

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' WORK SESSION MEETING
Blackhawk High School Library
January 13, 2011**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

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

Mr. Calabria	Mr. Clendennen	Mr. Fitzgerald
Mr. Fleischman	Mr. Inman	Mr. May
Mr. Oswald	Mrs. Pander	Mrs. Perri

Also attending were:

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

The minutes from the December 6, 2010 meeting were moved to be approved by Mr. Inman and seconded by Mr. May. Mrs. Perri requested that the minutes be changed to reflect her by name as voting no on the motion on the Athletics portion of the agenda to allow a freshman athlete to compete at the varsity level. Dr. Miller stated that dissenting votes were not generally listed for voice votes, but if the Board wished to add Mrs. Perri's name, it could do so. Mrs. Perri so moved and Mr. Clendennen seconded the motion.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

The revised minutes were then voted on.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

The corrected minutes from the November 11, 2010 meeting were moved to be approved by Mr. Fitzgerald and seconded by Mr. Calabria.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Oswald announced that the January 20, 2011 Board Meeting will be held in the Northwestern Primary School Cafeteria at 7:30 PM and will be preceded by a Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting at the same location at 6:30 PM.

Board committee chairpersons were announced as follows:

Finance/Insurance Committee:

Don Inman

Personnel Committee:

Geri Pander

Education Committee:

Joyce Perri

Buildings, Grounds & Real Estate Committee:

Bob Clendennen

Athletics Committee:

Chad Calabria

Administrative Liaison:

Rich Oswald

Transportation Committee:	Paul May
Food Service Committee:	Dean Fleischman
Policy Committee:	Joyce Perri
Public Communications & Communications Committee:	Dean Fleischman
Negotiations Committee:	Don Inman
Intermediate Unit Committee:	TBA
Vocational- Technical School Committee:	TBA
Board/ Staff Enrichment Committee:	Chad Calabria
P.S.B.A. Liaison:	Bob Clendennen
Council of Governments:	Geri Pandere

Finally, it was announced that an Executive session was held for Personnel matters after the December 6, 2010 meeting.

REVIEW OF THE JANUARY 20, 2011 BOARD AGENDA

The proposed agenda for the January 20, 2011 meeting was reviewed and discussed with the following items acted upon or information provided:

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Board was directed to the exhibits with their packets for the November and December Monthly Insurance Reports.

Mr. Wessel reminded Board members that their Financial Interest Forms should be turned in as soon as possible.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Pander moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Patty Withrow, Nurse Paraprofessional at BIS, effective December 22, 2010.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mrs. Pander moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to contract with Gary Koch, School Psychologist, to conduct evaluations throughout the 2010- 2011 school year at a rate of \$300 per day worked.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Rick Ford, Middle School teacher and member of the District Curriculum Development Committee (CDC), updated the Board concerning the recent work done by the committee and commented on its value as a means of keeping the faculty informed of changes being initiated and as a way to keep all involved in the curriculum.

Mrs. Perri moved and Mr. Fitzgerald seconded a motion to approve field trips as listed in the agenda.

Verbal Vote: 9 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/ REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

The Trane Company reported to the Board the first year savings that resulted from the District's contract with them to upgrade systems at the High School in 2009. The Trane representatives, Mr. Bill Gordon and Mr. Joe Dezamits, reported that contract guarantees were exceeded; and a District review of gas and electric bills confirmed that those portions of the contract provisions were met.

Mr. Clendennen recommended that board table a recommendation on the proposed agenda authorizing a \$6,436.82 change order for Ceriani Construction to purchase aluminum doors. Upon the solicitor's recommendation and with Board consensus, the item was removed from the proposed agenda rather than it just being tabled.

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Dr. Miller asked that the Board review the Summary of Fall Sports teams' accomplishments attached to the agenda and commended the teams for their performances. Mrs. Perri asked that the minutes reflect her opinion that the Athletic Department needs to study the fact that several girls' sports teams that excelled at Middle School level lost participants and have only been mediocre in competition at High School level. Mrs. Perri also expressed concern that girls are unable to switch sports when they arrive at the High School because by then they cannot catch up with girls that began training earlier for those sports.

Dr. Miller informed the Board that a scholarship fund in memory of Darl Romanoski, Assistant Athletic Director and retired Blackhawk teacher who died unexpectedly on December 21, 2010, has been established through the Blackhawk Foundation.

Dr. Miller informed the Board that the Athletic Department has initiated a year long fundraising campaign for "Coaches for Cancer". All funds raised will go to the American Cancer Society. Fundraising has already begun in all the District's buildings.

BOARD/ STAFF ENRICHMENT

Mr. Calabria recommended approval of conference attendance as listed in the agenda and so moved. Mr. Inman seconded. A prolonged discussion followed about the benefits of conference attendance, the need for multiple attendees to the same conference, the costs involved, the procedures used to request attendance, and reports required upon return from conferences. Mrs. Perri asked that her vote be recorded by name.

Verbal Vote: 8 Yes; 1 No (Mrs. Perri) - Motion Carried

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. Miller informed the Board that the latest PSBA Legislative Reports were included in the Board packets.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

School Directors: None.

Administrators: Dr. Miller informed the public that the Board will begin negotiating new contracts in January with the Service, Paraprofessional and Secretary bargaining units.

Visitors: Mrs. Barb Brown asked Dr. Miller about the proposed program of study for CDC the following Tuesday. Dr. Miller informed Mrs. Brown that the agenda was on line. Mrs. Brown also commented that conferences are very valuable to the teachers and the District and that she could confirm that reports are required upon return.

Jay Blizman also commented that conferences are very valuable and a great learning experience for teachers and coaches.

Next Meeting: January 20, 2011, in the Northwestern Primary School cafeteria, preceded by the Buildings and Grounds Information Meeting at 6:30PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session for Personnel matters was held after the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jerry Wessel
Board Secretary