

May 22, 2023

The regular meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order at 6:02 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, Miller, and Rupert.

Others Present: Jesse Smith – High School Principal, Mike Samar – School Police Officer, Dwight Woodley – Director of Innovative Learning/IT, Maria Pierce – Rommelt Elementary Principal/Director of Student Services, Kristin Bastian – Director of Special Education/School Psychologist, Bill Reifsnyder – Director of Buildings & Grounds, Eric Briggs – Superintendent, Tom Burkhart – Solicitor, and Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager.

Visitors: Amanda Caldwell, Brenda Trimble, Richard Knecht, Elyse Schopfer, Charles Haefner, Erin Armond, Melissa Daily, Audrey Bear – Piper Sandler & Company, Damion Spahr – SitelogIQ, Wayne Brookhart – SitelogIQ, Shannon Manning – Nittany Learning Services, Jon Paul Pietraccini – Nittany Learning Services, and Mike Reuther – Williamsport SunGazette.

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion to approve the treasurer's report from April 2023 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$1,656,656.25, Food Service Fund in the amount of \$60,858.91, Capital Reserve in the amount of \$270.00, and GO Note 2022 in the amount of \$206,093.08 as funds become available was moved by Bachman, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-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 April 17, 2023 and May 1, 2023 as written was moved by Brigandi, 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.

STATEMENT

Dr. Briggs read a statement regarding a potential threat and rumors that occurred during the prior week.

NITTANY LEARNING SERVICES

Shannon Manning and Jon Paul Pietraccini from Nittany Learning Services gave a presentation about a Customized Learning Program (CLP) for 7th through 12th grade students. This CLP is a voluntary in-house program that follows the school calendar, provides Tier 1 and Tier 2 supports, and helps foster and enhance the social, emotional, and academic needs of students.

DEBT DISCUSSION

Audrey Bear from Piper Sandler & Company, discussed the next steps needed in order to prepare a resolution which is needed for the issuance of additional debt. The debt resolution will be drafted and presented to the school board for approval at the June 5, 2023 meeting.

SITELOGIQ PRESENTATION

Damion Spahr from SitelogIQ discussed a proposal for Project Management Services for the renovations and additions (alternates) to Central Elementary School.

A motion to accept the proposal from SitelogIQ for Project Management Services at a monthly amount not to exceed \$19,970 was moved by Miller, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

A motion to approve the Health and Safety Plan as required under the ARP ESSER grant reflecting no changes was moved by Bachman, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTION DAY

A motion to approve the Flexible Instruction Day Application for the South Williamsport Area School District for the 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 school years was moved by Miller, 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.

AGREEMENT WITH DIVERSIFIED TREATMENT ALTERNATIVE CENTERS

A motion to approve the Agreement with Diversified Treatment Alternative Centers, LLC (DTAC), a partial hospitalization program, for students with complex mental health concerns was moved by Bachman, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF 2023-2024 PROPOSED FINAL BUDGET

A motion to approve the 2023-2024 proposed final budget with budgeted revenues of \$23,364,046 and budgeted expenditures of \$23,904,498, with real estate millage of 18.60 mills, earned income rate of 1.1%, and real estate transfer tax rate of 0.5%, was moved by Rupert, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

ATTENDANCE POLICY 204.4 – FIRST READING

A motion to approve the first reading of Policy No. 204.4 – Attendance was moved by Bachman, 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.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SCHOOL VAN

A motion to approve the authorization of District Administration to create and advertise a Request for Proposal (RFP) for an additional school van was moved by Rupert, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

JUNE BOARD MEETING DATES

The school board discussed whether board members could attend board meetings via phone call or video call if they are not available to attend the meeting in person.

APPOINT BOARD TREASURER

Board Policy 005 stipulates a treasurer must be appointed in May of each school year to serve for a one-year term beginning the first day in July. Mr. Engel requested nominations for Treasurer. Mr. Miller nominated Mrs. Bachman. Being no other nominations, Mr. Engel closed nominations. All members present voting yes, Mrs. Bachman was elected as Treasurer for the next year beginning in July.

EMPLOYMENT – INFORMATIONAL

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

- Ellen Koser's retirement from her Cafeteria Manager position at Central Elementary effective June 2, 2023
- Adam Rubert's resignation from his Business teaching position at the Junior Senior High School effective June 2, 2023

EMPLOYMENT

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

- Rommelt Secretary – Jodi Nolan for a 10 month/200 day/7.5 hours per day position for the 2023-2024 school year with a starting rate of \$18.02 per hour with benefits in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association
- Cafeteria Manager – Luci Steinbacher's transfer from her Manager position at Rommelt Elementary to the open Manager position at Central Elementary for the 2023-2024 school year
- Long Term Substitute – Alicia Rossitto at Central Elementary for the 2023-2024 school year; filling a position from the start of the school year through February 2024
- Classroom Monitor – Brandi Smith for the 2022-2023 school year
- Spring Coaches – Alexis Schuler as a volunteer assistant softball coach for the 2022-2023 school year.

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

GRADUATION LIST – CLASS OF 2023

A motion to approve the list of graduate candidates for the Class of 2023 was moved by Miller, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

SOUTH CHEER BOOSTER APPROVAL

A motion to approve the South Cheer Boosters as a school affiliated organization, consistent with district Policy No. 915 – School Affiliated Organizations, was moved by Bachman, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Bowman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

There will be an Executive Session after the meeting regarding negotiations and personnel. No action to follow.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bachman, seconded by Brigandi. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey
Board Secretary