

January 9, 2023

The work session 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, Engel, Hitesman, Miller, and Rupert.

Others Present: Maria Pierce – Director of Student Services/Rommelt Elementary, Michele Loomis – Central Elementary, Dwight Woodley – Director of Innovative Learning/IT, Bill Reifsnyder – Director of Buildings & Grounds, Eric Briggs – Superintendent, Fred Holland – Solicitor, and Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager.

Visitors: Hilarie German, Tara Battaglia, Elyse Schopfer, and Richard Knecht.

ACTION ITEMS

EMPLOYMENT

A motion to approve employment was moved by Bachman, seconded by Miller.

- Transfer Luci Steinbacher from Food Service Worker at Central Elementary to Food Service Manager at Rommelt Elementary effective January 3, 2023 at a rate of \$18.30 per hour per South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association agreement.
- Certified Substitute – Alicia Rossitto
- Classroom Monitor – Rebecca Baker

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

SCHOOL DIRECTOR SEATS FOR THE 2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Mrs. Jamie Mowrey, Board Secretary, updated the School Board about the 6 School Director seats that are up for election during the 2023 Municipal Election. In region 1, there is a 4-year term currently filled by Mrs. Susan Bowman, and a 2-year term currently filled by Mr. Benjamin Brigandi. In region 2, there are 2 4-year terms, currently filled by Mrs. Summer Bukeavich and Mrs. Diane Cramer. In region 3, there are 2 4-year terms, currently filled by Mr. Todd Engel and Mr. John Hitesman. The dates for circulating Nomination Petitions to appear on the primary ballot are February 14 – March 7, 2023. The Primary Municipal Election is May 16, 2023. The General Municipal Election is November 7, 2023.

CKLA DATA REVIEW

Dr. Michele Loomis, Central Elementary Principal, provided an update on student scores from the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year to the middle of the 2022-2023 school year for Kindergarten through grade 4.

PURCHASED PROPERTY DISCUSSION – STORAGE AND DEMOLITION

Dr. Briggs met with the property owner of 421 W Mountain Avenue. The owner has given us permission to store our advanced purchased equipment related to the Central Elementary renovation project while he is still residing at the property. He is hoping to be moved out by mid-Spring. Mr. Bill Reifsnyder, Director of Buildings and Grounds, is currently looking for storage containers to place on the property and obtaining quotes to demolish the house.

TO GO BUCKETS

The District is putting together To-Go Buckets to store in classrooms in case of emergencies. Lowes has donated 30 buckets. Employees have also donated buckets. The Amazon warehouse in Montgomery, PA has committed to donating the remaining buckets and contents.

RIVERWALK PARTNERSHIP – COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUBS

The District has partnered with STEP Riverwalk Center to provide free lessons to senior citizens on how to use their iPhone. Various district clubs are working on the lessons and will go to the Center to teach the senior citizens.

SCOREBOARD UPDATE

The trench for Phase 1 of the electricity to the ballfields has been completed. PPL did not show up to perform their work. Due to bad weather, the trench collapsed. The District is still waiting on PPL to schedule a date; however, PPL has assured the District that the District will not incur any additional cost.

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2023-2024

Dr. Eric Briggs, Superintendent, presented 3 versions of a calendar for the 2023-2024 school year. After much discussion, Dr. Briggs will tweak the calendar and bring it for first reading at the January 23, 2023 school board meeting.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PRESENTATIONS

The building committee will be interviewing various Construction Management companies to determine whether a Construction Management company or a Clerk of the Works should be used for the upcoming renovation project at Central Elementary.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SWAEA

A memorandum of understanding with the South Williamsport Area Education Association regarding payment of graduate credits for employees working towards a teaching certification was presented by Dr. Eric Briggs. After discussion, Dr. Eric Briggs will bring a final version to the January 23, 2023 school board meeting for approval

OLD BUSINESS - GYM PROJECT DISCUSSION

Mr. Todd Engel spoke to the board about options for a full-sized gymnasium. The issue with the gymnasium has been a topic of discussions for both the Central Elementary and the Junior Senior High School renovation projects. McKissick Architects have been able to show options which would involve removing walls of the current gymnasium to allow more space. While no decisions have been made, this will be considered as the District moves forward with discussions.

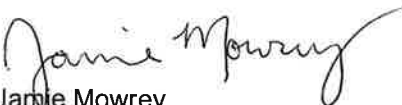
COURTESY TO THE FLOOR

The following visitors spoke about the following topics:

- Elyse Schopfer – To Go Buckets, decision about location of grade 6

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Miller, seconded by Brigandi. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey
Board Secretary