

December 7, 2017

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18503

The Scranton School Board of Directors held a Special Meeting on Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 7:00PM prevailing time for the specific purpose of the Board Vacancy left by Mr. James Timlin. The meeting was held in the board room of the Administration Building, 425 N. Washington Ave., Scranton, PA.

President Dixon called the meeting to order at 7:00PM with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: By the Secretary.

Present: Directors Casey, Duffy, Gilmartin, Lesh, McAndrew, Oleski, Schuster and Dixon.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following addressed the board regarding cuts in staff as well as cuts in the arts, music, shop, family consumer sciences and library programs. Other individuals spoke but did not sign in.

Vince Amico	Donna Zaleski
Holly Meade	Ro Hume
Bob Petraitis	Timber Ferguson
Joan Hodowantiz	Cathy Muldoon

Director Paul Duffy now reviewed the procedure for the appointment for the vacant seat on the Scranton School Board noting that questions will be allowed by the board, candidates will be sequestered in the caucus room until their name is called, board members will score 0-10 in five different categories which consisted of Professional Experience/Expertise, Community Involvement, Public Speaking Ability, Leadership Ability and Willingness to Collaborate. The score sheets will be passed to the board secretary to tally with Mr. Bill Gaynord. The list will be narrowed down to the three highest scoring candidates, then voting for the highest candidate first. If the first candidate does not receive majority vote then the next highest candidate would be voted on and followed by the third.

The individuals who applied for the vacant seat and signed in this evening were as follows:

(In the order in which they signed in)

Tara Yanni
Tom Borthwick
Dom Georgetti
Greg Popil
Gopal Patel
Alan Mazzei
~~John Tarantino~~ (Mr. Tarantino did not speak)
Paige Gebhardt Cagnetti
James E. Freethy
Chantal Rich
Don Zimmerman

Mrs. Orr now turned over to President Dixon the highest scoring candidate's names.

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President Dixon thanked everyone for the immense interest in the vacant seat adding that it is a good sign for the board to move forward.

Having the highest score, Mrs. Dixon asked for a motion to appoint Paige Gebhardt Cognetti to the vacant seat.

Director Gilmartin made a motion to appoint Mrs. Cognetti, seconded by Director McAndrew and the motion passed unanimously on roll call.

Mrs. Dixon announced that Mr. Alan Mazzei was the second highest followed by Mr. Gopal Patel as the third.

Solicitor Minora swore in Mrs. Cognetti to the Scranton School Board.

Superintendent Alexis Kirijan now announced, thanked and expressed gratitude to the Moses Taylor Foundation for awarding the Scranton School District \$349,000 for the school district to continue to employ our social workers.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Director Oleski, seconded by Director Casey and the meeting adjourned at 9:21PM.

By: _____