

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Regular Monthly Meeting
Monday, 15 August 2016
7:00 p.m.
District Office Board Room**

MINUTES

Attendance

The regular monthly meeting of the Bloomsburg Area School District Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, 15 August 2016 in the district office board room, followed by the pledge to the flag. Directors in attendance were: Ms. Stephanie Dunn Haney, Mr. Brent Hock, Mrs. Tina Howell, Ms. Marianne Kreisher, Mr. Norman Mael, Mrs. Gail Moore, and Mr. Leo “Joe” Yodock III. Mr. Joshua Klingerman and Ms. Deb Zollmann were absent from the meeting.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Ms. Donna Christensen (left at 7:53 p.m.), Mrs. Melissa Day, Dr. Alan Lonoconus, Mr. Justin Simpson, Dr. Amanda Stutzman, Mr. Joshua Tabor, and Mr. Michael Upton.

Others present were: Ms. Stefanie Cicero, Ms. Katie Coombe, Mrs. Bonnie Crawford, Ms. Terri Drucker, Ms. Kimberly Kerchusky, Ms. Stephanie Kessler, Mr. Michael Lester, and Dr. Donald Wheeler.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK

No visitors wished to address the board at this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to approve the minutes of the 18 July 2016 regular monthly meeting and the 8 August 2016 special meeting and work session of the Bloomsburg Area School District Board of Directors. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yodock, to approve the financial reports for July 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Hock stepped out at this point in the meeting.

APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE

Mrs. Howell made the motion, which Mr. Yodock seconded, to approve the bills payable for 19 July 2016 – 15 August 2016, ranging from check #00041135 – check #00041379, including wire transfers in the amount of \$212,929.45, in the total amount of \$2,426,874.99.

Mr. Upton then pointed out several of the bills to be voted on, including renewals of such software applications as Aesop (the district's absence reporting and professional substitute scheduling program), MMS (the district's student information system), and the CSIU financial system and tax collection software. He pointed out that the district was spending nearly \$20,000 on copy paper for the 2016-2017 school year, stating that the amount the district spent on paper had decreased, but was still high. He also made note of the fact that there was a bill to the Whistle Stop Fence Company for fence painting, a bill to Eagle Ridge Contracting for recaulking of the windows at Beaver-Main, and a bill for Toshiba notebooks and Surface Pros included in the bills payable. Ms. Kreisher asked if the proposed change to the athletic trainer's area had been made, and Mrs. Howell replied that it had and that the athletic trainer (Gina Marotta) was very happy with the changes that had been made. Ms. Kreisher also said that she'd heard nothing but positive things about falls sports so far.

The motion to approve the bills payable passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mrs. Day started her report by saying she appreciated the work Justin Simpson had done as the district's athletic director. She acknowledged that the position was a difficult one, but that Mr. Simpson had eased into it very well. She then said that she had gathered information from nine local high school principals about if they waive the physical education credit requirement for students taking STEM and/or AP students, and that that she would report back to the board on this in September. Next, Mrs. Day said that Mr. Simpson had heard some concerns from parents that they'd prefer to have all-state students' printed photos hanging in the high school instead of being displayed digitally. Because of these concerns, she said that she and Mr. Simpson would examine this issue, and that she would appreciate the board's input, as moving to a digital display would be expensive. Mrs. Day then reported that there were three exchange students who would be starting the school year at Bloomsburg High School, that about 60 families had attended freshman orientation, and that the first parent advisory meeting would be held on September 6, and that any board members wishing to attend were welcome to do so.

Ms. Christensen then reported that Bloomsburg High School had hosted the local paraprofessional conference on August 8 and 9. She said that about 148 paraprofessionals from Bloomsburg Area and the surrounding districts had attended this training.

Mr. Tabor shared with directors a handout outlining why the district should change the part-time Beaver-Main custodial position to a full-time one. Ms. Kreisher said she thought the position should be made full-time, and the rest of the board agreed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Lonoconus reported that he'd reviewed board meeting minutes and other information available pertaining to high school athletic portraits. He said that he understood parents' concerns that in order to see the photo of their son or daughter in a digital presentation, they might have to watch the screen for 10 to 12 minutes. He said there was also the option that athletic portraits could be made smaller so more space would be available to hang more portraits. Dr. Lonoconus recommended the board review this at a future work session and suggested the decision be put into board policy. He said that the policy should also designate which all-state organizations would be used for each sport. Mr. Hock returned at this point in the meeting. Ms. Kreisher asked Mrs. Day and Mr. Simpson to take a month to discuss this issue and then come back with a recommendation to the school board. Mr. Hock said that in the current board

policy that addresses student-athletes' portraits, it states that the decision as to how students' pictures are displayed and the criteria used for deciding whose pictures are displayed is up to the high school principal, and that details about this should be included in the athletic handbook. Mr. Yodock said he would like the guidelines to be included in board policy, and Dr. Lonoconus agreed with this. Mr. Mael pointed out that the school board could come along in 15 months and make changes to whatever decision would soon be made. Dr. Lonoconus pointed out to the board that in June 2016, it had approved using the 2016-2017 as a trial year for the digital display. He asked directors if anyone was opposed to going to 8" x 10" portraits on the wall. Ms. Kreisher said that due to space constraints, a digital display of portraits seemed to be the most cost-efficient way to honor students. Mr. Hock said that at this point, no more photos should be hung on the high school walls and none should be removed until the board had a clear direction of what it wanted to do. Mr. Hock said it was his understanding that the Old Panther Group was willing to pay for the resized portraits. Mr. Mael said that he would prefer to walk the halls and see the pictures, like in the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

Dr. Lonoconus then told directors that as per Policy 123.1: Concussion Management, the board may designate a medical professional(s) to clear a student with a concussion to return to play. He distributed to directors the current concussion management protocol and suggested the board review that protocol, which states that only the district physician and athletic trainer were permitted to clear a student to return to play. Dr. Lonoconus said that keeping the protocol as is would protect parents, students, and the district by providing one consistent point of contact. Dr. Lonoconus said that the current policy stated that any physician could clear an athlete to return to play, so the policy should be changed. Mr. Hock asked if any directors were opposed to this change in policy, and none were.

Dr. Lonoconus then reminded the school board that new teacher induction and in-service days were scheduled for the next week, and he invited board members to attend.

Lastly, Dr. Lonoconus thanked the board for having hired him as the acting superintendent. He said the district was in great shape and was ready to open its doors to students on August 29. Mr. Hock thanked Dr. Lonoconus and said he had made an impact in a short period of time.

Mr. Hock then said that the board had looked long and hard to find a new superintendent, and he thanked everyone who participated in the interview process. He said the board valued everyone's opinion. Dr. Wheeler then thanked the board for the opportunity to be the district's new superintendent. He said he was very impressed with everyone he had met so far, and that Bloomsburg was a great community and he was excited to be here.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

There was no student representative's report given at this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Agreements with MetroCast

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to approve as presented the agreements with MetroCast to release and distribute the following sporting events: Bloomsburg at Central Columbia Varsity Football game at 7 p.m. on 28 October 2016; Bloomsburg at Central Columbia Boys Soccer game at 7 p.m. on 18 October 2016; and Bloomsburg at Berwick Field Hockey at 11 a.m. on 22 October 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Filing for Reassessment

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yodock, to approve filing for reassessment of the Weis Markets in Bloomsburg, as a result of an appraisal where the actual value of the property may exceed the assessed value for tax purposes. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL

Acceptance of Classified Staff Resignation

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Howell, to accept the resignation of Memorial Elementary School Paraprofessional Michele Kuhar, retroactive to 8 August 2016, and to add her to the classified substitute list, effective 9 August 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Acceptance of Professional Staff Resignation

Mrs. Howell made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yodock, to accept the resignation of Memorial Elementary School Teacher Nicholas Hessert, retroactive to 11 August 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Professional Substitute Transfers

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Yodock seconded, to approve transferring Lauren Strauch from a Long-Term Fourth-Grade Substitute Teacher at Memorial Elementary School from 24 August 2016 – 15 November 2016 at a rate of \$100 per day to a Long-Term Third-Grade Substitute Teacher at Memorial Elementary School for the 2016-2017 school year at Step 1 Bachelors and an annual salary of \$36,476, pending resignation of third-grade teacher. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yodock, to approve transferring Nancy Richendrfer from a Professional Day-to-Day Substitute to a Long-Term Elementary Art Substitute Teacher at Memorial Elementary School and Beaver-Main Elementary School at a daily rate of \$100, effective on or about 12 September 2016 through 9 January 2017. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Professional Staff

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Yodock seconded, to approve Katie Coombe as a Memorial Elementary School Teacher at Step 8 Bachelors +24 and an annual salary of \$49,806 and with benefits as per the negotiated professional staff agreement, effective for the start of the 2016-2017 school year. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yodock, to approve Amanda Zwalkuski as a Bloomsburg Middle School Social Studies Teacher at Step 1 Bachelors and an annual salary of \$36,476 and with benefits as per the negotiated professional staff agreement, effective for the start of the 2016-2017 school year. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to approve Kimberly Kerchusky as a .4-Time W.W. Evans Elementary School Art Teacher at 40% of Step 1 Bachelors and an annual salary of \$14,590.40 and with benefits as per the negotiated professional staff agreement, effective for the start of the 2016-2017 school year. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Classified Staff

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yodock, to approve the following as classified staff: Jeannette Hinchliffe as a Memorial Elementary School Paraprofessional (5.75 hours per day) at an hourly rate of \$8.85 and with benefits as outlined in the classified staff agreement, effective for the start of the 2016-2017 school year, pending receipt of her tuberculosis test results; Jessica Malia as a W.W. Evans Elementary School Personal Care Aide (6.5 hours per day) at an hourly rate of \$8.85 and with benefits as outlined in the classified staff agreement, effective for the start of the 2016-2017 school year, pending receipt of her tuberculosis test results; Karen Reifendifer as a Bloomsburg Middle School Paraprofessional (5.75 hours per day) at an hourly rate of \$8.85 and with benefits as outlined in the classified staff agreement, effective for the start of the 2016-2017 school year, pending receipt of her tuberculosis test results; Tanka Dahal as a Bloomsburg Middle School Paraprofessional (5.75 hours per day) at an hourly rate of \$8.85 and with benefits as outlined in the classified staff agreement, effective for the start of the 2016-2017 school year, pending receipt of her FBI Clearance and her Child Abuse History Clearance; and Tyler Heidlauf as a Maintenance Worker at an hourly rate of \$8.85 and with benefits as outlined in the classified staff agreement, effective 22 August 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Athletic Coaches

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to approve the following individuals as athletic coaches for the 2016-2017 season: Todd Mrozek – Assistant Softball Coach – Step 8 - \$1,968.00 (reapproval); and Jordan Hoyes – Assistant Cross Country Coach – Step 1 - \$1,095.00 (new), pending receipt of his Pennsylvania Criminal Record Check, FBI Clearance, and Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearance. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Professional Substitutes

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to approve the following individuals as professional substitutes: Sandra Briggs (School Nurse PK-12), effective 29 August 2016; Stefanie Cicero (Elementary Ed N-3 and Elementary Ed K-6) as a Long-Term Fourth-Grade Substitute Teacher at Memorial Elementary School, effective 24 August 2016 – 15 November 2016, at a rate of \$100 per day, and to add her to the professional day-to-day substitute, effective 16 November 2016; and the following CSIU Guest Teachers for the 2016-2017 school year (all reapprovals): Valarie Anderson; Mary Jorjia Clinger; Peter Grimord; Debra Heckel; Pamela Jacks; Richard Koch Sr.; Marti Luxardo; Gerard Mattive; John Politis; and KateLynn Strickler. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Classified Substitutes

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Howell, to approve the following individuals as classified substitutes: Benjamin Mackiewicz Jr., effective upon receipt of his tuberculosis test results; and Makayla Hess, effective upon receipt of her Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearance and her tuberculosis test results. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Driver

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Howell, to approve Linda Heckman as a van driver through Fishing Creek Transportation for the 2016-2017 school year. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Classified Staff Leave of Absence Change Request

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to approve changing the leave of absence request of Memorial Elementary School Secretary Angela Burns from 15 June 2016 until 15 September 2016 to 15 June 2016 with a return date of 22 August 2016, at which point she will work half-days until 6 September 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Classified Staff Transfer

Mrs. Howell made the motion, which Ms. Kreisher seconded, to approve reassigning current Bloomsburg High School Paraprofessional Audrey Crone as Long-Term Bloomsburg High School Substitute Secretary starting on 22 August 2016 and using a substitute for her paraprofessional position beginning on 29 August 2016. Mrs. Day explained that this was a temporary assignment so that Ms. Crone could find out if she would like to keep this position permanently. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Superintendent

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yodock, to approve Dr. Donald Wheeler as the Bloomsburg Area School District Superintendent, as per the negotiated contract, effective 22 August 2016. Mr. Hock said that the board was pleased to be voting to approve Dr. Wheeler as its next superintendent, as the search had spanned 14 months, 74 applications, and 26 interviews. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

INFORMATION

Mr. Hock reported that there were currently no items to be included on the next work session agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hock announced that the next special meeting and work session would be held on Tuesday, 6 September 2016 at 7 p.m. in the district office board room, and that the next regular monthly meeting would be held on Monday, 19 September 2016 at 7 p.m. in the district office board room.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:12 p.m., Ms. Kreisher moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Yodock seconded this motion, which then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary