

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Regular Monthly Meeting
Monday, 21 November 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, 21 November 2016 in the district office board room, followed by the pledge to the flag. Directors in attendance were: Mr. Brent Hock, Mrs. Tina Howell, Mr. Joshua Klingerman, Ms. Marianne Kreisher, Mr. Norman Mael, Mrs. Gail Moore, and Mr. Leo “Joe” Yodock III. Ms. Stephanie Dunn Haney and Ms. Deb Zollmann were absent from the meeting.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Mr. Gary Honabach (left at 7:34 p.m.), Mr. Justin Simpson, Dr. Amanda Stutzman, Mr. Michael Upton and Dr. Donald Wheeler.

Others present included: Mrs. Bonnie Crawford, Mr. Jonathan Jones, Ms. Stephanie Kessler, and Ms. Shelly Lee.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK

Mrs. Bonnie Crawford addressed the board to voice concern over what she said seemed to be a lack of transparency with the school board. She said that recently, there seemed to be a high number of executive sessions. Mr. Hock replied that the board was in the midst of the negotiating process. She then told directors that she was concerned that the head swim coach had not been given as much credit for his years of experience as the previous head football coach had. Dr. Wheeler said that administratively, the district was working on a proposal that would reduce the number of levels on the coaching salary scale, which he would be sharing with the board in upcoming meetings.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Klingerman seconded, to approve the minutes of the 17 October 21016 regular monthly school board meeting and the 7 November 2016 special meeting and work session. This motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Howell, to approve the financial reports for October 2016.

During his report, Mr. Upton told directors that real estate income was coming in right on budget, and that the district should make the budgeted amount of \$9.6 million in real estate taxes. He said that the district was well ahead of where it was last year with state income because there had been budget issues

from the state during the previous year. Mr. Upton said that the cafeteria fund was still running at a deficit (of about \$11,000) and that lunch and breakfast counts were down, but that he anticipated in the cafeteria fund to be out of the negative as the school year went on. Mr. Upton told directors that the local auditors had just finished their 2015-2016 audit that day, and that they had been pleased with the cafeteria's financial reports. Lastly, Mr. Upton reported that the town had just opened bids for the flood mitigation project. Dr. Wheeler said he would scan and e-mail the projected timeline on that project to the board, and that completion would likely be in 2019.

After discussion, the motion to approve the financial reports for October 2016 passed by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Klingerman seconded, to approve the bills payable for 18 October 2016 – 21 November 2016, ranging from check #00041911 – check #00042107, including wire transfers in the amount of \$450,908.68, in the total amount of \$1,270,273.14.

Mr. Upton pointed out some of the bills being recommended for payment, including an upgrade to the mail server, the second payment of the school year to Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School, updating the fire wall and adding wireless access points, carpeting the first floor of the district office and the office area and one classroom in the middle school, and payment for students attending New Story and Ashler Manor.

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

OPERATIONS REPORT

Mr. Honabach asked if anyone had any questions pertaining to his November operations reports, which had been shared with the board several days prior to the meeting. No one had any questions for him.

Mr. Wozniak was not able to make the meeting, and directors had no questions about his report.

After Mr. Simpson read his report to directors, Mr. Hock asked if he had been looking at outside vendors for the weight room, and Mr. Simpson replied that he had. Dr. Wheeler added that the basic upgrades to the weight room would be about \$20,000, and that this was already in the athletic budget.

Ms. Kessler asked if anyone had questions relative to her transportation report, and no one did. Mr. Yodock did ask her where the district was in the policy review process being facilitated by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA), and Ms. Kessler responded that Dr. Wheeler, Mr. Upton, and herself were in the process of reviewing the changes recommended by PSBA to the 000 section. She said these policies would be brought to the board for review in the near future. Mr. Yodock asked if PSBA had been good to work with so far, and Ms. Kessler replied that they had been very helpful in answering her questions and that they had provided her with training on the BoardDocs program.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Wheeler told directors that academic reports would be given at each month's work session, and that operations reports would be given at each month's regular meeting. He shared with directors his internal

stakeholder executive summary, which included emerging themes, traditions, school culture, challenges, and a recommendation that had emerged from conversations with staff throughout the district.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

No student representative report was given at this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of First Reading of Comprehensive Plan

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Klingerman seconded, to approve on first reading and schedule for final approval at its 19 December 2016 meeting (pending approval of the 2017 school board meeting calendar) the Bloomsburg Area School District Comprehensive Plan for 1 July 2017 – 30 June 2020.

Mr. Hock pointed out that at the beginning of the document, Mr. Joseph Kelly was listed as the district's acting superintendent. Dr. Stutzman said that the superintendent had been changed to Dr. Wheeler, and that this change would be reflected in the copy of the comprehensive plan brought to the school board for approval at the 19 December 2016 meeting.

The motion then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Acceptance of Donations

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Howell, to accept the following donations made to the Bloomsburg Area School District: a monetary donation of \$35 to Bloomsburg Middle School in lieu of purchasing/selling magazines and/or other merchandise during the school's annual fund raiser, made by Mr. and Mrs. David Lovelace; and a monetary donation of \$35 to Bloomsburg Middle School in lieu of purchasing/selling magazines and/or other merchandise during the school's annual fund raiser, made by Ms. Dorothy Redd. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Real Estate Tax Exemption Request

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to approve as presented the Pennsylvania State Veterans' Commission for Real Estate Tax Exemption request made on behalf of Betsy J. Hancock. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of 2017 School Board Meeting Schedule

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to approve as presented the following schedule of 2017 meeting dates of the Bloomsburg Area School District Board of Directors:

2017 Board Meeting Schedule

19 December 2016

Board Meeting

3 January 2017 (Tuesday)	Special Meeting/Work Session
16 January 2017	Board Meeting
6 February 2017	Special Meeting/Work Session
21 February 2017 (Tuesday)	Board Meeting
6 March 2017	Special Meeting/Work Session
20 March 2017	Board Meeting
3 April 2017	Special Meeting/Work Session
18 April 2017 (Tuesday)	Board Meeting
1 May 2017	Special Meeting/Work Session
15 May 2017	Board Meeting
5 June 2017	Special Meeting/Work Session
19 June 2017	Board Meeting
17 July 2017	Board Meeting
7 August 2017	Special Meeting/Work Session
21 August 2017	Board Meeting
5 September 2017 (Tuesday)	Special Meeting/Work Session
18 September 2017	Board Meeting
2 October 2017	Special Meeting/Work Session
16 October 2017	Board Meeting
6 November 2017	Special Meeting/Work Session
20 November 2017	Board Meeting
4 December 2017	Reorganization Meeting/Special Meeting/Work Session

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held in the district office board room.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of First Reading of Policy

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Howell, to approve on first reading and schedule for final approval at its 19 December 2016 meeting the revised Policy 137: Home Education Programs. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Home School Students Taking Chorus at Bloomsburg High School

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to approve permitting two high school-aged home-school students to enroll at Bloomsburg High School part-time in order to take Chorus at the school for the second semester of the 2016-2017 school year.

Directors asked what the monetary impact of allowing these two students to take chorus at the high school would be, and Mr. Upton replied that the district would be negligibly compensated (maybe \$20) by the state for them. Ms. Kreisher said she would like to if a home schooled student dropped out if he/she would be counted as a Bloomsburg High School drop-out.

After discussion, the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Settlement

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Yodock seconded, to approve as presented the Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release between Side Effects, Inc. and the Bloomsburg Area School District. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Elimination of Per Capita Tax

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Howell, to approve eliminating the per capita tax for the Bloomsburg Area School District, effective with the start of the tax year commencing 1 July 2017. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL

Reapproval of Athletic Coaches

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Moore seconded, to reapprove the following athletic coaches for the 2016-2017 school year: Korin LaCroix – Volunteer Swim Coach; Daniel Roeder – Volunteer Junior High Wrestling Coach; and Christopher Long – Elementary Boys’ Basketball Coach – 15 units - \$975.

Ms. Kreisher asked if there was a reason a coach had not yet been approved for girls’ elementary basketball. Mr. Simpson replied that Coach Wittman was in the process of talking with a coach from the previous year to see if she would like to coach again for the current year. Ms. Kreisher wanted to know if no one was approved as the elementary girls’ basketball coach, would elementary girls be able to participate in the boys’ elementary basketball program, and Mr. Hock responded that about 12 years ago, girls were permitted to participate in the boys’ program.

After discussion, the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Next, Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Klingerman seconded, to approve the position of a third assistant swim coach, with this individual’s stipend being subtracted from the stipend of the head swim coach, retroactive to the 2014-2015 school year, with this arrangement ending upon departure of either Head Swim Coach Chuck LaCroix or Assistant Swim Coach Matthew Turzanski.

Mr. Mael said he felt the board’s hands were tied for the current school year, but that this arrangement could be fixed for the following year. Directors agreed that this arrangement should end after the current school year, so Mr. Mael made the motion to amend the original motion to read: Approve the position of a third assistant swim coach, with this individual’s stipend being subtracted from the stipend of the head swim coach, retroactive to the 2014-2015 school year, with this arrangement ending after the 2016-2017 school year. Ms. Kreisher seconded this motion, which went on to pass by a unanimous voice vote.

Directors then voted on the revised motion, being approve the position of a third assistant swim coach, with this individual’s stipend being subtracted from the stipend of the head swim coach, retroactive to the 2014-2015 school year, with this arrangement ending after the 2016-2017 school year, which passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Klingerman, to reapprove the following athletic coaches for the 2016-2017 school year: Chuck LaCroix – Head Swimming Coach (reapproval) – Step 10 - \$3,674 minus \$1,529 to pay for third assistant swimming coach (Matthew Turzanski) - \$2,145; Melissa Everhart – Assistant Swimming Coach (reapproval) – Step 7 - \$2,129; Matthew Turzanski – Assistant Swimming Coach (reapproval) – Step 1 - \$1,529; and Casey Hackett – Assistant Swimming (Diving) Coach (reapproval) – Step 15 - \$2,929. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote

Approval of Classified Staff Transfers

Mr. Klingerman made the motion, which Ms. Kreisher seconded, to approve the following classified staff transfers: Donna Carl from the position of Bloomsburg Middle School Cook (5.5 hours per day, \$10.03 per hour) to the position of Head Bloomsburg Middle School Cook (6.5 hours per day, \$10.03 per hour), retroactive to 7 November 2016; Jean Zellner from the position of Bloomsburg Middle School Food Service Aide (4.25 hours per day, \$8.65 per hour) to the position of Bloomsburg Middle School Cook (5.5 hours per day, \$8.65 per hour), effective 21 November 2016; and James Levi Cromis from the position of Classified Substitute to the position of Maintenance Worker at \$8.85 per hour and with benefits as per the negotiated classified staff agreement, effective 22 November 2016.

Mr. Mael asked for confirmation that Donna Carl and Jean Zellner were being transferred to their new positions without an increase in their hourly rate, and Mr. Upton replied that this was accurate, as per the negotiated classified staff agreement.

The motion then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Long-Term Volunteer/Overnight Chaperone

Mr. Klingerman made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Kreisher, to approve the following individual as a Long-Term Volunteer/Overnight Chaperone, as per Policy 916: School Volunteers: Kristie Schell, effective upon receipt of her Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check and her Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Classified Staff Leave of Absence Requests

Mr. Klingerman made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Moore, to approve the following classified staff leave of absence requests: Bloomsburg Middle School Paraprofessional Karen Reifendifer, retroactive to 24 October 2016 through 4 November 2016; and Beaver-Main Elementary School Paraprofessional Angelina Lapchak, retroactive to 3 November 2016 with a return date to be determined. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Driver

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Klingerman, to approve the following individual as a driver for the Bloomsburg Area School District for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year: John Ventura through Fishing Creek Transportation. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Acceptance of Classified Staff Resignation

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Klingerman, to accept the resignation of Technology Technician Stephen Lutz, effective 2 December 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Classified Staff

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Moore seconded, to approve Sandra Briggs as a classified substitute, effective 22 November 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Declaring School Director Position Vacant

Mr. Klingerman made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Moore, to approve declaring the Bloomsburg Area School District Board of Directors position of Deb Zollmann vacant, effective 22 November 2016, as per Pennsylvania School Code Section 319 and Bloomsburg Area School District Policy 004: Membership. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Termination of Classified Staff Employee

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Klingerman, to approve the termination of Memorial Elementary School Food Service Aide Mary Hubler, retroactive to 15 November 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

INFORMATION

Mr. Hock announced that the following items would appear on the next work session agenda: Budget Update and Assistant Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds Job Description.

Dr. Wheeler reported that as of 16 November 2016, there were 1,554 students enrolled in the district in K-12.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hock announced that the next special meeting and work session would be held on Monday, 5 December 2016 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the district office board room, and that the next regular monthly meeting would be held on Monday, 19 December 2016 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the district office board room.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:29 p.m., Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Klingerman seconded, to adjourn the regular monthly meeting and move into executive session to discuss contract negotiations. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. The executive session lasted until 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary

* All documents referenced in the minutes are retained electronically at the district office. *