

SELINGSGROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF MEETING – APRIL 11, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Selingsgrove Area School District's Board of Directors was held on Monday evening, April 11, 2022, 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 7:10 p.m. by the President, Mr. David W. Hess.

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. Christopher A. Aikey, Mr. Larry D. Augustine, Mr. William L. Bechtel, Jr., Mr. David W. Hess, Mr. Andrew V. Paladino, Atty. Matthew A. Slivinski, Mrs. Kara L. Taylor, Mr. Kenneth B. Teats, Jr., Mr. David M. Watto, and non-voting member, Dr. Frank R. Jankowski, Superintendent.

Others present were: Mr. John Bohle, Dr. Matthew Conrad, Mr. Erick Decker, Ms. Michelle Garman, Mr. Damian Gessel, Mr. Jeffrey Hummel, Mr. Brian Parise, Mr. Paul Roman, Mr. Justin Simpson, Mr. J. Michael Wiley, Esq., Mr. Mark Wolfberg, Ms. Claudia Beaver, Paul Bozella, Joy Hahn, Mandi Mladenoff, James Czarnaski, and Rick Zeigler.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Slivinski 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)

The motion was unanimously carried.

Announcements:

Mr. Hess announced that the next regular monthly Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 9, 2022. He also announced that a brief Executive Session regarding a legal matter was held prior to the start of the Board meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Jankowski reported that he recently attended a meeting with other regional Superintendents and representatives from the PA Department of Education. He noted that there were two main focal points of that meeting. Those topics were staffing concerns and shortages throughout the Commonwealth, as well as the need to support schools in their quest for mental health supports available to students within their respective communities.

Dr. Jankowski reported that the district is in the midst of advertising for vacancies for next school year. He remarked that he is confident that we will be able to fill the positions with strong individuals that will serve the district well.

Business Manager

Mr. Hummel reported that work continues on the 2022-2023 budget for next year. He noted that a draft of the budget was reviewed at the Budget and Finance Committee held earlier in the evening. Mr. Hummel explained that the proposed final budget will be presented for adoption at the May Board meeting, with final adoption at the June meeting along with the Tax and Budget Resolution which sets the tax rate. He noted that the committee also reviewed the audit report results on which we received a clean opinion.

Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Parise reported that our administrators and guidance counselors are working on preparing for the administration of state assessments of PSSA's and Keystones, noting that PSSA's start next week.

Mr. Parise also reported that the district has received additional grant funding, from ESSER and ARP, in the amount of \$19,000 to support students who are experiencing homelessness.

Athletic Director

Mr. Simpson gave an update on winter sports. He reported that Maddie Rowan placed 17th in the state bowling tournament. He also noted that both the boys and girls bowling teams qualified for the regional tournament, and that this was the first time in at least 10 years that the boys' team qualified. Mr. Simpson reported that Aiden Gaugler, a senior, qualified for the first time for the state wrestling tournament. He noted that the girls' basketball team qualified for the state tournament and lost in the first round.

Intermediate School Principal

Mr. Roman reported that a successful Math Night was held on April 7th at the Intermediate School, with over a hundred students and their families in attendance. He publicly acknowledged teachers Mike Shay and Elizabeth Vasquez for their hard work in pulling the night together and for helping making it a success.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Finance: Mr. Paladino, Chair, reported that a committee meeting was held prior to the Board meeting. He reiterated that the committee received a review of the preliminary budget and the results of the audit report. Mr. Paladino expressed thanks to Mr. Hummel and everyone that supports the audit and all the work that goes into it.

Buildings and Grounds: As a follow-up to a request made by Mr. Teats, Dr. Jankowski noted that he will be reaching out to Board members seeking dates of availability in order to schedule an opportunity for members to tour the district as a group during the school day to see some of the facilities and daily operations.

Policy and Education: No report.

Extracurricular: Mr. Bechtel, Chair, reported that Winter Coaches review meetings were held on April 7th and 8th. He commented on Mr. Simpson's summary of the successes of our winter sports team. He also noted that the district will need to fill the position of Head Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach.

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

Letter of Intent to Retire: Dianne Longwell as a Grade 6 Social Studies Teacher, effective October 5, 2022

Rescinding Letter of Intent to Retire at the End of the 2021-2022 School Year: Kevin Oswald as Director of Food & Nutrition

Staff Resignations: Brenda Folio as a Grade 6 Science Teacher, effective June 3, 2022, due to retirement; Rhonda Shimko as a Grade 1 Teacher, effective June 3, 2022, due to retirement; Tina Hertzog as a K-2 Reading Tutor, June 3, 2022, due to retirement; Aaron Ettinger as Head Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach, effective March 22, 2022; Michael Gaugler as Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach, effective April 3, 2022; Jack Fegley (verbal) as Utility Aide at the High School, effective March 23, 2022; Mark Piermattei as Assistant Jr. High Wrestling Coach, effective April 8, 2022

Staff Transfers – Effective with the 2022-2023 School Year, as presented: Michelle Garman from K-2 Elementary Principal to K-5 Assistant Principal; Damian Gessel from Middle School Asst. Principal to K-2 Elementary Principal; Paul Roman from High School Asst. Principal to Intermediate School Principal; Paul Bozella from High School English Teacher to High School Asst. Principal; Emily Wright from Kindergarten Teacher to K-2 Elementary Librarian; and, Amy Veach from Elementary School Guidance Counselor to High School Guidance Counselor

Staff Elections: 2021-2022 District Volunteers: Meghan Balum, Donna Boyer, Katarina Keller, and Mako Klisiewicz (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

2021-2022 Volunteer Coaches: Dom Cecco – Boys' Lacrosse; Jordan Chappell – Softball; and Andrew Sickle – Boys' Lacrosse (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

Substitutes: Teacher – Richard Zellers; Guest Teachers – Julia Loudenback, Matthew Murry, Kaitlin Putric, and Shane Spriggle; Student Teacher Monitor – Kaitlin Homberg

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

Transportation: Motion by Augustine and seconded by Slivinski to consider the recommendation of the Transportation Coordinator to approve Erin Gingrich and Justina Hudson as drivers for Weikel Busing, and Joyce Gessner and Jeffrey Miller as van drivers for Rohrer Bus Service, during the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

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

Technology: No report.

SUN Area Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee: Mr. Teats, Representative, reported that a retreat is scheduled for JOC members on Wednesday, April 20 at 6 p.m. and that the regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, 2022. Mr. Teats also reported that the certificate awards program will be held on May 25 at 6:30 p.m. and the rain date for the program is May 26, 2022.

CSIU Board of Directors: No report.

PSBA: Mr. Hess, Liaison, reported on three important pieces of legislation that are being introduced. He suggested that members take a look at House Bill 2169, a tuition voucher program for students, and contact local legislators with their thoughts on the program. Mr. Hess referenced Senate Bill 1143 – Payment in Lieu of Tax. He explained that state owned lands are exempt from local property taxation, and to make up for the exemption of this land for taxation, the Commonwealth makes a payment to local governments for this land. Mr. Hess explained that proposed legislation would ensure that the rate for PILT would be annually adjusted with the rate of inflation. Lastly, he referenced House Bill 2468, which is proposed legislation that would amend the Public School Code to establish Student Mental Health Focused grants.

NEW BUSINESS

Business Matters:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Augustine 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)

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

Settlement Agreement and Release:

Motion by Aikey and seconded by Augustine to approve the Settlement Agreement and Release, as presented. (a copy of the agreement to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

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

Adjournment:

Dr. Jankowski called attention to the list of staff transfers on the agenda, involving four administrators and two teachers, which will go into effect with the 2022-2023 school year.

Mr. Teats raised the subject of making arrangements for those students that did not get to take the traditional eighth grade tour of the SUN Technical Institute, due to the pandemic. Discussion was held regarding making this happen and when it would work best with scheduling.

Attorney Slivinski questioned when graduation is scheduled. Dr. Jankowski reported that it is scheduled to be held on June 2nd at the stadium.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia A. Beaver
Recording Secretary

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