

August 21, 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, Brigandi, Bukeavich, Engel, Hitesman, Miller, and Rupert.

Others Present: Jesse Smith – High School Principal, Scott Hill – HS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, Maria Pierce – Rommelt Principal/Director of Student Services, Michele Loomis – Central Elementary Principal, Kristin Bastian – Director of Special Education/School Psychologist, Dwight Woodley – Director of Innovative Learning/IT, Bill Reifsnnyder – Director of Buildings & Grounds, Eric Briggs – Superintendent, Fred Holland – Solicitor, and Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager.

Visitors: Melissa Daily, Sophia Biddle, Charles Haefner, Brenda Trimble, Ashley Frei, Carolyn Dangle, Melissa Yetter, and Mike Reuther – Williamsport SunGazette.

APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion to approve the treasurer's report from July 2023 was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-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 \$2,262,342.21, Food Service Fund in the amount of \$49,045.55, Capital Reserve in the amount of \$17,894.50, and GO Note 2022 in the amount of \$510,001.04 as funds become available was moved by Rupert, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of July 17, 2023 and August 16, 2023 as written was moved by Bachman, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS

TAX EXONERATION DUE TO LERTA

A motion to exonerate Dorothy White Mertz, Tax Collector, from collecting \$4,316.87 for Parcel #51-0020-0512 and \$27,667.87 for Parcel #51-001-214 due to the LERTA previously approved by the school board was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

RELINQUISHMENT OF PROPERTY RIGHTS/AGREEMENT NOT TO UTILIZE LAND

A motion to authorize the Solicitor to prepare documentation whereby the School District will relinquish any rights it may have with respect to an unopened portion of Girard Avenue and other untitled property in return for a quitclaim deed from the three landowners at the southwest corner of West Mountain Avenue and Percy Street in the Borough of South Williamsport for an unopened portion of Lowe Street and Girard Avenue; with the Board President and Secretary having authorization to execute and deliver the documents necessary to complete the foregoing was moved by Miller, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TESTING AGENCY

A motion to approve a not-to-exceed contract for third-party testing to Hills-Carnes Engineering in the amount of \$90,000 based on the unit costs received for the proposal dated August 1, 2023 was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

AUDITORIUM CHANGE ORDERS

A motion to approve the following change orders with Illuminated Integration in relation to the high school auditorium project was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Bukeavich.

- An additional \$27,850 for the furnishing and installation of loose lay with performance pad in all existing carpeted areas of the auditorium.
- An additional \$10,870 to level the existing front two rows of seating to match the height of the aisle concrete.
- An additional \$4,430 for the furnishing and installation of rubber or vinyl tread/riser covers on both stage right and stage left 6-step stairways.

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

APPROVAL OF 2023-2024 CENTRAL ELEMENTARY TSI TITLE I SCHOOL PLAN

A motion to approve the 2023-2024 Central Elementary TSI Title I School Plan was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF 2023-2024 JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL TSI NON-TITLE I SCHOOL PLAN

A motion to approve the 2023-2024 Junior-Senior High School TSI Non-Title I School Plan was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

SUSQUEHANNA COMMUNITY HEALTH & DENTAL LETTER OF AGREEMENT

A motion to approve the Letter of Agreement with Susquehanna Community Health & Dental Clinic, Inc to allow the dental van to visit the school district and provide free dental care to students who need support was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

LYCOMING-CLINTON JOINDER LETTER OF AGREEMENT

A motion to approve the Letter of Agreement with the Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board to allow for a full-time caseworker was moved by Bukeavich, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

LACKAWANNA COLLEGE DUAL ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT

A motion to approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement with Lackawanna College for the 2023-2024 school year to offer one or two courses (Sociology and Composition) at the high school where students will have the opportunity to pay \$300 (\$100 per credit) to earn credits through Lackawanna College that will transfer to any other college or university that accepts the credits was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

2023 FORD F-350 TRUCK

A motion to approve the purchase of a Ford F-350 with dumping stake body, sides and power liftgate for a total of \$79,163, with funds for the purchase coming from the Capital Reserve Fund, was moved by Rupert, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

KITCHEN EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

A motion to approve the purchase of a double combi oven at a cost of \$41,452.16, a full-size pass-thru heated cabinet at a cost of \$11,742.63, and a full-size pass-thru refrigerator at a cost of \$12,074.28, with funds for the purchase coming from the Food Service Fund, was moved by Rupert, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

AUDITORIUM PAINT QUOTES

A motion to approve B's Quality Painting to paint the high school auditorium at a cost of \$14,482 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE POLICIES – FIRST READING

A motion to approve the first reading of Policy No. 006- Meetings, Policy No. 216.1 – Supplemental Discipline Records, and Policy No. 251 – Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability was moved by Miller, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

CHILD BEARING/CHILD REARING LEAVE

A motion approve EE #1281 child-bearing/child rearing leave request from August 31, 2023 through November 21, 2023 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

CO-OP TRACK PROGRAM

A motion to approve Mr. Scott Hill; Athletic Director, to reach out to surrounding school districts regarding a co-op track program was moved by Rupert, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-no, Hitesman-yes, Miller-no, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – INFORMATIONAL

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

- Ed Williams from his Van Driver/Stockroom Attendant position effective July 19, 2023
- Alice Warner from her High School Nurse position effective July 25, 2023
- Mallee Hornberger from her High School Counselor position effective October 8, 2023 or earlier if released by the District
- Deb Shellman from her Central Elementary Nurse position effective August 25, 2023
- Cory Goodman from his Assistant Junior High Girls Softball Coach effective August 10, 2023

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

EMPLOYMENT – 7TH GRADE ENGLISH TEACHER

A motion to approve Sophia Biddle for the 7th Grade English Teacher position at the Jr/Sr High School effective at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, with a salary of \$56,864 based on step M-5 of the 2022-2023 salary schedule; with salary being adjusted when a new SWAEA Agreement has been reached, was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – INSTRUCTIONAL PARAPROFESSIONAL

A motion to approve Luke Laubach as an Instructional Paraprofessional at Central Elementary effective at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year for 6.5 hours per day at a rate of \$13.74 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – HEALTH SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS

A motion to approve Carolyn Dangle and Melissa Yetter as Health Support Staff effective at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year for 7 hours per day, 182 days per year with a starting rate of \$20.05 per hour with benefits in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association was moved by Miller, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – SUBSTITUTES, GUEST TEACHERS, AND MENTORS

A motion to approve the following employment for the 2023-2024 school year was moved by Miller, seconded by Engel.

- Certified Substitutes – Kevin Eck, Phyllis McKernan, Sharon O'Malley, Lindsey Perry, Heather Rogers, Alicia Rossitto, Ann Schopfer, and Marjorie Wonderlich
- Classified Substitutes – Mae Allvord, Chris Gottschall, Johanna Hazel, Julie Kline, Dennis Lowell, and Ken Mundorff
- Guest Teachers – Robin Bernstein and Pat McCormick
- Guest Teachers through Blast IU – Suzanne Bastian, Erica Bolden, Robin Borick, Donna Carey, Barth Carson, Maria Regina Conejo, Morgan Daverio, Lisa Feist, Thomas Gargiulo, Natalie Hoffman, Randy Holmes, Jessica Kachur, Rachel Kling, Christopher Kuriga, Jeffrey LaCoe, David Malkin, Melissa Mitteer-Bradley, Heidi Mnkandhla, Brenna Segraves, Craig Shoff, and JoAnn Welch
- Mentors at a stipend of \$500 each: Rebecca Sones for Dyan Hulslander, Brooke Cohick for Sophia Biddle, Jennifer Kimball for John Peters, Ann Neely for Matthew Masters, and Lisa Arp for Adeline Rothrock

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

EMPLOYMENT – ATHLETIC COACHES

A motion to approve Caleb Snyder as Assistant Boys Soccer Coach at a stipend of \$2,674; Alex Morrow as a Volunteer Boys Soccer Coach; John Peters as a Volunteer Football Coach, Claire Alexander as Assistant Junior High Girls Softball Coach at a stipend of \$2,006, Avery Eiswerth as a Volunteer Junior High Girls Softball Coach, and Cory Goodman as a Volunteer Junior High Girls Softball Coach was moved by Bachman, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – GAME WORKERS

A motion to approve the following individuals as Game Workers at \$30 per game and Game Managers at \$40 per game was moved by Miller, seconded by Bukeavich

- Game Workers – Nancy Bieber, Stacie Bieber, Karen Geise, Jaimee Kopp, Terry Kopp, Fran Kropp, Christy Pinkerton, Heath Barry, Erick Fortin, Ron Hine, Scott Lowery, Craig Kropp, Gary Guerrisky, Dwight Woodley, Eric Ranck, Ned Shaw, Rob Shaw, Emily Wagner, and Cathy Bachman (volunteer)
- Game Managers – Fran Kropp, Karen Geise, Trevor Effen, Matt Bradley, and Manny Tsikitas

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

TRANSPORTATION DRIVERS FOR 2023-2024

A motion to approve the following transportation drivers for the 2023-2024 school year was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bachman.

- Assigned Drivers: Lee Bernstein, Wesley Robey, Sharon Andrade, Nancy Bieber, Joel Henderson, Paul Biblehimer, Charlie Brooks, and Paul Chapman
- Substitute Drivers: Jim Bower, Amy Brooks, Curt Clossen, Keith Doverspike, Lenard Folk, Rich Hawk, Deb Herman, Deb Heydrich, Rachel Heydrich, Shane Heydrich, Cam Kephart, Darryl McHenry, Becky Nettleton, Brandon Nettleton, Julie Ranck, Rex Schrum, Lenard Stroud, Doug Wirth, and Matt Horn.

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

TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE FOR 2023-2024

A motion to approve the 2023-2024 Transportation Schedules was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – INSTRUCTIONAL PARAPROFESSIONAL

A motion to approve Wendy Decker as an Instructional Paraprofessional at the Junior Senior High School effective at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year for 6 hours per day at a rate of \$13.74 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

COURTESY TO THE FLOOR

The following individuals spoke about the following topics:

- Charles Haefner – Kooth
- Connie McLaughlin – bussing, health support professionals

There will be an executive session following the board meeting regarding negotiations; no action to follow.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Miller, seconded by Bachman. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey
Board Secretary