

SELINGROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
MINUTES OF MEETING – OCTOBER 10, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Selingsrove Area School District's Board of Directors was held on Tuesday evening, October 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Selingsrove Area Middle School, 359 Seals Avenue, Selingsrove, PA 17870.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the President, Mr. David W. Hess.

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. Christopher A. Aikey, Mr. David W. Hess, Mrs. Anabel Menifee, Mr. Andrew V. Paladino, Atty. Matthew A. Slivinski, Ms. Kara L. Taylor, Dr. David M. Watto, and non-voting member, Dr. Frank R. Jankowski, Superintendent. Mr. William L. Bechtel, Jr., and Mr. Kenneth B. Teats, Jr., Board Members, were absent.

Others present were: Mr. Zachary Appleman, Mr. John Bohle, Mr. Paul Bozella, Dr. Matthew Conrad, Mr. Erick Decker, Mrs. Renee Frederick, Ms. Michelle Garman, Mr. Damian Gessel, Mr. Troy Hickman, Mr. Jeffrey Hummel, Mrs. Susan Lipsey, Dr. Colton Moyer, Mr. Brian Parise, Mr. Ryan Solomon, Mr. J. Michael Wiley, Esq., Mr. Mark Wolfberg, Ms. Claudia Beaver, Mike Stebila, Ben Stebila, Caitlin Swank, Jonathan Swank, Rick Zeigler, Seth Martin, Rebecca O'Neill, Heather Carr, Nathen Beaver, Kelsey Beaver, Lakota Guffey, Jacob Strouse, Kira Badman, Amy Smerlick, Eric Hackenberg, Michael Hackenberg, Karissa Springer, Jason Carpenter, and members of Boy Scout Troop 441

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion by Slivinski 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)

The motion was unanimously carried.

**Announcements:**

Mr. Hess announced that the next regular monthly Board meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, November 13, 2023. He also announced that an Executive Session regarding personnel and legal matters was held at 6 p.m. that evening.

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS**

**Superintendent**

Dr. Jankowski reported that on Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, a district-wide K-12 pep rally was held, where all students and staff celebrated what it means to be a Selingsrove Seal.

Dr. Jankowski reported on a PA Broadband infrastructure developmental and partnership opportunity that will bring a higher level of ability to connect for those in the community who have issues with internet connections.

Dr. Jankowski noted that the PA Department of Education recently launched a new teacher recruitment website "Teach in PA". The site will provide resources and information to individuals interested in becoming educators in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Jankowski provided legislative updates to the Board on House Bill 27, 1257, and 1507. He noted that he is one of CSIU representatives for the 17 sending school districts on the legislative front, and that he will be providing updates to our Board on a more frequent basis.

### **Business Manager**

Mr. Hummel reported that it's time to begin looking at the 2024-2025 budget season. At the December Board meeting, the Board will need to look at the Act 1 Index and pass a resolution to stay within the index. Mr. Hummel reported that this year's base index is 5.3%, and our adjusted index is 6.8%. He noted that this number is very high, mainly because of inflation and the employment cost index as well as the statewide average weekly wages, which is the gage that they use at the state level. Mr. Hummel explained that if we did that, our cap on real estate taxes would be 4.86 mills. He added that we don't have to go anywhere near that number, but that it is the cap.

### **Assistant Superintendent**

Mr. Parise noted that Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> was a Professional Development Day and that the district partnered with the CSIU who hosted events at the Lewisburg High School for secondary teachers and at the Milton High School for elementary teachers. He explained that those teachers that did not participate in the CSIU events, stayed in-district to work on department specific tasks and trainings.

Mr. Parise reported that he presented an overview of student achievement data at the joint committee meeting held on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. He explained that the presentation will continue to evolve as we receive some state data points and state averages and include some benchmark data. He encouraged Board members to contact him if they have any questions regarding this information. Mr. Parise mentioned that several positives that he shared included increases within our tested subjects and tested grade levels.

### **High School Principal**

Dr. Conrad reported that they are gearing up for the following events: Homecoming Court and Ceremony on Friday afternoon, Homecoming football game on Friday evening, and Homecoming Dance on Saturday evening. He also reported that Spirit Week is held October 10<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Budget and Finance:** No report.

**Buildings and Grounds:** Atty. Slivinski, Member, reported that a committee meeting was held on October 2, 2023. At this meeting, Mr. Appleman gave an update on the status of prior projects and also presented a robust spreadsheet of necessary projects as well as desired wish-list projects for the future.

**Policy and Education:** Mr. Hess, Chair, reviewed the minutes of the meeting held on October 2, 2023. (a copy of the minutes to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

**Extracurricular:** Atty. Slivinski, Member, reported that a committee meeting was held on October 2, 2023, where discussion was held regarding PIAA's sanctioning of girls' wrestling. He noted that Ryan Solomon was present at the meeting and provided the policy behind PIAA's decision and what the options were. Those being to sponsor a team, co-op a team, or not have a school sponsored team and what the ramifications from that would be. Atty. Slivinski noted that Seth Martin also gave a presentation to the committee and shared his plans if the Board approved a district girls' wrestling program. Atty. Slivinski stated that it is the position of the committee to approve a girls' wrestling program specifically for the district.

Motion by Watto and seconded by Aikey to consider the recommendation of the Administration to approve a girls' wrestling program.

On roll call vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 2 absent

Mr. Hess expressed pride and respect for our female wrestlers and a round of applause was given acknowledging and congratulating the girls present at the Board meeting. Mr. Hess also recognized Seth Martin's generosity of his time and resources.

At this time, Mr. Hess also acknowledged the members of Boy Scout Troup 441 and their leaders who were present at this evening's meeting.

**Personnel/Meet and Discuss:** Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Meniffee to approve the following personnel matters:

**Staff Resignations:** Leon Yoder (verbal) as Utility Aide at the High School, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year; Quinn Smith (verbal) as Gr. 7 Boys' Basketball Head Coach, effective July 1, 2023; Roger Legg as Jr. High Assistant Wrestling Coach, effective September 22, 2023; Connor Van Zijl as Gr. 9 Boys' Basketball Head Coach, effective September 24, 2023; and Doris Kratzer as Kitchen Manager at the Selinsgrove Elementary, effective December 31, 2023, due to retirement

**Staff Transfers:** Carrie Bennett from Grade 3 Learning Support Teacher at the Intermediate School to K-2 Emotional Support Teacher at the Elementary School, effective October 2, 2023; Lori Kenney as a Reading Intervention Tutor at the Intermediate School to a Reading Intervention Tutor at the Elementary School, effective October 4, 2023; and Becky Delancey from Second Shift Lead Custodian at the High School to Second Shift Custodian at the Middle School, effective October 23, 2023

**Staff Elections:** Lindsay Zacharda as a Grade 3-5 Reading Intervention Tutor at the Intermediate School, effective October 4, 2023, through the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year (ESSER funded position) (pending receipt of required paperwork); Carl Hunter as a Second Shift Custodian at the High School, effective October 16, 2023 (pending receipt of required paperwork); Matthew B. Wenrich as a Professional Employee at Step 11 of the Master's Classification to be assigned as a Grade 3 Learning Support Teacher at the Intermediate School, effective date to be determined when released from current employer (pending receipt of required paperwork); Caitlin Swank as Assistant High School Principal, effective date to be determined when released from current employer (pending receipt of required paperwork); Ian Elliott as Gr. 7 Boys' Basketball Head Coach, effective October 10, 2023 (pending receipt of required paperwork); Tim Carter as Jr. High Wrestling Coach, effective October 10, 2023 (pending receipt of required paperwork)

2023-2024 Intermediate School Employees with Supplemental Duty Contracts

Leslie Slaybaugh – Grade 3 Leader

Michael Shay/Elizabeth Vasquez – Grade 4 Co-Leaders

Jennifer Debo/Taylor Moyer – Grade 5 Co-Leaders

Renee Parker – Related Arts

Zachary Showers – Fifth Grade Outdoor Education Coordinator

2023-2024 District Volunteers – Lindsey Bordner, Kelsey Daddario, Chelsey Davis, Richard Davis, Laura Francis, Trista Hackenberg, Courtney Hanes, Michael Herrold, Denise Hubbert, Amanda Kline, Mako Klisiewicz, Tara Lerch, Faith Marshall, Sarah Moore, Jessica Moyer, Nadiia Ovsova, Samantha Reich, Nichole Young (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

2023-2024 Lady Seals Youth Basketball Volunteers – League Coordinator: Denyel Decker; Head Coaches: Alex Callender, Frank Jankowski, Alex Ulsh, Shaunda Zeigler, Richard Daddario, Jr., Weston Hoffman, Todd Hummel, Shaina Pagana, Susan Roupp, Amiee Snyder; Assistant Coaches: Mindy Callender, Nicholas Bressler, Ryan Felty, Michael Berge, Ryan Pierce, Ashley Kolak, Jay Pagana, Jenica Hummel, Crystal McCarthy (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

**Substitutes:** Teachers – Spencer Cook, Amy Domaracki, and Hannah Domaracki (pending receipt of required paperwork); Nurse – Nicole Snyder (pending receipt of required paperwork)

On roll call vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 2 absent

**Transportation:** Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Paladino to consider the recommendation of the Transportation Coordinator to approve Molli Hall and Lori Sims as drivers for Weikel Busing, effective during the 2023-2024 school year.

On roll call vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 2 absent

**Technology:** Mr. Hess reported that a committee meeting was held on October 2, 2023. He noted that they reviewed recently completed projects, as well as discussed replacement cycles of devices, cyber security and the latest issues and concerns in educational technology.

**SUN Area Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee:** No report.

**CSIU Board of Directors:** No report.

**PSBA:** Mrs. Menifee, Liaison, reported that she plans to attend the Delegate Assembly on November 4, 2023.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Residence Rights to Free School Privileges:**

Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Paladino to consider approving a request for residence rights to free school privileges, as presented. (a copy of the request to be made a part of the official minutes)

The motion was unanimously carried.

### **Senshu University High School Exchange Program:**

Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Menifee to consider the recommendation of the High School Principal to approve Selinsgrove Area High School's cultural exchange program with Senshu University High School in Tokyo, Japan. This year, nine students and two adult chaperones are scheduled to travel to Tokyo in November as part of the district's ongoing partnership with Senshu University High School.

The motion was unanimously carried.

**Agreement with Concern Counseling:**

Motion by Slivinski and seconded by Watto to consider the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent and Director of Special Education to enter into an agreement with Concern Counseling to provide mental health services to students at the Intermediate School, as presented. (This partnership is made possible through CSBBH funding for the 23-24 school year.) (a copy of the agreement to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

Mrs. Menifee questioned the hours of operation and where in the building Concern Counseling would be located.

The motion was unanimously carried.

**Board Discussion:**

Questions were raised and discussion was held regarding the five special education paraprofessional vacancies, as well as the number of students signed up for SAT's.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia A. Beaver  
Recording Secretary

cab/min101023