

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' VOTING MEETING
Blackhawk High School Library
April 16, 2015**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Mr. Perry Pander, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken. Those in attendance were:

Ms. Aquino	Mr. Fleischman	Mrs. Helsing	Mrs. Kaszer
Mr. Pander	Mr. Yonkee	Mr. Young	

Mr. May & Dr. Rose were absent.

Also in attendance were:

Dr. Kerber – Superintendent
Mr. Christian Bareford – District Solicitor
Mr. John Frombach – Interim Business Manager
Mr. Joe Lamenza – Proposed Football Coach

Pastor Paul Poole from First Assembly of God, offered a prayer.

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

The May 14, 2015 Work Session will be held in the Highland Middle School LGI room.

Mrs. Kaszer made a motion to add an item to the agenda; to review and approve the Beaver County VoTech budget during the VoTech section of the meeting.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Fleischman congratulated Austin Dillon, 9th grader for winning the Blackhawk Logo Design Contest. Austin's winning design is the basis for the development of official logos for the district. Austin was present and received his prize from Dr. Kerber.

Mr. Fleischman congratulated Amy Taylor, 5th grade teacher and Megan Anderson, 2nd grade teacher as they are finalists for the Beaver County Teacher of the Year Award. This award is presented by the Jumet Charitable Foundation. The finalists will be honored at a banquet on May 14th at 6:00PM. The award presentation and buffet dinner will be at the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Bob Clendennen requested that there be amendment made to the March 19th meeting minutes to reflect that when asked for the details of the Jerry Wessel settlement, Board President indicated that this would be available through Right-To-Know once completed.

Mr. Clendennen spoke on the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with the AIU#3 for diesel fuel and gasoline. He noted that he had a copy that was signed in the fall of 2014 and it is on the agenda for approval this evening.

Mr. Clendennen spoke on the agenda items pertaining to the Self-Funded Medical, Dental and Vision plan as well as the Employer Shared Responsibility Coverage. Noting that previously \$5,000 was spent to review these and asked that there be discussion to explain these items in detail.

Mr. Clendennen spoke regarding the recommendation to employ John Majors. Asked two questions. First to include the amount of the benefits and if the Facilities Technician is a new position and what are the prospective employee's qualifications.

Mr. Clendennen addressed the agenda topic of Wastewater Disposal Study and inquired about the fee (\$1,080) for the code enforcement officer being included in the cost of the study. He also inquired about the status of the ad hoc committee and the end date for this committee's work.

Mrs. Melissa Ziegler noted that she had requested some information including a job description and has not received it. Dr. Kerber advised that it was emailed at approximately 5:30PM this evening.

Mrs. Ziegler asked who the individuals are that will be voted on for the Principle positions. Was advised those would be giving at the time of the vote. Mrs. Ziegler inquired when the positions were posted. Dr. Kerber explained the process. Mrs. Ziegler noted that she had spoken with teachers who were not interested at the time it was an interim position posting but interested at this time. Dr. Kerber advised that she has consulted the School Policy, School Code and District Solicitor in completing the process.

Mr. Fleischman motioned to employ Joe Lamenza as Varsity Football Coach at a salary of \$8,970 annually beginning May 1, 2015. Mrs. Helsing seconded the motion.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Austin Javens, representing the Blackhawk Football Team, extended a team welcome to Coach Lamenza and provided a gift basket of Blackhawk items.

Coach Lamenza spoke for a few minutes noting the overwhelming welcome he is receiving. He looks forward to meeting the team players on the evening of Tuesday, May 21st.

(At this time the coach and team were excused)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Yonkee requested approval to accept the Financial Report for March. Mrs. Kaszer seconded.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mrs. Kaszer seconded a motion to accept the payment of bills as follows:

- a. Fund 10 – General Fund: \$503,522.18
 - b. Fund 32 – Capital Projects Fund: \$96,833.68
 - c. Fund 51 – Cafeteria Fund: \$14,571.43
 - d. Fund 66 – UPMC Health Fund: \$202,799.68
 - e. Fund 67 – UPMC Dental: \$10,353.25
 - f. Fund 68 – UPMC Vision: \$1,683
- Payroll: March \$910,755.89

Discussion was held regarding the Capital Projects Fund and the question was asked, once approved and paid will this complete the Highland Project? Mr. Frombach addressed; there will be a fund transfer voted on later in the meeting and once made the project will be ready to move to the next phase which is working with our auditors on the project audit for approval in May.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

The Monthly Insurance Report for March was provided as an Information Item.

The motion was made by Mr. Yonkee and seconded by Mr. Young to approval the budget transfers as presented.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Dr. Kerber addressed the Intermediate Unit Budget for the 2015-16 school year, noting that the original budget provided a significant increase to each of the school districts. Superintendents communicated that would not be accepted. The IU revised the budget with no increases to the school districts. Mr. Yonkee made a motion for acceptance. Ms. Aquino seconded this motion.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee made a motion to accept the final 2013-14 audit as presented. Ms. Helsing seconded the motion.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made to contract with Cottrill Arbutina & Associates for local tax collector audit services by Mr. Yonkee and seconded by Mr. Fleischman.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made to contract with Cottrill Arbutina & Associates for Blackhawk School District audit services by Mr. Yonkee and seconded by Mr. Fleischman.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee motioned for approval of a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with AIU#3 for diesel fuel and gasoline. Mrs. Helsing seconded. Mr. Frombach clarified that this will not be effective until July 1, 2015. The document that was signed and referenced earlier in the meeting was a request for the AIU to consider Blackhawk's participation. Mr. Frombach will be meeting with McCarter's on Monday, April 20th. It was noted that there is a separate contract for the buses and that McCarter's is aware of the AIU program as Blackhawk had formerly participated.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Yonkee and seconded by Mr. Young to accept the proposal with Assurant Employee Benefits for the employee life insurance and long term disability insurance policy.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee motioned to accept the Conrad Siegel proposal for Actuarial Services to comply with GASB 45 at a cost of \$4,500. This was seconded by Mrs. Helsing. Mr. Frombach noted that this is required to be done every 3 years and is identified in the audit.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee motioned to accept the Conrad Siegel proposal for Actuarial Services for Self-Funded Medical, Dental and Vision plan at a cost not to exceed \$12,000. Mrs. Kaszer seconded this motion.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee motioned to accept the Conrad Siegel proposal for Analysis of Healthcare Reform and Employer Shared Responsibility Coverage Mandate at a cost not to exceed \$7,000. Mrs. Helsing seconded. Discussion was held. Mr. Yonkee noted dissatisfaction in that he thought this was previously approved in 2014. Mr. Frombach explained difference; the previous review by the Reschini Group provided a target balance of \$2.6 million for the health care fund. This is a comprehensive study. Mr. Fleischman asked and Mr. Frombach confirmed that being self-funded there is a trust between employees and district, this study is a safety measure to assure that trust. Members of the board were reminded that this is required every 3 years and does appear as an action item in the audit.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Yonkee to elect Board Member Tory Aquino as representative to Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit 27. This motion was seconded by Mr. Young.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Helsing motioned for the approval for the following substitutes:

- a. Michelle Hilton
- b. Shelby Beck
- c. Beth Scheimer (pending clearances)

This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Helsing to grant Cara Pertile's request for sick leave on or about May 1, 2015 until the end of the 2014-15 school year. Mrs. Kaszer seconded.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing motioned and Mr. Fleischman seconded the approval for the following seasonal grass-cutters at a rate of \$9.00 per hour pending clearances:

- a. Kyle Anthony
- b. Noah Thayer

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing made a motion to employ Ashley Boyers as Blackhawk High School Assistant Principal at a rate of \$75,000. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fleischman.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing made a motion to employ Amy Anderson as Highland Middle School Principal at a rate of \$77,000. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Helsing and seconded by Mr. Fleischman to employ John Majors, Jr. as Facilities Technician at a salary of \$42,328 plus benefits, pending clearances. Discussion was held on the cost of benefits which were estimated at \$16,000 but will depending on which coverages are selected. Pesticide License will be required.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ms. Aquino motioned and Mrs. Helsing seconded the approval of the following field trips:

- a. BHS/HMS Orchestra (140), Nate Goodrich, High Notes Festival, Kennywood, May 22, 2015 (\$600 expenses budgeted)
- b. National Art Honor Society/Art Class (45), Laura Kahler, Art Trip – National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. May 1, 2015. (\$2,020 Expenses collected from students)
- c. Accounting 1 (14), Kelli Ambler, Accounting Competition, Geneva, April 24, 2015. (no expense)
- d. Patterson Primary First Grade (75), Donald Bunney, Carnegie Science Center, May 1, 2015. (\$460 expenses budgeted and collected from PTO)
- e. Science Students (4), Kim Baker, Science Lab Challenge, Penn State Beaver, April 10, 2015. (no expenses)
- f. Third Grade (162), Laurel Brest, Pirates Education Days, PNC Park, May 27, 2015. (\$920 expenses budgeted)
- g. Northwestern First Grade (112), Beth Walkins, Children’s Museum, Pittsburgh, May 28, 2015. (expenses collected from PTO)
- h. Fifth Grade Alto Recorder Ensemble (17), Krsten Neeley, Elmcroft Assisted Living, May 26, 2015. (No expense)
- i. Jr. Chamber Players (6), Nate Goodrich, Chippewa Elmcroft Performance, May 26, 2015. (no expense)
- j. HMS PRIDE (4), Tracy Yowler, Living Treasures, May 11, 2015. (expenses collected from other)
- k. Fourth Grade (181), Gina Lansberry, Carnegie Science Center, May 15, 2015. (expenses paid by PTO)
- l. Special Education (35), Korin McMillen, Beaver County Special Olympics Track and Field Event, Western Beaver High School, May 1, 2015. (expenses budgeted)
- m. Foreign Language 8-12th grade (200), Sam Nardone, Pirates Game, Pittsburgh, May 22, 2015 (expenses collected from students).

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion is made by Ms. Aquino and seconded by Mrs. Kaszer to approve a district operated summer school.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Ms. Aquino motioned and Mrs. Helsing seconded the approval for the following student teachers:

- a. Jessica Kendall, with Nathan Goodrich, Orchestra Director and String Instructor.
- b. Daniel Muir, with Lauren Bartoe, Highland Middle School Eight Grade ELA.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion for approval of homebound instruction for a primary student for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year by Ms. Aquino and seconded by Mr. Fleischman.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

BUILDING AND GROUNDS/REAL ESTATE

Mr. Pander advised that the air quality report results from a surprise test came back in at acceptable level. The district will continue to monitor through testing and post results to the district website.

A motion was made by Mrs. Kaszer to approve the DMS Facility Management System annual service contract for the HVAC servicers for Northwestern, Patterson and the Intermediate school at a cost of \$3,336 from FIT Optimized Solutions. The current one year service contract expired in February. A second motion was made by Mr. Pander to table this motion pending the feasibility study results at Northwestern. This motion was seconded by Ms. Aquino.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried To Table

Mrs. Kaszer made a motion to contract with HRG for Wastewater Disposal Study for Northwestern Primary School at a cost of \$4,400. Mr. Young seconded the motion. Discussion was held regarding the results being shared with the Adhoc committee – yes.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Kaszer motioned and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to contract with Eckles Architecture Engineering for a District wide Facilities Study at a cost of \$17,000.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Mr. Fleischman made a motion to accept the resignation of Mary Ann Miller as the head coach of swimming and diving, BSDT and pool manager. This was seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

An informational update on Winter Sports was included in the meeting packets.

ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON

Dr. Kerber advised that the PSSAs are currently being conducted and going well.

It was noted that in a recently Pittsburgh Business Times article, Blackhawk has moved from 42nd to 37th in overall scores.

All Pennsylvania Superintendents have been notified that there may be minimal to no additional funding in the governor's budget. Superintendents are asked to submit documentation as to how they would use additional funding.

Dr. Kerber also advised that Kindergarten registration took place last week and the numbers were a little low. They may pick up over the summer. Discuss was held regarding notification to entice parents to register sooner rather than later. Mrs. Fucci helped address the process. It was noted that the development of full-day Kindergarten and the preschool opportunities has helped.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No Report

FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE

No Report

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

No Report

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. Young provided the second reading of the following policies:

- 547 – Workers’ Compensation Transitional Return-To-Work Program
- 100 – Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Young also provided the first reading of policy 007 – Student Representative to School Board.

BOARD/STAFF ENRICHMENT

Mr. Young made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer, to approve the following conferences:

- a. Carol Sprinker, Rebecca Freyvogel, PAFPC Title 1 Conference, Seven Springs, May 3, 2015. (\$1,650 expenses budgeted)
- b. Janice Robinson, OPT Cyber Workshop, Seneca Valley High School, May 26, 2015. (No expense)
- c. Janice Robinson, PA Hybrid Learning Summit, April 14, 2015. (no expense)
- d. Joshua Bears, 2015 Nike Basketball Clinic, Robert Morris University, April 17-19, 2015. (\$420 expenses budgeted)
- e. Elizabeth Walker, Jeff Cienik, National Athletic Training Symposium, St. Louis, MO, June 23, 2015. (\$1,382 expenses budgeted). (Clarification was requested as to whether this was per person or per group. Dr. Kerber noted that Mr. Fullen has signed off on each request; believe this is be on an individual basis.)
- f. Jake Anderson, Heather Stein, Laurel Brest, Sue Badzik, Improving Written Responses in Math, IU 4, May 1, 2015. (\$650 expenses budgeted)
- g. Sam Nardone, 2015 WPIAL Golf Coaches Clinic, Belle Vernon, May 21-22, 2015, (\$325 expenses budgeted)
- h. Jeri Carver, Tracy Zoppelt, Kelly Lofink, Amanda Sweesy, Denise Liptak, Kristi Leiper, Michelle Hilder, Drew Basco, CPI Training, BVIU, April 29 & 30, 2015. (\$240 expenses budgeted)

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Mrs. Kaszer advised that the BCCTC proposed budget for the 2015-16 school year is \$5,566,766.81 which represents a 10.34% over last year. The average district share is increasing 5.58%. Blackhawk's share, based on the same number of students (55) for next year is \$424,173.82 which represents 4.49% increase.

Dr. Kerber provided an overview of what BCCTC opportunities are provided to our students.

Mrs. Kaszer made a motion to approve the 2015-16 BCCTC Budget. Mr. Fleischman seconded.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Fleischman encouraged board members to review the PSBA information received.

BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

No Report

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Visitors

Mrs. Barb Brown, Chippewa Township, thanked the board for approving an actuarial study of the health insurances. Has been monitoring over the last several years and has been concerned.

Mr. Bob Clendennen, Patterson Township, inquired about the Special Education plan that was presented to the board (March 2014) and approved (April 2014), is this a three year plan? Dr. Kerber advised that the plan was completed by July 1, 2014 and has been revised, going forward, as required. Mr. Clendennen asked if this was the report that was included in the Comprehensive Plan. Dr. Kerber noted that it is an ancillary document. Mr. Clendennen requested clarification on how the plan works.

Mr. Clendennen inquired how the Reschini Group was selected. A follow up reply is requested.

Mr. Clendennen has a file of Right-to-Know requests. Inquired as to what is thought process behind all requests being given a 30-day extension.

At this time, Mr. Clendennen was advised that his 5 minutes has expired.

Mrs. Melissa Ziegler noted that Policy 007 is already an existing number. Mr. Young noted that he referenced the PSBA website but he will review and adjust.

Mrs. Ziegler also spoke on the Kindergarten registration noting that she is aware of several individuals who are seeking other programs and may come to the district should they not secure a spot.

Administration

Mr. Frombach noted information from PSBA in the meeting folders. One item that consideration should be given to setting up separate restricted fund balances for future needs, such as PSERS increases or equipment needs.

Mr. Frombach advised that he spoke with PFM earlier this week and they may be able to provide an update in May or June on the market for refinancing the 2012 bond. Noted that he will be needing direction as to whether the board wishes to go with a competitive bid.

Solicitor

No Comments

School Directors

Mr. Yonkee addressed the questions raised about Reschini Group. Mr. Yonkee offered to call their offices tomorrow to verify the numbers they previously provided, \$2.6M, are adequate.

Mr. Yonkee spoke on the budget and referenced the article in the Beaver County Times which noted a deficit. Mr. Yonkee stressed the importance in understanding the budget, any deficits and the impact of the Early Retirement Incentive when the 2015-16 budget is presented in May.

Mr. Yonkee requested that Mr. Frombach speak on the budgeted numbers for BCCTC. Mr. Frombach advised that it was just realized that the number budgeted for this current year is about \$92,000 short of the actual expense for the BCCTC program.

Dr. Kerber explained the \$1.6M deficit is actually a short fall in revenue. Are able to meet obligations and balance the budget at years end due to the moratorium in spending since December.

Mr. Frombach spoke on the budget and the challenges encountered including different budget numbers used. He noted that he has already calculated the District's revenue for the 2015-16 year using a 95% collection rate. School districts are not budgeting more than 2% in increased state subsidies.

Mr. Fleischman congratulated the band for the performance at Walt Disney World. He also acknowledged the Ag Science's successful Spring Sausage sale. He reminded the community of the new District Facebook page and thanked Tara Jones for developing. Mr. Fleischman extended thanks to Missy Delmonico for videotaping the meetings. He acknowledged Mother's Day and wished all Moms of the district a Happy Mother's Day.

Mr. Young noted that the Student Technology Council is attending the state conference this week and should have the results at the next meeting. Best of luck to all.

Next Meeting – May 14, 2015, Highland Middle School LGI Room, 7:30PM.

Mrs. Fucci reminded everyone of the Donkey Basketball Game on May 12, 2015 to benefit the Blackhawk Foundation.

Submitted by Missy Kaszer
Blackhawk School Board Secretary