

March 21, 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, Brigandi, Bukeavich, Cramer, Engel, Hitesman, Miller and Rupert.

Others Present: Jesse Smith – HS Principal, Scott Hill – HS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, Maria Pierce – Director of Student Services/Rommelt Principal, Michele Loomis – Central Principal, Kristin Bastian – Director of Special Education/School Psychologist, Dwight Woodley – Director of Innovative Learning/IT, 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, Jamie Bloom, Hilarie German, Karen Fink, Melinda Rodarmel, Tambra Isenberg, Melanie Rojas, Becky Swinehart, Melissa Ogden, Tina Pulver, Justine Cruz, Tara Battaglia, Matt Krach, Amanda White, Tara Stryker, Elyse Schopfer, Holly Niven, and Pat Crossley – Williamsport SunGazette.

#### PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The following individuals spoke about the following topics:

- Tara Battaglia – CKLA curriculum for grade 5
- Justine Cruz – CKLA curriculum for grade 5
- Tambra Isenberg – CKLA curriculum
- Lisa Arp – CKLA curriculum
- Todd Engel – 2022/2023 school calendar

#### APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORTS

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Reports for February 2022 was moved by Rupert, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-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 \$2,168,550.35 as funds become available was moved by Cramer, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-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 \$70,244.04 as funds become available was moved by Bachman, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

#### APPROVE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$22,738.39 as funds become available was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

#### APPROVE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of February 14, 2022 and March 7, 2022, as written was moved by Rupert, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

## **SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **PURCHASE OF NEW MONITORS FOR TEACHER DESKTOPS**

A motion to approve the purchase of 95 new monitors for teacher desktops at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF TITLE I PROGRAMS**

Mrs. Neely, Federal Programs Coordinator, presented information on the Title I program at Central Elementary. A motion to approve the Central Elementary school guidelines for implementation of district Policy 918: Title I Parent and Family Policy, the Title I Home/School Compact, Memorandum of Understanding with STEP, Inc., Head Start, Parent Right-to-Know, School-Wide Program Information, and Equity Plan was moved by Miller, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **WELLNESS COMMITTEE**

A motion to create an Ad-Hoc Committee for the purposes of reviewing the District's Wellness Policy was moved by Bachman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **PILOT PROGRAM - MATH**

Dr. Stamm, Mrs. German, Mrs. Fink, and Mr. Bloom discussed a two-year pilot program for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math. A motion to approve the two-year pilot program for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math was moved by Rupert, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS CURRICULUM**

A motion to approve Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) as a new English Language Arts curriculum for grades K-5; with grades K-2 being implemented in 2022-2023 and grades 3-5 being implemented in the following years, was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Bukeavich.

A motion to defer the motion was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Cramer.

A motion to amend the original motion to purchase grades K-4 only was moved by Miller, seconded by Rupert.

Mr. Miller withdrew his motion.

A motion to amend the motion to purchase grades K-5, with grades K-2 being implemented in 2022-2023, grades 3-4 implemented in 2023-2024 and discuss grade 5 before implementation was moved by Cramer, seconded by Hitesman.

A motion to vote on the amended motion was moved by Miller, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

Vote on the amended motion (purchase grades K-5, with grades K-2 being implemented in 2022-2023, grades 3-4 implemented in 2023-2024 and discuss grade 5 before implementation). Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **2021-2022 CALENDAR CHANGE REQUEST FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

A motion to approve an amendment to the 2021-2022 school calendar to change June 1 & 2 to Act 80 full days for grades K-6 for the purpose of professional development for the new CKLA curriculum program was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-no, Engel-no, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS**

A motion to approve the following overnight field trip requests was moved by Bachman, seconded by Miller.

- Jessica Kaledas' overnight field trip request to take one band student to Kalahari Poconos on April 6-9, 2022, for the PMEA All-State Wind Ensemble.
- Christine Miller's overnight field trip request to take the Varsity Cheerleaders to Pine Forest Cheer Camp on June 11-14, 2022.

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

### **EMPLOYMENT – RESIGNATIONS**

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

- Leigh Ann Aiken's resignation from her 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Paraprofessional position at Central Elementary effective March 14, 2022
- Manny Tsikitas from his position as Junior High Boys Soccer Assistant Coach for the 2022 Spring season.

### **EMPLOYMENT**

A motion to approve the following employment was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bachman.

- Classroom Monitors for 2021-2022: Ashley Frei and Andrea Knapp
- Unpaid Medical Leave: EE# 193 for unpaid medical leave from March 11 through May 6, 2022
- Spring Athletic Coach & Stipend: Michael Gonzalez as Junior High Boys Soccer Assistant Coach at a stipend of \$2,006
- Substitute: Sara Caputo as a certified day-to-day substitute for the 2021-2022 school year
- Guest Teachers: Benjamin Landon and Lindsey Perry for the 2021-2022 school year

Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-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 Bukeavich, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-no, Engel-no, Hitesman-yes, Miller-no, and Rupert-no; motion failed.

### **APPROVE POLICY – SECOND READING**

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

### **COURTESY TO THE FLOOR**

The following individuals spoke about the following topics:

- Matt Krach – teacher work days and hours per day
- Lisa Arp – Act 80 days
- Melissa Ogden – Rommelt teachers

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

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Miller, seconded by Rupert. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey  
Board Secretary