

SELINGROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
MINUTES OF MEETING – JANUARY 14, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Selingsgrove Area School District's Board of Directors was held on Monday evening, January 14, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Selingsgrove Area Middle School, 359 Seals Avenue, Selingsgrove, PA 17870.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the President, Mr. Larry D. Augustine.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by those in attendance.

A roll call indicated a quorum with the following members present: Mr. Larry D. Augustine, Mr. Thomas A. Badman, Ms. Mary E. Bannon, Mr. William L. Bechtel, Jr., Mr. John Molitoris, Mr. Andrew V. Paladino, Mrs. Amelia G. Stauffer, Mr. Kenneth B. Teats, Jr., Mr. Dennis R. Wolfe and non-voting member, Dr. Chad L. Cohrs, Superintendent.

Others present were:

Mr. John Bohle, Mr. Matthew Conrad, Ms. Michelle Garman, Mr. Jeffrey Hummel, Dr. Frank Jankowski, Mr. Christopher Morrison, Mr. Kevin Oswald, Mr. Brian Parise, Mr. Paul Roman, Mr. Jason Schmucker, J. Michael Wiley, Esq., Mr. Mark Wolfberg, Ms. Claudia Beaver, Brad Richmond, Jenessa Richmond, and Rick Dandes (Daily Item)

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion by Molitoris and seconded by Paladino to approve minutes, reports and bills lists, as presented. (copies of reports and bills lists to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

**Announcements:**

Mr. Augustine announced that the next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 11, 2019.

**Board Discussion:**

Mr. Wolfe noted that he would like to approach local municipalities and request that they include on their website information about the school district, which we would supply to them. In turn, we would include information about each municipality on our website. Mr. Wolfe added that he would be working with the Superintendent to determine what information would be provided to the municipalities. Mr. Augustine indicated that he thought this was a good idea and asked the Board to take action to give Mr. Wolfe authorizing power to do so.

Motion by Molitoris and seconded by Bechtel to give Mr. Wolfe authorizing power, on behalf of the Board, to approach and contact different municipalities to inquire regarding including district information on different forms of social media, i.e. website, Facebook.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Molitoris expressed concerns regarding administrator involvement in Jr. High Basketball and setting team sizes, player selection, playing times and questioning coaches' decisions. He noted that it was his understanding that administrators would not get involved in these decisions.

It was noted that discussion regarding this topic would be held later in the meeting.

## **ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS**

### **Superintendent:**

Dr. Cohrs announced that January is School Director Recognition Month. He extended a big thanks to each of the Board members for all of the work they do on behalf of the students and the community of Selinsgrove to make our district an outstanding educational institution.

Dr. Cohrs also announced that the Governor's annual budget address will be held on February 5, 2019, and that he does not anticipate much of an increase, if any, at the state level.

Dr. Cohrs referred the Board to a handout that he distributed on the Safe2Say Something anonymous reporting system. As part of the Act 44 legislation on school safety enhancements the state has implemented the reporting system. The system allows tips to be submitted via an app, website, or hotline at the office of the attorney general which is staffed 24/7. The tips are then relayed to the school and law enforcement for action. Dr. Cohrs noted that the system went live as of today, January 14. (a copy of the handout to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

Dr. Cohrs reported that he and Paul Roman met today with some representatives of the Greater Susquehanna Community Foundation to begin exploring a Youth in Philanthropy program. He explained that this program looks to encourage giving on behalf of students. Dr. Cohrs explained that sources generate \$5,000 for each school and the students determine how the funds would be given away through an application process. This program helps to develop the skills of philanthropy, as well as local community development, in the students. Dr. Cohrs noted that our district is still in the exploratory stages of this program.

Dr. Cohrs explained that, for 911 purposes, the address of the district office and Middle School building have now changed. Previously, they both shared the same address of 401 N. Eighteenth Street. The district office is now 329 Seals Avenue, and the Middle School building is now 359 Seals Avenue.

### **Business Manager:**

Mr. Hummel reported that the 2019-2020 SUN Area Technical Institute's General Operating Budget has been released and all members should have received a copy of it. The budget will be on our Board agenda for action in February. Highlights of the budget include an overall total of \$7.4 million which is an approximate 2.5% increase from last year. He noted that one of the big items is continuation of the roof replacement project in the amount of \$840,000. Our district's contribution, which is based on enrollment, is approximately \$1.2 million which is an increase of \$82,000.

Mr. Hummel noted that action will be taken later in the meeting to approve the 2019-2020 Act 1 Budget Resolution, indicating that the Board will not raise the rate of real estate taxes by more than the allowable index, which is 2.9%.

Mr. Hummel also referred to approving the Agreements for Intergovernmental Cooperation in Assessment Appeal Litigation Cost and Settlement. He noted that this is the first round of the appeal process and that other appeals and more losses will be coming in the future.

### **School Safety & Security Coordinator:**

Mr. Wolfberg referred the Board to the "confidential" monthly written report of activities of the district's police department during the month of December. He noted that on November 30<sup>th</sup> all three of the officers were sworn in by the Snyder County Prothonotary giving them the distinction of being an accredited police department. In addition, on December 19<sup>th</sup> the department received its originating agency identifier giving them arrest authority.

### Other Administrative Reports:

Mr. Parise addressed the Board regarding clubs and schedule changes at the high school. Mr. Bohle reported on activities held in regard to the eighth grade careers program.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Budget and Finance:** Mr. Molitoris, Chair, reported that a committee meeting will be held on January 24, 2019, at 5:15 p.m. He announced that two State Representatives will be in attendance at that meeting and he noted that all members are invited to attend. Mr. Wolfe added that members should come prepared with questions because these representatives are very knowledgeable on the subject of pensions and taxes.

**Buildings and Grounds:** Mr. Badman, Chair, announced that a committee meeting will be held on January 22, 2019, to discuss phase 2 of the capital improvement project.

**Policy and Education:** No report.

**Extracurricular:** Mr. Bechtel, Chair, made a statement that when procedures and policies are established by the Board, it is the expectation that they will be followed.

It was determined that an Executive Session would be held at the end of the Board meeting to continue discussion on Mr. Bechtel's statement and comments made by Mr. Molitoris at the start of the meeting.

**Personnel/Meet and Discuss:** No report.

Motion by Badman and seconded by Molitoris to consider the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to approve the following personnel matters:

**Staff Resignations:** Randy Aucker as Second Shift Custodial Supervisor at the Middle School, effective January 22, 2019, due to retirement; Tracy A. Smith as a Special Education Paraprofessional at the High School, effective December 20, 2018; and, Aaron Ettinger as J.V. Head Baseball Coach, effective December 27, 2018;

**Staff Transfer:** Lamont Costenbader from Second Shift Custodian to Second Shift Lead Custodian at the Middle School, effective January 23, 2019 (due to the retirement of Randy Aucker);

**Staff Elections:** Jenessa L. Richmond as a Professional Employee at Step 3 of the Master's Classification (\$52,472) to be assigned as an Elementary Special Education Teacher, tentatively effective January 21, 2019 (pending receipt of required paperwork); Mallory E. Pope as a Mental Health Worker/Behavior Interventionist at a starting salary of \$34,000, tentatively effective January 30, 2019 (pending receipt of required paperwork); 2018-2019 District Volunteers: Carrie Adams, Robert Beierschmitt, Eva Crishock, Joshua Davis, Melissa Unger-Dunkle, Denise Haddon, Belinda Heim, Heather Hoot, Mary Murphy-Kahn, Kathryn Otzel, Pamela Ross, Esther Shaffer, Stacy Slavishak, and Deborah Thompson (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation); 2018-2019 Volunteer Coach: Matthew Atwood (Youth Boys' Basketball) (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation); Intermediate School After-School Foreign Language Club: Stefanie Feidt, Britney Bunting-Specht, and Kerry Moser (Grant Funded - \$1,000 stipend); 2018-2019 Technology Integrators: Aaron Ettinger, Colton Moyer, Leslie O'Malley, Jason Heiser, Ashley Kolak, Lydia Wetzel, and Molly McCabe (Grant Funded - \$2,500 stipend); and,

**2018-2019 Curriculum Council Members:** Ray Moyer, William Switala, Mike Stebila, Joan Bastian, Rob Whyne, Kennedy Hilbolt, Renee Parker, Bradly Richmond, Stacy Gasteiger, Becky McCartney, Nicole Sassaman, Todd Myers, Teresa O'Brien, Karen Stauffer, Emily Wright, Kara Rumberger, Julianna Jones, Cristi Nobre da Veiga, Colton Moyer, Matt Metzger (paid an hourly rate of \$28.25);

**Leaves of Absence:** Employee 000-00-2251 for a child bear/rearing leave of absence, tentatively effective April 2, 2019 through the end of the 2018-2019 school year; Employee 000-00-1681 for a child bearing/rearing leave of absence, tentatively effective March 21 through May 8, 2019; and, Employee 000-00-2309 for an extension of a child rearing leave of absence, effective through April 1, 2019 (original request through February 27, 2019)

**Substitutes:** Teacher: Nicholas Vega (pending receipt of required paperwork); and, Guest Teachers: Ashley Rumph and Carissa Wagner (pending receipt of required paperwork); and,

**Other Matters:** Alison Keeny to complete 60 special education practicum hours at the Intermediate School and High School, between January and May of 2019. (student at Western Governors University) (all clearances are on file)

On roll call vote: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

**Negotiations:** Mr. Molitoris, Chair, reported on the need to schedule a committee meeting in the near future.

**Transportation:** No report.

Motion by Badman and seconded by Molitoris to approve the following drivers, effective during the 2018-2019 school year: Skylar Raker and Lashanna Simmons for Weikel Busing.

The motion was unanimously carried.

**Technology:** No report.

**SUN Area Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee:** Mr. Teats, Representative, reported that Selinsgrove student, Garrett Benfer, an Electrical Systems Technology student, was named as November's Young American. He noted that they are beginning to discuss security at the school, as they currently do not have a force. Mr. Teats also reported regarding the roof project and code changes impacting R-values.

**CSIU Board of Directors:** Mr. Augustine, Representative, referred to the highlights of the December meeting and noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 16, 2019, at 7 p.m.

**PSBA:** Mr. Augustine, Liaison, reported on recent PSBA activity.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Business Matters:**

Motion by Molitoris and seconded by Bechtel to consider approving the 2019-2020 Act 1 Budget Resolution indicating that it will not raise the rate of real estate taxes by more than the allowable index. (a copy of the resolution to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion by Teats and seconded by Paladino to consider approving the Agreements for Intergovernmental Cooperation in Assessment Appeal Litigation Cost and Settlement, as presented. (cost sharing agreement for Susquehanna Valley Mall appeals) (a copy of the agreement to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

Motion by Molitoris and seconded by Teats to consider the recommendation of the Business Manager to approve a list of requests for tax exoneration, as presented. (a copy of the list to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

#### **Snyder County Tax Collection Committee:**

Motion by Teats and seconded by Badman to consider reappointing Jeffrey H. Hummel as primary delegate and John Molitoris as alternate delegate to represent the Selinsgrove Area School District on the Snyder County Tax Collection Committee. (for the collection of earned income taxes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

#### **Extended Day Field Trip:**

Motion by Teats and seconded by Stauffer to consider the request of the High School Principal for an extended day field trip on behalf of the Honors Choir to travel to Williamsburg, Virginia to participate in a competition, Thursday, April 25 through Sunday, April 28, 2019. (Departure on 4/25 at noon and return on 4/28 at 3 p.m.)

The motion was unanimously carried.

#### **High School Course Approval – Adobe Illustrator:**

Motion by Teats and seconded by Wolfe to consider the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent to approve offering Adobe Illustrator as a high school course, as presented. (a copy of the course description to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

#### **2019-2020 School Calendar:**

Motion by Molitoris and seconded by Paladino to consider the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the 2019-2020 School Calendar, as presented. (a copy of the calendar to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

#### **Appointment of Solicitor:**

Motion by Teats and seconded by Wolfe to consider appointing McCormick Law Firm (J. Michael Wiley) as district Solicitor, effective immediately through the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year, as presented. (a copy of the fee schedule to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

**Executive Session:**

An Executive Session was held regarding personnel matters from approximately 7:38 p.m. to 8:23 p.m.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia A. Beaver  
Recording Secretary

cab/min 2019-1-14