

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' VOTING MEETING
Blackhawk's Middle School LGI Room
March 12, 2015**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Mr. Perry Pander, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken. Those in attendance were:

Ms. Aquino	Mr. Fleishman	Mrs. Helsing	Mr. May
Mr. Pander	Mr. Yonkee	Mr. Young (late)	

Absent:

Mrs. Kaszer	Dr. Rose
-------------	----------

Also in attendance were:

Dr. Kerber – Superintendent
Mr. Christian Bareford – District Solicitor

Mr. Pander made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 12 and 19, 2015. Mr. Fleishman seconded the motion.

Verbal Vote: 6 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Pander noted that there was an executive session for personnel matters on March 5, 2015.

The Voting Session for March will be held March 19, in the High School Auditorium, 7:30PM.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Fleishman acknowledged Blackhawk High School's presentation of *The Addams Family*, and was a great success! Congratulations were extended to the cast and crew, and parents. They all worked very hard to create a fantastic, memorable musical experience. Performances were held March 6, 7 and 8. Thanks to all administrators, faculty, staff and families for their support during the rehearsal process and performances.

(Mr. Young arrived at this time.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Clendennen, Patterson Township, spoke on a few topics:

- While serving on the board, he did not have an opportunity to participate in the completion of a Comprehensive Plan but the administration used this plan as they developed goals each year. Mr. Clendennen questioned the amount of public input. He also noted that the board will vote to approve the Comprehensive Plan on March 19th.
- Mr. Clendennen spoke regarding the history of the Cafeteria Fund balance noting this is not a new or common problem.
- Reminded the board that the district has a policy that addresses the responsibility of the Board Members to be aware of the budget and financial status of the district.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Yonkee reviewed the items to be recommended for approval at the February 19, 2015 voting meeting. This included:

- Approval to accept the Financial Report for February.
- Approval for the payment of bills.
 - a. Fund 10 – General Fund: \$
 - b. Fund 32 – Capital Projects Fund: \$0
 - c. Fund 51 – Cafeteria Fund: \$
 - d. Fund 66 – UPMC Health Fund: \$0
 - e. Fund 67 – UPMC Dental: \$
 - f. Fund 68 – UPMC Vision: \$
- Payroll: January \$
- The Monthly Insurance Report for February which will be provided prior to the voting session.
- The committee is recommending approval for the following telecommunication renewal bid as part of the E-Rate program:
 - Sunesys – to provide managed fiber connection to Patterson Primary at an approximate monthly cost of \$700 after e-rate reimbursement.

Mr. Yonkee inquired as to the percentage rate of the e-rate program.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The committee is recommending approval for the following substitutes:

- a. Tina Crees
- b. Tammy Duespohl

The committee is recommending approval to employ Shannon Sabatucci as custodian substitute at a rate of \$9.00 per hour pending clearances.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The committee is recommending approval of the following field trips:

- a. Transition (20), Mariah Brown, Tour of New Castle School of Trades, New Castle, March 24, 2015. (No expense)
- b. PRIDE (16), Dianne Sarver, PRIDE CBI, Brady's Run and Eat-n-Park, March 20, 2015 (\$150 expenses budgeted).

- c. PRIDE (4), Tracy Yowler, Community Based Instruction, Walmart, Eat-n-Park, April 10, 2015 (expenses collected from other).
- d. Ninth Grade (180), Joe Verbosky, 9th Grade Academy Field Trip, Brady's Run Park, April 30, 2015 (\$129 expenses collected from students).
- e. Transition (20), Mariah Brown, Job Training of Beaver County, Monaca, March 31, 2015 (expenses budgeted).
- f. AP Environmental Science (48), Rob Puskas, Nuclear Power Plant, April (TBD), 2015 (expenses budgeted).
- g. Enrichment (30), Amanda Sweesy, STEM Design Challenge, Penn State Beaver, April 9, 2015 (\$140 expenses budgeted).

Ms. Aquino inquired as to what the other source was which was noted in item C. Dr. Kerber explained during the course of the year the PRIDE students have various sales & fund raisers.

The committee is recommending the approval to accept the 2015-16 academic calendar as submitted.

Informational Item: The PRIDE field trip for Community Based Instruction, approved at the February Voting Session has a date change of March 18, 2015.

The committee is recommending approval for the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Aquino asked for a copy of the plan for the next meeting. Dr. Kerber offered to provide a summary of the plan in addition to the copy of the plan previously forwarded to the board. Dr. Kerber also communicated that she will schedule a meeting to regroup with the Comprehensive Planning Committee over the next few weeks.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS/REAL ESTATE

Mr. Pander provided an update of a couple topics:

- Mr. Pander was able to negotiate with Shipley Plumbing and Heating over the cost to replace the flooring that was tore up to fix the plumbing at Highland Middle School. The cost was \$8,000 of which the district covered \$5,000. The balanced owed to Shipley was decreased from \$58,000 to \$55,000.
- Eckles Engineering completed a walkthrough of North Western Primary School. Areas identified for review include boiler, windows, electrical and sewage. Recommended a study of the sewage/septic system (including code enforcement officer, Craig Baker). Eckles will present at the March 19th meeting.

Mr. Yonkee inquired as to now that the punch list is being finished up, will the district be able to move forward regarding PlanCon J – Yes.

Mr. Yonkee addressed the comments made by Mr. Clendennen regarding the district's debt. He noted that currently the debt is \$43M, and there is the potential of up to \$75,000,000. He also spoke on the cafeteria debt figure of close to \$900,000 provided by Mr. Frombach. He questioned whether this included the equipment and repairs in the cafeteria. Dr. Kerber addressed now that the district is no longer using The Nutrition Group, the cafeteria should be able to decrease the loss of money. She will be meeting with The Nutrition Group. Mr. Fleishman advised that The Nutrition Group worked differently at BHS than other school districts. The biggest budget cost of the cafeteria is the employee labor and not the food cost or revenue.

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

The committee is recommending approval to accept the resignation of Eric Franitti as assistant track coach.

The committee is recommending approval for the spring sports schedules.

Congratulations to Coach Joe Hamilton, he was named by the National Federation of State high School Association as the 2014 Pennsylvania Football "Coach of the Year".

Congratulations to Erin Bain, Skye Fogle, Caitlyn Peace, Marcella Puglia, and Abbey Ubelacker. These girls qualified for the PIAA State Swim Championships for the Medley and Free Style relays. They will be competing at Bucknell University in March.

Congratulations to the bowling team, who placed fifth out of eighteen teams at the WPIAL Championships. Members of the team are Shayne Remler, David Parr, David Bibby, Chris Pendgidore, Travis Crognale, Caleb Wright and Garrett Gilbert. Bryan Vitali is the head coach. This is the bowling teams first season.

Congratulations to Coach Hamilton; he will be inducted into the WPIAL Sports Hall of Fame on June 12, 2015 at a banquet to be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Greentree.

Congratulations to the girls' basketball team. They won the WPIAL Championship for the second year and they have advanced to the PIAA State Playoffs.

Congratulations to Courtney Vannoy, she was named Athlete of the week by the Beaver County Times and Tribute Review for the week of February 23rd. Mr. Fleishman addressed Courtney's mother who was in attendance and asked that she convey the Boards' congratulations.

Congratulations to Shayne Remler, who qualified for the individual bowling regionals on March 13th. Shayne's season average was 197.

ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON

Dr. Kerber provide a brief update on the following topics:

- PSSAs will be completed Mid-April.
- STEM activities at Northwestern and Patterson Primary including grants being written by Mrs. Fucci. Encouraged everyone to review the Global Passport activities in conjunction with First Energy.
- Amy Taylor and Megan Anderson are finalists for Teacher of the Year award. Earlier this year Jeff Tripodi was recognized for this excellence as an educator.
- STEM walkthrough will be held next week at Highland Middle School. All are welcome.
- Blackhawk's production of The Addams' Family was great!
- There will be a Town Hall Meeting on Monday, March 16th
- There will be a mass mailing at the end of the month which will highlight the state of the district.
- Due to the aging of buildings across the state the Governor's office is relooking at PlanCon. Currently moving slowly.
- Pension reform is being reviewed as is the Fair Funding Formula.
- Next week will be speaking at a congressional briefing.
- Continuing to work on several grants.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No Report

FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE

No Report

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

No Report

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. Young addressed the third reading of the following policies that will be voted on at the March 19th Voting Session.

- 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

While working on a policy regarding a student advocate for the board, Mr. Young received a copy of policy currently being used at Quaker Valley, and found that it may be easily adaptable for Blackhawk. Copies were provided to the Board Members for review and comments.

BOARD/STAFF ENRICHMENT

The committee is recommending approval for the following conferences:.

a. LuAnne Maginness, Carolyn Fisher, Gina Gordon, Kristi Leiper, Bob Abel Conducting the FBA Process to Guide the Development of Positive Behavior Support Plans, BVIU, various days from March 26 and May 5, 2015. (\$150 expenses budgeted).

VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL

No Report

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

No Report

BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

No Report

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Visitors

Mr. Jarred McCowin, Chippewa, requested clarification on the septic system. Mr. Pander explained that when Eckles Engineering was on site to evaluate the boiler, he requested a walkthrough of Northwestern. It is his recommendation to have a review of the sewage/septic system, including the Code Enforcement Officer, to ensure that it is up to code or can be brought to code prior to investigating other areas. This could potentially save the district. Mr. Pander further explained that the boiler is not the issue but rather the steam pipes and asbestos.

Mr. Clendennen, Patterson Township, spoke on several topics:

- Upon review of the 2013 audit, there is an Assets Chart which noted the fix assets of the cafeteria for 2002-03.
- Discussed the repairs and replacement of the boiler since 1992.
- Inquired as to the last time gray water was recorded at Northwestern.
- Thanked Dr. Kerber for scheduling a committee meeting to discuss the comprehensive plan.
- Continued discussed on the cafeteria and what The Nutrition Group was responsible for reimbursing the district.

Administration

No Comments

Solicitor

Mr. Bareford noted that the agenda indicates that an Executive Session was held prior to this working meeting. That did not occur.

School Directors

Mr. Fleishman congratulated and thanked Mr. Pander for completing the punchlist. Ms. Aquino inquired as to what was left on the punchlist and if the district would move forward with PlanCon once completed. Mr. Pander responded that very little is left on the list and yes, the district will be moving forward with PlanCon J.

Mr. Pander clarified that the asbestos is not in the boiler but rather related to the pipes associated with the boiler. Also that the septic system, if investing in Northwestern, needs to be up to code and/or be able to upgrade the system.

Next Meetings – March 19, 2015, Blackhawk High School Auditorium, 7:30PM.

Meeting adjourned.

Prepared by Missy Kaszer
Blackhawk School Board Secretary