

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' VOTING MEETING
Blackhawk's Middle School LGI Room
February 19, 2015**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Mr. Perry Pander, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:34PM. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Helsing announced that the PLRB's decision on the Teacher's Contract has been received. The PLRB Board ruled in favor of the Blackhawk Education Association. Mrs. Helsing also stated that the Blackhawk Board of Directors will honor this decision.

Roll call was taken. Those in attendance were:

Ms. Aquino	Mr. Fleishman	Mrs. Helsing	Mrs. Kaszer
Mr. May	Mr. Pander	Mr. Yonkee	Mr. Young

Dr. Rose was absent.

Also in attendance were:

Dr. Kerber – Superintendent
Mr. Christian Bareford – District Solicitor
Mr. John Frombach – Interim Business Manager

Mrs. Kaszer advised that in an effort to conserve costs and respect the environment, we will not be using paper agendas in the future. The agenda will be posted on the website. Copies of the agenda should be printed prior to attending the meeting. The agenda will also be projected on the screen in the meeting room.

Mr. Pander noted that there was an executive session for personnel matters prior to the Voting Session.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Lyndsay Wilcox, Vo-Ag instructor, Mr. Boyers, Assistant Principal, and the Vo-Ag students provided a presentation on their activities this school year and anticipated activities/classes for the coming years. Highlights included:

- Breaking the school's Vo-Ag sausage making/sale
- Recent competition in Harrisburg, including awards received
- New subject being added to next year's curriculum
- Number of Vo-Ag Students by classes offered

Mr. Fleishman congratulated Jeff Tripodi, high school gifted teacher, for being this year's recipient of the Roy A. Hunt Foundation Award for Commitment to Education in the Arts and Humanities for 2015. This award is given annually to one Pittsburgh-area teacher who demonstrates excellence in incorporating the arts into his student's learning experience.

Mr. Fleishman extended congratulations to Jack Whalen, he earned first chair at Regional Band this past weekend, and will be attending the All-State Festival at the end of March in Hershey.

Mr. Fleishman offered commendations to Noah Schiemer, Haley Brightwell, Noelle Hughes, Jack Whalen, Michelle Myers and Aleena Milinski who qualified and performed in the District 2, 3, 5 Orchestra Festival on February 6th at Hickory High School in Hermitage, PA. As a result of their chair auditions at District 2, 3, 5 Orchestra Festival, the following students were chosen for Regional Orchestra (the eastern half of Pennsylvania) to be held March 12-15 in Erie, Pennsylvania: Noelle Hughes, Noah Schiemer, Aleena Milinski, and Jack Whalen.

Mr. Fleishman extended congratulations to Mariah Aquino, third grade student. Mariah received a Great Lakes Region Travel Award to attend the 2015 Advocacy Summit in Washington, DC, in March. Mariah and her family will be visiting Capitol Hill to represent the more than 50 million Americans living with arthritis. Mr. Fleishman acknowledged that Mariah's mother is Blackhawk School Director, Ms. Aquino.

Condolences to the Raab family was extended by Mr. Fleishman. Former Blackhawk High School Teacher, Harry Raab, passed away February 1, 2015. Mr. Fleishman provided some reflection on Mr. Raab's service to the school district.

Mr. Yonkee extended condolences to the McCarter Family; Jon McCarter passed away Wednesday, February 20th. The arrangements are set for this weekend. Mr. Yonkee acknowledged Jon as a longtime friend and partner with the district for over 40 years.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jarred McCowin, Chippewa, thanked the board for honoring the contract and thanked the community for standing behind the teachers and the teachers for their professionalism.

Mr. Bob Clendennen, Patterson Township, spoke on several issues:

- Noted that he received the meeting documentation through a 'Right-to-Know' request and thanked the board.
- Glad that the teachers' contract issue is done and ruling did not represent a 'lame duck' situation.
- Addressed the lack of documentation on Mr. Weiss' contract.
- Discussed finances including the \$250,000 transfer to the construction fund.

Mr. Frombach provided a response regarding the finances. There was a reference to \$250,000 in the 2013-14 budget, as of the end of June it was not transferred. However, there is a note of transfer for this year too. As for the difference in the local tax, there is \$985 that should not be in the real estate taxes. This is money is received from the state. It is showing in both the real estate and state revenues. The \$300,000 received from the federal government for cafeteria/milk expenses needs to be kept separate.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Yonkee motioned the approval to accept the Financial report for January. Mrs. Helsing seconded the motion.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee made a motion for the payment of the following bills. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

- a. Fund 10 – General Fund: \$601,680.08
 - b. Fund 32 – Capital Projects Fund: \$625.00
 - c. Fund 51 – Cafeteria Fund: \$77,322.58
 - d. Fund 66 – UPMC Health Fund: \$1,066.00
 - e. Fund 67 – UPMC Dental: \$15,097.50
 - f. Fund 68 – UPMC Vision: \$3,659.00
- Payroll: January \$985,309.51

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee noted that the Monthly Insurance Report for January was provided as an Informational Item.

A motion was made by Mr. Yonkee to appoint Pam Kromka as Blackhawk School District authorized representative to make request upon and receive any and all tax information and records from Berkheimer, relative to the collection of taxes for official purposes only. (Mr. John Frombach is also an authorized requestor per January 2015 Board approval.) This motion was seconded by Mr. Fleishman.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved to approve for Resolution 02192015 regarding the appointment of the Business Manager as Primary Voting Delegate for the BCTCC, Beaver County Tax Collection Committee. Seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee made a motion to contract with NaviGate for security systems in each school building at no cost. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer. Mr. Pander provided a brief summary of NaviGate for those that may have missed the presentation at a prior meeting.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion to increase the Right To Know, Open Records Fees was made by Mr. Yonkee and seconded by Mrs. Kaszer. It was noted that the new fee will be 25 cents per page.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee made a motion to authorized the Administration to work with Public Financial Management, (PFM), as Financial Advisor, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP as Bond counsel, an Underwriter to be named and the local Solicitor in conjunction with issuance of the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2015, for the purpose of advance refunding the School District's General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2012 with a minimum net savings target of \$271,000. This motion was seconded by Mr. Young. Mr. Frombach noted that at this time, PFM will be acting as a financial advisor. PFM will also be reviewing the districts Trane account for possible refinancing. Mrs. Kaszer noted that in order to refund the Series 2012 bonds, a bond rating of A2 is required. She then inquired about the District's current rating. Mr. Frombach advised that would be determined during the process. Mr. Yonkee inquired if there was any duplication of efforts / costs and Mr. Frombach advised that there is not.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Helsing made and Ms. Aquino seconded the motion to approve the following substitutes:

- a. Ian Taylor
- b. Angela Ringling
- c. Mary Kay Jones
- d. Corinne Pinchotti
- e. Amanda Prugar
- f. Lala Babayeva
- g. James DeLadesmo
- h. Mandy Miller
- i. Brittany Simpson

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

The motion was made to approve Jamie Planitzer to use 31 sick days beginning on or about April 10, 2015 until May 28, 2015 by Mrs. Helsing. Seconded by Mrs. Kaszer

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mrs. Kaszer seconded the motion to employ Kirsten Stitsel as Athletic Secretary at a salary of \$35,000 per year plus benefits (approximately \$23,905) effective March 2, 2015. Ms. Aquino inquired as to the difference between a confidential secretary and union secretary. This position was posted and offered before the ruling from the bargaining unit to move all confidential secretaries to the union.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing made the motion to honor Theresa Bollinger's request for unpaid leave on March 6th and 9th, 2015. This motion was seconded by Ms. Aquino.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing made the motion to accept the resignation of Brittany Simpson, BIS paraprofessional effective February 9, 2015. Ms. Aquino seconded this motion.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing motioned to employ Kevin Whipple as Assistant Head Custodian at Blackhawk High School at a rate of \$17.20 per hour plus the building Assistant Head Custodian stipend of \$.74 per hour, effective March 9, 2015. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fleishman.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing made the motion to hire Michelle Markusic as full time custodian for Blackhawk High School at a rate of \$14.80 per hour plus benefits (approximately \$37,331.92 per year). This motion was seconded by Ms. Aquino. Mrs. Kaszer inquired about the effective date and was advised employment would begin the week of February 23rd, 2015.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ms. Aquino motioned to approve the following field trips. Mr. Young seconded the motion.

- a. PRIDE (4), Tracy Yowler, Community Based Instruction, local community, February 20, 2015. (Expenses collected from other)
- b. 8th Grade (200), Ryan Hardesty, 8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip, Spring 2016 (date to be determined). (Expenses collected from students)
- c. NPS Kindergarten (110), Mandie Payne, OH Wow! Science Center, Youngstown, May 29, 2015. (Expenses collected from other)
- d. 5th Grade Students (9), Kristen Neeley, District 5 Chorus Fest, Grove City College, March 6, 2015 (\$324 Expenses budgeted)
- e. Applied Engineering and Technology (10), Brandon Smith, Westinghouse Tour, Cranberry, February 27, 2015. (\$182 Expenses budgeted)
- f. FFA (5), Lyndsay Wilcox, State Legislative Leadership Conference, Harrisburg, March 15-17, 2015. (\$150 expenses budgeted and collected from students)
- g. 5th grade BIS Buddies (28), BIS Buddies and The Science Olympiad, Gina Gordon, Northwestern Primary, May 15, 2015. (\$140 Expenses budgeted)
- h. Second Grade (110), Second Grade Teachers, Carnegie Museum of Art and Natural History, Pittsburgh, May 18 and 26, 2015. (\$1,256 expenses collected from PTO)
- i. Math Students (10), Dave Hanlon, Penn State Beaver Math Competition, March 24, 2015. (no expense)
- j. Music Academy (23), Maura Underwood, Pittsburgh Symphony Rehearsal, Heinz Hall, February 27, 2015. (\$200 expenses budgeted and collected from students)
- k. PPS Kindergarten (69), Jenn Sharek, Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, May 22, 2015. (\$1,166 expenses collected from PTO)
- l. AP Computer Science (8), Kelli Ambler, Westminster HS Programming Contest, Westminster, March 9, 2015. (\$253 expenses budgeted)
- m. Men of Concert Choir (5), Maura Underwood, Men's Chorus Festival, Westminster College, March 19, 2015. (expenses collected from students)
- n. Senior Class (50 per day), Diane Huston, Camp Kon-O-Kwee, April 14, 15, 16, 2015. (expenses budgeted and collected from students)
- o. English & Library (11/9), Chris Lantzy, Leah Lindemann, YSU English Festival, April 22 & 23, 2015. (\$256 expenses budgeted and collected from student)
- p. HMS PRIDE (4), Tracy Yowler, Community Based Instruction, McDonalds, Movie Theatre, March 17, 2015. (expenses collected from other)
- q. BHS Orchestra (4), Nate Goodrich, Western Region Orchestra, Erie, March 12, 2015. (\$400 expenses budgeted)

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made by Ms. Aquino and seconded by Mrs. Kaszer to approve Jennifer Custer, Geneva student to intern with Bob Abel, elementary guidance counselor for Spring semester 2015.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

BUILDING AND GROUNDS/REAL ESTATE

Mr. Pander announced that there will be a Townhall Meeting on Wednesday, February 25th at Northwestern Primary.

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Mr. Fleishman moved and Ms. Aquino seconded the motion to appoint Olesia Stasko as the assistant softball coach for the 2014-15 school year at a salary of \$2,010.24.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

The motion was made by Mr. Fleishman to appoint Charles Gussett as the middle school softball coach for the 2014-15 school year at a salary of \$1,652.86. This motion was seconded by Ms. Aquino.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made to appoint James Riggio as a volunteer softball coach for the 2014-15 school year. This motion was made by Mr. Fleishman and seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleishman moved and Mrs. Kaszer seconded a motion to appoint T. J. Lambert as volunteer boys' baseball coach for the 2014-15 school year.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

The motion was made by Mr. Fleishman to appoint Frank Campagna as volunteer boys' baseball coach for 2014-15 school year. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleishman moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded the appointment of Katherine Singletary as assistant middle school track coach for 2014-15 school year at a salary of \$2,903.68.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleishman moved to appoint Mike Arbogast as head middle school track coach for the 2014-15 school year at a salary of \$2,903.68. Mr. Young seconded this motion.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleishman moved to honor the request of Joe Hamilton, Football Head Coach, for retirement effective January 20, 2015. Coach Hamilton will remain equipment manager for the football team until June 30, 2015. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

The motion was made by Mr. Fleishman to appoint Cory Schmidt as head coach of the middle school swim team for the 2014-15 school year at a salary of \$2,188. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleishman moved to appoint Mary Ann Miller as a volunteer coach for the middle school swim team for the 2014-15 school year. Mrs. Kaszer seconded the motion.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleishman made the motion to moved ninth grade student, Michael Turconi, from the freshmen baseball team to the varsity baseball team for the 2014-15 season. Mrs. Helsing seconded

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON

Dr. Kerber provided information on several current activities. These include:

- Reported that she has been observing classes at Highland Midland School.
- PSSA's are coming up in April for reading and math and preparation has begun. The last week in April will be the make-up period.
- Staff development on Title 9 was held on Monday, March 16th.
- Ms. Tara Jones is setting up a 2 week summer camp. Positions for teachers and counselors will be posted.
- Global Passport is underway at the high school. Will be partnering with First Energy, who will be at the high school on Thursday, the 26th and meeting with Mr. Pukus class.
- The legislative summit will be at the IU. The tax burden has increased to \$26 billion. More aid from the state is needed to keep a high level of education.
- Dr. Kerber has been asked to speak in Washington D.C. in March regarding STEM. She will be making an appeal for STEM in the schools.
- Will be working on the budget now that the revenue has been reviewed. The budget is due for display by May 31, 2015.
- With Navigate on board, will be reviewing safety of our buildings.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No Report

FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE

No Report

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

No Report

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. Young advised that tonight will be the second reading of the following policies:

- 610 – Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
- 404 – Employment of Professional Employees
- 405 – Employment of Substitute Professional Employees
- 504 – Employment of Classified Employees
- 505 – Employment of Substitute and Short-Term Employees

These drafts are available on the website for review.

BOARD/STAFF ENRICHMENT

Mr. Young made the motion to approve the following conferences. This motion was seconded by Mr. Yonkee.

- a. Chris Lantzy, Meet the Rigorous Common Core Standards for Writing, Coraopolis, March 23, 2015 (\$239 expenses budgeted)
- b. Gina Gordon, IUP – School Counselor Professional Development Day, Indiana, PA, February 27, 2015. (\$87.40 expenses budgeted)
- c. Gina Gordon, LuAnne Maginness, Danielle Bailey, Kelley Engle, Amy Anderson, PSSA Administration Training Sessions, BVIU, March 10, 2015. (no expense)
- d. Lou Wolber, Recertification PA-DMV End of Course Skills Test, Butler, March 4, 2015. (no expense)
- e. Gina Gordon, Geneva College Advisory Board, Geneva, March 6, 2015. (no expense)
- f. Christy Desselle, Sound Management: It's About Time, BVIU, February 20, 2015. (no expense)
- g. Melanie Kerber, PA Association of School Business Officers, March 10-13, 2015. (\$711.04 expenses budgeted)
- h. Dianne Sarver, Special Olympics Aquatics Meet, New Brighton, April 10, 2015. (no expense)
- i. Football coaches, Coach of the Year Clinic, Greentree, February 27- Mar 1, 2015. (\$1,395 expenses budgeted)
- j. Dave Zaccari, PMEA All-State Conference Workshop, Hershey, March 25-28, 2015. (\$814.50 expenses budgeted)
- k. Krystal Kier, Sound Management: It's About Time, BVIU, February 20, 2015. (no expense)
- l. Lyndsay Wilcox, CTE Safety Institute, State College, March 6, 2015. (no expense)
- m. Nate Goodrich, Western Region Orchestra, Erie, March 12, 2015 (\$500 expenses budgeted)

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL

No Report

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

No Report

BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

No Report

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Visitors

Mr. Bob Clendennen, Patterson Township, spoke on the 'Right to Know' process through Mr. Weiss' office and the timing as compared to when it was completed in-house. He also spoke on the \$1.6 million deficit discussed at the last meeting in relationship to the budget figures passed. Mr. Clendennen addressed the financial support of PFM.

Mr. Berchtold, Chippewa, thanked the board for honoring the teacher's contract and the teachers for their professionalism.

Miss Jenny Goehring, South Beaver, expressed her thanks for reinstating Vo-Ag and spoke on the achievements of the program this school year.

Mrs. Ziegler, Chippewa, addressed the Comprehensive Plan asking who authorized. She also discussed the committee members and their involvement in the process. Dr. Kerber advised that the Comprehensive Plan had been developed prior to her coming to the district; she was responsible for the Special Education portion.

Mrs. Ziegler inquired about the proposed social media section to the website. Dr. Kerber noted that this will begin in April. She also inquired about her employment status with the district and was advised by Mr. Pander that this was a personnel issue and would not be discussed in an open meeting.

Administration

No Comments

Solicitor

No Comments

School Directors

Ms. Aquino expressed her hope for the district to be able to move forward in education now that the teachers' contract has been reinstated. She also spoke regarding social media in corporate Amerinet and the policies governing.

Next Meetings – March 12, 2015, Highland Middle School LGI Room, 7:30PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:58PM.

Submitted by Missy Kaszer
Blackhawk School Board Secretary