

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' WORK SESSION
Blackhawk High School Library
January 12, 2012**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Mr. Richard Oswald, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was answered by eight of nine members. Those in attendance were:

Mr. Clendennen	Mr. Fleischman	Dr. Rose
Mr. Heckathorn	Mr. Inman	Mr. May
Mr. Oswald	Mrs. Pander	

Absent was: Mr. Calabria

Also attending were:

Dr. Miller- Superintendent Mr. Salopek- Solicitor Mr. Wessel- Board Secretary

Mr. May moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2011 Board meeting.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Oswald announced that the next meeting scheduled for January 19, 2012 will be at Blackhawk Intermediate School in the gymnasium.

Mr. Oswald announced that the Board would function as a committee of the whole per Policy 005, Section 6 and that the Committee of the Whole will meet at 6:30 PM prior to work sessions for the immediate future. He announced the committee Chairpersons as:

Mr. Fleischman- Public Relations and Communications and Food Service Committees
Mr. Inman- Finance and Negotiations Committees
Mrs. Pander- Personnel Committee and Representative to Beaver County Regional Council of Government
Mr. May- Education and Transportation Committees
Mr. Clendennen- Buildings and Grounds/ Real Estate and PSBA Legislative Committees
Mr. Calabria- Athletics and Board/ Staff Enrichment Committees
Mr. Oswald- Administrative Liaison
Dr. Rose- Representative to the Intermediate Unit and Vocational-Technical School
Mr. Heckathorn- Policy Committee

Dr. Rose asked if he could be emailed a calendar of when each committee plans to meet. Dr. Miller stated that they met as needed but that she will notify all the members of such meetings as far in advance as possible. Mr. Fleischman asked for an email each time an emergency meeting is scheduled by a committee. He asked for clarification that all members are a part of all committees and raised an issue that there was a potential for prejudice by a committee if someone chose who was able to attend some committee meetings. Mr. Oswald said he felt everyone believes all Board members have the best interest of the District at heart. Mr. Clendennen gave examples of using different people for different committee meetings depending on their individual expertise. Mr. Fleischman stated that he was not comfortable with the way committees have picked members in the past. Mr. Oswald reminded the Board that committees make recommendations and the Board makes the final decisions. Mr. Inman asked if the Negotiations Committee could retain its previous members for continuity. He was told yes by Mr. Oswald. Mr. Fleischman asked if the discussion could be continued at the next meeting and Mr. Oswald said it could.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Miller reviewed the items proposed in this area for the voting meeting scheduled for January 19, 2012.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Oswald asked if there were any public comments on agenda items or other matters. Mr. Jim Bouril, Mr. Chaz Jannuzi, Mr. Chris Thomas and Mr. Nick Shansky from the Blackhawk Little Cougars Football Association and Mr. Colby Hamilton from the Chippewa Indians Football Association addressed the Board concerning the increase in fees for use of the stadium at Northwestern beginning with last fall's football season. They requested that the Board reconsider the fee structure approved by the Board in July 2011. Mr. Fleischman recommended that an ad hoc committee be formed to look at the facts used to determine the new fee structure and recommend changes if appropriate. Mr. Oswald said the Board will decide if an ad hoc committee is needed and if so, its make up and charter. He said that in the interim, the public is free to discuss the issue with any of the Board members, who can then bring it to the Committee of the Whole for consideration. The Little Cougars Football Association then paid the fees for the prior fall with the hope that they will be reimbursed if a decision is made to change the fee structure to something lower.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Wessel reviewed the items proposed in this area for the voting meeting for January 19, 2012.

Mr. Wessel informed the Board that the District's audit for the 2010-2011 year will be presented by Mr. Joel Martin at the February 9, 2012 work session.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Dr. Miller reviewed the Personnel items proposed for this meeting and the meeting scheduled for January 19, 2012.

Mrs. Pander moved and Mr. May seconded a motion to approve substitutes for the remainder of the school year as follows: Carol Regis (Paraprofessional); Erin Krut (Elementary Teacher); and, Lindsey Beatty (Elementary Teacher)

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Dr. Miller reviewed the Education items proposed for this meeting and the next.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/ REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Dr. Miller reviewed the Buildings and Grounds items proposed for this meeting and the next.

Mr. Clendennen moved and Mr. May seconded a motion to authorize a change order for Yarborough Development Inc. in the amount of \$3,944.05 to replace the current scoreboard planned for the Middle School with a Fair Play scoreboard of the same make and model as the board at the Blackhawk High School. Mr. Tom Durkin from VEBH explained the reasoning behind the change. Dr. Rose asked why the old board at the Middle School was being replaced and was told that the old board is worn out. He then asked why the change from what the contractor planned to install to the Fair Play Board was recommended rather than specifying Fair Play in the Specifications. Several people replied that the system requires that bids be made based on specifications that do not allow proprietary goods. The contractor was not able to get a bid from Fair Play when putting his bid together and therefore used a different manufacturer who could meet the specifications. The Board could use that piece of equipment, but the Committee felt that based on conversations with the Athletic and Maintenance Departments, it was in the District's best interest to use the same scoreboard as that at the High School rather than have two different operating systems with no redundancy if a scoreboard was inoperable.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; 1 Abstention (Mr. Fleischman)- Motion Carried

Mr. Clendennen moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to authorize a Change Order to Shipley Brothers Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$3,957.21 to replace existing piping in Corridor A-100 which was found to be a smaller size than that shown on existing drawings. This change order also includes removal of an underground obstruction in room A-115 which was discovered during excavation.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Dr. Miller reviewed the Athletics Grounds items proposed for the next meeting.

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

Dr. Miller reviewed the list of conferences and attendees on the agenda for the January 19, 2012 meeting.

INTERMEDIATE UNIT

No report.

VOCATIONAL- TECHNICAL SCHOOL

No report.

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

No report.

BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

No report.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

School Directors: Mr. Inman said he was having trouble getting Board Policies from the web site and would like a paper copy. Dr. Miller said she would get the policies to him and also informed Board members she will get the State Code to those that requested it.

Mr. May informed the Board that the freshman and Varsity hockey teams won their matches on the outdoor ice rink.

Mr. Fleischman raised the issue of air quality at the Middle School during construction. He believes that the list of planned work will allow notification of the building staff in advance of dusty or smoky conditions. Dr. Miller replied that the building principal has been keeping lines of communications open and he and John Stevenson have reacted immediately to any concerns reported to them. She also said that the progress meeting notes can be made available. Finally she stated that she will be meeting with the administration to insure periodic testing, positioning of fans and installation of carbon monoxide testers has been accomplished as promised staff members.

Administrators: Dr. Miller informed the Board members that they received a Christmas card from the PRIDE students if any member wished to see it. She reminded the Board that there is a new and veteran Board members seminar at the Intermediate Unit on January 28, 2012 and an RSVP is required for a person to attend. Mr. Heckathorn, Mr. Inman and Mr. Clendennen plan to attend thus far.

Visitors: No comments.

Next Meeting: January 19, 2012 Voting Session in the Intermediate School cafeteria at 7:30PM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Submitted by Jerry Wessel
Board Secretary