

SELINGSGROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF MEETING – APRIL 8, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Selingsgrove Area School District's Board of Directors was held on Monday evening, April 8, 2024, 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 7:26 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. Michael A. Bingaman, Mr. David W. Hess, Mr. Christopher J. Kenawell, Mr. Cory A. Naugle, Mr. Kenneth B. Teats, Jr., Mr. Eric L. Watkins, Dr. David M. Watto, and non-voting member, Dr. Frank R. Jankowski, Superintendent. Mr. Andrew V. Paladino, Board Member, was absent.

Others present were: Mr. Zachary Appleman, Mr. Paul Bozella, Dr. Matthew Conrad, Mr. Erick Decker, Mrs. Renee Frederick, Ms. Michelle Garman, Mr. Damian Gessel, Mr. Jeffrey Hummel, Mrs. Susan Lipsey, Dr. Colton Moyer, Mr. Brian Parise, Mr. Ryan Solomon, Mr. Mark Wolfberg, Mr. Steven Hartley, Esq., Mr. Troy Hickman, Ms. Claudia Beaver, Mike Sokoloski, Dennis Wolfe, Joy Hahn, Nick Jacobson, Steven Slotter, Parker Slotter, Amanda Reid, Alyssa Fraley, and Matt Greer.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Teats and seconded by Watto 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: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Announcements:

Mr. Hess announced that the next regular monthly Board meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, May 13, 2024. He also announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the Board meeting for personnel and legal matters, and that the Board will meet again in Executive Session following adjournment.

Opportunity for Public Comment:

Mr. Nick Jacobson introduced himself to the Board and noted that he is seeking the Democratic nomination in the race for the 85th Legislative District in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. He gave a brief background of his educational and work experiences. Mr. Jacobson believes that public schools have been the backbone of the community for over 150 years and deserve a fair share of state funding. He invited everyone to attend a Town Hall session to be held at the Selingsgrove VFW on April 27th from 3-5 p.m.

Board Discussion:

Mr. Hess reported that on March 19, 2024, Mike Bingaman, Cory Naugle, and he attended a very good program presented by the PA School Safety Institute on risk and crisis management and identifying emotional and mental problems in the educational setting. Mr. Naugle commented that it was a very informational program with eight different portions of the program hitting on various topics that "really opened up his eyes". Mr. Bingaman referred to a speaker at the program, John Halligan, who told "Ryan's Story". This is a story of his son who was heavily bullied in school and eventually took his life.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Parise reported that the remaining two components of the Comprehensive Plan are being finalized now and the plan will be posted for the required 28-day period by the end of this week. The Plan will be presented to the Board at the May 13th meeting for approval. Mr. Parise added that the planning committee is set to meet tomorrow to review the final two components. He also noted that he will go over the final details of the plan with the Board at the next Policy and Education Committee meeting.

High School Principal

Dr. Conrad extended congratulations to Valerie Fry, Agriculture Teacher, who was recently nominated to the Pennsylvania Association of Agricultural Educators as a finalist for teacher mentor. He also recognized SUN-Tech students, Hayden Auman and Collin Sauers, for placing first and second respectively, at the recent American Welding Society competition. Dr. Conrad also recognized that several students in the girls' and boys' basketball programs made PHAC honors in the first division.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Finance: No report.

Buildings and Grounds: Discussion was held regarding the bidding process for the maintenance lot reconstruction. Mr. Appleman reported that the deadline for accepting bids for the project is noon on Thursday, April 18, 2024. He also reported that the first meeting with the architects was held last week concerning the auditorium storage project.

Policy and Education: No report.

Extracurricular: No report.

Personnel/Meet and Discuss: Motion by Bingaman and seconded by Aikey to consider approving the following personnel matters:

Staff Resignations: Bradley Hatter as Utility Aide at the High School, effective April 26, 2024, and as Head Jr. High Football Coach, effective March 27, 2024; Paula Freed as Utility Aide at the Middle School, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year, due to retirement

Staff Transfer: Justin Aurand from PIMS Data Manager/Central Registrar to Administrative Assistant for Food and Nutrition Services, effective date to be determined

Staff Elections: McKenna Weigel as a Cook at the Intermediate School, 4 hours per day, effective April 9, 2024; 2023-2024 District Volunteers – Christopher Snyder, Desiree Tarr, Jonathan Watts (without salary, benefits, or expectation of any other compensation)

Substitutes: Guest Teacher – Holly Greiner; and Prospective Teachers – Jade Neitz and Murphy O'Brien

On roll call vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Transportation: No report.

Technology: No report.

SUN Area Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee: Mr. Teats, Representative, referred to the JOC Committee meeting highlights from the meeting held on March 21, 2024. (a copy of the highlights to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

CSIU Board of Directors: Mr. Hess, Representative, referred to a copy of the CSIU Board of Directors' Report which is a highlight of the March 20, 2024, meeting. At this meeting, discussion was held regarding the newly launched Chief Science Officer program. This initiative will empower students to become advocates for science education and will help create a new generation of scientists. (a copy of the report to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

PSBA: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Leave of Absence Request:

Motion by Bingaman and seconded by Naugle to leave on the table a request from Joelle McEvoy for a sabbatical leave for professional development, effective during the 2024-2025 school year.

On roll call vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

NEW BUSINESS

Business Matters:

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

On roll call vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Real Estate Assessment Appeal:

Motion by Watto and seconded by Kenawell to consider approving the real estate assessment agreement with BRE RC MONROE MP PA, LP (Kohl's). (a copy of the agreement to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 6 yes, 2 no (Teats & Bingaman), 1 absent

Memorandum of Understanding:

Motion by Kenawell and seconded by Watkins to consider approving the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Selinsgrove Area School District and Selinsgrove Area School District Administrators and Supervisors (Act 93 Plan Administrators and Supervisors). (a copy of the MOU to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Independent Study Proposal:

Motion by Aikey and seconded by Kenawell to consider the request of the High School Principal to approve an Independent Study Proposal for student #11632. (a copy of the proposal to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 7 yes, 1 abstention (Teats), 0 no, 1 absent

Agreement for Education:

Motion by Kenawell and seconded by Watkins to consider approving the Agreement for Education between the Selinsgrove Area School District and the family of student #200432. (a copy of the agreement to be attached and made a part of the official minutes)

On roll call vote: 7 yes, 1 no (Aikey), 1 absent

Adjournment:

Board Members were reminded that an Executive Session would be held immediately following adjournment.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia A. Beaver
Recording Secretary

cab/min4824