

**Bloomsburg Area School District  
Board of School Directors  
Special Meeting  
Monday, 2 February 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, 2 February 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 (arrived at 7:08 p.m.), Ms. Marianne Kreisher, Mrs. Sandra Rupp, Mr. Thomas Tobin, and Mr. Joe Yodock. Mr. Terry Kramarz was absent from the meeting.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Mr. Dan Bonomo (left at 8:59 p.m.), Mr. Steve Bressi (left at 8:59 p.m.), Dr. Cosmas Curry, Mr. Marc Freeman (left at 8:59 p.m.), Mr. Gary Honabach (left at 8:59 p.m.), Mr. Trevor Palmatier (left at 8:59 p.m.), Mr. Joshua Tabor (left at 8:59 p.m.), Mr. Mike Upton, and Mr. Nick Wozniak (left at 7:07 p.m.).

Others present included: Ms. Brenda Albertson (left at 7:13 p.m.), Ms. Zoey Albertson (left at 7:13 p.m.), Mr. Phil Burrell (arrived at 7:15 p.m.), Mrs. Bonnie Crawford, Ms. Terri Drucker, Mr. Bill Hamill (left at 7:13 p.m.), Ms. Sarah Hamill (left at 7:13 p.m.), Ms. Cynthia Whitenight-Hamill (left at 7:13 p.m.), Mrs. Stephanie Hock, Ms. Stephanie Kessler, Ms. Kelly Krevey, Ms. Hannah Pascoe (left at 7:13 p.m.), Ms. Carol Tevis (left at 7:13 p.m.), Ms. Jaclyn Tevis (left at 7:13 p.m.), Ms. Deb Zollmann, and Mr. Elliot Zuckoski.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK**

Mrs. Stephanie Hock, one of the Bloomsburg Middle School Student Government Association (SGA) advisors, introduced to the school board SGA officers Zoey Albertson, Hannah Pascoe, and Jaclyn Tevis. Mrs. Hock said that SGA students would be making reports to the school board to let them know what the organization was doing. The students reported that so far during the current school year, SGA had held two dances, one with a “Pink Out” theme and the other with an “Ugly Sweater” theme. They reported that the organization had arranged a pep rally to recognize fall and winter sports teams, had prepared honor roll and Excellence Award certificates for students, hosted the first pride breakfast of the year to recognize students who had received an Excellence Award during the first half of the school year, appointed a homeroom representative from every homeroom in the middle school, and had created a bulletin board to acknowledge the students who had received Excellence Awards. The students also reported that SGA had purchased a pencil dispenser that had been placed in the cafeteria so that any student needing a pencil could purchase one for 25 cents, and that it had organized activities to benefit the Animal Resource Center. Those activities were a doggy paddle race between Mr. Freeman and Mr. Tommasini, a longest leash contest between homerooms, a faculty pet match, and a guess of the amount of dog bones in a container.

Dr. Curry then introduced Sarah Hamill, a senior at Bloomsburg High School. Sarah then addressed the school board to share with them her experience with the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) program which enabled her to be a full-time student at Bloomsburg University during her senior year in high school. Sarah said she would highly recommend this program to anyone

and that it had really helped her by enabling her to take advanced classes that she could not take in the high school, which she said included Digital Forensics, Physics II, and Calculus II. As a result of taking these classes, she said she scored higher than 95% of students taking the ACT. She said she learned how to deal with professors and office hours, and realized that she wanted to attend a smaller school after having been in a class with about 60 students in it. Said that at the end of the spring, she would have earned 50 undergraduate credits. She spoke very positively of the program, saying that it helped her to confirm that she wanted to become a doctor and that she had already been accepted into Bloomsburg University's pre-med program. At the end of Sarah's report, Dr. Curry answered the board's question about total number of students enrolled in the STEM program, stating that four juniors and two seniors from Bloomsburg High School were currently enrolled in it.

Ms. Deb Zollmann then addressed the board to ask that the district web site state when schools were closed and also that the six-day cycle schedule be included on school web sites. Mr. Palmatier replied that he did have the six-day cycle on Memorial Elementary School's web site. Ms. Zollmann then said she'd like to know the district's anti-vaccination rate and also said that more students might be interested in attending Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School if a music program were available there.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Approval of Revised Coaching Salary Schedule**

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Rupp seconded, to approve as presented the revised coaching salary schedule, effective for the 2014-2015 school year. Dr. Curry pointed out that the only change made to the salary schedule was the addition of junior high soccer coaches. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

#### **Acceptance of Donation**

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Tobin seconded, to accept a monetary donation of \$500 for the 2015 Bloomsburg Middle School Science and Technology Fair, made by Merck Cherokee. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

#### **Approval of Authorizing the Business Administrator to Make Budgetary Transfers**

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Rupp seconded, to authorize the business administrator to make the necessary budgetary transfers for the 2014-2015 fiscal year as required under Section 609 of Pennsylvania School Code. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

### **PERSONNEL**

#### **Approval/Acceptance of Personnel Items**

Mr. Hummel made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Howell, to approve/accept the following personnel items:

- Accept the retirement of Bloomsburg High School Cafeteria Worker Pat Magda, retroactive to 20 January 2015;

- Approve transferring Martha Breisch from the position of 2.25-hour-per-day Cafeteria Worker at Memorial Elementary School to 3.5-hour-per-day Cafeteria Worker at Memorial Elementary School, effective 9 February 2015;
- Approve Lauren Strauch (Early Childhood Education PK-4) as a professional day-to-day substitute, effective 3 February 2015;
- Approve as presented the Spring 2015 athletic coaches;
- Approve extending Victoria Van Fleet as a Long-Term Professional Substitute in the Memorial Elementary School Life Skills class for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year; and
- Approve June Mainzer as a Classified Substitute, effective upon receipt of her Act 34, 114, and 151 clearances and her tuberculosis test results, PDE-6004 Arrest/Conviction Report, and her Sexual Misconduct/Abuse Release.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:18 p.m., Mr. Klingerman made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to adjourn to the work session. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler  
Recording Secretary

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Work Session  
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**Buildings, Grounds, & Maintenance Report**

Mr. Wozniak reported on the maintenance projects slated to be completed during the summer. He said that there were plans for the Memorial Elementary School parking lot to be repaved and relined, for the middle school playground to be repaved, for a new fence to be constructed at the middle school, and for windows to be replaced at Beaver-Main Elementary School. Mr. Hock said the district should decide whether or not it will use the middle school playground for extra parking during sporting events and as otherwise needed. Mr. Hock also said there was a need for a new heating/air conditioning system in the middle school and suggested the vents could be eliminated so as to help protect against flooding. He said this could possibly be done in lieu of the (estimated) \$3 million flood wall project. Mr. Upton said that in the absence of a flood wall, there would still be water that would get through the doors in the breezeway, and that therefore a flood wall would be much more beneficial in flood protection. Mr. Yodock asked if a feasibility study had been done to determine if there were other flood-protection options available to the district. Mr. Upton responded that there had not been such a study done, and that so far the district was just considering piggy-backing on the town's flood wall project and would therefore have some grant money available. Mr. Tobin said that the district had taken preventative steps in trying to better secure the middle and high schools. Mr. Klingerman said he agreed with Mr. Yodock that the district should explore other flood protection options, and Dr. Curry said that he would talk to Susan McGarry of ArchCentral Architects to find out how much a feasibility study to explore all flood-protection options would cost.

**Administrative Reports**

Mr. Bonomo reported that Bloomsburg High School Senior Noah Crawford was a National Merit Award finalist. He also reported that Dr. Kim Bolig from Bloomsburg University had recently spoken to high school students about the STEM program to make them aware of this opportunity.

Mr. Freeman started his report by stating his gratitude to Merck Cherokee for its donation of \$500 to be used for the Bloomsburg Middle School Science and Technology Fair. He then reported that Dr. Bolig was interested in holding a STEM camp for local middle school students at Bloomsburg Middle School, that eighth-grade students had visited Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School (CMAVTS) in January, and that all students had been made aware of the CMAVTS open house being held on 8 February 2015. He concluded his report by reviewing the procedures for students to be admitted into the middle school honors program. He said that in fifth grade, students took the Terra Nova test and that the 26 highest-scoring students were given the opportunity to be in the honors program. Mr. Freeman said that in order to stay in the honors program, students had to maintain at least an 85%, and that at the end of the school year, any students achieving less than an 85% would be dropped from the program.

Mr. Palmatier reported to the board that Memorial Elementary School had just participated in No Name-Calling Week, at which time students signed pledges to not call others names. He said that students had been very involved in the week's activities. He also reported that Memorial students had just collectively earned over 2,000 PAWS, so they earned a class movie day. He ended his report by stating that kindergarten registration would be conducted at all three elementary buildings during the last week of February.

Mr. Tabor reported that kindergarten students at W.W. Evans Elementary School had recently learned about germs hands-on during a Germ City program. He gave an update on the Pennies for Patients program, to which students at Beaver-Main and W.W. Evans elementary schools had donated over \$2,600, and also said that all classes at both schools had recently attained gold-level status in the PAWS program. He said that a new level – the platinum level – had been added. At the platinum level, students would be able to give out PAWS. He also invited school board members to participate in the PAWS for Pies event, during which students would be able to throw pies at administrators and teachers.

### **Budget**

Mr. Upton distributed to board members a 2015-2016 preliminary-to-final budget analysis, which he then reviewed. Dr. Curry said that once the high school's 2015-2016 master schedule was completed in March, it would be decided if there was a need to make the part-time Spanish teacher at the high school a full-time Spanish teacher.

Dr. Curry then referred directors to the draft Technology Coach job description that had been included with their board packets. He explained that the district was looking to hire someone with a teaching certificate and that this individual would be a 10-month employee who would offer technology professional development to staff, co-teach with other professional staff, and help with hardware as needed. This individual would then be paid an hourly rate of \$22 (as per the professional staff agreement) for any summer work completed. Dr. Curry said that this would be advertised as a year-to-year position, so that if the 1:1 initiative were to be dissolved, the district would not need to keep this position. Mr. Hummel wondered why the position had to fall under the professional staff agreement and Mr. Tobin suggested the district consider contracting out for it. Mr. Hummel said that he did not think it would be necessary for the technology coach to co-teach, and to this, Mr. Klingerman responded that he thought it would be very valuable for this individual to have a teaching certificate. At the end of the discussion, Dr. Curry said that he would re-evaluate the possibility of adding the technology coach position to the Act 93 Agreement versus adding it to the professional staff agreement, and that he would also review the qualifications listed in the job description and then report back to the board with his recommendation.

Dr. Curry reviewed the draft 2015-2016 CMAVTS budget and said that any board member with questions about it should contact him. He said the difference from 2014-2015 to 2015-2016 for Bloomsburg Area School District's portion of the budget was \$3,974.65. He said that the board would be voting on the budget in March.

### **New Policies/Policy Revisions**

Dr. Curry highlighted the following new policies that he said should be added to the district's policy manual: 009 – District-Issued Device Responsibility List; 252A – District-Provided Technology Resources: Student Use, Rights and Responsibilities: Student E-mail Accounts and Web and Cloud-Based Storage and Web and Cloud-Based Applications; 252B – District-Issued Devices: Student Use, Rights, and Responsibilities; 352 – Employee Device Security Procedures and Training (Administrative Employees); 452 – Employee Device Security Procedures and Training (Professional Employees); 552 – Employee Device Security Procedures and Training (Classified Employees); and 893 – Remote Access, Monitoring, and Tracking of District-Issued Devices. Dr. Curry said that all of these new policies were needed for the upcoming 1:1 technology initiative. The board discussed purchasing insurance, including extended warranty for manufacturer's defects at a cost of \$91 per device and accidental coverage which covers everything except lost or stolen devices at a rate of \$212 (\$121 more per device). Mr. Yodock asked Dr. Curry to check with other districts with a 1:1 technology initiative to see what their annual percentage of broken devices was.

Next, Dr. Curry outlined changes that needed to be made to the following existing policies: 224 – Care of School Property; 404 – Employment of Professional Employees; 405 – Employment of Substitute Professional Employees; 504 – Employment of Classified Personnel; 505 – Employment of Substitute and Short-Term Employees; 517 – Disciplinary Procedures; 607 – Tuition Income; and 916 – School Volunteers. Dr. Curry said that most of these policies needed to be amended due to the recent state-mandated changes requiring all school employees and volunteers to receive new Act 34, 114, and 151 clearances every three years and to go through the mandated reporter training every five years.

### **Summer Student Programs 2015**

The board did not have any questions relative to the list of 2015 summer student programs (being Extended School Year, KinderCamp, Bloomsburg University Reading Program, and summer school). Dr. Curry said that approval of these programs would be recommended at the 17 February 2015 regular monthly board meeting.

### **Draft Calendar**

Dr. Curry pointed out that for the 2015-2016 school calendar, he would like to have 180 student days, three staff professional development days, and two Act 80 days. There were no questions on the proposed calendar. Dr. Curry said that he would be recommending the calendar for approval at the 17 February 2015 regular monthly board meeting.

### **Tenure Report**

Dr. Curry reported that W.W. Evans Elementary School Kindergarten Teacher Taylor Alouisa had met all the requirements of Section 1108 of the Pennsylvania School Code and was therefore being granted tenure.

### **Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School Report**

Mr. Tobin reported that administrators and the Joint Operating Committee at CMAVTS were looking to expand the Welding Technology program and possibly add such programs as Petroleum and Gas Careers and Manufacturing Maintenance. He said a feasibility study will be conducted to see if program locations should be moved around in the school. Mr. Tobin said he would talk to the Joint Operating Committee about the potential for adding a music program at the school, that later that week three executive director candidates would be interviewed and that all three looked promising, and that the school would be selling off a piece of land (that was originally intended to be a lot for a house to be built on it by students) it owned.

### **Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit**

Mr. Hummel said that he did not have anything to report at that time. Mr. Tobin then asked if Mr. Hummel or Dr. Curry could look into the possibility of contracting with the CSIU for the technology coach position.

**Adjournment**

At 9:10 p.m., the work session was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler  
Recording Secretary