

February 14, 2022

The regular meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order at 6:00 PM in the High School Library by the President, Todd Engel.

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

Board Members Present: Bachman, Bowman, Brigandi, Bukeavich, Cramer, Engel, Hitesman, and Rupert.

Others Present: Jesse Smith – HS Principal, Maria Pierce – Director of Student Services/Rommelt Principal, Michele Loomis – Central Principal, Kristin Bastian – Director of Special Education/School Psychologist, Mike Samar – School Police Officer, Bill Reifsnyder – Director of Buildings & Grounds, Mark Stamm – Superintendent, Tom Burkhart – Solicitor, and Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager.

Visitors: Ann Neely, Melanie Rojas, Dustin Isenberg, Tambra Isenberg, Becky Swinehart, Mindy Rodarmel, Lisa Arp, Emily Wagner, Amanda White, Brenda Trimble, Jon Thompson, and Elyse Schopfer.

APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORTS

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Reports for January 2022 was moved by Cramer, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE GENERAL FUND BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$855,814.20 as funds become available was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE FOOD SERVICE FUND BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the Food Service Fund in the amount of \$14,753.25 as funds become available was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of January 24, 2022, as written was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Engel. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS

EDUCATION UPDATE: ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY

Dr. Stamm, Superintendent, gave a top-level overview of the Future Ready Comprehensive Strategic Plan for 2022-2025 which directly ties into the education updates that will be discussed by Dr. Loomis and Dr. Stamm. Dr. Loomis then explained the science of reading and shared benchmarks that support the need to change the English Language Arts curriculum for Kindergarten through grade 5. Dr. Stamm then discussed the Mountie Pathway program at the high school for career planning and course selection.

FUTURE READY COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2022-2025

A motion to approve the Future Ready Comprehensive Strategic Plan for 2022-2025 was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

CLASSROOM MONITOR PROGRAM

A motion to approve the use of classroom monitors as provided for in Act 91 of 2021 was moved by Rupert, seconded by Engel. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SUPPORT PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

A motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Support Personnel Association for the purpose of using currently employed paraprofessionals as classroom monitors as provided for in Act 91 of 2021 was moved by Cramer, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

2022 RESOLUTION FOR CHARTER FUNDING REFORM

A motion to approve a resolution calling for charter school funding reform was moved by Bachman, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

ADOPTION OF PRELIMINARY 2022-2023 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

A motion to approve the preliminary 2022-2023 general fund budget with revenues of \$19,889,655 and expenses of \$20,212,578 which contains a real estate tax millage of 18.43 mills was moved by Rupert, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

ESSER UPDATE

Mrs. Mowrey, Business Manager, provided an update on ESSER funding awarded to the District, amounts spent, and anticipated spending. Since the October 18, 2021 update, the District was awarded an additional \$107,869 from the Emergency Connectivity Fund. That award brings the grand total awards to \$4,963,614. All grants have been submitted and are awaiting final approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

UNPAID MEDICAL LEAVES

A motion to approve the following unpaid medical leaves were moved by Bachman, seconded by Cramer.

- EE #1164 from March 7 – April 25, 2022
- EE #1251 from January 5 – March 11, 2022

Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – RESIGNATION

Dr. Stamm, Superintendent, presented a resignation that has been accepted.

- Mary Geise's retirement from her High School teaching (Reading) position effective June 3, 2022.

EMPLOYMENT – SUBSTITUTES & GUEST TEACHERS

A motion to approve the following substitutes and guest teachers was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Brigandi.

- Student teacher/substitute: Ian Shoemaker exclusively for Ryan Carper's class
- Guest teachers: Denise Fortin & Jack Johnson

Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – SPRING COACHES

A motion to approve the following list of coaches and their stipends for the 2022 Spring season was moved by Rupert, seconded by Cramer.

- Baseball – Steve Sennett as assistant varsity coach at \$2,765; Chase Waller as JV head coach at \$2,340; and Kurt Wertz as a volunteer.
- Boys Tennis – Kent Young as head coach at \$3,971; and Theresa Summerson as assistant coach at \$2,665.
- Junior High Boys Soccer – Adam Rubert as head coach at \$2,420; Manny Tsikitas as assistant coach at \$2,074; and Chris Vanaskie as a volunteer.
- Junior High Girls Soccer – Jane House as head coach at \$2,420; Marc Lovecchio as assistant coach at \$2,074; and Tracy Knoebel as a volunteer.
- Softball – Tom O'Malley as head coach at \$4,993; Adam Lorson as assistant coach at \$2,765; Cory Goodman, Scott Lowery, and Chris Schuler as volunteers.
- Track – Kim Schwoyer as head coach at \$3,568; Matt DeBlander as 1st assistant coach at \$3,265, Dave Weaver as assistant coach at \$2,074, Jake Lusk as assistant coach at \$2,074; and Kerry Taylor as a volunteer.

Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE POLICY – FIRST READING

A motion to approve the first reading of Policy No. 620 – Fund Balance was moved by Bachman, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

2022-2023 SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR – SECOND READING

A motion to approve the second reading of the 2022-2023 school calendar was moved by Bachman, seconded by Bukeavich.

A motion to table the second reading of the 2022-2023 school calendar was moved by Engel, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

A motion to approve the following overnight field trips was moved by Cramer, seconded by Hitesman.

- Jessica Kaledas' request to take one student to Dallastown High School on February 24-26, 2022 for the Central Regional Orchestra Festival
- Jessica Kaledas' request to take three students to Western Wayne High School on March 10-11, 2022 for the PMEA Region IV Band Festival
- Patty Schick's request to take FCCLA students to the FCCLA state conference at Seven Springs on March 20-23, 2022
- Kevin Eck's request to take Academic Decathlon students to Souderton High School on March 11-12, 2022 for the state finals.

Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

PROPOSED 2022-2023 IU#17 GENERAL OPERATIONS BUDGET

A motion to approve IU#17's 2022-2023 General Operations Budget in the amount of \$3,107,224 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

2022 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS TO BLAST IU #17 BOARD

A motion to approve the recommended names to the Blast IU#17 Board to fill unexpired terms to 6/30/22, to fill unexpired terms to 6/30/23, to fill full three-year terms to 6/30/24, and to fill full three-year terms to 6/30/25 was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Engel. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

COURTESY TO THE FLOOR

The following individuals spoke about the following topics:

- Elyse Schopfer – Central Elementary playground

There will be an executive session after the meeting regarding real estate and personnel. No action to follow.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Brigandi, seconded by Bachman. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey
Board Secretary