

July 17, 2023

The regular meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order at 6:04 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, Cramer, Engel, Hitesman, and Rupert.

Others Present: 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: Elyse Schopfer, Jason Young, Matt Krach, Cherie Moyer, Gary Moyer, Charles Haefner, Ashley Frei, Jane House, Jason Barrett, Lisa Barrett, John Peters, Bob McCullough – Kooth, Alyssa Sauter – Kooth, and Mike Reuther – Williamsport SunGazette.

APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion to approve the treasurer's report from June 2023 was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-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 \$1,393,150.88, Food Service Fund in the amount of \$60,807.93, and GO Note 2022 in the amount of \$11,960.31 as funds become available was moved by Cramer, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-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 June 19, 2023 as written was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS

KOOTH PRESENTATION

Mr. Bob McCullough and Alyssa Sauter from Kooth presented a pilot program to the District regarding mental health resources for South students. This program has three different modules: a Self-Guided Help module consisting of various articles and resources, a Moderated Forum that uses a clinical team, and Chat Based Counseling Sessions. The program can be offered to students ages 11 – 18; ages 11-13 must have parental consent to participate on the platform.

A motion to participate in the pilot program with Kooth was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDERS

A motion to approve a change order with Steinbacher Enterprises to provide 8" silt sock around the lower portion of the property at the demolition site for an additional \$2,900 was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

A motion to approve a change order with Steinbacher Enterprises to excavate three (3) test pits, and backfill after testing at the demolition site for an additional \$1,750 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

BOOKS BUS

A motion to approve the James V. Brown Library Books Bus to come to Central Elementary school at least once per week to make books accessible to students in the 2023-2024 school year was moved by Bachman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

PURCHASE OF SCHOOL VAN

A motion to approve the purchase of a 2023 Dodge Ram ProMaster 10 passenger van from Rohrer at a price of \$69,700 using funds from the Capital Reserve Fund was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – INFORMATIONAL

Dr. Briggs, Superintendent, accepted letters of resignation from Tara Battaglia from her High School Teaching positing effective July 10, 2023 and Dean Kriebel from his Girls' Basketball Head Coach position effective June 19, 2023.

EMPLOYMENT – BUSINESS TEACHER

A motion to approve John Peters as a Business Teacher at the Jr Sr High School effective the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, with a salary of \$51,716 based on step B-4 of the 2022-2023 salary schedule; with salary being adjusted when a new SWAEA Agreement has been reached, was moved by Cramer, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SWAEA AND JOHN PETERS

A motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the South Williamsport Area Education Association (SWAEA) and John Peters regarding tuition reimbursement of \$3,000 to his prior employer was moved by Rupert, seconded by Cramer. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – FULL YEAR LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE

A motion to approve Matthew Masters as a full year long term substitute for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of \$180 per day plus benefits was moved by Cramer, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-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 Rupert, seconded by Brigandi.

- Girls Basketball – Aaron Green as Head Coach for the 2023-2024 season at a stipend of \$5,056.
- Event Security Staff for the 2023-2024 school year: Greg Forsburg, Brandon Hogue, Richard Knecht, Teri Knecht, James Moser, Robert Perry, Hugh Sprague, Cody Strouse, and Frank Zaydell

JUSTICEWORKS YOUTHCARE BEHAVIORAL ANALYST AGREEMENT

A motion to approve the Behavioral Analyst Agreement with JusticeWorks YouthCare for the 2023-2024 school year at a cost of \$82,294.52 was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

JUSTICEWORKS YOUTHCARE ACT 48 PROGRAM PLACEMENT AGREEMENT

A motion to approve the agreement with JusticeWorks YouthCare for the use of alternative education for disruptive youth for the 2023-2024 school year at a cost of \$89 per seat per school day for regular education and \$97 per seat per school day for special education was moved by Cramer, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EQUITABLE SHARE SERVICE AGREEMENT

A motion to approve the Equitable Share Service Agreement for the 2023-2024 school year with St. John Neumann Regional Academy for Title I services was moved by Bachman, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

INDUSTRY-BASED CREDENTIAL PROGRAMS

A motion to approve an Industry-Based Credential Program where students will have an opportunity to complete certain credentials such as CPR Certification, First Aid Certification, and Mandated Reporter Training was moved by Bukeavich, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Cramer-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

MAINTENANCE ON FOOTBALL FIELD

A motion to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$9,000 for football field upgrades to include sand purchased from Little League International and labor costs from Keystone Natural Turf was moved by Cramer, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-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:

- Jason Barrett – Soccer field/athletic complexes

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 Brigandi, seconded by Bukeavich. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey
Board Secretary