

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Special Meeting
Monday, 5 January 2015
7:00 p.m.
District Office Board Room**

MINUTES

Attendance

A special meeting of the Bloomsburg Area School District Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, 5 January 2015 in the district office board room, followed by the pledge to the flag. Directors in attendance were: Mr. Brent Hock, Mrs. Tina Howell, Mr. Justin Hummel, Mr. Joshua Klingerman, Mr. Terry Kramarz, Ms. Marianne Kreisher, Mrs. Sandra Rupp, Mr. Thomas Tobin, and Mr. Joe Yodock.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Mr. Dan Bonomo (left at 7:38 p.m.), Mr. Steve Bressi (left at 7:38 p.m.), Ms. Donna Christensen (left at 7:38 p.m.), Dr. Cosmas Curry, Mr. Marc Freeman (left at 7:38 p.m.), Mr. Ryan Moran (left at 8:43 p.m.), Mr. Trevor Palmatier (left at 7:38 p.m.), Mr. Mike Upton, and Mr. Nick Wozniak (left at 7:06 p.m.).

Others present were: Mr. Phil Burrell (arrived at 7:22 p.m.), Mrs. Bonnie Crawford (arrived at 8:10 p.m.), Ms. Terri Drucker, Mr. Gary Honabach (left at 8:43 p.m.), Ms. Stephanie Kessler, and Ms. Deborah Zollman Krupp.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK

At this point, no guests wished to address the school board.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the board at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Acceptance of Donations

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Kramarz seconded, to accept the following donations:

- A monetary donation of \$100 to the Bloomsburg High School Drama Club in memory of Gus Long, made by Leroy and Diane Curson;
- A monetary donation of \$100 to the Bloomsburg High School Drama Club in memory of Gus Long, made by Rich Ridgway;
- A monetary donation of \$25 to the Bloomsburg High School Drama Club in memory of Gus Long, made by John and Lois Sauers; and
- A monetary donation of \$100 to the Bloomsburg High School Drama Club in memory of Gus Long, made by Douglas Thomson.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL

Approval/Acceptance of Personnel Items

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Rupp seconded, to approve/accept the following personnel items:

- Approve the following individuals as athletic coaches for the 2014-2015 school year:
 - Sandy Estrada as a Volunteer Boys' Varsity Basketball Coach; and
 - Michael Noll as a Volunteer Boys' Ninth-Grade Basketball Coach; and
- Approve Kaitlyn Lazicki as a professional day-to-day substitute, effective upon receipt of her PA Teaching Certificate.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:01 p.m., Ms. Kreisher made the motion to adjourn the special meeting and move into the work session. Mrs. Howell seconded the motion, which then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Board Recording Secretary

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Work Session
Monday, 5 January 2015
7:00 p.m.
District Office Board Room**

MINUTES

Buildings, Grounds, & Maintenance Report

Mr. Wozniak reported that the high school window project was complete and that the windows had a 10-year warranty. Also, he said that summer projects would include the teacher parking lot at the high school, the middle school playground, resurfacing the parking area at Memorial Elementary School, and replacing eight to 10 windows at Beaver-Main Elementary School.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Bonomo reported that the Class of 1964 had raised over \$4,000 for a sign at the high school, for which the projected cost was about \$3,000 - \$3,500. Also, Mr. Bonomo reported that the robot the CSIU was letting the high school use to help a homebound student attend school virtually was working very well. He credited CSIU staff and also Director of Technology Gary Honabach with helping to troubleshoot issues regarding the robot.

Mr. Bressi reported that his transfer from assistant high school principal to assistant high school and middle school principal was going smoothly. He said that he was mostly helping Mr. Freeman with professional staff evaluations, which he said took about one week each, and some discipline issues. Mr. Bressi then distributed to directors a recent newspaper article about cyber schools. He said that many high school students who withdraw from public education and enroll with a cyber charter school end up dropping out of cyber school.

Mr. Freeman reported that Bloomsburg Middle School Art Teacher Autumn Rosini was working with local artist Dave Staibly on creating a tile mosaic at the middle school. Mr. Freeman said that Mrs. Rosini and Mr. Staibly would be working with eighth-grade students on creating this 4' x 8' mural. He also said he was looking at procuring a grant through the Northern Tier Alliance that would pay for about half of the project, which would cost about \$5,600. He said the other half of the cost would be derived from funds left over from the former middle school drama club and fund-raising efforts such as school dances and bake sales. The mural would likely be done in May 2015.

Mr. Moran went over the topics of the next professional staff in-service day, scheduled for 19 January 2015. Mr. Hummel asked Mr. Moran if staff was aware of the free online resources available through iTunes U. Mr. Moran responded that they were, and Dr. Curry added that a link to the site had been e-mailed to staff earlier during the current school year.

Next, Ms. Christensen gave a report on the current number of students enrolled in various programs in the district. She reported that 202 students were receiving special education services, 64 students were receiving gifted services, 14 students had 504 Plans, and 24 students received English as a Second Language (ESL) services.

Mr. Palmatier then reported that Bloomsburg High School Industrial Technology Teacher Kirk Marshall and his students had completed the Buddy Bench, which had been placed on the Memorial Elementary School playground over the holiday break. He shared photos of the bench with school directors, and also

mentioned that Mr. Marshall said he'd be willing to build a bench for both Beaver-Main Elementary School and W.W. Evans Elementary School, as well.

Dr. Curry then reported that John Halligan would be making presentations to middle and high school students on January 12, and that a parent presentation would be held that evening at 7 p.m. at the high school. He said that this presentation, called Ryan's Story, was about John Halligan's son Ryan, who committed suicide at age 13 after being the victim of cyberbullying. Dr. Curry then reported that the district had received 13 applications for the position of head varsity football coach, and that first-round interviews had started earlier that day. He said he would like to recommend a candidate to the board for this position at its 19 January 2015 meeting. Dr. Curry thanked Mrs. Rupp for serving on the Graduates of Distinction Committee and asked if another board member would be interested in serving on the committee in her place. Mr. Klingerman said that he would like to serve in this capacity. Dr. Curry also asked directors to complete their 2014 State Ethics Commission Forms and submit them to either himself or Ms. Kessler no later than the 19 January 2015 meeting.

Programs of Study

Mr. Bonomo went over the proposed revisions to the Bloomsburg High School Programs of Study. He highlighted changes in the business offerings and also with library services. Mr. Burrell then further discussed some of the curricular changes taking place in the library services department.

Budget

Mr. Upton shared with the school board the proposed preliminary budget for 2015-2016. He reported that total projected revenues were \$23,669,360 and that total expenditures were \$24,339,011. On the revenue side, he said that the state was in the process of developing new formulas that may have an impact on basic education and special education funding. He pointed out that the budget included a .9 mil increase in real estate taxes to 40.6 mils. On the expenditure side, Mr. Upton reported that salaries and benefits were up about \$1.2 million from 2014-2015, partially due to contractual professional and support staff contract increases of about 3% and the additional of the high school librarian position and fifth-grade teacher position at Memorial Elementary School. The first implementation step of the 1:1 technology initiative was included in the 2015-2016 budget, he said. To eliminate the \$669,651 deficit, Mr. Upton said the district would need to pull back \$350,000 from retirement and the rest would come from the general fund balance. He said that as of 30 June 2016, there would be about \$12,263,871 in the general fund balance, with \$10,360,532 in the committed fund balance and \$1,903,339 in the unrestricted fund balance.

10-Year Budget

Mr. Upton shared with the school board the current projected 10-year budget. He told the board that the 10-year budget included many assumptions, such as the projected Act 1 index and state revenue, and that even a small change in revenues or expenditures could end up considerably changing the bottom line. He said that he had assumed a 2% basic education funding increase and a 3% projected annual salary increase. Retirement system rates were based on the PSERS rates released in June 2014. A \$3 million capital reserve transfer for the flood wall project was factored in for 2018-2019. Mr. Upton said that based on this 10-year budget, the district would have a positive fund balance through 2024-2025, and that the fund balance would not be negative until the end of the 2025-2026 school year.

1:1 Technology Initiative

Dr. Curry started off his report by thanking the board for its support in this endeavor. He then reviewed with directors a worksheet comparing the cost to maintain computers not included in the 1:1 initiative, the projected 1:1 initiative cost, the current budget for technology, and the estimated cost of the 1:1 project from 2015-2015 through 2025-2026. The projected increase in cost for the 1:1 project from 2015-2016

through 2025-2026 was \$2,142,131, with an average yearly increase during that time frame of \$194,739.18. Dr. Curry then told the board that if the district went with the 1:1 initiative, he would like to add an information technology coach to be housed at the middle or high school to help staff with technology professional development.

Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School Report

Mr. Tobin noted that Bloomsburg Area School District's student enrollment at Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School had declined over the past seven or eight years from 100 to 75. He said that while it was beneficial for Bloomsburg to send all eighth-grade students to CMAVTS to tour the school, he thought that it would be better to also have sixth-graders tour the school. Ms. Kreisher agreed with this sentiment. Mr. Tobin also said that CMAVTS was taking advantage of the EI Funding Category Two e-rate grant and that Bloomsburg should look into this opportunity as well. He ended his report by saying that CMAVTS administrators were considering adding a petroleum technology program at the school.

Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit Report

Mr. Hummel said that the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit was promoting the iTunes U project. He also reported that Five Stars had created a student council.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Executive Session

An executive session was held from 8:54 – 9:17 p.m. for the purpose of discussing legal matters.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary