

February 10, 2025

The regular meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order at 6:00 PM in the High School Cafeteria by the President, Todd Engel.

The meeting opened with a Moment of Silence and Pledge to the Flag led by students that qualified for District Band and Chorus.

Board Members Present: Bachman, Brigandi, Bukeavich, Engel, Hitesman, Lewis, Miller, and Rupert.

Others Present: Kimberly Bollinger – High School Assistant Principal, Maria Pierce – Rommelt Elementary Principal/Director of Student Services, Dyan Frame – Central Elementary Principal, Bill Reifsnnyder – Director of Buildings and Grounds, Eric Briggs – Superintendent, Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager, and Fred Holland – Solicitor.

Visitors: Jess Watson, Matt Courter, Andy Brown, and Richard Knecht.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

MID-YEAR SCHOOL DISTRICT REVIEW

Dr. Briggs, Superintendent, presented his mid-year school district review. He covered the District's performance based on the Future Ready PA Index, the Pennsylvania Firefly Student Progress Indicators, Acadience Reading Data for grades K-6, information about teachers graduating from universities, progress with Nittany Learning Services, and State and Federal education updates.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Dr. Briggs, Superintendent, provided a building project update. At Central Elementary, the basketball hoops are on site waiting for installation, the final phase is projected to be complete by the end of April 2025, and punch lists have been completed for the entire project except for the final phase. At the Football field, the grandstand work is complete, the design phase of the concession stands is progressing, and a dye test could not be complete as the grease trap was frozen. At the High School, the former library space should be complete in early March, bathroom work is ongoing, classrooms are being constructed, and work is progressing on the nurse and guidance suites. For the Soccer/Track Complex, the No Rise Certification was approved at the prior board meeting and work is occurring with the South Williamsport Borough on an agreement for using the space at the park.

2025 ELECTION

There will be five School Director positions on the primary ballot on May 20, 2025. Those positions are two 4-year terms for Region 1, one 4-year term for Region 2, one 2-year term for Region 2, and one 4-year term for Region 3. The dates for circulating Nomination Petitions to appear on the primary ballot are February 18, 2025 – March 11, 2025.

ACTION ITEMS

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion to approve the January 2025 treasurer's report was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Lewis-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 \$908,875.44, Food Service Fund in the amount of \$9,537.52, Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$788.75, and GO Bond 2024 in the amount of \$1,916,940.00 was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Lewis-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of January 27, 2025 as written was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Lewis-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

AGREEMENT WITH KEYSTONE/RED ROCK JOB CORPS

A motion to approve the Agreement with Keystone/Red Rock Job Corps to provide placement for students who are on the verge of dropping out to provide a second chance to earn a diploma while learning a trade was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Lewis-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

A motion to approve the District Comprehensive Plan in effect for the 2025-2028 years was moved by Rupert, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Lewis-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

ERATE CATEGORY 2 FUNDING

A motion to approve the eRate Contract bids for the District's network equipment at a cost of \$16,855.95, with \$13,484.76 reimbursed by the eRate Program and \$3,371.19 from District funds was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Lewis-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

A motion to approve the following overnight field trip requests was moved by Miller, seconded by Engel.

- Jessica Kaledas' overnight request to take two high school band students to Warwick High School on February 20-22, 2025 for a District Orchestra performance
- Amy Vance's overnight request to take 11 FCCLA students to Seven Springs Resort in Champion, PA on March 30-April 2, 2025 for the State Leadership Conference.
- John Peters' overnight request to take five FBLA students to Hershey Giant Center on April 6-8, 2025 for the State Leadership Conference.

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

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH WILLIAMSPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

A motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Williamsport Area School District for the Career and Technical Education programs effective for school years 2025-2026 through 2029-2030 was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Lewis-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – SPRING MUSICAL

A motion to approve Jared Whitford as Director of the Spring 2025 school musical at a stipend of \$2,500 was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Lewis-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT – SUBSTITUTE & EVENT SECURITY

A motion to approve Kathleen Miller as a certified substitute and Isaac Bragunier as event security for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year was moved by Miller, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Lewis-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT - COACHES

A motion to approve the following coaches was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman.

- Baseball: Joe Engel, Steve Sennett, and Casey Waller as volunteers.
- Boys Tennis: Theresa Summerson as Assistant Coach at \$2,902.
- Softball: Cory Goodman as Assistant Coach at \$2,856 and Alexis Schuler as a volunteer.

- Track: Matt Deblander as 1st Assistant Coach at \$3,538, Dave Weaver as Assistant Coach at \$2,278; Curtis Anthony, Kerry Taylor, and Jonah White as volunteers.
- Boys Junior High Soccer: Chris Vanaskie as Head Coach at \$2,660 and Alex Morrow as Assistant Coach at \$2,006.
- Girls Junior High Soccer: Jane House as Head Coach at \$2,660, Marc Lovecchio as Assistant Coach at \$2,278, and Tracy Knoebel as a volunteer.
- Game Worker/Manager: Chris Lusk.

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

2025-2026 SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR – SECOND READING

A motion to approve the second reading of the 2025-2026 school district calendar was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Lewis-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There will be an executive session after 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 6:52 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey
Board Secretary