

CHARTIERS VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES/DISTRICT ASSEMBLY ROOM

JUNE 26, 2018

1.0 Meeting Opening

A. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Charters Valley Board of School Directors was called to Order at 6:09 p.m. by Mr. Mazzarini in the District Assembly Room.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Present

Mr. Tony Mazzarini, President
Mr. Mark Kuczinski, Vice President
Mrs. Julie Murphy
Mr. Eric Kraemer
Mr. Brian Kopec
Mr. Darren Mariano
Mrs. Sandy Zeleznik
Mr. Robert Kearney

Also Present

Dr. Johannah Vanatta, Superintendent
Mr. Scott Seltzer, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Jillian Bichsel, Director of Curriculum
Mr. Don Palmer, Solicitor

Absent

Mr. Jeff Choura

D. Recognitions

None

Dr. Vanatta thanked everyone that was involved in the process of trying to balance the budget and for their hard work.

E. Public Comments

None

2.0 Executive Session

Mr. Mazzarini said there was an executive session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel matters.

3.0 Superintendent's Reports/Presentation

3.1 June Board Report.

Dr. Vanatta said that there were some end of the year things that she spoke to earlier and that she's just planning for next year.

4.0 Solicitor's Report

None

5.0 Approve Minutes

5.1 The superintendent recommends and I so move to approve Meeting Minutes of: May 8, 2018 and May 22, 2018.

**Motion to approve item 5.1 listed above.
MOVED by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Kuczinski.
On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

6.0 Informational Agenda

A. Education Foundation

None

Mr. Mazzarini said that he suggests, moving forward with the new communication piece, that we find someone to work with the board and the Education Foundation.

B. Pathfinder

Mr. Kraemer said that there was a meeting last week. We had the graduation ceremony last week and we graduated 6 students taking our enrollment down to seventy two. But, we also have five new students committed for the fall. The biggest item on the agenda is the roofing issue. We interviewed an architect and we also received an estimate. We've decided to table it and go back to our home districts and talk to our Superintendents and get advice from our Facility Directors and then meet back up.

C. Parkway

None

D. SHASDA

None

E. Finance Committee Report

None

7.0 Consent Agenda

A. Academics

- 7.1 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve teachers, Mark McAleer and Chad Warren, to attend Teachers Air Camp in Dayton, Ohio, June 14 through 17, 2018. There is no cost to the district.
- 7.2 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve Agreement with Bethany College for student teaching and field placement. Mrs. Murphy asked for some details concerning item 7.2.

Dr. Vanatta said that generally we have annual agreements with those secondary institutions for their student teachers. It's basically our local colleges we go through. Those who seek student teachers and place them with us, we have to have agreements with. Sometimes is based on the location of where their students are, they have a student that is a resident of somewhere close to this area so they try and place them within a close distance.

Mr. Mazzarini asked if someone could speak toward the copier agreement.

Mrs. Cordisco said that they received proposals from different groups including our current supplier. With the new proposal, we are at an approximate savings of \$1500 a month. Our proposal to the board is to approve ComDoc and there are additional reasons for that. ComDoc will allow up to five larger volume, multi functions to be installed in the district and they will be replacing twenty two of our multi function printers.

Mr. Kelly said that throughout the district we have around eighty HP laser printers and all they do is print out paper. The forty additional units that we asked to replace of that inventory are your desktop multi functions, they are scanners, copiers and faxes all in one. It's a much better use of devices than traditional laser printers with more functionality.

Mrs. Murphy expressed concerns about the length of the contract, and if there was special language protecting us for evolving technology, asking the board to take another look at this contract and these issues.

Mrs. Cordisco stated the reason for the timeframe was to have these installed prior to school starting and that she didn't think it was that much of a risk giving this type of equipment.

Dr. Vanatta said that time is of the essence and asked a gentleman from ComDoc if he could shed any light on the concerns.

He said he would not be worried about a 5 year contract, 95 to 98% of all educational contracts that we have in place are at least five years. Typically when we see those shorter terms, it's more with a technology driven organization. I think the platform that Xerox is built upon right now, it is open enough that aps can be written. You're getting Xerox's latest and greatest of technology that has just been introduced within the last 18 months. In my opinion, there really isn't a risk at a technology standpoint within a five year term.

Mr. Mazzarini said that from a budgetary standpoint, with any lease, the shorter the length the more expensive it's going to be. From a fiscal view point, from the provider, and the district. We can look at a shorter lease, but it's going to cost you more money.

Mr. Mazzarini stated for public record, item 7.17 is a report that the district sends back to the state of Pennsylvania for our reimbursement program for our construction project. If there are change orders of that cost, that simply goes out and we get reimbursed a percentage of that money.

7.3 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve, on behalf of Our Lady of Grace Elementary School, Step by Step Learning Agreement to use its share of the nonpublic school allocation of Title II federal funds for the purpose of professional development.

7.4 A grant of \$10,000 was received for the Prima School to develop their multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) services. The Letter of Agreement and how the money was spent is attached.

B. Personnel

7.5 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to give the Chartiers Valley Superintendent authority to hire staff over the summer and ratify at the August 14, 2018 School Board Meeting.

7.6 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the Human Resource Report.

C. Budget & Finance

7.7 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the 2018-19 insurance policies as listed on the attached schedule for a total cost of \$320,047.

7.8 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve a 60-month lease with ComDoc at a monthly lease cost of no more than \$10,800, subject to acceptable documentation to the Superintendent and Solicitor.

7.9 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve a lease arrangement with HP Financial Services for the student Chromebooks for a term of 3 years at an annual lease cost of no more than \$24,000, contingent upon acceptable documentation to the Superintendent and Solicitor.

7.10 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve a lease arrangement with HP Financial Services for the teacher laptops for a term of 5 years at an annual lease cost of no more than \$38,500, contingent upon acceptable documentation to the Superintendent and Solicitor.

7.11 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve Bid Supplies in the amount of \$88,451.76 to the vendors with the corresponding amounts as listed on the attached for the 2018-19 school year.

7.12 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to declare the van #7 as surplus and to approve disposition of the van through the 422 Auction.

- 7.13 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the financial summary and bill list as attached.
- 7.14 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve a \$.10 increase in lunch prices and the recommended increases/decrease in the designated a la carte items (as designated on the attachment), starting in the 2018-19 school year.
- 7.15 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to adopt the operations budget for the South Central Area Special Schools Committee for the school year 2018-2019 as set forth in the proposed budget (as attached) totaling \$167,000.
- 7.16 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to authorize the normal, customary and regular payments of salaries, benefits, and other expenses, including construction related payments, for the period after June 26, 2018 Board Meeting but prior to the August, 2018 Board Meeting with the items considered for approval/ratification at the August, 2018 Board Meeting.
- 7.17 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the PDE-approved Plancon Part 1 related to Change Orders 67, 68 and 69.
- 7.18 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to adopt and approve the general fund budget of the Chartiers Valley School District in the amount of \$65,319,031 for the fiscal year beginning the first day of July, 2018 with the necessary revenue for the same period of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, provided by an earned income tax resolution, a deed transfer tax resolution, a realty transfer tax resolution and an occupation privilege tax resolution adopted May 25, 2004, and a realty transfer tax resolution dated January 9, 2007, and by a school tax on real estate which is hereby levied and assessed at a rate of 17.0710 mills or at a rate of \$1.71 on each \$100 of assessed valuation of taxable property, and to adopt and approve the Chartiers Valley School District Budget Resolution dated June 26, 2018. All taxpayers required to pay tax on real estate imposed by the School District shall be entitled to a 2% discount within two months after the date of tax notice, shall be charged penalty of 10% if paid more than four months from the date of notice and all delinquent real estate taxes shall be charged 10% interest unless taxpayers elect to pay such taxes in installments. The Board Secretary is hereby directed to append a copy of the budget to the minutes and to give notice to the Department of Community and Economic Development of the Act 511 taxes as required by law.
- 7.19 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the 2018-19 Capital Reserve Budget in the amount of up to \$275,000, contingent upon certain 2018-19 Capital Expenditures that may be bid and approved at later dates.
- 7.20 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the attached 2018-2019 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution authorizing Act 50 and Act 1 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion for real estate tax deductions for the school year beginning July 1, 2018.

D. Superintendent

- 7.21 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve second reading of Policy #239 – Foreign Exchange Students.

- 7.22 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve second reading of Policy #105 – Curriculum.
- 7.23 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve second reading of Policy #138 – Language Instruction Education Program for English Learners.
- 7.24 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve 2018-2019 Chartiers Valley fundraisers.

**Motion to approve items 7.1 through 7.24, excluding items 7.6, 7.18, 7.19, 7.20 listed above.
MOVED by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Kearney.
On a voice vote, the motion passes 7-1.**

Each individual listed on the Human Resource Report, item 7.6 listed above, was voted on separately. Below are the votes for those individuals.

**Motion to approve the resignation of Luann Kiefner, Middle School Cafeteria worker, effective June 19, 2018.
MOVED by Mrs. Zeleznik, seconded by Mrs. Murphy.
On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Mikaela Duckstein as our Director of Communication and Strategic partnerships, effective July 1, 2018, as per contract negotiated by the Superintendent.
MOVED by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mrs. Zeleznik.
On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Leanne McLean as Middle School Yearbook Sponsor for the 18/19 school year, stipend as per CVFT CBA.
MOVED by Mr. Kraemer, seconded by Mr. Kuczinski.
On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Tim McConnell as Head Girls Varsity Basketball Coach, effective immediately, stipend as per CVFT CBA.
MOVED by Mr. Kuczinski, seconded by Mr. Kraemer.
On a roll call vote, the motion passes 5-3.**

**Motion to approve the retirement of Paula Smith, Transportation Department, effective June 8, 2018.
MOVED by Mr. Kraemer, seconded by Mr. Kearney.
On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion to approve item 7.18 listed above.
MOVED by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mrs. Zeleznik.
On a roll call vote, the motion passes 7-1.**

Mr. Mazzarini asked Mr. Mariano if he wanted to comment on his “no” vote.

Mr. Mariano said that he thinks the district can do a better job watching its finances. I think that a few years ago when the district decided to build buildings instead of investing in their teachers, that was a big mistake and now we’re feeling it. I think every tax payer in the district, certainly doesn’t want their taxes to go up. We’re feeling the repercussions of bad decisions.

Mr. Mazzarini asked, when you say invest in your teachers, what do you mean by that?

Mr. Mariano said that we have gotten rid of teachers every year through attrition. We haven't hired new teachers for these positions. I'm not talking about five or ten, I'm talking about fifty. The biggest effect on a child is the teacher in the classroom. When we raise class size, research shows, learning goes down. We struggle at keeping class size at a minimum amount. I think that getting rid of teachers through attrition was an easy way to balance the budget, but now it's just not the right way to deal with things.

Motion to approve item 7.19 listed above.

MOVED by Mr. Kuczinski, seconded by Mr. Kopec.

On a voice vote, the motion passes 7-1.

Motion to approve item 7.20 listed above.

MOVED by Mrs. Zeleznik, seconded by Mr. Kearney.

On a voice vote, the motion passes 7-1.

8 0 Action/Discussion

None

9.0 Public Comments

None

Mr. Mazzarini said that he would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Mr. McConnell. We welcome your move from the boys to the girls team and we really look forward to seeing the girls program under your leadership prosper. It's going to be a huge change for you, and if you'd like to give us your thoughts, we'd like to hear from you.

Mr. McConnell thanked the board for making him the girls coach. I've been the boys coach for 25 years and I love the boys basketball program, but I think it's time for a change. The opportunity of the girls coaching job being open, I thought it was an opportunity to take a step in a new direction. We will be focusing on success, we won't be talking about wins and losses. I don't think you can judge success by wins and losses. We're going to talk about effort and how hard we work and that will make us successful. We're going to try and win in a manner that will represent the school district well and make you proud.

Mr. Mazzarini said that he would like to take this opportunity to welcome the newest member of our team, Emily Eckman. Welcome and we're excited to have you in our business office and looking forward to great leadership in that department.

Mrs. Cordisco said that this will be her last board meeting. She thanked the board for the opportunity and the administration for working with her. It's been a pleasure and my goal for this district was to deliver a budget where everyone knew what was included in each of the line items. I think we've been successful in doing that. I know with Emily's guidance and leadership, you will be in a great position moving forward. Thank you.

Mr. Mazzarini thanked Mrs. Cordisco for her service, stating that she has served this district well.

Dr. Vanatta stated that the board will not be meeting in July.

Mr. Mazzarini said that in tonight's executive session that a new Communication Director has been brought in, Mikaela Duckstein. We're really excited to have her on board. One of the areas that I think our district is in great need of is better communication amongst ourselves, amongst

our district, our parents and our students. We're excited to hand that to Mikaela and she will be starting July 1st.

10.0 Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m.
MOVED by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Kraemer.
On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Wiseman
Acting Board Secretary.