

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' VOTING MEETING
Highland Middle School LGI Room
May 28, 2015**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Mr. Perry Pander, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:36PM. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken. Those in attendance were:

Ms. Aquino	Mr. Fleischman	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

Mr. Pander noted that there was an executive session for personnel matters prior to the Voting Session. He also announced that the Work Session for June will be June 18, with the Voting Session on June 29, 2015. June, July and August Board of School Directors meetings will be held in the Blackhawk High School Library due to custodial coverage.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Fleischman congratulated Dale Moll, Ashley Biega, Ken Moser and Tim Linkenheimer. Their 2015-16 STEAM proposal to support Automation Station at Blackhawk High school has been selected from 90 grant submissions to be funded in the amount of \$20,000 by The Allegheny Intermediate Unit's Center for Creativity. This is a tremendous recognition as the grant process was very competitive. This is the third grant awarded to Dale and his colleagues that will offer great opportunities to students.

Mr. Fleischman congratulated Jeff Tripodi who was honored on Tuesday, May 26th, at a ceremony at The Frick Art Museum, where a representative of the Roy A. Hunt Foundation presented him with the Award for Commitment to Education in the Arts and humanities. On behalf of Blackhawk High School, he was also presented with an award of \$3,000 for students to participate in future trips and enrichment activities.

As an information item, Mr. Fleischman provided plans on a Hall of Fame.

Agenda Item, 3.4, was moved prior to Public Comments. Mr. Frombach stressed that this at this time, it is a preliminary budget and the board and community have the opportunity to review. The current dates on the budget timeline include:

- May 28, 2015 – adopt proposed budget

- June 9, 2015 – proposed budget available for public inspection
- June 19, 2015 – public notice of intent to adopt final budget
- June 29, 2015 – adopt final budget

Mr. Yonkee and Mr. Frombach discussed the total number of staff members. Mr. Yonkee inquired about the ending position of this year's budget. Mr. Frombach advised that the transfer of funds from the general fund covered the construction fund.

Mr. Yonkee spoke on the amount spent on repairs at Northwestern. He expressed his concern regarding transportation costs if additional bus routes are needed. Mr. Frombach addressed that additional bus routes were not figured into the preliminary budget. The budget was prepared based on Northwestern being open; closing Northwestern was not incorporated into this budget. If that decision is made, adjustments to the budget will be required.

Mrs. Kaszer thanked the parents that attend the meeting on May 27th regarding the paraprofessionals. There were several board members in attendance and have heard the reaction of the parents of special needs students and the community. The Board is maintaining an open mind about this issue. The board is reconsidering its position and the content of the PowerPoint is no longer relevant. Hoping to provide more opportunities to meet with parents and community.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Ziegler, Chippewa Township, thanked those who attended the meeting last night and voiced their thoughts and concerns. Mrs. Ziegler spoke on the policy and procedure of the Board receiving the meeting agenda and board materials. Mrs. Ziegler also spoke on the negotiation process of the Business Manager and asked for consideration of tabling the motion until a dollar figure can be provided. Mrs. Ziegler inquired as to what the proposal for 6.1; if Northwestern is to close where would the 2 new special needs rooms to placed? Dr. Kerber noted that these class rooms are needed and room will be found for them. Mrs. Ziegler inquired about where the football team will play if Northwestern closes. Mr. Pander noted that the football team will play at the field at Northwestern, would not be able to turn off all utilities. Mrs. Ziegler submitted a Right-To-Know request for the PowerPoint presentation from the paraprofessional meeting.

Sean Steinle, inquired if the board will be addressing the athletic complex. Mr. Fleischman explained that it is a joint project with community and updates will be given as they become available.

Jamie Hinkle, Patterson Township, thanked the board for the meeting held last evening regarding the special needs and paraprofessionals of the district.

Michael Leiper, Chippewa Township, spoke on the \$700,000 deficit in the budget and the options to balance including refinancing the 2012 bonds. He also encouraged the board to consider the tax index to stabilize the district.

Brent Myers, South Beaver, noting that the paraprofessionals previously proposed to cut would result in savings of \$166,000. Driver's Education was shown on the budget slides as \$161,000, why was the decision to cut the paras over Drivers Education? Mr. Frombach noted that the administration prepared the budget for the board. No matter what program there will be a vested interest. All decisions need to be weighed.

Jason Hinkle, Patterson Township, spoke on the budget and generating money for the district. Jason offered to speak to other families and share their story. Dr. Kerber offered to meet with him and his wife to coordinate.

Mr. Frombach addressed cyber/charter schools and the cost to the district. Recommended reaching out to state legislature.

Jared McCowin, Chippewa Township, agreed with the statement to use tax index to stabilizing the district. He expressed appreciated for holding the meeting last evening (Paraprofessionals) and moving the budget review on the agenda to before comments to allow the community to ask questions. Jared inquired why Northwestern wasn't handled in the same manner. Mr. Pander explained that the board is waiting for the engineers on direction; may not be able to work with children in the school. Stated that the public will be given notice before a vote.

Melissa Ziegler, Chippewa Township, inquired as to why 6.1 (vote on Northwestern) was added to the agenda. Mr. Pander explained that it was thought that the engineers would have submitted their report and would be able to discuss.

JoyLyn Moore, Patterson Township, when a decision is made will the budget adjustments be provided. Mr. Pander yes, information will be provided. Ms. Moore asked if there was a deadline for a decision – Yes, June 10th.

Anita Mench, Chippewa Township, inquired about the asbestos, why was work completed at Highland with the students in the other areas but not at Northwestern. Mr. Pander explained that he cannot address the work at Highland but knows that the engineers are working within state requirements.

Rachel Cline, Chippewa Township, addressed the pipes of the boiler. Mr. Pander addressed; there were 5 lost 2; down to 3. Every time 1 is lost, it is replaced with electric heaters.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ms. Aquino left the meeting at this point.

Mr. Yankee requested approval to accept the Financial Report for April. Mrs. Kaszer seconded.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

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

- a. Fund 10 – General Fund: \$635,935.00
 - b. Fund 32 – Capital Projects Fund: \$5,350.00
 - c. Fund 51 – Cafeteria Fund: \$53,285.15
 - d. Fund 66 – UPMC Health Fund: \$534,071.76
 - e. Fund 67 – UPMC Dental: \$23,241.10
 - f. Fund 68 – UPMC Vision: \$3,894.95
- Payroll: April \$745,880.81

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

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

Ms. Aquino returned to the meeting at this point.

The motion was made by Mr. Yonkee and seconded by Mrs. Kaszer to approve acceptance of fees as quoted by UPMC to provide continued administrative services for the District's health plan for the 2015-16 fiscal year at \$62.44 per member per month. Approximately \$239,680 per year.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Yonkee and seconded by Mrs. Helsing to approve renewal of stop loss coverage as quoted by UPMC Health Benefits, Inc. for renewal for the 2015-16 fiscal year. Approximately \$216,679 per year.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee made a motion to accept the UPMC Cobra Advantage renewal fee quotation for the 2015-16 fiscal year. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee made a motion to accept the UPMC Vision Advantage Quote to provide administrative services for District's vision plan for the 2015-16 fiscal year at \$1.00 per member per month. Approximately \$2,960 per year. This motion was seconded by Ms. Aquino.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made to accept the UPMC Dental Advantage quote to provide administrative services for the District's dental plan for the 2015-16 fiscal year at \$3.25 per member per month; approximately \$12,450 per year, by Mr. Yonkee and seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee motioned to accept the renewal proposal as submitted by Amcom Office Systems for print management services effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017. The approximate cost of \$15,360 per year. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer. Discussion was held; this agreement will now be coterminous with the copy services. When going to bid for both services will assist in obtaining enhanced pricing. The number of Black & White and Colored copies per month under contract was adjusted to help eliminate additional surcharges.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee motioned to authorize the School District's Administration to work with Public Financial Management, as Financial Advisor, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP as Bond Counsel, Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC, as Underwriter 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, provided that, the refunding can achieve net debt service savings of \$271,000 (3.00%) and further provided that final approval of a financing requires formal Board to School Directors approval. Additionally, the Board of School Directors authorizes Dinsmore & Shohl LLP to take such actions as may be required to prepare the proceeding for the approving of the Obligations, when appropriate, as required by the Local Government Unit Debt Act (including, specifically, the publishing of required notices). This motion was seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee spoke on the preparation of the budget and that he was unable to participate in the process. Mr. Yonkee made a motion to accept the preliminary budget as presented for the 2015-16 school year. Copies of the Preliminary budget will be available in the District Office and all building except the high school beginning May 29, 2015. Approval of the Preliminary Budget is necessary so that there are at least 30 days until final adoption. The Board will be asked to take action on a final budget on June 29,

2015. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer. Ms. Aquino spoke on her understanding that the budget was prepared by administration without board or teacher participation and would need more information prior to voting for it. Dr. Kerber advised that the budget has been discussed in Executive Session as well as Administration Meetings. Mr. Yonkee expressed interested to have been involved in the process. Mr. Fleischman spoke his appreciation of the budget process. Mr. May noted that in 6 years on the board, this is the smallest budget document seen. He questioned the number of employees and would appreciate more backup to make a decision.

Verbal Vote: 5 Yes; 3 No; (Ms. Aquino, Mr. May and Mr. Yonkee) Motion Carried (Amended per motion August 26, 2015)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Helsing motioned for the approval for the following summer custodial staff at a rate of \$9.00 per hour:

- a. Eric Stein, bulk delivery
- b. Lillian Scrussi, custodial
- c. Sharon LeBlanc, custodial
- d. Shawn Weyend, custodial
- e. Renee Hupp, custodial
- f. Timothy Bollig, custodial
- g. Jacob Goehring, seasonal grass cutter
- h. Geri Carver, custodial
- i. Judy Smith, custodial

This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Helsing to employ the following summer IT Staff at a rate of \$9.00 per hour:

- a. Alex Devic
- b. Eric Aulbach
- c. Dan Levine

This motion was seconded by Mr. Young.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Young seconded the motion to employ Jan Robinson as Cyber Coordinator teacher at Blackhawk High School at a salary of \$49,048; Step 19, Masters.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing made a motion to accept the Notice of Retirement from the following teachers and staff effective at the end of the 2014-15 school year:

- a. Alberta Oravitz, high school teacher
- b. Robert Amalia, high school teacher
- c. Rebecca Arbogast, middle school nurse
- d. Colleen Anzio, middle school nurse
- e. Tona Bobbino-Recce, intermediate school teacher
- f. Nanette Boggs, intermediate school teacher
- g. Nancy Drogus, cafeteria
- h. Carol Durham, primary teacher
- i. Jenan Gouldsbarry, intermediate school teacher
- j. Doreen Grafton, cafeteria
- k. Diane Huston, High school teacher

- l. Mary Jane Lombardo, middle school teacher
- m. Carol McMillen, intermediate school teacher
- n. Sam Nardon, high school teacher

This motion was seconded by Mr. May

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing made a motion to accept the resignation of Alex Bougher, BHS English teacher, cross country coach and track coordinator effective July 31, 2015. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Kaszer.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Helsing and seconded by Mr. May to accept the Memorandum of Understanding with the Blackhawk Education Support Association for an Early Retirement Incentive.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion to terminate probationary employee, 5282015, effective May 30, 2015 was made by Mrs. Helsing and seconded by Mrs. Kaszer.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing made a motion to appoint Eric Brandenburg as Business Manager effective August 1, 2015, pending negotiation of contract and salary with the District Solicitor and Superintendent of Schools. This motion was seconded by Mr. Yonkee. Ms. Aquino made a motion to table. Dr. Kerber advised that the salary information was discussed during Executive Session. Mr. Bareford spoke that this is an appropriate process. A second vote would be required once salary was negotiated. A roll call vote was taken on the motion to table.

Yes – To Table	No – To Table	Absent
Mrs. Aquino	Mr. Fleischman	Dr. Rose
Mr. May	Mrs. Helsing	
Mr. Young	Mrs. Kaszer	
	Mr. Pander	
	Mr. Yonkee	

3 to Table; 5 not to Table; Motion Failed

Mr. May questioned how many individuals were interviewed – 7 or 8. Were second interviews held; no, Dr. Kerber addressed the process and noted that there is not a lot of individuals with school finance experience. Mr. May spoke regard the Business Manager being the controller of the school’s finances and expressed that he did not see this previously.

A roll call vote was taken on the original motion.

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Fleischman	Ms. Aquino	Mr. Young	Dr. Rose
Mrs. Helsing	Mr. May		
Mrs. Kaszer			
Mr. Pander			
Mr. Yonkee			

5 Yes; 2 No; 1 Abstain; Motion Carried

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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

- a. BIS PRIDE (9), Dianne Sarver, CBI – Library, Park, Fire Station, Police Station, Chippewa, May 22, 2015 (\$150 expenses budgeted).
- b. HMS PRIDE (4), Tracy Yowler, End of Year Picnic, BIS, May 29, 2015 (no expense).
- c. HMS PRIDE (4), Tracy Yowler, Sims Bowling, June 1, 2015 (expenses collected from other).
- d. AP Environmental Science (48) Rob Puskas, Global Passport Presentation, May 28, 2015 (\$140 expenses budgeted).
- e. TSA (10) Ashley Biega, Tim Linkenheimer, National TSA Conference, Dallas, TX, June 28-July 1, 2015 (expenses are budgeted and collected from students and other sources).
- f. Sixth Grad (200), Amy Anderson, Children’s Literature Book read aloud, PPS and NPS, May 29, 2015 (\$516 expenses budgeted).
- g. PRIDE (2), Dianne Sarver, Special Olympics State Summer Games, Penn State Main, June 4-6, 2015 (no expense).
- h. FFA (3), Lyndsay Wilcox, Pennsylvania FFA State Convention, Penn State University Park, June 16-18, 2015 (\$140 expenses collected from students and other).

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion is made by Ms. Aquino and seconded by Mrs. Kaszer to approve the Private Industry Council to occupy one classroom at BIS for the Head Start Program for the 2015-16 school year.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Ms. Aquino motioned and Mr. Yonkee seconded the approval to participate in the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit’s “Beaver County Summer Academy for 2015” at a cost of \$500.00.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

BUILDING AND GROUNDS/REAL ESTATE

Mr. Pander made a motion to table the recommendation to accept the Superintendent’s proposal for Northwester Primary School. Mr. Yonkee seconded this motion. Mr. Fleischman confirmed that additional information will be received from the engineers.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Ms. Aquino requested clarification on what the recommendation. Dr. Kerber advised that she has addressed the possibility of closing Northwestern and the options associated with the Board starting back in January.

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Dr. Kerber communicated that item 7.4 (Joe Lamenza as head Football Coach) was previously approved and did not need voted on this evening.

Mr. Fleischman made a motion to accept the resignation of Dave Florentine as 9th grade head football coach. This was seconded by Mr. May.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman made a motion to accept the resignation of Amy Anderson as the Women’s Tennis Coach. This was seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made to accept the resignation of Josh Bears as the men’s Basketball Coach by Mr. Fleischman and seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded the motion for a 3 year contract for Brooks Roorback as the Head Men's Basketball Coach.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman made the motion for the Blackhawk School District to continue their \$5,000 support of the Blackhawk Hockey program. This motion was seconded by Mr. May.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman extended congratulations to Chassidy Omogrosso and Courtney Vannoy, both girls were awarded the Esmark All American for the Basketball 2015 season.

Congratulation were also extended to the Women's Lacrosse Team for a great season.

ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON

Dr. Kerber provided an overview of both recent and upcoming activities. Highlights included:

- Administrators will be attending a retreat in early June; the Carnegie Science Center has waived all cost except for food expenses.
- Acknowledge Rob Puskas and Anita Mench on the success of the Global Passport project. Ms. Aquino noted that during the BVIU meeting there was discussion and recognition of Blackhawk's participation in this program.
- Legislature is looking at a moratorium on the Keystone exams
- A meeting was held with BIS parents regarding Math and a plan for next year. Mrs. McCowin, Math Chair, participated. Mr. Frombach has included \$23,000 in the budget for textbooks however, may look into a print center for future use. Purchasing copyrights would be more cost effective.
- Reviewed 1:1 technology for the 2015-16 school year. Will be introduced by discipline with Science being the first.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No Report

FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE

No Report

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

No Report

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. Young motioned to approve Policy 547; Workers' Compensation Transitional Return-To-Work Program. Mr. Yonkee seconded the motion.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Young for the revision of Policy 100; Comprehensive Plan. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fleischman.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Young made a motion to accept Policy 004.1; Student Representative to the School Board. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Young made another motion to amend Policy 004.1, Section 4D waiving the requirement of attending 5 meetings in the inaugural year. This motion was seconded by Mr. May.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

BOARD/STAFF ENRICHMENT

A motion was made to approve the following conferences:

- a. Heather Pastor, Steamy Stem K-1, BIVU, June 8, 2015 (Expenses budgeted).
- b. Dianne Sarver, PSU State Games – Special Olympics, Penn State Main, June 3-6, 2015 (no expense).

This motion was seconded by Mr. May.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Mrs. Kaszer advised that the monthly BCCTC meeting is also being held this evening and she will be receiving a packet of information in the mail. Updates from this BCCTC Meeting will be presented at the June Blackhawk Board of Directors meeting.

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

No Report

BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

No Report

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Visitors

Tracy Yeller, Chippewa Township, spoke regarding this being her first year working at Highland Middle School and her appreciation for the work of her 3 paraprofessionals.

Bob Clendennen, Patterson Township, spoke on the budget process not being transparent as the public was not given the opportunity to comment. He has several questions:

- Does the budget contains dollar amounts for Northwestern or a sports complex? Mr. Frombach respond; no, nothing budgeted for any capital project or sports complex.
- Mr. Clendennen questioned what amount is budgeted for regular maintenance. Mr. Frombach noted it is not extensive, around \$150-\$200,000 for all buildings.
- Mr. Clendennen then asked what the budgeted amount is for a Business Manager. It is in the budget for \$100,000 not including benefits.
- Has there been any discussion with McCarter’s and the maximum route times for students? Dr. Kerber noted that there has been conversations. Mr. Clendennen noted he hears as long as an hour.

- Mr. Clendennen noted that the new policy manual does not include the Blackhawk School District's policies.

Michalene Ensworth, Patterson Heights, spoke on 4.6 Early Retirement Incentive and inquired about the eligible age. Mr. Frombach addressed that is age 57, health benefits until 65 and the appropriate payouts.

Mr. Al Lyndes, Chippewa Township, noted that there was an awards banquet on May 14th in which his son, Kyle, won the Star Greenhand Award. Mr. Lyndes also noted a DECA Award won by Elizabeth Ayres. Mrs. Kaszer advised that this information will be in the packet of information she will receive from this evening's BCCTC meeting and she will acknowledge these individuals at the next School Board meeting.

Alberta Oravitz, Chippewa Township, addressed her teaching experience and will continue to work with the Key Club and other school activities. She spoke on her dissatisfaction with the hiring of a business manager without a contract or salary. Expressed that she would have taxes raised rather than any programs cuts.

Melissa Ziegler, Chippewa Township, inquired is the \$100,000 repairs at Northwestern, does that include the new carpet and water coolers. Mr. Frombach noted it did not. Mrs. Ziegler spoke on the expenses of the Business Managers for this past year.

Administration

No Comments

Solicitor

No Comments

School Directors

Ms. Aquino apologized to anyone that though she was disrespectful during the Paraprofessional meeting on May 20th. She expressed her concern for the students and staff and wishes to working toward what she feels is their best interest.

Mr. Pander addressed the CTCNP issue regarding the use of Trane for repairs and referred to Mr. Bareford who spoke on the legalities of the process. According to public school code it was handled in an appropriate and legal manner.

Dr. Kerber stated that there will be a meeting on Wednesday, June 10th for the Board to discuss the budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20PM

Submitted by Missy Kaszer
Blackhawk School Board Secretary