

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Scranton School Board of Directors held a Special Meeting for Personnel on Monday, June 23, 2014 at 7:00pm prevailing time in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 425 N. Washington Ave., Scranton, PA 18503.

President McGuigan called the meeting to order at 7:03pm with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: By the Secretary.

Present: Directors Casey, Donahue, Douaihy, Martinelli, McAndrew, Oleski, Ruane, Sheridan and President McGuigan.

Absent: All Present.

President McGuigan asked if there were any speakers since no one signed in to address the board.

There being no speakers President McGuigan continued with the meeting.

The following resolution was submitted by Director Martinelli.

The Personnel Committee presents the following resolution for your consideration:

WHEREAS, there was a Board Resolution approved on May 19, 2014 entering into a contract with Mr. Jeff Daniels, 2001 Jones Creek Road, Hallstead, PA, 18222, to provide medical assistance services as assigned. The contract, which is set at \$38,000 for a one year period is renewable for a period not to exceed a total of 14 months from inception, and

WHEREAS, the contract was retro-active to May 5, 2014, however, it has been determined that Mr. Daniels actually began his work a week earlier on April 28, 2014 and therefore is entitled to retro-activity to April 28th and shall be compensated accordingly, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the May 19, 2014 Board Resolution approving the contract with Mr. Jeff Daniels is officially amended to be retro-active to April 28, 2014.

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

ON THE QUESTION:

President McGuigan questioned how this oversight happened and she hopes we pay more attention to detail with the IEPs and what's going on in the Special Ed Department than we did with this.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director Martinelli.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT NO. 1272

RESIGNATIONS

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the following be approved:

RESIGNATIONS:

Administrative:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Jessica Leitzel Aquilina
Supervisor of Elementary Education
Administration Building | Effective: August 20, 2014 |
|--|----------------------------|

Years of Service: 13.6

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

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Sheridan said it has been a pleasure working with Mrs. Leitzel and wished her well.

Director Douaihy agreed with Director Sheridan adding that Jessica has been absolutely stellar and could not ask for better performance and wished her the best.

Director McAndrew believes is a very sad day in the district and we're losing someone very valuable and she will be missed by many and thank you.

President McGuigan expressed that she hates to refer to Mrs. Aquilina like this but she is another one of our dominoes and thanked her for her service.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director Martinelli.

It is the recommendation of the Personnel Committee that the following students be hired to work in the Scranton School District Summer 2014 Employment Program for 4 hours per day/4 days per week at an hourly rate of \$7.25 per hour:

Alli Basalyga
1412 Price Street
Scranton, PA 18504

Isiah Montgomery
1614 Roselynn Avenue
Scranton, PA 18510

Jarod Calpin
1926 Bristol Court
Scranton, PA 18509

Mackenzie McAndrew
521 Cayuga Street
Scranton, PA 18508

Christopher Gentile Jr.
850 North Bromley Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504

Luiz Perez
1109 Stafford Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504

Peter Gentile
2006 Amelia Avenue
Scranton, PA 18509

Stephen Redensky
800 Philo Street
Scranton, PA 18509

Samuel Soares
1109 Swetland Street Apt. 1
Scranton, PA 18504

Deyvone Wise
308 North Sumner Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504

Bryce Yanni
803 Dale Drive
Scranton, PA 18509

Kevin McConologue
233 White Birch Drive
Scranton, PA 18504

Jordan Wyatt
1117 Rock Street
Scranton, PA 18504

Alexander Lozada
124 North Sumner Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504

Andrew Bednarek
1717 Lafayette Street
Scranton, PA 18504

Tristan Richardson
849 North Sumner Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504

Danny Kelly
520 Cayuga Street
Scranton, PA 18508

Nikhil Patel
444 Phelps Street
Scranton, PA 18509

Cory Lynch
100 Abby Way
Scranton, PA 18504

Scott Fletcher
1406 Jackson Street
Scranton, PA 18504

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

ON THE QUESTION:

President McGuigan thanked fellow board members for this resolution and thinks it is a huge step forward because student positions like this have never been voted on before and would like the media outlet to know that these positions were posted for in the school and every student had the opportunity to apply.

Director McAndrew wanted to note on record that the Mackenzie McAndrew on the list is not his daughter.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director Martinelli.

The Personnel Committee hereby recommends the acceptance of the resignation of Superintendent William F. King effective October 1, 2014 per the attached public announcement.

The resolution was submitted by Director Sheridan and passed with eight (8) affirmative and one (1) negative vote. The negative vote was cast by Director Donahue.

ON THE QUESTION:

Director McAndrew wanted to go on record that once again we are losing a valuable asset to the district and he did not come on this board to destroy careers but to help students prepare for theirs.

President McGuigan agreed and that this is a shame this is happening and wished the best to Mr. King and his future going forward.

Before adjournment President McGuigan prepared a statement that she wanted to read this evening:

President McGuigan's statement included her dissatisfaction of some board members behavior outside of the board room and their inappropriate meddling in day to day operations of the Scranton School District.

President McGuigan expressed her views on the following:

- ~ Board member interference in the Superintendent and Central Office Administration duties.
- ~ Reestablishing the chain of command.
- ~ Following PSBA guidelines for best practices for school board members.
- ~ Some board members and the solicitor engaging in unnecessary discussion with the union president and unilateral decision making outside of board meetings and disregard for board policy.
- ~ Communication with union president regarding grievances, teacher negotiations and personnel matters and making grievance decisions outside of a formal hearing.
- ~ Recent grievance that was decided at the state level in favor of the district and the union president filing unfair labor practice action and the board overturned the decision of the state which cost the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- ~ Some board members' disregard of their role in the grievance process which is to serve as unbiased judge and jury.
- ~ Board majority continuously fails to make decisions based on what is right for the children and the taxpayers but instead what is best for the adults who are connected to the board members.
- ~ A board member's focus on putting outdated textbooks in the classrooms and pressured principals and supervisors to order the books going as far as to say "heads will roll if the books are not ordered" despite the fact that teachers and administrators repeatedly said they did not want, did not need and will not use the text books.
- ~ Creating positions, salaries and appointing professional employees outside of the usual process.

- ~ Recent hire of Director of Alternative Education earning \$85,000 who does not hold a Pennsylvania Administrative Certification when our most senior and experienced teachers do not earn that salary.
- ~ Board majority hiring countless people at the direction of one central office administrator with salaries that are not commensurate with their experience or position.
- ~ The hiring of a board member's relative where the board member did not abstain or reveal the relationship of the employee prior to the vote.
- ~ Failing to uphold the developed administrative hiring policy when new Supervisor of Secondary Education was hired who demanded \$7000 higher than salary and does not meet the minimum requirements as defined by the policy.
- ~ Board majority's philosophy of the function of central office administration is antiquated and rooted in the union president's desire to cultivate a device of culture, one in which teachers and administrators are pitted against one another.
- ~ Central office administration should be partnering with principals and teachers to improve teaching and learning and that cannot be accomplished with continued interference of members of the board.
- ~ Decisions that the board makes in staffing, programming, grievances and the spending of taxpayer money does not align with what is best for the children and taxpayers.

In closing President McGuigan called again for all members of this board to put personal agendas aside and put the children and taxpayers of the Scranton School District first.

Director Douaihy now responded that President McGuigan's criticisms are absolutely inaccurate, not truthful and bear no resemblance to the reality and her lack of leadership in the president's seat has been astonishing. Mr. Douaihy added that she is entitled to her opinion but they disagree.

President McGuigan now asked for a motion to adjourn.

Director Douaihy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Oleski and the meeting adjourned at 7:19pm.

By: _____
Secretary