

SELINGROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF MEETING – NOVEMBER 21, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Selingsgrove Area School District's Board of Directors was held on Monday evening, November 21, 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 7:02 p.m. by the President, Mr. David W. Hess.

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

Mr. Hess asked that everyone remain standing silently for a moment of reflection and respect due to the recent passing of fellow Board Member Larry Augustine.

Dr. Jankowski noted that Mr. Augustine resigned from the Board on Thursday, October 27th and passed away on Friday, October 28th. He took a few minutes to reflect on Larry Augustine's commitment as an educational and community leader. Dr. Jankowski spoke of Larry's 50 years of distinguished service at Susquehanna University, his 35 years of service on our district's Board of Directors in various positions, his service on the CSIU's Board of Directors, as well his service as PSBA's Executive Board Member for two years. He commented that Larry was also known for his beautiful Christmas display which would light up the sky and drew people from near and far. Dr. Jankowski expressed thanks for his dedicated service to the district, noting that we will be forever grateful.

A roll call indicated a quorum with the following members present: Mr. Christopher A. Aikey, 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., Dr. David M. Watto, and non-voting member, Dr. Frank R. Jankowski, Superintendent.

Others present were: Mr. Paul Bozella, Dr. Matthew Conrad, Mr. Erick Decker, Mr. Damian Gessel, Mr. Jeffrey Hummel, Mrs. Susan Lipsey, Dr. Colton Moyer, Mr. Kevin Oswald, Mr. Brian Parise, Mr. Justin Simpson, Mr. J. Michael Wiley, Esq., Mr. Mark Wolfberg, Ms. Claudia Beaver, Angelo Picerno, Mike Stebila, Joy Hahn, Dennis Wolfe, Anabel Menifee, and Ethan Bell.

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 is scheduled to be held on Monday, December 5, 2022. He also announced that Executive Sessions were held on November 8, 2022, and prior to tonight's Board meeting, regarding legal and personnel matters.

Dr. Watto requested that the Board consider moving the December 5th meeting to December 6th. Mr. Bechtel noted that he will be out of the area and unavailable to attend in person on either of those dates. Mr. Hess responded that Dr. Watto's request will be taken into consideration.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Jankowski reported that he recently attended a Superintendent's Leadership Retreat, sponsored by the CSIU and IU 29, which he found to be very valuable.

Dr. Jankowski noted that he was invited by the American Legion Post #44 in Northumberland to serve as a panelist and speak at a suicide awareness discussion that was held on November 16th. He commented that it was a valuable experience and gave him an opportunity to create additional networks for trying to propel that message and raise awareness of local support.

Dr. Jankowski also reported that on Friday, November 18th, he had an opportunity through an invitation to speak at the Dream Conference which was held at Susquehanna University. His message at the conference was how we are offering an opportunity to invest in young people, and for them to invest in themselves and their personal opportunity for success in the future, and success subsequently for our society.

High School Principal

Dr. Conrad reported that Selinsgrove SUN Area Technical Institute students, Ben Malehorn and Faylee Showers, were named as Young Americans for September and October, respectively.

He reported that Henry Wetmiller placed in the top 10 in the State, thus far, for the Fall Stock Market Game.

Dr. Conrad also reported that eight students recently qualified at PMEA District Band.

Director of Food and Nutrition

Mr. Oswald extended an invitation to all Board Members to be his guest for the Thanksgiving meal to be held tomorrow.

Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Parise reported that he is requesting a letter of support from the Board for the district's mental health and school safety/security grant application through the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency. He explained that the letter of support is a requirement of the grant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Finance: Mr. Paladino, Chair, reported that a committee meeting was held on November 9, 2022.

Motion by Watto and seconded by Slivinski to consider approving the year-end budgetary surplus transfer and designation of the General Fund Balance as of 6/30/22 as follows:

- a. Transfer \$1.0 million of 2021-22 General Fund Surplus to the Capital Reserve Fund
- b. And make the following General Fund Balance designations for 6/30/22

Designation of Fund Balance:	Balance 6/30/2021	2021-22 Designation	Balance 6/30/2022
General Fund			
Assigned	\$ 114,270	\$ (15,940)	\$ 98,330
Restricted - Special Ed ACCESS Program	\$ 375,650	\$ 133,568	\$ 509,218
Nonspendable - Inventory of Supplies	\$ 43,706	\$ (4,775)	\$ 38,931
Nonspendable - Prepaid Expenses	\$ 259,610	\$ (87,156)	\$ 172,454
Committed - Real Estate Tax Appeals	\$ 200,000	\$ (53,875)	\$ 146,125
Committed - Retiree Healthcare	\$ 2,570,371	\$ (425,000)	\$ 2,145,371
Committed - cybercharter school expenses	\$ 312,000	\$ (312,000)	\$ -
Committed - PSERS	\$ 3,714,716	\$ -	\$ 3,714,716
Committed - Instructional support positions	\$ -	\$ 1,425,000	\$ 1,425,000
Unassigned	\$ 2,946,211	\$ -	\$ 2,946,211
Total Fund Balances	\$10,536,534	\$ 659,822	\$ 11,196,356

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

Buildings and Grounds: Mr. Teats, Chair, reported that a committee meeting was held November 9, 2022. He noted that the committee reviewed the proposal from LIVIC Civil being presented for Board approval, as well as discussed future projects.

Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Paladino to consider approving the proposal from LIVIC Civil to prepare bidding documents for the Selinsgrove Elementary Playground Project at a cost of \$5,800. (funding from the capital reserve account) (a copy of the proposal to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy and Education: No report.

Extracurricular: No report from the Committee, however, Mr. Simpson gave a brief overview of the fall sports successes.

Personnel/Meet and Discuss: Motion by Bechtel and seconded by Teats to approve a request from Employee #000-00-2385 for an unpaid leave of absence December 2, 2022, through January 6, 2023.

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

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

Letters of Intent to Retire at the End of the 2022-2023 School Year: Kerry Moser as a K-5 & 9-12 ESL Teacher; Raymond Moyer as a High School Mathematics Teacher; Danette Pope as a Grade 3 Teacher; Steve Sees as a Grade 4 Teacher; and Wendy Watkins as a Gr. 6-8 Family and Consumer Science Teacher

Staff Resignations: Susann M. Colonna as a Music/Choral Teacher at the Middle School, effective October 17, 2022; Scott Zeigler as a Gr. 7 Boys' Basketball Coach, effective October 21, 2022; and Hunter George as a Girls' Track and Field Assistant Coach, effective October 18, 2022

Staff Elections: Timothy Kirk as a Predictable Long-Term Substitute Middle School Music/Choral Teacher, effective December 1, 2022, tentatively through February 17, 2023; Dana L. Brandt as a Predictable Long-Term Substitute Grade 1 Teacher, effective retroactive to October 17, 2022, tentatively through January 20, 2023; 2022-2023 Supplemental Duty Contract Title Change: Emily Wright - from Technology and Innovation Coordinator to Instructional Strategies and Innovation Coordinator

2022-2023 District Volunteers – Shelley Bogush, Danielle Foss, Courtney Hanes, Tiffany Hoke, Emma Kline, Julianne Long, Patrick Long, Shari Mangels, Amanda Miller, Jade Miller, Sarah Moore, Shaina Pagana, Courtney Raker, Nicole Ressler, Melissa Sauers, Amy Scorsone, Alex Ulsh (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

2022-2023 FBLA Volunteers – Mike Stebila and Bethanie Yevics (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

2022-2023 Continuing Winter Coaches with Extracurricular Contracts

Boys' Basketball Head Coach - Justin Keiser
 Boys' Basketball Asst. Coach - Hunter George
 Wrestling Head Coach - Seth Martin
 Wrestling Asst. Coach – Mark Piermattei
 Wrestling JH Coach - Jason Carpenter
 Cheerleading Head Coach – Kennedy Myers
 Bowling Coach - Corey Wert

2022-2023 New Winter Coaches with Extracurricular Contracts

Boys' Basketball 9th Grade Head Coach – Conner VanZijl
 Boys' Basketball 7th Grade Head Coach – Quinn Smith
 Boys' Basketball Intermediate Coordinator – Douglas Wilburn
 Girls' Basketball Head Coach – Matthew Salsman
 Girls' Basketball Asst. Coach – Jamie Shambach
 Wrestling Asst. JH Coach – Roger Legg
 Cheerleading Asst. Coach – Alison Shughart

2022-2023 Winter Volunteer Coaches

Boys' Basketball Volunteer Coach – Jonathon Bower
 Boys' Basketball JH Volunteer Coach – Kairo Trotter
 Boys' Basketball Intermediate Volunteer Coach – Phil Gesumaria
 Boys' Basketball Intermediate Volunteer Coach – Matt Lehman
 Boys' Basketball Intermediate Volunteer Coach – Steve Diehl
 Boys' Basketball Intermediate Volunteer Coach – Brian Beatty
 Boys' Basketball Intermediate Volunteer Coach – Duane Gaugler
 Boys' Basketball Intermediate Volunteer Coach – DJ Menifee
 Boys' Basketball Intermediate Volunteer Coach – Ali Dixon
 Boys' Basketball Intermediate Volunteer Coach – Alex Ulsh
 Girls' Basketball Volunteer Coach – Eric Rahouser
 Girls' Basketball Volunteer Coach – Emily Davis
 Girls' Basketball Volunteer Coach - Lizzy Diehl
 Wrestling Volunteer Coach – Mike Gaugler
 Wrestling Volunteer Coach – Shuntil Snyder
 Wrestling Volunteer Coach – Greg Rhoads
 Wrestling Volunteer Coach – Justin Schooley
 Wrestling JH Volunteer Coach – Jim Kadryna

2022-2023 Winter Volunteer Coaches - Continued

Wrestling JH Volunteer Coach – Bill Bechtel

Wrestling JH Volunteer Coach – Tim Carter

Cheerleading Volunteer Coach – Danielle Briskey

Bowling Volunteer Coach – Glen McLaren

Bowling Volunteer Coach – Shawndra Scholl

Bowling Volunteer Coach – Bill Rowe

(without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

Substitutes: Teachers – Aaron Fast and Kimberly Porter (pending receipt of required paperwork); Guest Teachers – Vince Evans, Daniel Guzinski, Kassiani Kotsidou, and Seth Rohrbach (pending receipt of required paperwork); Education Majors – Jordyn Arnold, Lisa Kelly, Madison Light, and Madison Stebila (pending receipt of required paperwork)

Atty. Slivinski questioned if issues concerning the Bowling team, that had been discussed previously at an Extracurricular Committee, have been remedied? Mr. Simpson responded that they have been remedied. Atty. Slivinski also questioned why there is only one paid bowling coach and why they don't have a paid assistant coach? Dr. Jankowski referred to the Collective Bargaining Agreement and explained that is where all of those designations are spelled out.

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

Transportation: Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Watto to consider the recommendation of the Transportation Coordinator to approve Betty Gilbert as a driver for Rohrer Bus Service, and Gladys Girton, Heidi Girton, Dianna Kerstetter, Regina Kohl, Darvin Rine, Destiny Schaffer, and Kimberly Weaver as drivers for Weikel Busing, effective with the 2022-2023 school year.

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

Technology: No report.

SUN Area Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee: No report.

CSIU Board of Directors: No report.

PSBA: Mr. Hess, Liaison, referred to an email that he had shared with the Board earlier that day regarding the PSBA Legislative Platform for 2023. He encouraged the Board to take some time to look it over. Mr. Hess feels that the Board should take a look at its priorities and issues and draw up a plan and present it next summer.

NEW BUSINESS

Senshu University High School Exchange Program:

Motion by Aikey and seconded by Bechtel to consider approving a request to participate in the Senshu Exchange Program, as presented. (a copy of the request to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

Guaranteed Admissions Agreement with Commonwealth University:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Taylor to consider a recommendation of the Superintendent to enter into a Guaranteed Admissions Agreement with Commonwealth University, as presented. (a copy of the agreement to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried

Contract Service Agreement with Gaudenzia, Inc.:

Mrs. Taylor questioned if the individuals that would be providing counseling are certified Drug & Alcohol Counselors for adolescents? Mr. Parise indicated that he would be in touch with the district's point of contact to determine the credentials of the individuals providing counseling. Dr. Jankowski reviewed the terms of the agreement and noted that counseling is provided at no cost to the district.

Motion by Bechtel and seconded by Teats to consider the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract service agreement with Gaudenzia, Inc. to provide group and individual drug and alcohol counseling at no cost to the district, as presented. (a copy of the agreement to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 5 yes, 3 no (Slivinski, Taylor, Aikey), 0 absent

Limited Superintendent Authority:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Slivinski to consider granting permission to the Superintendent throughout the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year, after Personnel Committee approval, to fill any vacant positions with final Board approval at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Board Discussion – Appointment of a Board Member:

Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Paladino to accept the verbal resignation of Larry D. Augustine as School Board Director and Board Secretary, effective October 27, 2022.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Hess explained that the Board will now conduct interviews and appoint a School Board Member to fill the unexpired term of Larry D. Augustine, effective immediately through December of 2023. He noted that the position of Board Member was advertised, and three applications were received prior to the deadline, however, one of those individuals has since withdrawn. The two remaining applicants are Anabel Menifee and Sara Kendziorski. Mr. Hess explained that Anabel Menifee is present at the meeting and will be interviewed first, followed by a telephone conference with Sara Kendziorski.

The 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? 4) What challenges do you see the district having to face in the short term and in the long term? And 5) Why are you the best candidate to join the Selinsgrove Area School Board for the next 12 months?

Mr. Bechtel commented that he was very impressed with both candidates and that it will be a difficult decision to make. Ms. Taylor noted that she has personally been after Anabel Menifee for over a year to run for School Board.

A voice vote was taken to appoint either Anabel Menifee or Sarah Kendziorski, as follows: Taylor – Menifee, Teats – Kendziorski, Watto – Kendziorski, Aikey – Menifee, Bechtel – Menifee, Hess – Kendziorski, Paladino – Menifee, Slivinski – Menifee.

Mrs. Anabel Menifee will serve as Board Member, effective immediately through December of 2023.

Mr. Hess administered the oath of office to Anabel Menifee as required by Section 321 of the Pennsylvania School Code. (a copy of the sworn oath of office to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Paladino to appoint Christopher A. Aikey as Board Secretary to complete the unexpired term of Larry D. Augustine, effective immediately through June 30, 2025.

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

Motion by Hess and seconded by Taylor to appoint Dave Hess as a representative to the CSIU Board of Directors to complete the unexpired term of Larry D. Augustine, effective immediately through June 30, 2024.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Board Discussion

Atty. Slivinski commented regarding school performance data that was presented at the October Board meeting, as well as additional data that was received via email dating back to 2015. He remarked that we are basically operating a mediocre educational system in this district. He noted proficiency numbers in the 20's, 30's, and 40's year, after year, after year. Atty. Slivinski remarked that at some point, we must start focusing on that aspect of the district, and not so much the appearance of the district. He added that it should be about producing a product that we can all be proud of, students that are educated and successful. We need to address the problem from top to bottom moving forward so that we are no longer, at best, a mediocre school district.

Mr. Teats questioned why we are losing students to cyber school. He commented that the district's own cyber school is failing us. Mr. Teats noted that he heard from three different sources that there is a time restraint with regard to how long students have to be logged in, and if they don't meet that requirement, they are marked absent for the day, and that this is causing those students to leave to attend another cyber school. Dr. Conrad explained that students must complete 25 hours per week, 5 hours per day, with a 7-day window for students to accumulate those hours; they must show that they are actively engaged in their work in the system for it to be tracked.

Dr. Jankowski remarked that the points made by Atty. Slivinski and Mr. Teats and the need for improvement are well noted and agreed upon. These points are well taken, and we will work to get better together, and it will be a team effort on the approach of the district.

Discussion was held regarding setting up a joint committee meeting to discuss the issues that were raised.

Adjournment:

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia A. Beaver
Recording Secretary

cab/min112122