

September 9, 2024

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, Rupert, and Young.

Others Present: Jesse Smith, High School Principal, Kim Bollinger, Assistant High School Principal, Dyan Frame, Central Elementary Principal, Kristin Bastian – Director of Special Education/School Psychologist, Dwight Woodley – Director of Innovative Learning/IT, Bill Reifsnnyder – Director of Buildings and Ground, Eric Briggs – Superintendent, Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager, and Fred Holland – Solicitor.

Visitors: Jess Watson, Melissa Daily, Charles Haefner, Hilarie German, Elyse Schopfer, and Matt Courter – Williamsport SunGazette.

APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion to approve the treasurer's report from August 2024 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Young. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE BILLS

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$859,981.93, Food Service Fund in the amount of \$1,145.35, Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$40,257.54, GO Note 2022 in the amount of \$1,027,765.74, and GO Bond 2023 in the amount of \$235,960.00 as funds become available was moved by Rupert, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of August 19, 2024 as written was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS

HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Damion Spahr from SitelogIQ spoke about the High School Project. The final GESA agreement price has settled in at \$9,551,214 which is under the board approved not-to-exceed value. However, the kitchen equipment upgrades as designed will exceed the value. SitelogIQ is working with District administration about the scope of the kitchen to decide how to proceed. Work at the High School will begin in October in restrooms and the current library area.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Dr. Briggs gave an update on projects throughout the District. At Central Elementary, part of the driveway has been paved, window installation is on schedule, building envelope is being worked on during second shift, and the addition is being worked on during first shift. Football field is holding up well; concession stands are still being explored for updating. High school update was provided by SitelogIQ earlier in the meeting. Soccer complex – ELA will come to a future meeting to do a presentation, Dr. Briggs is meeting with the South Williamsport Borough on how to work together if the District chooses to want to build on Borough property.

TIMBERING UPDATE

Dr. Briggs and Mr. Reifsnnyder walked the property last week. It appears that they were able to identify more trees than originally thought. Bidders will be doing a walk through and will be submitting bids soon.

CELL PHONE POLICY DISCUSSION

There will be a stakeholder meeting on Wednesday, September 25, 2024 to review the current cell phone policy.

REVISED 2024-25 JR SR HIGH SCHOOL TSI NON-TITLE SCHOOL PLAN

A motion to approve the revised 2024-25 Jr Sr High School TSI Non-Title School plan was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

APPROVE POLICIES – SECOND READING

A motion to approve the second reading of Policy No. 104 – Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Staff, Policy No. 218 – Student Discipline, Policy No. 218.1 – Weapons, Policy No. 218.2 – Terroristic Threats, Policy No. 801 – Public Records, Policy No. 803 – School Calendar, Policy No. 805 – Emergency Preparedness and Response, Policy No. 805.1 – Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies, Policy No. 806 – Child Abuse, Policy No. 807 – Opening Exercise/Moment of Silence/Flag Displays, Policy No. 904 – Public Attendance at School Events, and Policy No. 909 – Municipal Government Relations was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

PA STUDENT TEACHER SUPPORT PROGRAM

A motion to approve the PA Student Teacher Support Program with PHEAA for the 2024-25 school year was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

OVERNIGHT/OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP

A motion to approve Eric Gerber's overnight/out of state field trip request to take the Varsity Wrestling Team to Elmira NY on January 10-11, 2025 to participate in a wrestling tournament was moved by Rupert, seconded by Young. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – INFORMATIONAL

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

- James Karnes from his 5-hour custodian position at Rommelt Elementary effective September 3, 2024
- Julie Kline from her general food service worker position effective September 6, 2024
- Alicia Porter from her paraprofessional position when a replacement is found.

EMPLOYMENT – STIPENDS

A motion to approve the following stipends was moved by Bachman, seconded by Rupert.

- Senior Class Advisors: Eric Gerber/Brooke Rowles - \$335/person
- Junior Class Advisors: Agnes Coder/Mike Steppe - \$307.50/person
- Sophomore Class Advisors: Amy Pregent/John Peters - \$230/person
- Yearbook Advisor: Kelly Shearer - \$1,700
- Yearbook Business Advisor: Kelly Shearer - \$465
- Builder's Club Advisor: Karen Fink - \$465
- Jr High Yearbook Advisors: Karen Fink/Mike Rodgers - \$465/person
- Key Club Advisors: Hailey Carson/Rachel Knipe - \$465/person
- SADD Club Advisor: Mike Allison - \$930
- FCCLA Advisor: Amy Vance - \$930
- FBLA Advisors: Sophia Biddle/John Peters - \$930/person
- Mini-Thon Advisors: Mike Allison/Mike Rodgers - \$465/person
- Academic Decathlon Advisors: Kyle Essick - \$1,050

- Senior High National Honor Society Advisor: Manny Tsikitas - \$930
- Junior High National Honor Society Advisor: 7th Grade Team - \$465
- Leo Club Advisors: Stephanie Fay/Hilarie German- \$465/person
- Coordinator – Audio Visual: Keith Cremer - \$500
- Academic Department Chairs: Jamie Bloom (Math), Matt Eisley (Science), Jessica Kaledas (Non-Core), Josie Kennedy (Social Studies), and Kelly Shearer (English) - \$750/person
- Transition Coordinator – Rachel Knipe -\$750

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

EMPLOYMENT – HIGH SCHOOL MATH TEACHER

A motion to approve Angela Confair as a high school math teacher with a start date of November 11, 2024 at a salary of \$73,639 based on step M+30-11 in accordance with the South Williamsport Area Education Association Agreement was moved by Bachman, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – FALL PLAY

A motion to approve Jared Whitford as Director at a stipend of \$1,500, Sierra Aichner as Assistant Director at a stipend of \$500, Steve Bergerstock as Set Builder at a stipend of \$500, and Jordan Miller as Technical Director at a stipend of \$500 was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – GUEST TEACHERS, GENERAL SUPPORT ASSISTANT, SUBSTITUTES

A motion to approve the following employment was moved by Bachman, seconded by Young.

- **Guest Teacher Program through Blast IU** – Sheila DuMont and Colleen Shaffer
- **General Support Assistant** – Kimberly Pelt as assigned to Lunch Monitor at Central Elementary effective at September 10, 2024, for 3 hours per day at a rate of \$15.00 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association.
- **Certified Substitutes** – Brenda Trimble
- **Classified Substitutes** – Karen Baier (Cafeteria), Timothy Herritt (Custodial), and James Karnes (Custodial).
- **Guest Teachers** – Lilly Eiswerth

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

TRANSPORTATION DRIVERS FOR 2024-2025

A motion to approve the following transportation drivers for the 2024-2025 school year was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bukeavich.

- Assigned Drivers: Lee Bernstein, Wesley Robey, Joel Henderson, Julie Ranck, Sharon Andrade, Nancy Bieber, Stephanie Messner, Paul Biblehimer, and Charlie Brooks.
- Substitute Drivers: Jim Bower, Amy Brooks, Paul Chapman, Curt Clossen, Keith Doverspike, Leonard Folk, Christina Hamilton, Rich Hawk, Deb Herman, Deb Heydrich, Rachel Heydrich, Shane Heydrich, Cam Kephart, Darryl McHenry, Becky Nettleton, Brandon Nettleton, Kris Runner, Rex Schrum, Dustin Sholley, Bob Smith, Leonard Stroud, Jeremy Wilton, Doug Wirth, and Jeff Yeager.

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

TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE FOR 2024-2025

A motion to approve the 2024-2025 Transportation Schedules was moved by Rupert, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

The school board spoke about the following topics under old business:

- River Rock Presentation for Rommelt Elementary
- Open Board Member position

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Young, seconded by Rupert. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey
Board Secretary