

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' VOTING MEETING
Blackhawk's High School Library
April 10, 2014**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Dr. Rose, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM. and the Pledge of Allegiance was made. Roll call was answered by eight members. Those in attendance were:

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

Absent was: Mr. Oswald

Also attending were:

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

Dr. Rose requested a moment of silence for the students recently injured at Franklin Regional High School by a knife wielding student.

Dr. Rose directed attendees to the videotaping policy in force for the meeting.

Mr. Pander moved and Mr. May seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the March 13 and 20, 2014 meetings.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Dr. Rose announced that the agenda was being changed to allow visiting law enforcement officials to comment on the proposed use of Patterson Primary School as a training facility for "Active Shooter Training." Lieutenant Eric Hermick from the State Police and officers Nicholas Bathgate and David Stanislawski from the Patterson Township Police Department discussed the planned training and answered questions from Board members and the public.

Mr. Pander moved and Mr. May seconded a motion to grant the request from Henry Mahosky, Patterson Township Commissioner, for Patterson Primary School to be utilized as a training facility for "Active Shooter Training" on a non-school day to be determined for surrounding police departments as conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police. Mr. Yonkee questioned the availability of building schematics for use by the police.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Pander moved and Ms. Aquino seconded a motion to amend the previous motion to allow the police to use any of the District's buildings for "Active Shooter Training" if so desired.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Fleischman informed the Board and public that tickets for the 2014 School Picnic at Kennywood will be sold in all schools on May 8, 2014. Information on the sale will be announced in all schools.

Mr. Fleischman offered commendations on behalf of the Board to the performers of the Blackhawk School District Classical Showcase. The concert was held April 3 in the Middle School Large Group Instructional Area.

Mr. Fleischman offered congratulations on behalf of the Board to Mikaela Lucaric for being a Bronze Medal Winner in the Culinary Arts competition and Evie Jankowski for being a Silver Medal Winner in the Baking competition at the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America State Competition. Mikaela and Evie attend the Beaver County Career & Technology Center.

Mr. Fleischman offered congratulations on behalf of the Board to the Blackhawk Winterguard and Indoor Percussion groups. They competed in the Three Rivers Winter Ensemble Association's Championships at Kiski Area High School. Both groups performed outstandingly and the Indoor Percussion group took first place in their category.

Mr. Fleischman offered congratulations on behalf of the Board to Richard Rakus, High School Junior, who was accepted into the Missouri S & T Summer Research Academy. This program is for a select group of high school seniors and college freshmen of up to 15 students. They will assist professors on research projects.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Rose announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting for pending litigation and personnel and an executive session will be held after the meeting for the same subjects. No return to vote on any matter will be considered.

Dr. Rose asked for public comments on agenda items or other issues.

Mr. Clint Berchtold commented on the revocation of the contract with the teachers.

Ms. Melissa Ziegler commented on the teachers' contract, selection of members of the public to serve on the superintendent search committee, an odor at the Intermediate School, and Board responses to emails from the public.

Mr. Bob Clendennen commented on Board responses to emails and selection of members of the public to serve on the superintendent search committee.

Ms. Melissa Tweed recognized and thanked the teachers who took Fourth and Fifth Grade students to the Penn State Beaver STEM Connects Challenge where District teams placed first and third in the competition. She also discussed curriculum items and the District Strategic Plan.

Ms. Laura Gibson discussed training for Board members.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The District solicitor, Mr. Petrush, discussed a proposed settlement in a civil suit. Mr. Yonkee moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded motion to allow the Acting Superintendent, Dr. Thomas, to sign on behalf of the District permission for the legal team to participate in settlement negotiations in the suit of Verbosky versus the Blackhawk School District.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

(Note: Mr. Oswald arrived at this point in the meeting.)

Mr. Yonkee informed the Board that the March Financial Report, the bills to be paid from the various Funds and the Monthly Insurance Reports will be available at the April 24, 2014 meeting.

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to approve a payment of \$28,556.90 from the Capital Projects Fund to Allegheny City Electric due to underpayment the previous month.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Ms. Aquino seconded a motion to accept fees as quoted by UPMC to provide continued administrative services for the District's health plan for the 2014-15 fiscal year (\$66.17 per member per month or approximately \$255,680 per year).

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to renew stop loss coverage as quoted by UPMC Health Benefits, Inc. for renewal for the 2014-15 fiscal year (approximately \$216,395 per year).

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Ms. Aquino seconded a motion to accept the UPMC Cobra Advantage renewal fee quotation for the 2014-15 fiscal year.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to accept the UPMC Vision Advantage quote to provide administrative services for District's vision plan for the 2014-15 fiscal year (approximately \$3,984 per year).

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to accept the UPMC Dental Advantage quote to provide administrative services for the District's dental plan for the 2014-15 fiscal year (approximately \$12,558 per year).

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Yonkee moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to contribute \$1,000 to the Blackhawk Area Youth Baseball Association toward the purchase of field maintenance supplies per Administrative Guideline #9.13.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to accept the Notice of Retirement from the following teachers and staff:

- a. Carol Morsey, Patterson Primary Secretary, effective July 7, 2014.
- b. Katherine Smith, Blackhawk High School Secretary, effective September 18, 2014.
- c. Lorelee Alexander, Blackhawk High School Paraprofessional, effective June 11, 2014.
- d. Donna DiToro, Blackhawk High School Paraprofessional, effective June 11, 2014.
- e. Roberta Bannon, Blackhawk High School Teacher, effective September 4, 2014.
- f. Peggy Mesko, Highland Middle School Teacher, effective June 15, 2014.
- g. Deborah Daquila, Blackhawk High School, effective June 11, 2014.

Mr. Fleischman questioned why various dates were selected and Dr. Thomas replied that attaining certain ages for PSERS and Social Security impacted on dates requested.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ms. Aquino moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to approve the following field trips:

- a. Fourth Grade (177), Fourth Grade Teachers, Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, May 16, 2014 (expenses collected from PTO).
- b. FFA (25), Howard Leslie, Career Development Event, New Castle, April 16, 2014 (\$175 expenses budgeted).
- c. Girls' Basketball Team, Steve Lodocico, Mark Lodovico, Theresa Adams, Dave Florentine, State Capital tour, Harrisburg, May 5, 2014. (no expense)
- d. High School Band (60), Dave Zaccari, Disney World Performance and Workshop, Orlando FL, April 7-15, 2015. (funds for expenses collected from students)

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Ms. Aquino informed the Board that Mariah Brown attended as a chaperone for the previously approved Art Department field trip with Laura Kahler and Ashley Biega.

Ms. Aquino moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to approve the following Geneva student teacher placements for the 2014-15 school year:

- a. Shane Wingard with Matt Merulli, 3rd grade (Fall semester).
- b. Marshall Cuomo with Nicole Holiday, 8th grade (Spring semester).
- c. Nettie Clawson with Jodi Snyder, Learning Support (1st session Spring), Anna Bretch, 1st grade (2nd session Spring) at Patterson Primary.
- d. Ryan McConigle with Lauren Weinheimer, 1st grade (Fall semester) at Northwestern Primary.
- e. Corinne Pinchotti with Mandie Payne, Kindergarten (Fall semester) at Northwestern Primary.
- f. Ashley Hartge with Erica Shildt, Kindergarten (Spring semester) at Northwestern Primary.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Ms. Aquino moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to approve for the following substitute for the 2013-2014 school year:

- a. Naomi Neff, Elementary

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Ms. Aquino moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to accept Blackhawk High School Program of Studies for the 2014-15 school year. Mrs. Helsing asked about the course titled "Team Sports."

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Ms. Aquino moved and Mr. Fleischman seconded a motion to participate in the 2014 Beaver County Summer Academy at a cost of \$500. This week long camp provides educational opportunities to interested students attending Blackhawk.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Ms. Aquino moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to approve Homebound instruction for two students. (This item is tentative)

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Ms. Aquino moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to approve graduation project changes.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/ REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

No report beyond the action taken earlier in the meeting concerning "Active Shooter Training."

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board the boys' MAC bowling team. They placed first in the silver division.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Chris Pengidore who had the high series in the MAC bowling championship, silver division with a score of 532.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Travis Crognale who had the individual high game in the MAC bowling championship, silver division with a score of 204.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board the boys' bowling team who had the first team high series in the MAC bowling championship, silver division.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board the JV Hockey team who won the Level 3 Championship.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Jonah Cooper from Beaver County Christian School, playing with Blackhawk Tennis through a cooperative sponsorship, who won the Section 2- AA singles tournament.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board the Girls' Basketball Team. The Cougars won the state Class AAA championship by defeating Archbishop Wood 51-43 in the PIAA finals. Congratulations to our State Champions!

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board the girls' basketball team who were selected as the athletes of the week by the Beaver County Times for the week of March 25.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Chase Migliore, Tyler Engle and Halle Denman who were selected to play in the Quigley Classic Basketball Tournament on Friday, March 28.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Halle Denman and Tyler Engle who will be honored at the MAC Banquet on April 16 as Blackhawk student athletes.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board to Jake Braddock who was selected as the John Challis Award recipient and will be honored at the MAC banquet on April 16.

Mr. Heckathorn commended on behalf of the Board the following Blackhawk students who were selected by the Beaver County Sports Hall of Fame for the Student Athlete Award: Cameron Houk (football, hockey and track) and Hannah Schaly (volleyball and softball).

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Steve Lodovico who will be recognized by the Beaver County Sports Hall of Fame at a Banquet on April 27 as girls' basketball head coach of the AAA section 2 champs, WPIAL champs and PIAA state champs. Coach Lodovico and Chassidy Omogrosso will also be honored for Special Achievement in the Field of Athletics.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Dante Calabria, Blackhawk alumnus, who will be inducted into the WPIAL Sports Hall of Fame on June 6, 2014.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Cody Bain, baseball player, who was named Athlete of the Week for the week of March 31 by the Pittsburgh Tribune Review.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Chassidy Omogrosso, who was selected Player of the Year in the state of Pennsylvania. She was also selected Beaver County Times, Pittsburgh Post Gazette and Tribune Review Player of the Year.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Coach Steve Lodovico, he was selected Coach of the Year in the state of Pennsylvania. He was also selected Beaver County Times, Pittsburgh Post Gazette and Tribune Review Coach of the Year for Girls' Basketball.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board Halle Denman and Chassidy Omogrosso who were selected to the Pittsburgh Post Gazette Girls' Basketball All Section Team for WPIAL Class AAA, Section 2.

Mr. Fleischman congratulated on behalf of the Board Courtney Vannoy, Halle Denman, Chassidy Omogrosso and Bridget Shaffer who were selected to Beaver County Times Girls' Basketball first Team All-Section, Section 2 AAA.

Mr. Fleischman congratulated on behalf of the Board Chase Migliore and Tyler Engle who were selected to the Pittsburgh Post Gazette All Section Team for WPIAL Class AAA.

Mr. Fleischman moved and Ms. Aquino seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Joe Fabri as boys' junior high wrestling coach.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman moved and Ms. Aquino seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Kelli Ambler as the freshmen cheerleading sponsor.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman moved and Ms. Aquino seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Sam Nardone as assistant varsity football coach.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman moved and Mr. Heckathorn seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Tom Hansen as assistant varsity football coach.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Andrea Collins as varsity and middle school swim head coach.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to appoint Cameron Zimmerman to serve as a volunteer baseball coach.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to enter into a co-operative sponsorship with the Beaver County Christian School in the following sports:

- a. football
- b. cross country
- c. swimming
- d. baseball
- e. track and field

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE

No report.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No report.

FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE

No report.

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

No report.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. Yonkee informed the Board that he has been in contact with the PSBA to get sample policies and he is reviewing the District's current policies.

Mr. Fleischman covered the first reading of Policy 625: Credit Cards.

BOARD/ STAFF ENRICHMENT

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

A. Educators:

1. Bryan Vitali, Jamie Planitzer, Presenting at Beaver County Transition Fair, CCBC, April 11, 2014 (\$30 expenses budgeted).
2. Ken Moser, Dale Moll, 2014 Design, Art and Technology Award Conference, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Education Center, May 7-8, 2014 (\$518 expenses budgeted).

B. Administrators:

1. Nancy Bowman, Using Your Leadership GPS to Find Your True North, Churchill, April 24, 2014 (\$125 expenses budgeted).

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

INTERMEDIATE UNIT

No report.

VOCATIONAL- TECHNICAL SCHOOL

No report.

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Fleischman directed Board members to the PSBA Report and a Tribune Review article on charter school funding in their packets for information.

BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

No report.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Visitors: Ms. Barb Brown asked about the Stop Loss Insurance.

Mr. Bob Clendennen asked for a podium for the public to use when making comments at Board meetings, pointed out no votes may be taken during executive sessions, asked that the year be included in dates given in the Finance portion of the agenda, stated that Board committee members meeting at public places could be perceived as a violation of the Sunshine laws, and asked who was selected to be on the superintendent search committee and how they were selected.

Administrators: Dr. Thomas discussed how the members of the public were selected for the superintendent search committee and named Julie Muhlberger and Jodi Weister as those selected. He reviewed the timeline for presenting a candidate for Board approval. Dr. Thomas also reported that applications for the Vocational Agriculture position are being reviewed.

School Directors: Mr. Heckathorn asked that Mr. Jim Cox give the Board an update on technology upgrades planned at a future meeting, asked if any news on the State budget had been received and asked if any bill had been passed changing charter school funding or governing rules.

Dr. Rose spoke about the confidentiality of those from the public nominated by Board members to be on the superintendent search committee.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2014 in the Blackhawk High School library at 7:30 PM, preceded by an executive session if necessary.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Rose announced that the Board was going into executive session for Pending Litigation and Personnel after adjournment but would not be going back into session to vote thereafter.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Submitted by Jerry Wessel
Board Secretary