

January 23, 2023

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 – High School Principal, Maria Pierce – Rommelt Elementary Principal/Director of Student Services, Michele Loomis – Central Elementary Principal, Dwight Woodley – Director of Innovative Learning/IT, Bill Reifsnnyder – Director of Buildings & Grounds, Eric Briggs – Superintendent, Tom Burkhart – Solicitor, and Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager.

Visitors: Matt Krach, Tara Battaglia, Richard Knecht, Melissa Daily, Charles Haefner, Elyse Schopfer and Mike Reuther – Williamsport SunGazette.

#### **APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion to approve the treasurer's report from November 2022 and December 2022 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

#### **APPROVE BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$2,689,339.48, Food Service Fund in the amount of \$96,843.47, and GO Note 2022 in the amount of \$4,050.00 as funds become available 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.

#### **APPROVE MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of December 5, 2022 and January 9, 2023 as written was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

##### **CHILD BEARING/CHILD REARING LEAVE**

A motion to approve employee #1350 child bearing/child reading leave request from May 1, 2023 through June 2, 2023 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.

##### **OVERNIGHT/OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP REQUESTS**

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

- Jessica Kaledas' overnight field trip request to take two High School Band students to Berwick High School on January 26-27, 2023 for PMEA District Orchestra
- Jessica Kaledas' overnight/out of state field trip request to take the High School Band to Orlando, FL on December 10-15, 2023

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

##### **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AND SWASD**

A motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the South Williamsport Area Education Association and the South Williamsport Area School District regarding professional development was

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

#### **IMPLEMENTATION OF 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CKLA CURRICULUM**

A motion to approve the implementation of 5<sup>th</sup> grade CKLA curriculum beginning in the 2023-2024 school year was moved by Rupert, 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 - RESIGNATIONS**

Dr. Eric Briggs, Superintendent, accepted letters of resignation from the following employees:

- Amanda White from her Food Service Manager position at Rommelt Elementary School effective December 22, 2022.
- Jessica Bauer from her full time 2<sup>nd</sup> shift custodial position at Central Elementary effective January 15, 2023.

#### **EMPLOYMENT – SECURITY STAFF**

A motion to approve James Moser as Event Security Staff for the 2022-2023 school year 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.

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

A motion to approve the following employment was moved by Bachman, seconded by Engel:

- Drama Staff Stipends for the 2022-2023 Spring Musical – Jared Whitford as Director, Designer, and Choreographer at \$3,500; Miki Rebeck as Vocal Coach and Music Director at \$1,750; and Stefanie Welty as Assistant Director and Technical Coordinator at \$2,450
- Winter Coaches
  - Elementary Basketball Volunteers – Alix Fils-Aime, Dustin Isenberg, Robert Petrosky, Jessica Tagliaferri, and Nick Tagliaferri
  - Elementary Wrestling Volunteers – Bob Gardner and Shane Gephart
- Game Workers – Brad Brewer, Aaron Green and Chad Quimby
- Guest Teachers for the 2022-2023 School Year – Craig Shoff

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**

A motion to approve the first reading of Policy No. 200 – Enrollment of Students, Policy No. 202 – Eligibility of Nonresident Students, Policy No. 217 – Graduation, Policy No. 221 – Dress and Grooming, Policy No. 233 – Suspension and Expulsion, Policy No. 251 – Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care, and Other Educational Instability, and Policy No. 810 – Transportation 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 POLICIES – SECOND READING**

A motion to approve the second reading of Policy No. 236.1 – Threat Assessment, Policy No. 805 – Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Policy No. 805.2 – School Security Personnel was moved by Cramer, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

#### **2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR – FIRST READING**

A motion to approve the first reading of the 2023-2024 school calendar 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.

### **2023-2024 PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

Mrs. Jamie Mowrey, Business Manager, discussed the preliminary budget for the 2023-2024 school year. The preliminary budget shows revenues and expenses of \$20,974,194. The preliminary budget is required if the District would like the option of raising real estate taxes above the Act 1 Index using exceptions. The District will qualify for a Special Education Exception. Real Estate Taxes can be increased by 1.06 mills as allowed under Act 1. The Special Education Exception would allow an additional .45 mill tax increase. While the Preliminary Budget will show a full tax increase of 1.51 mills, this doesn't mean that taxes will actually be raised by this amount when we get to the final budget in June. The Preliminary Budget will be voted on at the February 6, 2023 school board meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

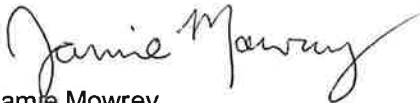
#### **SCOREBOARD PROJECT AT THE BALLFIELDS**

PPL has installed the poles and junction box at the ballfields as specified under Phase I of the project. The District will now begin planning Phase II of the project which will run the electricity to the scoreboards and install the scoreboards.

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

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bachman, seconded by Bukeavich. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey  
Board Secretary