

January 8, 2024

The work session of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order at 6:01 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: Armond, Bachman, Brigandi, Bukeavich, Engel, Hitesman, Miller, Rupert, and Young.

Others Present: Dwight Woodley – Director of Innovative Learning/IT, Bill Reifsnyder – Director of Buildings & Grounds, Eric Briggs – Superintendent, Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager, and Tom Burkhart – Solicitor.

Visitors: Elyse Schopfer, Andy Brown, Dyan Hulslander, Melissa Stahl, Jared Whitford, Rebecca Swales – Baker Tilly, Damion Spahr – SitelogIQ, Wayne Brookhart – SitelogIQ, and Ernie Graham – ELA Sports.

AUDITOR PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2022-2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mrs. Rebecca Swales from Baker Tilley presented the 2022-2023 audit results to the Board of Directors. The auditors have an unmodified (or "clean") opinion on the financial statements and an unmodified opinion on compliance as related to the District's major federal award programs, and no findings related to federal programs.

A motion to approve the 2022-2023 Financial Statement Audit Report as presented was moved by Bachman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Armond-yes, Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – INFORMATIONAL

Dr. Briggs, Superintendent, accepted the letter of resignation for retirement purposes from Dave Rovenolt from his High School math teaching position effective December 31, 2023, and the letter of resignation from Alyssa Noll from her Title I Paraprofessional position effective December 11, 2023.

EMPLOYMENT

A motion to approve the following employment was moved by Miller, seconded by Rupert:

- Central Elementary Principal – Dyan Hulslander at a salary of \$90,000 effective January 9, 2024
- Mentor – Karen Fink as a teacher mentor for Dylan Freeman for the 2023-2024 school year at a stipend of \$500
- Classroom Monitors for the 2023-2024 School Year – Becky Baker, Ashley Frei, Heather Scarborough, and Brandi Smith
- Instructional Paraprofessional – Madeline Hulslander as a Kindergarten Paraprofessional at Central Elementary School at a rate of \$13.74 per hour for 6.5 hours per day effective January 9, 2024 in accordance with the Education Support Professionals Association
- Van Driver/Stock Room Attendant – Micah Zellers at a rate of \$12.04 per hour effective January 2, 2024 in accordance with the Education Support Professionals Association
- Guest Teachers for the 2023-2024 School Year – Kelsey Baysore

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

OUT OF STATE/OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

A motion to Eric Gerber's out of state/overnight field trip request to take varsity wrestling students to First Arena in Elmira, NY on January 12-13, 2024 for a wrestling tournament, and Eric Gerber's overnight field trip request to take varsity wrestling students to Bedford High School on January 26-27, 2024 for a wrestling tournament was moved by Young, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Armond-yes, Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

NONRESIDENT STUDENT

A motion to approve a non-resident student paying tuition to attend the South Williamsport Area School District was moved by Bachman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Armond-yes, Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

CHANGE ORDER APPROVALS FOR CENTRAL ELEMENTARY PROJECT

A motion to approve the following Change Orders for the Central Elementary Project was moved by Bachman, seconded by Rupert.

- General Contract (G-001)
 - COR 002 – Storm Drainage Changes - \$4,786.11
 - COR 003 – Storm Water Chamber Changes - \$20,470.20
 - COR 004 – Additional Painting of Classroom Walls – Phase 1A - \$10,240.54
- HVAC Contract (H-002)
 - COR 003 – Lintels for Phase 1A Wall Penetrations - \$4,265.78
 - COR 004 – Trash Chute Demolition - \$738.98
 - COR 004 – Delete PVC Jacketing on Ductwork – (\$233,000.00)
 - COR 005 – Frame Welding for Skylight Infill - \$847.92
- HVAC Contract (H-003)
 - COR 001 – Boiler Flue Breeching - \$25,941.90
- Electrical Contract (E-001)
 - COR – Service Trench Rebar Elimination – (\$5,000.00)

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

SUPERINTENDENT’S ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM UPDATE & FUNDRAISING DISCUSSION

Mr. Jared Whitford, Drama Director, updated the school board on the high school auditorium construction. Flooring was laid today, with finishing occurring this week. Illuminated Integration will be scheduling times to commission the space for use and to train our staff members on the new equipment that was installed. Final walkthrough will occur the week of January 22, 2024.

ELA SPORTS UPDATE

Mr. Ernie Graham from ELA Sports presented information to the school board regarding Athletic Fields. The survey work is in progress. The stadium area survey field work is completed; the survey basemap should be completed by January 15, 2024. The High School and Park sites topographic mapping is complete, field work is 75% complete, and the survey basemaps should be complete by February 2, 2024. Soils investigation and soils infiltration reports are complete. The soil testing is awaiting lab results.

Phase 1, which consists of professional services and current football stadium renovations (including field, lighting, and grandstand renovations) is estimated to cost between \$995,486.74 and \$1,375,729.05 depending on options chosen. Phase 2, which consists of the construction cost of a running track with synthetic turf field, is estimated to cost between \$3,200,000 and \$3,500,000 depending on options chosen. Phase 3, which consists of football stadium renovations and or new construction of buildings, is estimated to cost between \$600,000 and \$900,000 depending on options chosen.

At the January 22, 2024 meeting, ELA Sports would like to receive direction from the school board on approval of various agreements: the Schrader Group Professional Services Proposal for stadium buildings renovations study and retaining wall structural evaluation; the Hummer Turfgrass Systems budget proposal for natural grass stadium field renovations, the Musco Lighting Stadium Lighting Retrofit to LED proposal, the Stadium Solutions Home & Visitors Grandstand Reconfiguration Options and New Construction proposal, and ELA Sports Agreement for Phase 1 Projects Professional Services. At the February 12, 2024 meeting, ELA Sports would like to have a further discussion regarding the running track schematic design options and cost estimates.

GESA PROJECT PRESENTATION

Damion Spahr from SitelogIQ presented information about a Guaranteed Energy Savings Act Project (GESA) at the High School. A GESA project allows improvements to heating, ventilating, air-conditioning (HVAC) systems, improvements to electrical systems and equipment, including lighting, improvements to plumbing equipment and systems, improvements to building envelope (doors, windows, roofs, façade), improvements to indoor air quality, and an allowance for 15% of the total project to be unrelated to the above categories if the inclusion of the work has economic advantage. This could be painting, room renovations, etc. The Business Office will issue a Request for Qualifications for an Energy Services Company (ESCO) Partner to perform the project using a GESA form of agreement.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Dr. Eric Briggs presented a building project update. At Central Elementary School, Phase 1A has been complete, rooms from the East wing on the second floor have been moved to the West wing of the second floor. Construction has now begun on the East wing of the second floor. Construction of the East addition, consisting of the gymnasium and cafeteria, is ongoing. The next transition is expected to occur over Easter break. Dr. Briggs then presented four renderings of outside color and window trim color from McKissick Architect. The administrative team has decided to move forward with the denim color with blue window trim. For the football field and possible soccer/track facility, updates were given earlier in the meeting by Ernie Graham from ELA Sports. For the High School, updates were given earlier in the meeting by Damion Spahr from SitelogIQ. Finally, Rommelt Elementary has items to consider but nothing official to consider at the current time.

E-RATE CATEGORY 2 FUNDING CONSULTANT

Mr. Dwight Woodley, Director of Innovative Technology & Information Systems, is requesting approval to work with Kristin Van Strein Consulting on the district's E-Rate Category 2 Funding for the 2024-2025 school year. The consultation fees are \$2,500 plus 2% of the committed amount. This is for year 4 of 5 in the current Category 2 funding window. The district is currently eligible for \$308,000 in Category 2 funding with a 60% reimbursable rate. Proposal will be presented at the January 22, 2024 meeting for school board approval.

GIFTED PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Dr. Eric Briggs presented information on Gifted Education, including information from PA School Code, the process for gifted evaluations, and service delivery options. He then shared data from surrounding schools about their budget for gifted education, their service delivery, and their caseload as compared to total student population.

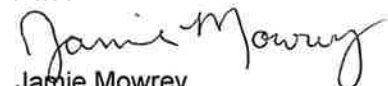
2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

A draft of the 2024-2025 school calendar was presented. After much feedback, Dr. Briggs will consider the feedback and create a revised 2024-2025 school calendar for first reading at the January 22, 2024 meeting.

There will be an Executive Session following the meeting regarding personnel matters. 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 8:34 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey
Board Secretary