

April 25, 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: 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: Brenda Trimble, Lauren Reynolds, Melanie Rojas, Rae Ann Pardoe, Becky Swinehart, Allie Porter, Lisa Arp, Jennifer Kimball, Tara Battaglia, Amanda White, Vern McKissick – McKissick Associates, Audrey Bear – Piper Sandler, Mario Benicky – Piper Sandler, and Mark Maroney – Williamsport SunGazette.

PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The following individuals spoke about the following topics:

- Melanie Rojas – school calendar

APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORTS

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Reports for March 2022 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.

APPROVE GENERAL FUND BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$1,573,482.37 as funds become available was moved by Cramer, seconded by Engel. 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 \$85,280.78 as funds become available was moved by Brigandi, 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 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$1,948.20 as funds become available was moved by Bukeavich, seconded by Hitesman. 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 March 21, 2022 and April 11, 2022, as written was moved by Rupert, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

2022-2023 DISTRICT CALENDAR – 2ND READING

A motion to approve the second reading of the 2022-2023 District Calendar was moved by Bachman, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-abstain, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-no, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS

EMPLOYMENT – TRANSFER REQUESTS

A motion to approve the following transfer requests by staff for the 2022-2023 school year was moved by Bachman, seconded by Cramer.

- Ashley Zielewicz from Special Education K-12 to Elementary All Subjects Grades 4-5 (for Rommelt Grade 5 ELA position)
- Madelyn Matthews from Special Education 7-12 to Math 7-12 (for Grade 7 math position)
- Tara Battaglia from Elementary K-6 to English 7-12 (for Grade 7 ELA position)

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

EMPLOYMENT – INFORMATIONAL

Dr. Stamm, Superintendent, approved the following position transfers. Since there is no change in teacher certification area, board action is not required.

- Kendra Billman from Elementary Art position to Jr/Sr High School Art position
- Andy Brown from Grade 6 Math position to Grade 6 Science/Social Studies position
- Mike Steppe from Elementary Technology Education position to Jr/Sr High School Technology Education
- Karen Fink from Grade 7 Math position to High School Math position
- Agnes Coder from Supplemental Special Education Grades 7/8 position to Supplemental Special Education Grades 9-12 position
- Hailey Carson from Special Education Grade 6 position to Supplemental Special Education Grades 7/8 position
- Joella Harvey to Grade 6 Math at Step B-2 at a salary of \$48,020

The following positions remain open for the 2022-2023 school year:

- Art Education K-12 for Grades K-6
- Elementary Special Education for Central (1)
- Elementary Special Education for Rommelt (1)
- Family and Consumer Science K-12 for Jr/Sr High School
- Secondary Special Education for the Jr/Sr High School (1)
- Technology Education K-12 for Grades K-6
- Speech Pathologist

Dr. Stamm, Superintendent, accepted a letter of resignation from Rebecca Swinehart from her Speech Pathologist position effective June 2, 2022.

EMPLOYMENT – INSTRUCTIONAL PARAPROFESSIONAL

A motion to approve Gina Stoetzel as an instructional paraprofessional at Central Elementary effective March 25, 2022 with a starting rate of \$13.24 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association as 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.

EMPLOYMENT – MAINTENANCE AND CUSTODIAL POSITIONS

A motion to approve the following maintenance and custodial employees was moved by Bukeavich, seconded by Cramer.

- Danny Reaser, Jr. from full time custodian to Maintenance I effective April 26, 2022 at a rate of \$20.50 per hour in accordance with the AFSCME agreement
- Skye McNamee as a 2nd shift full time custodian effective June 6, 2022 at a rate of \$12.00 per hour in accordance with the AFSCME agreement
- Cody Conser as a 2nd shift full time custodian effective April 26, 2022 at a rate of \$11.50 per hour in accordance with the AFSCME agreement
- James Karnes as a 2nd shift part time custodian at a rate of \$11.50 per hour in accordance with the AFSCME agreement pending receipt of clearances

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

EMPLOYMENT – GUEST TEACHER LIST

A motion to add Destinee Chapman as a guest teacher for the 2021-2022 school year 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.

EMPLOYMENT – UNPAID MEDICAL LEAVE EXTENSION

A motion to approve an extension of unpaid medical leave from April 25 through April 28, 2022 for EE #1164 was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A motion to approve an unpaid leave of absence for personal reasons for EE #1255 from May 2, 2022 through June 2, 2022 was moved by Cramer, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

PROPERTY TAX EXONERATION – SYLVAN DELL

A motion to approve Armstrong Township's request to exonerate real estate property taxes for tax year 2020 related to tax parcel no. 02-350-156 in the face amount of \$5,902.20 was moved by Rupert, seconded by Engel.

A motion to table the property tax exoneration was moved by Engel, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-no; motion carried.

BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING POLICY REVIEW

Dr. Stamm, Superintendent updated the board about the Bullying Prevention Program and showed the resources on the District's website. A motion to approve the review of Bully/Cyberbullying Policy 249 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE POLICIES – FIRST READING: TOBACCO, VAPE AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

A motion to approve first reading of changes to policy 222, 227, 227.1, 323, and 904 related to tobacco and vape products and approval of the INDEPTH program as an alternative to suspension and prosecution for first-time incidents for nicotine and vape products was moved by Cramer, 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 POLICY – FIRST & SECOND READING: CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

A motion to approve first and second reading of Policy 827 Conflict of Interest was moved by Bachman, seconded by Engel. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE POLICY – FIRST & SECOND READING: PROCUREMENT POLICIES

A motion to approve first and second reading of Policy 610 Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation/ Policy 611 Purchases Budgeted; and the revised Procurement Procedure Attachment to Policy 626 Federal Fiscal Compliance was moved by Rupert, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

FINANCIAL AWARD FOR GRADUATING SENIOR

A motion to approve the Jacqueline & Joseph Hamm Award for \$600 in accordance with Policy 913 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL DISTRICT SOLICITOR

A motion to appoint Fred A. Holland from Mc Nerney, Page, Vanderlin & Hall as school district solicitor for the 2022-2023 school year 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.

FOOD SERVICE RENEWAL WITH NUTRITION INC.

A motion to approve the renewal agreement with Nutrition, Inc. for the 2022-2023 school year with a guarantee to the District of \$307.80 profit; with full price breakfast price of \$1.05 for grades K-6 and \$1.15 for grades 7-12 and full price lunch price of \$2.25 for grades K-6 and \$2.50 for grades 7-12 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.

BUDGET PROCESS UPDATE

Mrs. Jamie Mowrey, Business Manager, provided the 2022-2023 budget binders to the board and provided an update on the budget timeline.

FACILITY UPDATE

Mr. Bill Reifsnnyder, Director of Buildings & Grounds, provided the board with an update about conditions/priority concerns at each District building and work done during the current school year at each building.

DEBT PRESENTATION

Audrey Bear, Managing Director at Piper Sandler & Company, discussed hypothetical debt borrowings to finance a future capital project.

TENNIS CO-OP

A motion to approve a boys' tennis co-op with St John Neumann starting in the 2021-2022 school year was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Rupert. 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

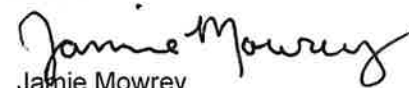
The following individuals spoke about the following topics:

- Lisa Arp – appreciate of open dialogue from Board Members during deliberations

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 7:45 PM.

Attest


 Jamie Mowrey
 Board Secretary