

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' WORK SESSION MEETING  
Highland Middle School LGI Room  
September 10, 2015**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

Mr. Dean Fleischman, Board Acting President, called the meeting to order at 7:34PM. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken. Those in attendance were:

Mr. Fleischman                      Mrs. Helsing                      Mrs. Kaszer  
Mr. Yonkee                              Mr. Young

Ms. Aquino, Mr. May, Mr. Pander & Dr. Rose were absent.

Also in attendance were:

Dr. Kerber – Superintendent  
Mr. Christian Bareford – District Solicitor  
Mr. Eric Brandenburg – Business Manager  
Mr. Noah Sims – Blackhawk High School Student Representative

Mr. Fleischman acknowledged that Friday is September 11<sup>th</sup> and asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of the events that occurred in 2001.

Mr. Fleischman noted that there was an executive session for personnel matters prior to the Work Session this evening.

A motion was made by Mr. Fleischman to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2015 meeting. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Helsing.

**Verbal Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried**

A motion was made by Mr. Fleischman to approve the minutes from the August 26, 2015 meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Young.

**Verbal Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Congratulations were extended to Lyndsay Wilcox, BHS Vo-Ag teacher. After completing CASE (Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education) certification requirements through intense professional development, Lyndsay decided to take her professional growth one step further by applying to be a CASE Lead Teacher and was accepted.

Mr. Moll and the STEAM students were recognized at the AIU Showcase yesterday. Mr. Fleischman also complimented Mr. Moll and students for their rendition of the Donnie Iris Cougar which will be used to promote the Marching Band's halftime show.

Dr. Kerber made a presentation to the board providing an update of student activities and test results. Highlights include:

- Reviewed Student Learning Objectives
- Data Analysis – including test scores
- STEM Activities
- Special Education Programs
- Technology
- Northwestern School
- High School Roof – condition
- Professional Development
- District Office – New staff members
- Superintendent Goals

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Bob Clendennen, Patterson Township, spoke on several items including:

- His Right-To-Know request of September 2<sup>nd</sup> was received by September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Last month's bills paid including \$14,232 to Cottrill, Arbutina & Associate. What is this for?
- 7 invoices totaling \$30,164 to D'agostino Electronic Services, Inc., inquired as to what this was for.
- Eckles & HRG, inquired about this invoices too.
- Agenda item 4.9 – pay increases for 2 principals and noting that board action is required, but no board vote took place in the 2014-2015 school year. Dr. Kerber addressed that the Act 93 identifies the amount of increase by performance level. Dr. Kerber will review and then recommend action if necessary.
- The thermal images of the roof at Highland Middle School as noted in Dr. Kerber's presentation. Mr. Fleischman corrected that the images were from the High School and not the Middle School.
- Historically the budgets for Funds 66, 67 & 68 (UPMC Health, Dental & Vision) have been voted on and noted that they have not been this year. Spoke on the funds for these accounts and requested the results from the actuary students. Mr. Brandenburg advised that the district does not have to have a budget for these funds but will review. Mr. Yonkee inquired if the district has a letter from the actuary; Dr. Kerber yes; and asked Mr. Brandenburg to research.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The committee is recommending approval to accept the Financial Report for August.

The committee is recommending approval for the payment of bills.

- a. Fund 10 – General Fund: \$0
  - b. Fund 32 – Capital Projects Fund: \$0
  - c. Fund 51 – Cafeteria Fund: \$0
  - d. Fund 66 – UPMC Health Fund: \$0
  - e. Fund 67 – UPMC Dental: \$0
  - f. Fund 68 – UPMC Vision: \$0
- Payroll: August \$0

The Monthly Insurance Report for August will be provided as an Information Item.

The committee is recommending approval to accept a request from South Beaver Township to exonerate the 2015 school real estate taxes for the following Parcel Numbers. (The mobile homes were removed prior to the tax bill distribution):

- a. Parcel 77-003-0305-946, located 40 Kathy Street, Beaver Falls
- b. Parcel 77-003-0305-966, located 4 Kelly Drive, Beaver Falls
- c. Parcel 77-121-0145-896, located 19 Carla Drive, Beaver Falls

#### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Helsing motioned for the approval to employ Debbie Young as consultant for the district in the amount of \$15.00 per hour. This motion was seconded by Mr. Young.

**Verbal Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried**

The committee is recommending approval to employ Sharon Petrocelly as Northwestern Primary Lunch monitor at a rate of \$7.25 per hour.

The committee is recommending approval to employ Linda Hurley as Blackhawk Intermediate School lunch monitor at a rate of \$7.25 per hour pending clearances.

The committee is recommending approval to honor Cassandra Clonch's request to utilize sick leave and FMLA on or about September 8 until on or about October 20, 2015.

The committee is recommending approval to accept the resignation of Pam Smith, Highland Middle School Nurse Paraprofessional, effective September 18, 2015.

The committee is recommending approval to accept the resignation of Veronica Wood, Blackhawk Intermediate School Nurse Paraprofessional, effective September 18, 2015.

The committee is recommending approval for the following substitute:

- a. Denise Rodriquez
- b. Lisa Hopkins

The committee is recommending approval to grant tenure for the following teachers:

- a. Thomas (Jake) Anderson, BIS
- b. Lisa Brown, NPS
- c. Ashely DeCoy, BIS
- d. Christy Desselle, BIS
- e. Erin Krut, NPS
- f. Natalie Nicolette, HMS
- g. Amy Taylor, BIS
- h. Catherine Virgin, PPS
- i. David Zaccari, BHS

The committee is recommending approval to increase the salary of Scott Nelson and Jane Ann Fucci by \$3,000 for the 2015-16 school year according to the Act 93 Agreement.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

The committee is recommending approval for the following field trips:

- a. Highland Middle School PRIDE (4), Tracy Yowler, Community Based Instruction, 2 days per month during the school year pending van ability (No expense).
- b. Music Academy/Choir (15), Maura Underwood, PMEA Honors Chorus Auditions, Westminster, October 1, 2015 (\$200 expenses budgeted).
- c. Music Academy/Choir (6), Maura Underwood, PMEA Honors Chorus Westminster, October 29-31, 2015 (\$780 expenses budgeted).
- d. Concert Choir (7), Maura Underwood, PMEA District Chorus, Laurel, February 3-6, 2016 (\$980 expenses budgeted).
- e. Concert Choir (3), Maura Underwood, PMEA Region Chorus, Western Beaver, March 16-19, 2016 (\$420 expenses budgeted).
- f. Concert Choir (3), Maura Underwood, PMEA All-State Chorus, Harrisburg, March 30-April 2, 2016 (\$900 expenses budgeted).
- g. Concert Choir (105), Maura Underwood, High Notes Festival, Pittsburgh, March 27, 2016 (expenses collected from students).
- h. Concert Choir (100), Maura Underwood, Holiday Tour, Pittsburgh, December 12, 2015 (\$150 expenses budgeted).
- i. Music Academy (21), Maura Underwood, Musical Christmas Carol, Pittsburgh, December 22, 2015 (\$150 expenses budgeted).
- j. Blackhawk High School PRIDE (5), Mariah Brown, Community Based Instruction, 2 days per month during the school year pending van ability (No expense).
- k. Blackhawk High School PRIDE (3), Bender Leadership Academy, Pittsburgh, November 18, January 14, February 18 and April 7, 2016 (no expense).
- l. Third Grade (200), Third Grade Teachers, Iron Mills Farmstead, New Wilmington, October 16, 2015 (expenses collected from PTO).
- m. Sophomore Class (40), Joe Verbosky, P.E. Outdoor Field Trip, Pittsburgh, September 24, 2015 (expenses collected from students).

Mr. Yonkee spoke on the distribution of funds for music programs, expressing concern that music programs are present in the primary schools.

The committee is recommending approval for Blackhawk School District School Picnic, Monday, June 13, 2016.

Mr. Yonkee requested the 3<sup>rd</sup> day report, which Dr. Kerber offered to provide.

## **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/REAL ESTATE**

No Report

## **ATHLETICS COMMITTEE**

The committee is recommending approval to appoint the following as Computer Facilitator for the 2015-16 school year:

- a. Ken Moser, BHS, \$2,850
- b. Naomi Equels, BHS, \$2,850
- c. Darlene Martin, HMS, \$3,610
- d. Erica Shildt, Primaries, \$2,850

## **ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON**

Dr. Kerber noted that training on the new computer programs/software is necessary and has reminded the company that this needs to be scheduled and completed.

Dr. Kerber also advised that there has been no movement on the state budget. To date, Blackhawk has been able to survive on the local tax revenues.

## **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

No Report

## **FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE**

No Report

## **NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

No Report

## **POLICY COMMITTEE**

No Report

## **BOARD/STAFF ENRICHMENT**

The committee is recommending approval for the following conferences:

- a. Gina Gordon, PA School Counselors Association 60<sup>th</sup> Annual State Conference, Hershey, February 17-20, 2016 (\$500 expenses budgeted).
- b. Melanie Kerber, Managing Crisis: Community Chaos, Nemaquin, November 12-13, 2015 (\$615 expenses budgeted).
- c. Ashley Biega, Dale Moll and Tim Linkenheimer, TSA Regional Conference Planning Meeting, California University PA, October 1, 2015 (\$94.00 expenses budgeted)
- d. Dale Moll, Tim Linkenheimer, TEEAP Conference, Camp Hill, November 5-6, 2015 (\$750 expenses budgeted).
- e. Dale Moll, 2015 STEAM Showcase, Pittsburgh, September 9, 2015 (no expense).
- f. Dale Moll, National TSA CRC Manager Meeting, location to be determined, October 18-20, 2015 (no expense).
- g. Mariah Brown, Beaver County Transition Council, BVIU, October 23, 2015 – May 27, 2016 (\$100 expenses budgeted).

- h. Amy Anderson, Principal Leadership Institute, Location to be determined, October 29, 2015 – May 5, 2016 (\$500 expenses budgeted).
- i. Amy Anderson and Scott Nelson, Rigor and Assessment Literacy, online, September 14 – September 28, 2015 (\$300 expenses budgeted).
- j. Jane Ann Fucci, 4 teachers to be determined, Math and Science Collaborative, Allegheny Intermediate Unit, September 30, 2015 (\$50 expenses budgeted).

## **VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL**

Mrs. Kaszer provided an update from the Beaver County Career & Technology Center. Highlights included:

- Overall attendance for the 2015-16 Beaver County Career and Technology Center is up 74 students from last year. Blackhawk is down about 7 students.
- 3 PDE Grants have been submitted; all dependent upon the state budget.
  - Career Counselor Grant – Maximum about \$100,000.
  - Career and Technical Equipment Grant
  - CTE Innovation Grant – The duration of the grant is four years with the first year serving as a planning year. This grant has the potential of reaching \$1,300,000.
- The BCC&TC has partnered with UPMC for the Health Occupations Program.
- The BCC&TC has partnered with Gordon Food Service to assist students with job placement and internship opportunities for the 2015-16 school year.
- The BCC&TC has volunteered to be a part of the Technical Assistance Program for the 2015-16 school year.

## **PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

No Report, however Mr. Fleischman encouraged the community to contact state representatives regarding the state budget.

## **BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

No Report

## **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

### **Visitors**

Mr. Bob Clendennen, Patterson Township, inquired about the motion on the August voting agenda regarding approving Mr. Frombach for negotiations, which was tabled. Dr. Kerber advised that Mr. Frombach has withdrawn.

Mr. Clendennen read the duties and roles dealing with substantial completion (Construction) from an AIA document.

### **Administration**

No Comments

**Solicitor**

No Comments

**Student Representative**

Mr. Noah Sims, Student Representative, reported that students in the AP Courses have begun preparation for course and exams. High school students are taking SAT exams and preparing college applications. Student involvement, even at away games, is increasing. The student body is recommending to wear Red, White & Blue at the game on September 11, 2015.

**School Directors**

Mr. Young, Mr. Yonkee and Dr. Kerber discussed that, by nature, there is more money budgeted in the music programs in the high grades with the choice to attend Lincoln Park being available to students.

Next Meeting – September 17, 2015, Highland Middle School LGI Room, 7:30PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05PM

Submitted by Missy Kaszer  
Blackhawk School Board Secretary