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# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 2007, 6:00 PM  
BERKSHIRE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**REGULAR SESSION  
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

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\* The Board of Education recognizes the value to school governance of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

*In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall provide a period for public participation at every public meeting of the Board and publish rules to govern such participation. These rules are available at each Board meeting. Anyone desiring to speak is asked to make this request in advance. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer. Comments shall be directed to the presiding officer; not to Board members individually. Board Bylaw 0169.1*

## CALL TO ORDER



## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Honkala, Mr. Imhof, Mr. Miller and Mrs. Timmons. Mr. Manfredi was absent.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made by Mr. Imhof, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the agenda as adjusted.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Imhof, seconded by Mr. Honkala, to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2007 Regular Meeting.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

#### **Expenditures:**

Motion made by Mr. Honkala, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$973,416.08 for the month of October and any necessary for November, along with month end reports, including the amended certificate. Total General Fund Certified Revenues: \$10,590,019.11; Total All Other Funds Certified Revenues: \$1,624,839.09.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

#### **Interest Earned:**

The treasurer earned \$17,438.84 in interest in October investments. The total fiscal year-to-date earnings are \$72,767.08. Current interest rate: Star 4.80%, Huntington 5.18%, Charter One 4.68%.

#### **Appropriation Modifications:**

Motion made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Manfredi, to approve all appropriation modifications for November as needed. Total General Fund Appropriations: \$10,457,484; Total All Other Funds Appropriations: \$1,513,019.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

#### **O.S.B.A. Delegates:**

Motion made by Mr. Imhof, seconded by Mr. Honkala, to appoint Mr. Miller as the delegate to the 2007 O.S.B.A. Capital Conference and Mrs. Timmons as the alternate delegate.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

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## **Discussion Item:**

Mrs. Tramont stated that the State Auditors are questioning the use of credit cards by District employees that earn perks. This restriction of use is stated in Travel Policy. This poses a problem for the employees who have to reserve hotels for District business. We may need to consider the use of a District credit card which we no longer have at this time. No action was taken on this matter.

## **VOCATIONAL REPORT**

Mr. Miller reported that a detailed design on the building is being worked on and they are going with a May election run. They need to get better information out prior to the vote.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Facilities Commission will be meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Board Office.

Mr. Miller reported that the Athletic Boosters received notice that Western Reserve Association sent \$50 to the parents of all athletes of fall sports to reimburse them part of the cost. Their goal is to cover the complete cost of athletics.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS (PRINCIPALS' UPDATES)**

Mr. Reedy met with a group of parents and supporters about ways to help school athletics. The Young Astronaut competition was attended at NASA Glen Research Center by 12 8<sup>th</sup> graders in Mrs. Duricky's and Mr. Janssen's Earth Science classes. Berkshire competed against 17 other schools in four main events. Our Shuttle Design Specialists and FIRST PLACE winners were Beth Sebrasky, Darcie Healy and Jill Bartholomew. Our Robotic Specialists and THIRD PLACE winners were Davey Byler, Hallie Anderson and Max Barber. Our Space Spud Missions Team and FOURTH PLACE winners were Amanda Vinecourt, Mitch Aldridge and Sami Sickafoose.

Congratulations to our Cross Country team who took FOURTH PLACE in State. Claire Markwardt broke her leg about 10 feet from the finish line and crawled her way to finish the race. She came home on Sunday from Columbus after surgery to her leg. She was a great inspiration.

Badger Pause – When Mr. Reedy first came to the District, big money was spent on printing this newspaper. With a smaller budget we have decided to print a newsletter on the web. We are working to get more coverage in the local newspapers on Berkshire events. Mrs. Arnold said they had some technical difficulties getting the first newsletter on the web, but Mr. Knapp showed a group how to enter items and things got underway. The main goal is to reach the community and students. The newsletter is located on the left side of the website. They hope to publish a print-version for the holidays with puzzles, games and the best articles from the year. *It was suggested that there could be jr. reporters at the elementary levels.* They are doing a great job!

## **Presentation – High School:**

Every October 23<sup>rd</sup> - Mole Day - is a day dear to chemistry teachers in science classes around the United States and Canada. The students had a lot of fun creating moles and themes to celebrate the concept of Avogadro's number and Moles. A Mole is a unit used in chemistry to measure an amount of a substance, based on Avogadro's number which is  $6.023 \times 10^{23}$ . The projects were voted on for the best theme and mole in the following categories: "The "Moles" Molarious Mole, The "Mole" Creative Mole, The "Mole" The Should Have Stayed in Their Hole, The "Mole" Spectacular Mole, and The Best Looking Mole. It was a very fun and creative way to learn an integral part of chemistry.

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Mr. Knapp highlighted his "Redirecting Our Efforts" newsletter – Issue 3. Mary Barcikowski is retiring as of November 30<sup>th</sup> after many years with the District and we wish her well. Jenny Harrison will take over as of December 1<sup>st</sup> as the interim director of the cafeteria. The Board will hold a special meeting on November 26<sup>th</sup> with County Auditor Tracy Jemison to discuss financing options available and to answer questions from the public. This will be held at 6 pm at the High School Cafeteria.

## **PERSONNEL:**

### *Certified:*

Motion made by Mrs. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Imhof, to approve a One Year Limited Contract (Salary and benefits per current negotiated agreement for Rachel Beardsley-Holbert, as a part time special education teacher.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Honkala, to approve level changes as confirmed by transcripts and according to negotiated agreement for the following teachers:

- Mary Martin, from Level V (MA+15) to Level VI (MA+30)
- Craig Lobmiller, from Level V (MA+15) to Level VI (MA+30)
- Kelly Timmons, from Level IV (MA) to Level V (MA+15)

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Imhof, seconded by Mrs. Timmons, to approve the substitute teachers on County ESC List.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Imhof, seconded by Mrs. Timmons, to approve Aimee Green as the ISR supervisor/permanent sub at High School.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Honkala, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the following home instruction tutors for the 2007/2008 school year.

- Tamara Beitzel
- Carole Donlin
- Michelle Ferraton
- Nancy Harris
- Debbie Zenz

*Mr. Knapp stated these people will only be used if needed.*

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Honkala, seconded by Mrs. Timmons, to approve the Supplemental Contract for Mike Chuppa, Varsity Baseball Coach (dependent on sufficient numbers of students signing up and paying pay to participate fees.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

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*Classified:*

Motion made by Mrs. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Imhof, to accept the Retirement Resignation of Joyce Hopper, Executive Secretary, effective December 31, 2007.

*Mr. Knapp stated that he is the 9<sup>th</sup> superintendent that Joyce has worked with during her 27 years here. She is truly invaluable and will be missed. Mr. Honkala added that Joyce has been valuable to the board, too. She keeps them updated and on track. Mr. Imhof also stated that she will be greatly missed.*

Motion made by Mrs. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Honkala, to approve one year limited contracts as follows:

- Rhonda Lindso, Accounts Payable Secretary  
\$34,000 salary, 260 days, beginning November 26, 2007 through June 30, 2008, salary pro-rated to 156 days for 2007/2008.
- Frank Mihalic, Technology Coordinator  
\$40,000 salary, 209 days, beginning November 6, 2007 through June 30, 2008, salary pro-rated to 153 days for 2007/2008.

*Mrs. Tramont introduced Rhonda to the Board and welcomed her to the District.*

*Mr. Knapp said thanks to Mr. Reedy for moving staff to provide extra funds for the tech position. Mr. Miller stated that when he first moved back to the District there was tech committee. Today we need to have clear direction on money being spent and may need to revisit this idea.*

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Imhof, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the following Supplemental Contracts for 2007/2008 school year. (Sports supplementals are contingent upon sufficient numbers of students signing up and paying participation fees.)

- Steve Orr, Varsity Assistant Wrestling Coach
- Jenny Harrison, Food Service Supervisor, \$600 per month for balance of 07/08 school year.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Honkala, seconded by Mrs. Timmons, to approve Lauri Wright and Karen Ikeler as Classified Substitutes (BCII and TB test completed).

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Honkala, to approve the following reductions in force, made necessary by the transfer of a student.

- Nicole Holschuh, Special Education Assistant
- Barbara Byler, Special Education Transportation Aide

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mrs. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Miller, to waive the first reading of Neola Public Records Policy #8310 and then to adopt Neola Public Records Policy #8310.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

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Motion made by Mr. Honkala, seconded by Mr. Imhof, to approve the following student releases FOR TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES ONLY.

- a.) To Cardinal Local School District from Berkshire Local Schools District:
  - Mackenzie Shaw, 16243 Roselawn Dr., Burton (Ledgemont Elementary)
  - Sabrina Chianese, 13922 Station Rd., Burton (St. Helen's)
- b.) To West Geauga Local School District from Berkshire Local School District:
  - Nicholas Phillips, 11255 Claridon Troy Rd., (St. Anselm's)
- c.) To Berkshire Local School District from Chardon Local School District:
  - Robbie Cola, 11312 Taylor Wells Rd., Chardon

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Imhof, seconded by Mr. Honkala, to resolve that the Berkshire Board of Education will hold a hearing, as required by law, on Monday, November 26, 2007 at 6:00 pm, at the High School Library for the purpose of discussing the potential movement of inside millage to fund capital improvements.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

## Old Business

None.

## New Business

None.

## Open Public Participation

Cindy Ducca wanted to introduce Rachel Beardsley-Holbert, the special education teacher hired tonight.

Jim Koster asked if the movement of the inside millage would create a tax increase. *Mrs. Tramont responded that depending on what transpires with the construction financing issues there is a possibility that we could drop below the 20 mill floor, therefore we must by law hold a public hearing.* Mr. Imhof stated that Mr. Jemison would be there to answer any questions.

## Executive Session

Motion made by Mr. Imhof, seconded by Mr. Miller, to move into executive session to consider the purchase or sale of property with no action to follow.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made: 6:42 pm.

Entered into Executive Session for sale of property: 6:45 pm

Exited Executive Session: 7:15 pm

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## **Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Imhof, seconded by Mrs. Timmons, to adjourn the meeting.  
Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at: 7:17 pm.

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Mr. Tim Honkala, President

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Mrs. Merry Lou Tramont, Treasurer