

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS WORK SESSION
Blackhawk High School Library
January 14, 2016**

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

The meeting was called to order at 7:32PM. Roll Call was taken after the Pledge of Allegiance. Those in attendance were:

Mr. Berchtold	Mr. Fleischman	Mrs. Goehring	Mrs. Helsing
Mrs. Jones	Mrs. Kaszer	Mr. Pander	Mr. Schaefer

Mr. Yonkee was absent.

Also in attendance were:

- Dr. Kerber – Superintendent
- Mr. Eric Brandenburg – Business Manager
- Mr. Ira Weiss – District Solicitor
- Mr. Hobie Webster – District Solicitor
- Mr. Noah Sims, Student Representative

Mr. Berchtold spoke in memory of Mr. McMillen and a moment of silence was held.

Mr. Pander made a motion to approve the minutes from November 10, 19 and December 7, 2015. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Jones.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

There was an executive session for personnel matters prior to the Work Session.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Fleischman extended congratulations to the following high school students for being selected Student of the Month for January.

- a. Megan Bever – Little Beaver Lions Club
- b. Victoria Dragonjac – Rotary Club
- c. Brandon Butcher – Chippewa Lions Club

Band members Gabe Schiemer, Patty Brown and Emily Stormfels presented the Board with a picture of the band taken at Bands of America in Indianapolis for allowing them the opportunity to participate.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Bob Clendennen, Patterson Township, spoke on item 3.6 in relationship to the budget and 5.4 Northwestern Primary.

Deana Wilmoth, Patterson Township and Kim Kurella, Chippewa Township, spoke to the Transportation Committee as it relates to transportation to the Aviation Academy at the Beaver County Airport.

Jarred McCowin, Chippewa Township, addressed an agenda item that had been removed from the agenda.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The committee will be recommending approval to accept the Financial Report for November and December.

The committee will be 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: November and December \$0

An information item, Monthly Insurance Report for November and December, will be provided before Voting Session)

It is recommended to adopt the 2016-17 preliminary budget and file for Act 1 Referendum Exception.

Mrs. Goehring made a motion to appoint Mr. Schaefer as Board Treasurer. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Jones.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman stepped out of the meeting at this point.

It is recommended to contract with US Employee Benefits Services Group for Affordable Care Act Consulting & Reporting Services at a rate of \$13,950 for the 2015-16 school year.

Mr. Schaefer made the motion to appoint Missy Kaszer as Board Recording Secretary. Mrs. Helsing seconded this motion.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

It is recommended to grant Catherine Virgin's request to use 25 sick days and FMLA on or about February 16, 2016 until on or about May 12, 2016.

It is recommended to grant Mariah Brown's request to use sick leave beginning on or about March 15, 2016 until on or about May 30, 2016.

Mrs. Helsing motioned to approve John Grodson as Maintenance-Journeymen Plumber, at a rate of \$20.60 per hour plus benefits effective February 8, 2016 pending clearances. Mrs. Jones seconded this motion.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

It is recommended for homebound instruction for a fifth grade student beginning December 14, 2015 until medical release.

It is recommended to participate in the School-Based Counseling Services/Mental Health Partnership program offered by Glade Run Lutheran Services at no cost to the District.

Mrs. Jones moved to approve the following field trips:

- a. AP Biology (18), Open Heart Surgery Observation, Anita Mensch, Allegheny General Hospital, April 1, 2016 (no expense)
- b. Student Historians (90), Seven Springs Winter Excursion, Rich Oswald, Seven Springs Resort, January 17, 2016 (no expense)

Mr. Schaefer seconded this motion.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman returned to the meeting at this point.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/REAL ESTATE

Mrs. Goehring made the motion to table the bid of the roof replacement of the Blackhawk School District Maintenance Building and Blackhawk High School using the TCPN Cooperative Buying Contract. Mrs. Helsing seconded this motion. Mr. Pander explained that in the past more cost efficient bids have been obtained independent of the TCPN Cooperative Buying Contract.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

It is the recommendation that the Athletic Training Facilities at the Blackhawk High School and Highland Middle School be named The Richard Clare McMillen Training Facility. Rich was a former President of the Blackhawk School Board and the Athletic Trainer for Blackhawk Football and Basketball teams for 33 years. He was also responsible for donating the equipment and materials for the Blackhawk and Highland Middle School Training Facilities.

It is recommended to appoint Amanda Wertz as Assistant Middle School Volleyball Coach for the 2015-16 school year at a salary of \$1,679 (supplemental contract).

It is recommended to appoint Dan Muir Volunteer Coach for the Varsity Swim Team for the 2015-16 school year.

It is recommended to appoint Mark Duncan Volunteer Coach for the Varsity Swim Team for the 2015-16 school year.

It is recommended to appoint Anita Alberti Volunteer Coach for the Middle School, Junior Varsity and Varsity Softball Teams.

It is recommended to accept the resignation of John DeCaria as the Assistant Freshman Football Coach.

It is recommended to accept the resignation of David Gayhart as the Assistant Freshman Football Coach.

It is recommended to contract with Varsity News Network per attachment (\$1,300)

It is recommended to accept the athletic activity account.

Informational Item: Boys Basketball Community Night is February 3, 2016 during half time of Varsity Game.

Information Item: Boys Basketball Senior Night is February 5, 2016, 7:30PM. Girls Senior Night is February 8, 2016, 7:30PM.

Information Item: Girls Basketball Community Night is February 4, 2016 during half-time of the Varsity Game.

Information Item: Swimming Senior Night is February 18, 2016, 5:30PM.

Information item: Wrestling Senior Night is February 2, 2016, 6:30PM.

Information Item: Varsity Football Banquet will be held on Saturday, January 16th at Seven Oaks Country Club. Doors open at 4pm, dinner starts at 5pm.

ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON

Dr. Kerber provided an update on activities in the district. Highlights included:

- 1st Semester is drawing to a close
- Preparation of the preliminary budget
- January 18, 2016 – professional development: topic suicide prevention/Keystone consulting
- Principal and teacher evaluations due to state by February
- Curriculum committee working to align with Common Core
- High School Students will be working with the Pittsburgh Penguins on a TV Studio
- January is Board appreciation month
- Working with First Energy for the Global Passport

POLICY COMMITTEE

Informational Item: Second Reading, revision of Policy 819, Suicide Prevention

Informational Item: First Reading, revision of Policy 006, Meetings

Informational Item: Discussion of the current substance abuse policy as related to legal searches.

BOARD/STAFF ENRICHMENT

Mr. Berchtold made the motion for approval of the following conference:

- a. Joe Lamenza, Glazier Football Clinic, Pittsburgh Sheraton, March 4-6, 2016 (\$565 expenses budgeted).
- b. Dianne Sarver, FBA Day 1&2, BVIU, January 12 and March 22, 2016 (\$30 expenses budgeted).
- c. Christina DiClaudio, Kristi Leiper, Marianne LeDonne, Mental Health Issues in the Classroom, Pittsburgh, March 7, 2016 (\$300 expenses budgeted).
- d. Jim Perlik, WFPDA Annual Vendor Show and Exhibit, North Huntingdon, February 5, 2016 (\$25 expenses budgeted).
- e. HMS Employees, PAMLE Western Region Professional Development Conference, Quaker Valley Middle School, January 18, 2016 (\$350 expenses budgeted).
- f. Tracy Yowler, Alternate Eligible Content and Essentialization, BVIU, February 4, 2016 (no expense).

Mrs. Helsing seconded this motion.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

BEAVER COUNTY CAREER & TECHNOLOGY

Mrs. Kaszer noted that the students have been competing in their respective fields, and Blackhawk students have been successful. Additional details will be received at the BCC&TC meeting on January 28, 2016.

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

No Report

BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

No Report

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Visitors

Bob Clendennen, Patterson Township, spoke on several topics including:

- Role of School Board Members
- Concern on bids
- Board receiving preview of budget

- Act 25
- Board committees

Autumn Giocondi, Patterson Township, inquired about the roof repairs; are they included in the preliminary budget.

Administration

No comments

Solicitor

No comments

School Directors

Mr. Fleischman commented on item 12.3, substance abuse policy, noting it is hoped that dialog begins regarding the ability to search backpack and/or lockers. Dr. Kerber addressed.

Mrs. Jones complimented Amy Anderson and Highland Middle School on the STEAM Night that was hosted on January 12th. An excellent job was done by all. Mrs. Jones also clarified the start times for the Football Banquet for those invited.

Mrs. Kaszer asked for consideration for changing the language in the policy to appoint a solicitor to a majority vote instead of unanimous. Suggested that the change be made now to avoid it from being forgotten about.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Noah Sims noted that Tuesday, January 19th, begins the 2nd semester. The Senior Class of 2016 is currently reviewing ideas for their gift to the school district.

The next meeting will be the Voting Session on January 21, 2016, Blackhawk High School Library, at 7:30PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Missy Kaszer
Blackhawk School District Board Secretary