

April 15, 2019

The regular meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order this evening in the library of the High School by the President, Chris Branton.

The meeting opened with a Moment of Silence and Pledge to the Flag.

Board Members Present: Anthony, Bachman, Bowman, Engel, Miller, Molino, Page, Persun and Branton.

Others Present: Mark Stamm – Superintendent, Dwight Woodley – Director of Innovative Learning/ Director of Information Systems, Michele Loomis – Elementary Principal, Scott Hill – Assistant Principal, Kristin Bastian – Director of Special Education/School Psychologist, Bill Reifsnnyder – Maintenance Director, Rob Houseknecht – Athletic Director, Fred Holland – Solicitor, and Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager.

Visitors: Brenda Trimble, Tara McGlensey, Kim Bollinger, Amy Pregent, Jonelle Havard, James Havard, Jenna McWilliams, Sue Bastian, Lesa Hennigan, Kim McGee, Becky Swinehart, Lauren Reynolds, Matt Krach, Melanie Shepheard, Melissa Mix, Kelsey Shannon, Tina Pulver, John Pulver, Christine Miller, Selena Loiselle, Emily Wagner, Cary Kurtz, Lin Fessler.

#### **PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

The following citizens spoke on the following topics:

Brenda Trimble –furloughs of professional staff.

#### **APPROVE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$7,378.00 as funds become available was moved by Anthony, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Engel-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Page-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

#### **APPROVE MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of April 1, 2019, as written was moved by Bachman, seconded by Miller. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

##### **FEASIBILITY STUDY – PHASE 1: DATA COLLECTION**

McKissick Associates and Larson Design Group provided the Board with an update on the District's Feasibility Study: Phase 1: Data Collection. Under Phase 1, a staff survey was conducted with an 80% response rate. The staff survey revealed that staff desired modern, individualized, hands-on, real-world learning with use of technology, 44% of rooms are limited by room arrangement/equipment, and half felt they had inadequate storage and computer/internet access. The General Stakeholder Visioning Responses revealed a desire to have 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning with dynamic, flexible spaces for individualized learning with use of technology and felt that the District's weaknesses were outdated facilities, limited budget, limited technology, and limited curricular and extra-curricular program offerings. Long range goals of

the General Stakeholders were open classrooms with flexible arrangements for varying programs and class size, STEM labs, sensory rooms, additional art and science space, more behavioral support spaces, career prep opportunities, modern athletic spaces, energy efficient systems, and updated technology. During Phase 1, Baseline Data was collected. Enrollment Projection should remain relatively flat. It appears that all 3 buildings (Central, Rommelt, HS) are underutilized, running at an overall 71.9% utilization rate. The HS is being 36.9% underutilized. The baseline cost to renew the buildings to their original condition is projected at \$4,388,000 for Central Elementary, \$4,477,000 for Rommelt Elementary, \$12,092,000 for the High School, \$1,982,000 for the Stadium/Athletic Fields for a total cost of \$22,939,000.

The next step is Phase 2: Option Generation. This is the formation of options for improvement of building utilization and implementation of 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning modalities across K12. A presentation is expected to be at the June 3 board meeting.

### **REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF LERTA RESOLUTION**

A motion to approve the LERTA resolution was moved by Molino, seconded by Bachman. The LERTA would provide a real estate tax exemption for new construction, expansion or improvement to eligible properties within the South Williamsport Borough. The real estate tax exemption is on the new construction, expansion or improvement, there is no real estate tax exemption on the existing assessed value. Roll call: Anthony-no, Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Engel-yes, Miller-no, Molino-yes, Page-no, Persun-yes and Branton-yes, motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP**

A motion to approve the following out-of-state/overnight field trip request was moved by Bachman, seconded by Anthony.

- Patty Schick's out-of-state field trip request to take FCCLA students to Anaheim, CA on July 2-6, 2019.

Roll Call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Engel-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Page-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

### **FUNDING FOR NATIONAL LEVEL COMPETITIONS**

Discussion occurred regarding what type of financial responsibility the District should make to clubs that make it to national level competitions. No official vote or motion was made. The general consensus was that the District should pay the registration fees. Any funding above that should be brought to the Board on a case by case basis.

### **BUDGET WORK SESSION**

A preliminary draft of the budget was provided to the Board Members. The first item discussed was the reduction in staffing. Reduction in staffing included: two professional economic furloughs in English 7-12, three non-renewals of temporary professional employees, two reductions through attrition, and the elimination of two lunchroom monitor positions at Central Elementary. This would save the district \$490,771 in the 2019/20 school year.

The board allowed Lesa Hennigan to speak on behalf of the Central Elementary lunchroom monitors.

More discussion occurred regarding the furloughing of staff. A result of these furloughs would cause eight to nine existing staff members to be moved into different positions for the 2019/20 school year. Dr.

Stamm explained how the economic furlough process works along with bumping rights of professional staff.

Budget discussion then continued to each section of the Budget Book. The next 1 hours and 5 minutes were spent discussing expenditure sections 1100, 1200, 1300, 1400, 2100, and 2200.

#### **ADDITIONAL BOARD MEETING**

A motion to add a board meeting on April 24, 2019 at 6PM to continue the Budget Work Session was made by Bowman, seconded by Molino. Roll Call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Engel-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Page-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

#### **TABLE REMAINING AGENDA ITEMS**

A motion to table item 6. Resolution of Intent to Furlough and item 7. Notice of Waiver Exemption was made by Bowman, seconded by Persun. Roll Call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Engel-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Page-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

#### **COURTESY TO THE FLOOR**

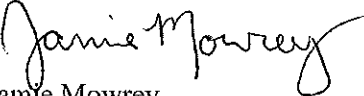
The following citizens spoke on the following topics:

Melissa Bradley – cost for training teachers, links for feasibility study documents, copy of budget, cost of iPads, and lunchroom monitors.

Lin Fessler – girls' volleyball.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Miller, seconded by Bachman. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 10:13PM.

Attest

  
Jamie Mowrey  
Board Secretary