

SELINGSGROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF MEETING – MARCH 14, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Selingsgrove Area School District's Board of Directors was held on Tuesday evening, March 14, 2023, 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 7:04 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. William L. Bechtel, Jr., Mr. David W. Hess, Mrs. Anabel Menifee, Mr. Andrew V. Paladino, Ms. Kara L. Taylor, Mr. Kenneth B. Teats, Jr., Dr. David M. Watto, and non-voting member, Dr. Frank R. Jankowski, Superintendent. Atty. Matthew A. Slivinski, Board Member, was absent.

Others present were: Mr. John Bohle, Mr. Paul Bozella, Dr. Matthew Conrad, Mr. Erick Decker, Ms. Michelle Garman, Mr. Damian Gessel, Mr. Jeffrey Hummel, Mrs. Susan Lipsey, Mr. Kevin Oswald, Mr. Brian Parise, Mr. Paul Roman, Mr. Justin Simpson, Ms. Claudia Beaver, Rick Zeigler, Kim Andretta, Joe Andretta, Amelia Andretta, Alexandra Andretta, Madalyn Jankowski, Grace Jankowski, Lucia Jankowski, Mick Jankowski, Lauren Hoover, Calliope Hoover, Aaron Ettinger, Chris Kenawell, and Mike Bingaman.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Taylor 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, April 17, 2023. He also announced that Executive Sessions regarding legal and personnel matters were held on March 2nd and prior to tonight's meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Jankowski reported that the district held its first ever district-wide Health Fair on Tuesday, March 7th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Intermediate School. He noted that the event was organized by two district kindergarten teachers, Molly McCabe and Julie Prusch, with the assistance of our school nurses. Dr. Jankowski added that over 45 vendors were present covering all realms of health, a Trek bike was raffled off, there were some interactive activities, as well as goodie bags for all those who participated in the fair.

Dr. Jankowski reported that a Mental Health Event was held earlier that day at the Campus Theater in Lewisburg and included all 17 school districts in the CSIU region. He noted that it was a very well attended event. The purpose of the event was to raise awareness and to provide a more widespread support structure for students and their families.

Dr. Jankowski also reported that a Career and Business Job Fair is scheduled to be held on April 4, 2023, with 30-40 businesses participating. The fair will be held at the high school and will provide students with future employment opportunities, with some jobs beginning as early as this summer. Dr. Jankowski noted that the district has partnered with Advance Central PA and the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce to bring this opportunity to the students. He also noted that Jen Hain, former Executive Director of the SUN Area Technical Institute, has been a valuable resource as well.

Dr. Jankowski reported that we are nearing the close of the third marking period of the 2022-2023 school year and are already a week into the spring sports season. He added that we are excited for what the rest of the school year holds.

Elementary Principal

Mr. Gessel introduced Mr. Aaron Ettinger, Grade 2 Classroom Teacher, who explained that his class was learning about the Eco System structure and that they recently completed the Habitat Unit. All 21 students in the class had to pick a different animal to study and learn the layer of the rainforest where the animal lives, what parts of the world it lives in, what it eats, its predators, etc. Mr. Ettinger noted that each student had a home project to create a replica of the animal that they picked and then at school each student created a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Ettinger introduced three students who individually showed their replica and their PowerPoint presentation. The Board learned fun facts about a Quetzal by Alexandra Andretta, a Mouse Lemur by Calliope Hoover, and Mountain Gorillas by Mick Jankowski.

Athletic Director

Mr. Simpson updated the Board on the conclusion of the winter sports season. He reported that all of the teams made the playoffs. Start of the Spring sports season has begun with the first scrimmage tomorrow at home.

High School Principal

Dr. Conrad reported that Thursday, March 16th is opening night for the High School Spring Musical, The Little Mermaid. He noted that there will be four shows, Thursday through Saturday at 7 p.m. and a matinee on Sunday at 2 p.m. Dr. Conrad recognized the hard work of Rachel Ulsh and Jay Muller as directors and John Aument and Cristi Beeler for set design. He also expressed thanks to the Middle School administration and custodial staff for use of the facilities and support of the high school.

Dr. Conrad recognized Brendan Long and McKenna Ulery for recently participating in the PMEA Central Region Orchestra at Bloomsburg.

Middle School Principal

Mr. Bohle commented that on Wednesday brief performances for all buildings will be held by the cast of The Little Mermaid.

Mrs. Menifee commented that her son has expressed excitement about seeing the performance with the rest of his class. She feels that exposing students to these types of experiences at a young age is a great way to build enthusiasm and interest in becoming involved in the future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Finance: No report.

Buildings and Grounds: No report.

Policy and Education: No report.

Extracurricular: No report.

Personnel/Meet and Discuss: Motion by Menifee and seconded by Watto to approve the following personnel matters:

Rescinding Letters of Intent to Retire at the End of the 2022-2023 School Year: Raymond Moyer as a Mathematics Teacher at the High School; and Pamela Musser as a Kindergarten Teacher at the Elementary School

Staff Resignations: Jim Hile as Varsity Assistant Football Coach, effective February 27, 2023; Ray Benfer as Custodial Supervisor at the Middle School, effective May 26, 2023, due to retirement; Michelle Carnahan as a Main Office Secretary at the Middle School, effective July 13, 2023, due to retirement; Misty Gephart as a Grade 7 English Language Arts Teacher, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year; and Hannah Pursel as a 1:1 Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year

Staff Elections: Liza Smith as a Middle School Select Vocal Director, during the 2022-2023 school year (Supplemental Duty Contract); Ashley Messimer as a Food Service Cook/Cashier at the Elementary School, effective March 15, 2023 (pending receipt of required paperwork); Stefanie Ferry as a Learning Support Paraprofessional at the High School, effective March 15, 2023 (pending receipt of required paperwork); Jamie Hepler as a 1:1 Paraprofessional at the Elementary School, effective March 15, 2023 (pending receipt of required paperwork); and 2022-2023 District Volunteers – Justina Hudson, Jenica Hummel, Eric Hunt, Talayna Schell, and Sam Sprengle (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

Substitutes: Guest Teachers – Molly Ashford and Michelle Blasius (pending receipt of required paperwork)

Other Matters: Approval of a temporary change of assignment for Lisa Whitford from Reading Specialist to Grade 5 Teacher, effective March through May, 2023

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

Transportation: Motion by Bechtel and seconded by Paladino to consider the recommendation of the Transportation Coordinator to approve John Kratzer, Jr. as a driver for Rohrer Bus Service, and Sarah Dietterick, Charri Kohl, Stephanie Paulus, Shirley Plummer, and Dustin Durkee as drivers for Weikel Busing, effective during the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Technology: No report.

SUN Area Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee: No report.

CSIU Board of Directors: Mr. Hess, Representative, reported that he attended orientation for new CSIU Board representatives on February 15, 2023. He added that he also attended the Mental Health Forum today in Lewisburg. Mr. Hess reported that the Board will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, March 15th.

PSBA: Mrs. Menifee, Liaison, reported that she plans to attend several upcoming workshops, one on School Law and Labor Relations, and another on Improving School Safety and Security. She intends to bring back information that she learns at these workshops to share with the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Business Matters:

Motion by Aikey and seconded by Paladino 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.

Real Estate Assessment Appeal:

Motion by Menifee and seconded by Taylor to consider approving the real estate assessment agreement with Target Corporation, as presented. (a copy of the agreement to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

Mr. Teats asked Mr. Hummel to explain what the real estate assessment agreement appeal entails. Mr. Hummel explained that Target Corporation appealed their real estate assessment through the county. He noted that an expert appraisal of the property is then conducted. The appeal then goes through the court system where negotiations are held and an agreed upon taxed value amount is determined.

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

Bank Account:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Paladino to consider approving the recommendation of the Business Manager to establish a municipal checking account at Mifflinburg Bank & Trust for investment purposes.

The motion was unanimously carried.

CMSU Behavioral Health Services Agreement:

Motion by Taylor and seconded by Teats to consider the recommendation of the Superintendent to once again enter into an agreement with CMSU Behavioral Health Services for the provision of mental health and drug and alcohol services, effective January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023, as presented. (a copy of the agreement to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

The Meadows Psychiatric Letter of Agreement:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Meniffee to consider the recommendation of the Superintendent to once again enter into a letter of agreement with The Meadows Psychiatric Center for the provision of educational services, effective during the 2023-2024 and/or 2024-2025 school years, as presented. (a copy of the agreement to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

PCCD School Mental Health and Safety Service Contract:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Taylor to consider the recommendation of the Superintendent to enter into a service contract with the CSIU to provide counseling services, effective March 1, 2023 through March 1, 2025, as presented. (a copy of the contract to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

Gaggle.Net, Inc. Service Contract :

Motion by Teats and seconded by Taylor to consider the recommendation of the Superintendent to enter into a service contract with Gaggle.Net to provide counseling services, effective March 1, 2023 through February 29, 2024, as presented. (a copy of the contract to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

Adjournment:

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia A. Beaver
Recording Secretary

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