

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' VOTING MEETING
Blackhawk's High School Library
January 16, 2014**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Dr. Rose, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:36 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. Oswald	Mr. Pander	Dr. Rose

Absent was: Mr. Yonkee

Also attending were:

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

Mr. Oswald moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2013 meeting.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Pastor C.F. Hoffman from the First Presbyterian Church Darlington offered the opening prayer.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Fleischman offered congratulations on behalf of the Board to the Highland Middle School students and faculty for raising \$3,600 for the Salvation Army's Give-A-Christmas campaign.

Mr. Fleischman moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to purchase additional communications equipment for use at Board meetings at a cost not to exceed \$450. Some discussion followed.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman expressed the Board's gratitude to The Nutrition Group for serving members dinner prior to the meeting in honor of School Board Directors Appreciation Month. He also expressed the District's and community's thanks for the time and efforts the members of Board of School Directors expend for the District's students.

Mr. Fleischman offered congratulations on behalf of the Board to the Blackhawk Intermediate School students and faculty for raising \$3,700 for Camp Kon-O-Kwee/Spencer during their Christmas fund drive.

Mr. Fleischman offered congratulations on behalf of the Board to the Expressions Ensemble under the direction of Jayne MacDonald for the Christmas choral program presented to the Arco Retirees Club on December 13, 2013.

Mr. Fleischman offered congratulations on behalf of the Board to the FFA team members who attended the State Farm Show where the Demo Team placed second of twenty schools for their FFA presentation.

Mr. Fleischman asked the TSA group to report on their recent trip and students Matt Young and Alex Devic did so.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Fleischman moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to accept the December Financial Report as presented.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion for payment of December bills from the various Funds as presented.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman referred the members to the December Monthly Insurance Reports and asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr. Fleischman moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to accept the Berkheimer OneSource proposal for comparison and processing of Act 80 records at a rate of \$735.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Student Matt Young discussed the re-institution of published class rank.

Student Alex Devic discussed the re-institution of class rank.

Mr. Jon Kaszer discussed the IRS fine received by the District, credit card use within the District and the emergency generator at the Intermediate School.

Mrs. Jodi Weister discussed the warranty on concrete at the Middle School, the status of the Middle School punch lists, and minutes from the Buildings and Grounds Committee meetings not being found on the District web site.

Mrs. Bonnie Goehring asked about the December 19, 2013 minutes not being on the web site and she was reminded they were just approved at this meeting.

Dr. Rose announced that an executive session would be held after the meeting for pending litigation and personnel.

Dr. Rose then asked Mr. Wessel to present the general budget informational material remaining under the Finance Committee portion of the agenda.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Heckathorn seconded a motion to employ Denise Liptak as Pre-K paraprofessional at the Intermediate School at a rate of \$9.18 per hour (approximate District cost \$12,700 per year with benefits per the collective bargaining agreement).

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No; Motion Carried

Dr. Thomas presented an update on the search for a Superintendent.

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Fleischman seconded a motion to allow Greg Smith, Physician's Assistant, to conduct athletic physical examinations at a cost to students of \$10 per exam.

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

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to approve the following field trips:

- a. Seniors (40-50 per day), Diane Huston, Joe Verbosky, Camp Kon-O-Kwee, Fombell, April 8, 9, 10, 2014 (expenses collected from students and budgeted).
- b. Northwestern Kindergarten (105), Kindergarten teachers, OH WOW Science Center, Youngstown, May 23, 2014 (\$1,195 expenses collected from PTO).
- c. Gifted Support (4), Jeff Tripodi, World Affairs Council Global Seminar for Students, South Side High School, January 28, 2014 (expenses budgeted).
- d. Fifth Grade (201), Fifth grade teachers, Outdoor Education, Camp Kon-O- Kwee/Spencer, April 21-25, 2014 (expenses budgeted and collected from other).
- e. AP Computer Science (4-6), Kelli Ambler, High School Programming Contest, Westminster College, February 6, 2014 (\$30 expenses budgeted).

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Dr. Thomas reviewed the revised school calendar for 2013 – 2014.

Mrs. Helsing informed the Board that Kindergarten registration dates will be April 29th, 30th and May 1, 2014.

Mrs. Helsing informed the Board that January 20 and February 17, 2014 are In-Service Days during which school will not be in session; and, January 21 and February 18, 2014 will be Developmental Delay Days.

Mrs. Helsing moved and Mr. Fleischman seconded a motion to utilize Susan Yorns as an Elementary substitute for the 2013 – 2014 school year.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/ REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Dr. Thomas informed the Board members that he is reviewing building safety and security guidelines and needs prior to discussing them with the Buildings and Grounds Committee and that a table top exercise will be conducted with local police in February to test procedures.

Dr. Thomas also informed the Board members that each building will conduct a lock down drill prior to March 1, 2014.

Mr. Pander moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to contract with Thyssen Krupp to provide an emergency lowering system for the elevator in the Intermediate School in case of a power failure at a cost of \$3,800.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Pander moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to contract with Bolland Machine Shop to repair the emergency generator at the Intermediate School at a cost of \$3,775.76.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Pander informed the Board members that tests for mold were conducted at Northwestern Primary School during the Christmas break and all readings were in the normal range.

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Mr. Heckathorn informed the Board members that the Blackhawk Aquatic Program is adding two eight week sessions of water aerobics to the spring programs. The course will be offered on Wednesday evenings from 7:45 – 8:45 PM at a cost to individuals of \$40 per session.

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 Courtney Vannoy who was selected as the Beaver County Times Athlete of the Week for the week of January 7, 2014.

Mr. Heckathorn congratulated on behalf of the Board the following wrestlers who placed in the MAC wrestling championship:

Jake Braddock (3rd in the 126 lb. class),

David Early (4th in the 160 lb. class)

Lamar Taft (from NB participating in cooperative sponsorship with Blackhawk placed 3rd in the 220 lb. class).

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to appoint Natalie Nicolette as the Middle School Track Assistant Coach at a salary of \$2,177.76.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mrs. Helsing seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Addy Young as Girls Softball Assistant Coach.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to appoint Bill Nixon as volunteer coach for the diving team.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Oswald seconded a motion to support House Bill 1734 which provides relief from burdensome reporting requirements and furthermore reduces cost for the District. A discussion followed and Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. May seconded a motion to amend the original motion to read, "Support House Bill 1734."

Verbal Vote: 8 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

No report.

BOARD/ STAFF ENRICHMENT

Mrs. Aquino moved and Mr. Pander seconded a motion to allow Tim Linkenheimer to attend courses for Intro & Intermediate ArcGIS & Mapping Techniques at the Beaver County Airport February 11 – May 27, 2014 (Tuesdays only) with tuition reimbursement of \$1,200 permitted as non-precedent setting and with any similar future requests to be considered on their own merits. A discussion followed.

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

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

- a. Jeff Tripodi, World Affairs Council National Security Briefing for Teachers, Pittsburgh, January 29, 2014 (\$20 expenses budgeted).
- b. Jim Perlik, Andi Lee, Jerry Wessel, 30th Annual Vendor Show and Exhibit, North Huntingdon, January 31, 2014 (\$125 expenses budgeted).
- c. LuAnne Maginness, Lisa Brown, Erin Krut, Korin McMillen, Carol Sprinker, Transition Team Day, BVIU, February 7, 2014 (\$20 expenses budgeted).
- d. Leslie Kunkel, Student Learning Objective PDE Workshop, Quaker Valley, January 23, 2014 (no expense).

A discussion followed and Mr. Wessel was directed to report to the Board concerning knowledge gained from attendance at the conference at b. above.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 0 No- 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

Visitors: Mrs. Barb Brown asked for the fund balances for the Health, Dental and Vision Funds and Mr. Wessel said he had copies of the reports for her.

Mrs. Missy Kaszer asked if an analysis of the teachers' contract had been done and Dr. Thomas said that it was not complete.

Mrs. Autumn Giocondi asked if the local police have access to the school buildings and she was told the Board will decide on what access the police will be given.

School Directors: Mrs. Aquino stated that she felt the local police should have access to buildings in case of emergency.

Mr. Heckathorn asked why he was taken off as liaison to the Council of Governments. Apparently it was a typographical error and Dr. Rose appointed him back into that role.

Administrators: Mr. Wessel reminded Board members that 2013 State Ethics Forms were placed in their Board packets and need to be completed and returned.

Dr. Thomas thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as the Acting Superintendent. He recognized the service of current and former Board members. Dr. Thomas asked the public to

take problems to teachers and principals so they can try to solve them prior to raising them to Board members. He also said that he is studying the requirements to reinstitute the Vocational Agriculture Program and preparing to implement it.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 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