

April 14, 2025

The regular meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order at 6:02 PM in the Large Group Instruction Room in the Junior Senior High School by the President, Todd Engel.

The meeting opened with a Moment of Silence and Pledge to the Flag led by students from the Grades 3 & 4 Elementary Boys Basketball Team.

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

Others Present: Jesse Smith – High School Principal, Kim Bollinger – High School Assistant Principal, Maria Pierce – Rommelt Elementary Principal/Director of Student Services, Dyan Frame – Central Elementary Principal, Kristin Bastian – Director of Special Education, Dwight Woodley – Director of IT/Innovative Learning, Doug Hoffman – School Police Officer, Bill Reifsnyder – Director of Buildings and Grounds, Eric Briggs – Superintendent, Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager, and David Sterngold – Assistant Solicitor.

Visitors: Paula Young, Logan Young, Tara Stryker, Riley Frazier, Deb Frazier, Matt Courter – Williamsport Sun-Gazette, Jess Watson, Tambra Isenberg, Dustin Isenberg, Matt Krach, Elizabeth Sauers, Margaret Casale-Sauers, Don Bower, Mike Morrison, and Jim Moser.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **2025-2026 BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Mrs. Jamie Mowrey, Business Manager, presented the 2025-2026 Proposed Final Budget to the school board which has \$22,954,007 in budgeted revenues and \$23,308,966 in budgeted expenses, resulting in a deficit of \$354,959. There will be a discussion on the budget at the May 5, 2025 meeting.

### **DISTRICT SOLICITOR**

Dr. Briggs discussed the 2025-2026 District Solicitor proposal received from McNerney, Page, Vanderlin & Hall.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion to approve the March 2025 treasurer's report 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 \$3,417,066.95, Food Service Fund in the amount of \$62,844.63, Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$4,852.01, GO Bond 2023 in the amount of \$470,598.06 and GO Bond 2024 in the amount of \$1,102,836.27 was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

### **MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of March 10, 2025 as written was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Young. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

### **DOMESTIC HOT WATER HEATER**

A motion to approve Silvertip Inc's proposal to replace a domestic hot water heater at the high school at a cost of \$42,000, with funds coming from the 2025-2026 Capital Reserve Budget 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.

### **CLOSURE OF ROMMELT ELEMENTARY TO STUDENTS**

A motion to approve the closure of Rommelt Elementary to students effective at the start of the 2025-2026 school year was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

### **SCHOOL RECONFIGURATION**

A motion to approve the reconfiguration of Central Elementary from grades K-4 to grades K-5 and South Williamsport Area Junior/Senior High School from grades 7-12 to grades 6-12 effective at the start of the 2025-2026 school year was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-no, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

### **MCKINLEY ARCHITECTURE PROPOSAL**

A motion to approve the McKinley Architecture Proposal related to a feasibility study for the Rommelt Building at an approximate cost of \$22,500 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.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES GROUP LINKAGE AGREEMENT**

A motion to approve the Community Services Group Linkage Agreement for two years, ending in 2027, 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.

### **THE MEADOWS PSYCHIATRIC CENTER AGREEMENT**

A motion to approve The Meadows Psychiatric Center Agreement for the 2025-2026, 2026-2027, and 2027-2028 school years 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.

### **RIVER ROCK ACADEMY CONTRACT**

A motion to approve the River Rock Academy Contract for two secondary student slots at the Williamsport Campus at a total cost of \$25,578 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Engel. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

### **CHAMPIONS PROGRAM PROPOSAL**

A motion to approve the Champions Programs Proposal for a Summer Program, Before and After School Care, and a Pre-K Program was moved by Bukeavich, seconded by Young. Roll call: Bachman-abstain, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

### **SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER AGREEMENT**

A motion to approve the agreement for School Photography services with Albright Studios LLC for student school pictures, school athletics, and miscellaneous photography effective July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028 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.

### **OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST**

A motion to approve Jessica Kaledas' overnight field trip request to take two band students to Kalahari Convention Center on April 9-12, 2025 for PMEA All-States performance was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Young. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

### **SABBATICAL LEAVE**

A motion to approve a sabbatical leave of absence for employee #651 from January 20, 2025 through June 11, 2025 was moved by Bachman, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

### **UNPAID LEAVE REQUEST**

A motion to approve the unpaid leave request from employee #1357 from May 12, 2025 through June 11, 2025 was moved by Young, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Rupert-yes, and Young-yes; motion carried.

### **EMPLOYMENT – INFORMATIONAL**

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

- Ashley Frei from her Paraprofessional position effective June 11, 2025.
- Isaiah Reed from his Paraprofessional position effective June 11, 2025.
- Greg Forsburg from his Event Security Staff position effective March 21, 2025.

### **EMPLOYMENT – KINDERGARTEN TEACHER**

A motion to approve Riley Frazier as a Kindergarten Teacher at Central Elementary starting with the 2025-2026 school year at step B-1 with a salary of \$53,165 in accordance with the South Williamsport Area Education Association Agreement 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.

### **EMPLOYMENT – SUBSTITUTES, GUEST TEACHERS, ATHLETICS**

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

- Certified Substitute for the 2024-2025 school year: Kaitlynn Davenport
- Guest Teacher Program through Blast IU for the 2024-2025 school year: Lauren O'Malley, Christen Probst, Megan Probst, and Adam Scheibeler
- Rescind of Alex Morrow as a paid Boys Junior High Assistant Soccer Coach due to the co-op program with Saint John Neumann.

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

### **COURTESY TO THE FLOOR**

The following individual spoke about the following topic:

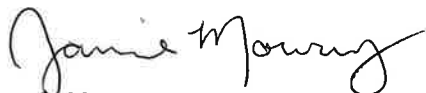
- Dustin Isenberg – School Board recommendations

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There will be an executive session after the board meeting regarding negotiations and legal matters, no action to follow.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Young, seconded by Bachman. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey  
Board Secretary