

December 4, 2017

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18503

The Scranton School Board of Directors held a Reorganization Meeting on Monday, December 4, 2017 at 7:00PM prevailing time in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 425 N. Washington Ave., Scranton, PA.

Secretary Virginia Orr called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

At this time Mrs. Orr read the following:

In Accordance with the provisions of the School Code, the members of the Board of Directors of the School District of the City of Scranton will meet in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 425 N. Washington Ave., Scranton, PA 18503 on Monday evening, December 4, 2017, at 7:00 P.M., prevailing time for the purpose of reorganization, including the election of President and Vice-President, and the adoption of the rules for the ensuing year.

Roll Call: By the Secretary.

Present: Directors Casey, Douaihy, Duffy, Lesh, McAndrew, Oleski, Schuster and Sheridan.
(Vacant seat left by Mr. Timlin)

Mrs. Orr now presented plaques to Mr. Douaihy, Mrs. Oleski and Mr. Sheridan for their service and dedication.

Mrs. Orr now asked if outgoing members had any remarks.

Mr. Douaihy read from a prepared statement and thanked the Superintendent, Dr. Alexis Kirijan for her commitment and diligence, raising student achievement and retaining fiscal health with overwhelming obstacles.

Mr. Douaihy thanked the administrative senior team for their top notch work, Bill Gaynord, Missy McTiernan, Erin Keating, Joe and Jeff Brazil, Gregg Sunday and Pat Laffey, the district cannot operate without you.

Mr. Douaihy also thanked Solicitor John Minora for helping to educate him on a large spectrum of tasks that he faces on a daily basis and considers their friendship a gift. Mr. Douaihy recognized Board Secretary Virginia Orr, for her ability to work at such a high level of performance that is matched only by her kindness and demeanor.

Mr. Douaihy thanked all of the staff in the administration building for their efforts and great sense of purpose and responsibility to the tasks they shoulder daily and he is consistently impressed with all of them.

Mr. Douaihy spoke of the successes of the district noting curriculum, textbooks, administrative hiring procedure, the Memorial Stadium turf replacement, bidding of the food service and energy contracts and the issuing of library cards to every single student in the district which may not seem like much but it has helped the students tremendously.

Mr. Douaihy concluded by sharing his experience having to sit through and endure Auditor General DePasquale's charade of a performance at City Hall was more than he can contain by comment, that

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it was an absolute travesty that Mr. DePasquale came here and jumped over three sets of audits to belittle and subject this district to criticism that he's ever seen directed at any school district, everyone knows there's a deficit and issues with bus contracts but to belittle this board for something in 2004, 2006, when none of this board had anything to do with it nor the administration and it was done with sarcasm and vulgarity and the district did not deserve it.

Mr. Douaihy congratulated the two new directors on their successful campaigns and wished Mrs. Dixon and Ms. Gilmartin all the best.

Mr. Sheridan now congratulated Mrs. Dixon and Ms. Gilmartin, thanked Mr. Lesh and fellow board members, has gained a lot of friendships over the last eight years and it has been a pleasure working with everyone in the district.

Mrs. Orr now read the following Certificate of Elections in her possession:

Robert Casey, Barbara Dixon, Katie Gilmartin and Mark McAndrew.

The Oath of Office was now administered to Mr. Casey by Judge Julia Munley, Mrs. Dixon by Judge Thomas Munley, Ms. Gilmartin by Judge Julia Munley and Mr. McAndrew by Judge Julia Munley.

Mrs. Orr now reviewed the list of qualified and legally elected Board Members:

Robert Casey	2018-2022
Barbara Dixon	2018-2022
Paul Duffy	2016-2020
Katie Gilmartin	2018-2022
Robert Lesh	2016-2020
Mark McAndrew	2018-2022
Carol Oleski	2016-2020
Thomas Schuster	2016-2020

A motion for Temporary Chair was made by Director McAndrew and nominated Director Schuster, seconded by Director Duffy and the motion passed unanimously on roll call.

Director Schuster asked for a motion for President.

Director McAndrew nominated Director Schuster, seconded by Director Duffy. The motion failed with four (4) affirmative and four (4) negative votes. The negative votes were cast by Directors Casey, Dixon, Lesh and Oleski.

Director Lesh now made a motion and nominated Barbara Dixon for President. The motion was seconded by Director Oleski and passed with five (5) affirmative and three (3) negative votes. The negative votes were cast by Directors Gilmartin, McAndrew and Schuster.

Director Schuster asked for a motion for Vice President.

Director Lesh made a motion to nominate Director Casey for Vice President, seconded by Director Oleski. The motion passed with five (5) affirmative and three (3) negative votes. The negative votes were cast by Directors Gilmartin, McAndrew and Schuster.

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A motion to close nominations was made by Director Duffy, seconded by Director Oleski.

Solicitor Minora now swore in Mrs. Dixon for Board President and Mr. Casey for Board Vice President.

President Dixon asked for roll call for the newly seated Board of Directors of the City of Scranton.

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

At this time President Dixon commented that she is honored to be sitting in the President's seat after years of sitting in this same room throughout her career in the Scranton School District. Mrs. Dixon shared her experience of her journey campaigning, stepping out of her comfort zone meeting new people and making new friends. Mrs. Dixon concluded by saying her hope is that this board can work as a team adding there is a lot of work to do, looks forward to working together, moving forward and thanked everyone for having confidence in her.

Director McAndrew made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Oleski and the meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.

By: _____
Secretary