

**BLACKHAWK SCHOOL DISTRICT  
500 BLACKHAWK ROAD  
BEAVER FALLS, PA 15010**

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS INFORMATIONAL MEETING  
Blackhawk High School Auditorium  
January 7, 2016**

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01PM. Roll Call was taken after the Pledge of Allegiance. Those in attendance were:

Mr. Berchtold	Mr. Fleischman	Mrs. Goehring	Mrs. Helsing
Mrs. Jones	Mrs. Kaszer	Mr. Pander	Mr. Yonkee

Mr. Schaefer was absent.

Also in attendance were:

- Dr. Kerber – Superintendent
- Mr. Eric Brandenburg – Business Manager
- Mr. Ira Weiss – District Solicitor
- Mr. Noah Sims, Student Representative

There will be an executive session following this evening's meeting.

The presentations by Janney Montgomery Scott and Eckles Engineering were moved on the agenda to allow questions by the public during the public comments section of the meeting.

Ms. Alisha Reesh, Janney Montgomery Scott, provided a financial presentation which reviewed the current bond debt of the district and the cost of any additional debt.

Mr. Dave Esposito, Eckles Engineering, presented 3 potential scenarios along with the corresponding construction cost options to address Northwestern Primary. General notes regarding the information presented include:

- a. The information presented does not represent an actual design solution.
- b. A new school project may not be eligible for state reimbursement.
- c. The Northwestern Alterations Project PlanCon Part A remains active until the District rescinds it.
- d. Cost escalations beyond 2016/17 are not considered in projections.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Several members of the audience addressed questions to the presenters. Those community members included:

Autumn Giocondi  
Nancy Fredericks  
Barb Brown

Greg Woods  
Bob Clendennen  
Tory Aquino  
Don Inman  
Al Lyndes

Board Members Mr. Pander, Mr. Fleischman, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Berchtold and Mr. Yonkee also posed questions to the presenters.

Mr. Bob Clendennen spoke on item 1.6: the Election of School Solicitor.

Mr. Yonkee motioned that the District appoint Weiss Burkardt Kramer, LLC to provide services as a School Solicitor, effective for the 2015-2016 calendar year at a \$500 monthly retainer and an hourly rate of \$125 for all matters not covered by the retainer. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer. A roll call vote was taken:

<b>Yes – Elect Weiss Burkardt Kramer, LLC</b>	<b>No – Not to Elect Weiss Burkardt Kramer, LLC</b>
Mr. Fleischman	Mr. Berchtold
Mrs. Goehring	
Mrs. Helsing	
Mrs. Jones	
Mrs. Kaszer	
Mr. Pander	
Mr. Yonkee	

**Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 1 No – Motion fail. (Policy states unanimous vote required)**

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 9:22PM.

The Board returned and the Board of School Directors meeting reconvened at 10:05PM.

Mr. Berchtold motioned that the District appoint Weiss Burkardt Kramer, LLC to provide services as a School Solicitor, effective for the 2015-2016 calendar year at a \$500 monthly retainer and an hourly rate of \$125 for all matters not covered by the retainer. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer. A roll call vote was taken:

<b>Yes – Elect Weiss Burkardt Kramer, LLC</b>	<b>No – Not to Elect Weiss Burkardt Kramer, LLC</b>
Mrs. Goehring	
Mrs. Helsing	
Mrs. Jones	
Mrs. Kaszer	
Mr. Pander	
Mr. Yonkee	
Mr. Berchtold	
Mr. Fleischman	

**Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried**

## **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Helsing motioned to approve Dan Hedglin as Long Term Substitute for Highland Middle School Health and Physical Education position effective January 4, 2016. This motion was seconded by Mr. Berchtold.

**Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried**

Mrs. Helsing motioned to approve Rick Ford to assume the role of Acting Assistant Principal for Blackhawk High School at a rate of \$65 per work day in addition to the regular teaching salary effective January 4, 2016. This motion was seconded by Mr. Berchtold.

**Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried**

## **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

### **Visitors**

Autumn Giocondi, Patterson Township, spoke on the preliminary budget and tax increase.

Bob Clendennen, Patterson Township, spoke on the budget

Greg Woods, Chippewa Township, spoke on Northwestern and the planning process

Bill Fusetti, Chippewa Township, spoke on Northwestern and the lease payments from Marcellus Shale.

### **Solicitor**

Mr. Weiss thanked the Board of Directors for retaining Weiss Burkardt Kramer, LLC.

### **School Directors**

Mr. Fleischman discussed the preliminary budget and Northwestern Primary.

Mrs. Jones commented on Northwestern Primary.

Mr. Yonkee spoke on the loss of Mr. McMillen

The next meeting will be the Work Session on January 14, 2016, Blackhawk High School Library, at 7:30PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Missy Kaszer  
Blackhawk School District Board Secretary