

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

**SPECIAL BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' VOTING MEETING
Blackhawk's High School Library
December 19, 2013**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Dr. Rose, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. and asked for a moment of silent reflection in lieu of an opening prayer. He then led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was answered by eight members. Those in attendance were:

Mrs. Aquino	Mr. Fleischman	Mr. Heckathorn	Mrs. Helsing
Mr. Oswald	Mr. Pander	Dr. Rose	Mr. Yonkee

Absent was:

Mr. May

Also attending were:

Mr. Petrush- Interim Solicitor Mr. Wessel- Board Secretary

Mr. Pander moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the December 3, 2013 meeting. A discussion followed and the following corrections were made. Under **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE** the second paragraph was changed to, "The Board held an executive session at this time for personnel matters and resumed the meeting at 8:40." The previous second paragraph was made the third paragraph and changed to read, "Mr. Oswald moved and Mr. Yonkee seconded a motion to approve to accept the resignation of Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent, with her last day of work being December 11, 2013 with the use of remaining vacation days earned and owed her by the District." Under **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**, Board member comments, the fifth paragraph was changed to read, "Mr. Don Inman, resident, commented that he was surprised by the actions of the Board to spend in his opinion approximately \$150,000 with the motions for Vo-Ag and the audit." The seventh paragraph was changed to read, "Mr. Matt Young discussed the affordability of Vo-Ag and thanked the Board for reinstating the program."

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried to Approve as Amended

Dr. Rose announced that Board members would be assigned to committees for 2014 as follows:

Finance/Insurance: Chairman Ken Yonkee

Personnel: Co-Chairs Perry Pander and Kathy Helsing

Education: Co-Chairs Kathy Helsing and Ken Yonkee

Buildings, Grounds and Real Estate: Chairman Perry Pander

Athletics: Co-Chairs Paul Heckathorn and Kathy Helsing

Administrative Liaison: Lance Rose

Transportation: Co-Chairs Paul May and Perry Pander

Food Service: Co-Chairs Dean Fleischman and Paul May
Policy: Chairman Ken Yonkee
Public Relations & Communications: Chairman Dean Fleischman
Negotiations: TBD
Intermediate Unit: Chairman Rich Oswald, Alternate Paul May
Vocational-Technical School: Chairman Rich Oswald, Alternate Paul May
Board/Staff Enrichment: Chairman Tory Aquino
P.S.B.A. Liaison: Chairman Dean Fleischman
Council of Governments: Chairman Paul Heckathorn
Beaver Valley Joint School: Chairman Ken Yonkee
Vo-Tech Citizens Advisory: Co-Chairs Dean Fleischman and Paul May

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Fleischman informed the Board and the public that The Blackhawk Football Mothers presented Blackhawk Coaches vs. Cancer fundraising initiative a check in the amount of \$3,500.00 as a result of their “Pink-Out” Game. The collection at half-time by Blackhawk cheerleaders yielded \$775.60 for a grand total of \$4,275.60.

Dr. Rose asked Mr. Pander to recognize three previous Board members, Joyce Perri, Geri Pander and Cindy Burger, and the previous Superintendent, Dr. Miller, by the presentation of commemorative school bells on a stand for each. Mr. Pander presented the awards to the three previous Board members, who were present and asked that Dr. Miller’s award be sent to her.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Rose asked if there were any public comments on agenda items or other matters.

Mr. Bob Clendennen discussed Board policies in regard to Board reorganization. A discussion followed. As a result, Mr. Oswald moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to ratify the actions taken during the Board reorganization.

Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No – Motion Carried

Mr. Bob Clendennen discussed additional Board policies.

Mrs. Melissa Tweed commented on what she considered to be excellent concerts for First Grade at Patterson and Fifth Grade at BIS and complimented the Music and Arts programs in the District. She also commented that one Third Grade class at BIS has an excessive number of 504 Plan students and the teacher could use an aide in the classroom. A discussion followed.

Mr. Jon Kaszer asked about the status of the IRS penalty the District is appealing and he was told the IRS has informed the District they will take an additional 45 days to review the appeal.

Mrs. Autumn Giocondi discussed teacher involvement in selection of the next Superintendent, a survey to determine teacher concerns and the recent decision by the State Supreme Court in the Morrow case.

Dr. Rose directed that Personnel Committee items be discussed next.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to appoint Mr. John Petrush as School District Solicitor for the 2014 calendar year at a \$750 monthly retainer and an hourly rate of \$175 for all matters not covered by retainer.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Dr. Rose read a letter from ESB Bank offering an additional level of security for ACH transfers.

Dr. Rose then suspended the public meeting in order to hold an Executive Session for Personnel (8:13 PM).

Dr. Rose reconvened the public meeting at 8:40 PM.

Mr. Pander moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to appoint Dr. Michael Thomas as Acting Superintendent effective December 19, 2013 at a rate of \$375 per day until such time as an permanent Superintendent is selected.

Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No – Motion Carried

Dr. Rose recommended that letters be sent to those who applied for the Interim Superintendent position and the Solicitor position and were not selected thanking them for their interest. A discussion followed. Mr. Pander moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion that the Interim Superintendent be tasked with sending the letters.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to accept the E-rate Services Proposal from Debra Kriete Esq. regarding fiscal year 2014.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee informed the Board that he met with the District's auditors and that they will make recommendations to simplify reports.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Pander moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to approve the following substitutes for the 2013-14 school year:

- a. Casey Woodley (Para)
- b. Amanda Bell

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Lauren Grossman, Pre- K paraprofessional, effective December 20, 2013.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Yonkee seconded a motion to approve the following student teachers for the 2014 spring semester:

- a. Sean Fouse to work with Anita Mensch, High School
- b. Courtney Light to work with Christy Desselle, Speech

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

At this time students Matt Young and Alex Devic gave a presentation on re-implementing class rank at the High School.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/ REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Mr. Pander moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to authorize Building and Grounds Committee Chair to coordinate a District wide security assessment survey by Homeland Security at no cost to the District with assistance from appropriate police municipalities.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Pander moved and Mr. Yonkee seconded a motion to authorize Building and Grounds Committee Chair to schedule mold testing by Pittsburgh Mold at Northwestern Primary at a cost of \$400 to the District. Some discussion followed.

Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board members of the boys' football team on recent Parkway Conference honors:

- a. Andy Podbielski, First Team Defense, End; Second Team Offense, Tight End
- b. Tyler Engle, First Team Defense, Defensive Back.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Steve Sharik who was selected to PG West Xtra Boys' Soccer All-Stars.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Aleena Milinski, Lia Vinciguerra and Alexis Frank who were recently honored at the Western Pennsylvania High School Girls' Soccer Coaches Association 2013 All Section / WPIAL All Star Banquet.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Shaan Siton who was named as a Class AA WPIAL All-Star.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Zach Flick, Shaan Siton, Noah Thayer, Steve Sharik, and Matt Warnaka who were named to the Section 4-AA All-Section Team for boys' soccer.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Alexis Frank, Aleena Milinski, and Lia Vinciguerra who were named to the Section 3-AA All-Section Team for girls' soccer.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board the girls' basketball team who won the championship game of the Blackhawk Girls' Tip-Off Tournament.

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Diane Woodske as assistant varsity swim coach.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to appoint Cindy Guthrie as the Middle School Volleyball Head Coach at a salary of \$1,831.55.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to appoint Cory Schmidt as the assistant Varsity Swim Coach at a salary of \$3,171.71.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to appoint Nick Kinger as volunteer coach of the Boy's Tennis Team.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn informed the Board members that the Fall Sports Schedule was included in their Board packets.

ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE

No report.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No report.

FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE

No report.

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

No report.

POLICY COMMITTEE

No report.

BOARD/ STAFF ENRICHMENT

Mrs. Aquino moved and Mr. Heckathorn seconded a motion to develop a survey that would be made available to all school employees to anonymously provide the Board feedback on concerns in the workplace.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to lease a Post Office box to allow surveys and other materials to be sent to the District with total anonymity. A discussion followed.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Yes; 2No (Mr. Oswald, Mr. Yonkee) - Motion Carried

INTERMEDIATE UNIT

No report.

VOCATIONAL- TECHNICAL SCHOOL

No report.

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

No report.

BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

No report.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Administration: Mr. Wessel covered correspondence received to include a letter from Nutrition Inc. asking to do a dinner in January as a part of School Board Recognition Month; a letter of appreciation for Jeff Cienik for his assistance to an injured student, and a letter of appreciation to those High School student athletes mentoring children at the Northwestern Primary School. Mr. Wessel also informed the Board that the District Office will be closed Friday, December 20, 2013 at 11:45 AM for the annual office Christmas party.

Visitors: Mr. Bob Clendennen discussed Board policies and lack of a sufficient number of agendas for all the public.

Mrs. Melissa Tweed commented on the Post Office box motion.

Mr. Jon Kaszer discussed past practices versus Board policies.

School Directors: None.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2014 in the Blackhawk High School library at 7:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 PM.

Submitted by Jerry Wessel
Board Secretary