed cumulative cases (students/staff) through the end of September. So far, there have been 184 students/staff contact traced from those 91. Which averages about two persons per case, which is lower than average, or an average of 5-6 students absent per day. Dr. Jankowski added that the district just had the largest number of cases in a month, compared to any previous months last year. He also added that we have not had any shutdowns, because they are not required this year. It was also noted that everyone is masking indoors, unless they have a district approved exemption on file.

Adjournment:

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia A. Beaver
Recording Secretary

cab/min101221