

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Scranton School Board of Directors held a special meeting for general purposes on Thursday, March 23, 2017 in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 425 N. Washington Ave., Scranton, PA 18503.

President Sheridan called the meeting to order at 6:45pm with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: By the Secretary.

Present: Directors Duffy, McAndrew, Oleski, Schuster and President Sheridan.

Absent: Directors Casey, Douaihy, Lesh and Timlin.

Public Comment:

No one signed in to speak.

The following resolution was submitted by Director McAndrew.

D-1

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Education Committee that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, due to inclement weather, the Scranton School District was closed on March 10, 14, 15, 16, and 17, and

WHEREAS, the state mandates students must receive 990 instructional hours for the secondary schools and 900 hours for the elementary schools per year,

THEREFORE, be it resolved, the Scranton School Board of Directors approves the following calendar changes:

1. Easter Monday, April 17, 2017, ALL students and employees will report to school / work.
2. Friday, June 16, 2017, ALL students and employees will report to school / work.
3. Seniors will attend school on Saturday April 29, 2017 with a special program.
4. Seniors will attend school on May 16, 2017 with a special program. All teachers will participate in scheduled in-service.
5. Therefore, West Scranton High School and Scranton High School graduation ceremonies will be held on the evening of June 16, 2017.
6. Every other grade will remain in school until the close of school on Tuesday June 20, 2017 to meet the required hour count.
7. Elementary and Intermediate Schools will have early release Thursday March 30, 2017 for mandated staff PSSA training. High Schools will remain in session for a full day.

Director Duffy made a motion to table the resolution because there is a potential the state may change the current status of us having to make up those days. Director Oleski seconded the motion.

A discussion was held between directors that there was a discussion regarding the weather related State of Emergency declared by Governor Wolf.

The motion to table passed unanimously on roll call vote.

The following was submitted by Director Oleski.

J-1

The Personnel Committee presents the following resolution for your consideration:

Whereas, the School District of the City of Scranton in an effort to acknowledge the service of veteran employees and to promote cost saving measures in these difficult financial times does hereby offer Scranton School District teachers a retirement incentive as per the attached.

Solicitor Minora announced that the resolution should also include paraprofessionals and recommended a friendly amendment.

Director Oleski read the resolution to include paraprofessionals.

Director Duffy seconded.

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Schuster asked how many people are eligible.

Mr. Bill Gaynord said approximately 60 are eligible.

Director Schuster asked for a number of teachers that would have to be replaced.

Mr. Gaynord said the majority of elementary positions would have to be replaced.

Director Schuster asked if we could narrow it down to get some numbers.

Mr. Gaynord said they could put together a list of who is eligible but they may or may not take the incentive and we cannot know that number until the incentive is offered and who accepts it.

Director Schuster asked Mr. Gregg Sunday about a savings.

Mr. Sunday also said we need to know how many would be retiring and there is no crystal ball to know that until the incentive is offered; this is a tool to get it out there, to offer it and then get a number in order to get to the next step.

A discussion was held between directors and administration regarding starting salaries, our top salaries, whether retirees would be replaced, bidding and filling positions and if this was tabled until the May meeting we still wouldn't have the data we need until we know who is going to take the incentive.

Director Schuster asked what the timeline is if this were tabled.

Mr. Gaynord said the date they would have to submit their letter is April 15th which has already been extended.

The resolution passed unanimously on roll call vote.

The following was submitted by Director Oleski.

N-1

The Special Education Committee hereby recommends the following resolution for your consideration:

Whereas, the School District of the City of Scranton is subject of administration proceedings and civil suits have been filed in ODR No. MW18433-16-17KE, and;

Whereas, the parties have reached a settlement agreement in this matter upon the terms and conditions previously provided for your consideration; and

Therefore be it resolved that the settlement as indicated above be approved upon the terms and conditions as described and the Superintendent or Directors of Special Education are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to consummate the matter.

The resolution was seconded by Director Duffy and passed unanimously on roll call vote.

At this time Director Oleski thanked Mr. Jeff Brazil and maintenance staff for their hard work removing the snow to be ready to open school again after this snow storm.

President Sheridan echoed Mrs. Oleski.

Director Duffy asked for a moment of silence for the recent accidental death of a student from Prescott Elementary.

President Sheridan asked if we have a gun safety program available for our kids and Mr. Duffy mentioned a book that his son brought home from Kindergarten about gun safety.

At this time Mr. Gregg Sunday spoke of the recent meeting with Lackawanna County which was well coordinated, regarding the reimbursement for the snow emergency and that the costs need to be submitted by Wednesday, March 29th and the state of Pennsylvania needs to have \$18.2 million worth of expenses in order to be eligible. Mr. Sunday further explained they may only submit their largest 48 hours of expenses for "Storm Stella", it is not from start to finish.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Director Oleski, seconded by Director Schuster and the meeting adjourned at 7:13pm.

By: _____
Secretary