

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' VOTING MEETING
Blackhawk's High School Library
June 19, 2014**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Dr. Rose, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. and the Pledge of Allegiance was made. Roll call was answered by six members. Those in attendance were:

Ms. Aquino Mr. Fleischman Mrs. Helsing Mr. Pander
Dr. Rose Mr. Yonkee

Absent was:

Mr. Heckathorn Mr. May Mr. Oswald

Also attending were:

Dr. Thomas- Acting Superintendent
Mr. Petrush- District Solicitor
Mr. Wessel- Board Secretary

Pastor David Roddy, Brush Run United Methodist Church offered the opening prayer.

(Note: Mr. Heckathorn and Mr. May arrived at this point in the meeting.)

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

No report.

At this point Dr. Rose introduced Mr. John McCreary from the law firm of Babst/ Calland who discussed the litigation with the Blackhawk Education Association (BEA).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Rose asked if there were any members of the public who wished to comment on agenda items or other matters.

Ms. Melissa Zeigler discussed the cost of the litigation with the BEA.

Ms. Rachael Kline discussed the litigation with the BEA and the survey on half versus all-day Kindergarten.

Mr. Ron Stidman discussed the litigation with the BEA.

Mr. Jarrod McCowan discussed the litigation with the BEA.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Hechathorn seconded a motion to accept the Financial Reports for the month of May.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; - Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to approve the payment of bills as presented.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee asked the Board members if they had any questions on monthly insurance reports for May included in their packets.

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Fleischman seconded a motion to table the agenda item adopting the 2014 – 2015 Blackhawk School District General Fund, Food Service Fund, Health Fund, Dental Fund and Vision Fund proposed budgets. A discussion followed.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 1 No (Mr. May); Motion Carried to Table

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to approve the District's tax levies, tax collectors, tax collection procedures and compensation rates for tax collectors as follows:

A. REAL ESTATE LEVY: Resolved that the Board of School Directors does hereby levy and impose a tax upon all taxable real estate property for the 2014-2015 fiscal year at a rate of 57.68 mills based upon the assessed valuation of the properties in the District's municipalities located in Beaver County; and, at a rate of 18.05 mills based upon the assessed valuation of the properties in Enon Valley Borough in Lawrence County. This equates to \$5.768 per \$100 of assessed value for properties in Beaver County and \$1.805 per \$100 of assessed value for properties in Lawrence County.

B. SCHOOL CODE PER CAPITA TAX: Resolved that pursuant to the authority granted under Section 679 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949, as amended, the School Board of Directors does hereby levy and impose a Per Capita Tax of \$5 for the 2014-2015 fiscal year on each resident or inhabitant of the School District 18 years of age or older. The determination of those taxable and the assessment, collection and enforcement of the tax shall conform to the provisions of the standing Act 511 Per Capita Tax Resolution adopted by the School Board of Directors heretofore.

C. PAYMENT PERIOD FOR REAL ESTATE AND PER CAPITA TAXES: Resolved that in compliance with statutes the Real Estate Section 679 and Act 511 Per Capita taxes for fiscal year 2014- 2015 shall be payable at a 2% discount during the months of July and August, at face the months of September and October and at a penalty of an additional 10% of the face value penalty after November 1, 2014. The taxes may be paid at face without discount or penalty in three equal installments if the same are paid on or prior to August 31, 2014, October 31, 2014, and

December 31, 2014 respectively as provided by law. The payment of the first installment prior to or on August 31, 2014 shall be conclusive evidence of intent to pay the tax by installments. If such installments become delinquent, the full face amount plus an added 10% of the face amount penalty shall become immediately due.

D. COMMISSION FOR COLLECTION OF SECTION 679 PER CAPITA TAXES: Resolved that for the 2014- 2015 fiscal year collectors of the Section 679 Per Capita Tax will be paid per contracted amount with Berkheimer Associates Inc. (Berkheimer).

E. DELINQUENT SECTION 679 TAXES: Resolved that Berkheimer is hereby appointed the collection agency during fiscal year 2014- 2015 for delinquent Per Capita Taxes levied. Charges will be as contracted.

F. APPOINTMENT OF EIT, LST, AND MECHANICAL DEVICES COLLECTORS: Resolved that during the 2014- 2015 fiscal year collectors for EIT, LST and Mechanical Devices Tax will be Berkheimer. Rates for collection will be as per existing agreement between the District and Berkheimer. Berkheimer will be responsible for delinquent collection for any EIT, LST and mechanical devices taxes uncollected for the year.

G. APPOINTMENT OF AMUSEMENT TAX COLLECTOR: Resolved that the District Business Manager be appointed as interim Amusement Tax Collector.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Fleischman seconded a motion to accept Resolution 06192014 regarding Homestead/Farmstead exclusions real estate tax assessment reductions for the school year beginning July 1, 2014.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to accept bids provided by the Beaver County Tax office for properties previously exposed to upset tax sales and judicial sales, but were not sold and is currently held in a category known as the “Repository for Unsold Properties” for parcel numbers; 58-004-0626.000 and 58.004.0625.000.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Fleischman seconded a motion to renew insurance (Commercial, Automobile, Umbrella, Workers Compensation, School Leaders) and add Cyber Liability coverage as discussed June 12, 2014 for a total cost of \$269,807.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to

1. Approve the Agreement and General Release of Claims relating to the lawsuit involving the Blackhawk School District which is pending at Civil Action No. 2:13-cv-632 in the United States District Court of Western Pennsylvania.
2. Authorize the President and Secretary of the Board to execute and to attest, respectively, such document on behalf of the Board.
3. Authorize the District Solicitor to handle such signed document in appropriate manner.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Judith Watson, Highland Middle School paraprofessional, effective June 11, 2014.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; - Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Lauren Chappell, District Office secretary, with last day of employment June 20, 2014.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; - Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Fleischman seconded a motion to hire three summer custodial workers at a rate of \$9 per hour pending receipt of clearances, with provisions to hire a fourth worker at the same rate once identified and approved by the board:

- a. Zach Thayer
- b. Chris Mooney
- c. Shane

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; - Motion Carried

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Heckathorn seconded motion to approve the following student teachers:

- a. Emily Cole, Grove City College, with Krsten Neeley, Blackhawk Intermediate School.
- b. Patrick Dairymple, Duquesne University, with Nathan Goodrich, Orchestra Director.
- c. Madison Braun, Slippery Rock University, with Sarah Shuleski, Highland Middle School.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing moved and Ms. Aquino seconded motion to approve changes to the K-5 Social Studies and Science, Legal Oratory and Debate (grades 10-12) and updates to P.E. (grades 9-12), and Computer (grades 6-8) curriculums.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Pander seconded motion to allow the BVIU to occupy one classroom at BIS for the Early Intervention Program for the 2014-2015 school year.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Yonkee seconded motion to approve homebound/supplemental instruction for a Blackhawk student not to exceed six hours per week. Some discussion followed.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Fleischman seconded a motion to approve the following field trip:

Primary Summer School (45), Jodi Borroni, A Gymnastic Extravaganza, Arcadia Gymnastics, July 8, 2014 (expenses paid by Blackhawk Foundation).

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

An agenda item to implement BYOT at the High School was not voted upon after discussion because a policy allowing District wide use of BYOT was adopted previously.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/ REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Mr. Pander moved and Ms. Aquino seconded a motion to shut off the lights on the three tennis courts closest to Blackhawk Road at the High School and just light the two back courts for use by the public at night. Some discussion followed.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Pander moved and Mr. May seconded a motion to set summer hours for all custodians and maintenance personnel as 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

No report.

ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE

No report.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No report.

FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE

No report.

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

No report.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. Yonkee did a second reading of Policy 3004.1 Conflict of Interest/ Nepotism.

BOARD/ STAFF ENRICHMENT

Ms. Aquino moved and Mr. Hechathorn seconded a motion to approve attendance at the following conferences:

A. Administrator:

1. Carol Sprinker, Danielle Bailey, Keystone State Reading Association, Penn State, State College, June 26, 2014 (all expenses paid by K.S.R.A.)
 2. Carol Sprinker, Korin McMillen, Danielle Bailey, Special Education Leadership Academy, Bedford Springs, July 28-31, 2014 (expenses paid by ACCESS funds).
- Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried**

INTERMEDIATE UNIT

Members were directed to the School Board Notes in their packets.

VOCATIONAL- TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Mr. May moved and Mr. Yonkee seconded a motion to approve a resolution from the Beaver County Career and Technology Center amending the articles of agreement for the establishment of the BCCTC for the 2014-15 school year to establish and approve the retention, appropriation and expenditure of a fund balance by the Joint Operating Committee of the BCCTC for approve purchases of equipment and facility maintenance.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. May moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to approve the 2014-15 Beaver County Career & Technology Center's Operating Budget of \$5,045,229.08 contingent upon the previous Resolution from the BCCTC (amending the articles of agreement) being passed unanimously by all districts.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

No report.

BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

No report.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Visitors: Mr. Rich Sabona thanked the Board for the podium for the public to use when addressing the Board, and discussed the lights at the tennis courts and the IRS fine.

Mr. Tom Duffy, President of the Support Workers Association, informed the Board the job descriptions set summer hours for custodial and maintenance personnel and a grievance may follow given the Board's earlier vote to change hours.

Ms. Melissa Ziegler commented on the litigation with the BEA.

Mr. Jarrod McCowan discussed the litigation with the BEA.

Mrs. Jeanie Porter discussed the need for everyone to work together.

Administrators: None.

School Directors: Mr. Pander informed the Board that a car cruise is being held on the High School campus next Saturday to benefit Make A Wish.

Ms. Aquino discussed Board accomplishments.

Dr. Rose thanked Dr. Thomas for serving as Acting Superintendent.

Next Meeting: The special meeting is scheduled for June 26, 2014 in the Blackhawk High School library at 7:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Submitted by Jerry Wessel
Board Secretary