

**BURRELL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 10, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Burrell School District Board of Directors Agenda Meeting was held in the High School Board Room and called to order at 7:02 PM by President Shank.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Shank asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The following responded to Roll Call: Mr. James D. Kunkle, Mrs. Gretchen V. Beveridge, Mr. Christopher S. Wojcik, Mrs. Linda Woiewodski, Mrs. Genia Koziarski, Mrs. Pam Key and Ms. Tricia Shank. The following members were absent: Dr. Rachel Linderman and Mrs. Deborah Kinosz. Also in attendance were: Dr. Shannon L. Wagner, Superintendent, Dr. Gregory Egnor, Director of Student Services, and Mrs. Jennifer S. Callahan, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**OCTOBER 10, 2017 – IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MEETING – PERSONNEL AGENDA  
OCTOBER 17, 2017 – 7:00 PM – PERSONNEL AGENDA**

Ms. Shank announced the Board's Executive Sessions.

The Board reviewed items scheduled for the regular meeting to be held on October 17, 2017.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ONLY**

There were no comments from the public.

**REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATION AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

**ENROLLMENT REPORT – INFORMATION**

Dr. Wagner reported 2017-2018 enrollment of 1,808, which is an increase over the prior school year.

**PERSONNEL – MS. SHANK (Attachment 10-1A)**

Motion by: Mrs. Beveridge

Seconded by: Mrs. Woiewodski

Roll Call: All in Favor

Motion carried.

**WESTMORELAND INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT – MRS. BEVERIDGE**

Mrs. Beveridge reported that Westmoreland Intermediate Unit will be discussing Clairview School and decisions that need to be made.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Wayne Caprino, 145 Clarendon Avenue

- Requesting Middle School baseball team
- Large Little League numbers
- Baseball as alternative for students who do not play football

Matthew Fisher, 170 Dandyview Drive

- Middle School baseball would fill spring sport gap for boys

Mrs. Beveridge asked what school districts have a middle school baseball team.

Mr. Caprino responded that Deer Lakes, Valley and Kiski have a middle school baseball program.

Dr. Wagner indicated that based on teams that have middle school softball currently, we believe the following have middle school baseball: Pine Richland, Deer Lakes, Valley, Butler, Fox Chapel, and North Allegheny.

Mr. Kunkle asked Mr. Caprino what he believes to be the benefit of a middle school baseball team when a viable Little League program exists with multiple teams. Mr. Kunkle stated he believes the students are not missing any opportunity because of the opportunity available through Lower Burrell Little League and private teams.

Mrs. Beveridge asked what other sports are available for Middle School boys.

Dr. Wagner stated soccer, football, basketball and wrestling are available for Middle School boys. She added that Middle School girls also have four sports available.

Mrs. Key asked the number of students to be expected.

Mr. Fisher indicated there are 43 kids, age 13-14 in Little League. Mr. Fisher stated he believes a middle school team would not replace Little League, but rather the students would play both.

Mr. Caprino added that a middle school team should be limited to 15-18 kids.

Ms. Shank stated that Middle School girls' teams include soccer, softball, basketball and volleyball which indicates there are currently four sports options for each gender.

Mrs. Koziarski asked about the season time frame.

Mr. Fisher responded approximately 12 games in March-April.

Mr. Wojcik stated that football only has 13 eligible players.

Mr. Fisher reported that 20 kids play fall baseball.

Michael Druga, 2645 Chambers Street

- Suggested tryouts would determine players on middle school team

Valerie Wojcik, 136 Illinois Drive

- Proposes team coach not be a player's parent

Ms. Shank asked if there were any other questions.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Beveridge made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Koziarski, that the Board adjourn the meeting at 7:23 PM.

Roll Call: All in Favor.

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Jennifer S. Callahan  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

JSC/lew

**BURRELL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 17, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Burrell School District Board of Directors Board Meeting was held in the High School Board Room and called to order at 7:35 PM by President Shank.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Shank asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The following responded to Roll Call: Dr. Rachel Linderman, Mrs. Deborah Kinosz, Mr. James D. Kunkle, Mrs. Gretchen V. Beveridge, Mr. Christopher S. Wojcik, Mrs. Pam Key and Ms. Tricia Shank. The following members were absent: Mrs. Linda Woiewodski and Mrs. Genia Koziarski. Also in attendance were: Dr. Shannon L. Wagner, Superintendent, Dr. Gregory Egnor, Director of Student Services, and Mrs. Jennifer S. Callahan, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, and Mr. Anthony Giglio, Solicitor.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-**

**OCTOBER 10, 2017 – IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MEETING – PERSONNEL AGENDA**  
**OCTOBER 17, 2017 – 7:00 PM – PERSONNEL AGENDA**

Ms. Shank announced the Board’s Executive Sessions.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Agenda Meeting – September 12, 2017

Regular Meeting – September 19, 2017

**TREASURER’S REPORT** (Attachment 10-1)

**SCHOOL LUNCH REPORT** (Attachment 10-2)

**STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND REPORTS** (Attachment 10-3)

**NURSES’ REPORTS** (Attachment 10-4)

Motion by: Mr. Wojcik

Seconded by: Mr. Kunkle

Roll Call: All in Favor

Motion carried.

## **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – AGENDA ONLY**

There were no comments from the public.

## **REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATION AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **ADMINISTRATION – DR. WAGNER**

#### **STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION**

Dr. Wagner recognized the following:

Brian Querry – Guest conductor for 2017-2018 Armstrong County Sr. High Honors Band Festival

Steve White and Arts Ed Collaborative – Presenting “So You Think You Can Dance in Phys Ed” at Arts & Education Symposium on November 2, 2017 in Harrisburg

Burrell School District Board of Directors – Receiving Leadership Award for exemplary support of the Arts

WPIAL playoffs – Volleyball, Cross Country, Girls Soccer, Girls Tennis

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL REPORT: MAKER SPACE – INFORMATION**

Mr. Ferra discussed the Middle School MakerSpace where teachers bring students together to creatively problem solve and facilitate projects. He reviewed the equipment used, such as 3D printers, 3D doodle pens, Laser Cutter, VEX kits, etc. Mr. Ferra explained that Mr. Reddick supervises the MakerSpace and he works alongside teachers to provide students an opportunity to “create” or “make” projects or class assignments. Examples include ELA classes used hummingbird kits (small programmable robots) to create reenactments of A Christ Carol, IDEA 8 class worked on VEX robotic kits to solve various challenges presented to them, Research and Design 6 classes are researching ways to solve everyday problems that students may encounter.

Dr. Wagner added that the District vision includes students collaborating projects from many sources to make learning relevant.

### **ENROLLMENT REPORT – INFORMATION**

Dr. Wagner reported enrollment of 1,808 from the October 3, 2017 report. She stated this is an increase over the prior school year.



**BUSINESS – MRS. CALLAHAN**

**APPROVAL OF BUDGETARY TRANSFERS (Attachment 10-6)**

Motion by: Mrs. Kinosz

Seconded by: Mrs. Beveridge

Roll Call: All in Favor

Motion carried.

**SET DATE AND TIME FOR THE REORGANIZATION AND REGULAR MEETING:  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017, 7:00 PM**

Motion by: Mr. Wojcik

Seconded by: Dr. Linderman

Roll Call: All in Favor

Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Callahan stated that the Board received three item of communication for review. She stated that one of the communications is the letter from Mr. Wayne Caprino requesting the Board consider adding a Middle School baseball team. Mr. Caprino provided information and the Board asked questions and discussed the request at last week's agenda meeting. Mrs. Callahan asked the Board if they would like to further discuss the matter and/or take any action.

Ms. Shank stated she liked the idea but it creates an additional expense and the District may have to add a girls sport for equality. She added that Middle School swim and track have been requested in the past and those sports did not get added.

Mr. Wojcik asked about individual gymnastics, clubs, etc.

Mr. D'Angelo explained that those are for individual sports. He stated that clubs cannot compete as part of WPIAL sports teams.

Wayne Caprino, 145 Clarendon Avenue

- If the students/parents raise money, would the District support and/or contribute any money
- Questioned if District funds available for new team

Ms. Shank stated that the District would also need to add a sport for girls due to requirements. She commented that Lower Burrell Little League exists which provides several baseball teams for boys to play.

Mrs. Beveridge stated a concern for taking students off school grounds to play at ABC fields. She indicated she would revisit the issue if the coach is a staff member and if students play on school grounds.

Mr. D'Angelo discussed the logistics needed to have Varsity, JV and Middle School teams use the District baseball field at the Middle School.

Michael Druga, 2645 Chambers Street

- 8 teams fit on one field at ABC fields

Scott Whaley, 287 Hastings Drive

- Supports Middle School baseball team

Mrs. Kinosz asked if a Middle School team would compete with Little League and what other teams would it compete with.

Mr. D'Angelo stated that a Middle School team would not compete with Little League. He stated a Middle School team would likely compete with Valley, Deer Lakes, Highlands, Shadyside Academy, and some larger schools.

Jeffrey McLafferty, 3264 Leechburg Road

- Little League accepts all players
- School team would be top players only
- Believes decreased liability because students are participating in a sport

Ms. Shank asked about liability concern and costs associated with transporting students to practice/compete off school grounds.

Mr. D'Angelo discussed student transportation to other locations for athletics.

Mr. Kunkle stated he is very supportive of baseball. He stated his opinion that although the cost seems minimal, he believes the Board is indicating they do not want to spend any money on Middle School baseball program. He indicated that in addition to local Little League, there are also elite baseball leagues for students to participate. He added that many programs are presented to the Board, and even though they would like to consider all programs, the District cannot agree to do everything. Mr. Kunkle stated that cross country is a sport for both girls and boys and that might be a better sport to consider. He stated that he believes Board members do not have interest to sponsor a team at this time.

Michael Druga

- Son started playing football and stopped baseball
- Believes son would continue baseball on Middle School team
- Spring sports not available for Middle School boys

Mr. Kunkle stated baseball numbers and/or success has never been an issue in the District. He added that if a student lost interest in baseball it may not be the right sport for them.



Dr. Linderman stated that a few years ago, a Middle School Swim Club was supported by parents and is no longer a club. She added there are not many options for sports such as swimming, but there are many options for boys to play baseball.

Mr. Caprino stated he was part of the swim club which fell apart.

Ms. Shank stated adding a Middle School baseball team may seem to be low cost, but really the cost would at least double because a girls sport would also need added for equality.

Mr. D'Angelo explained Title IX law requiring equity of athletics for both genders. He indicated that based on enrollment numbers, and adding boys baseball would put the District out of compliance. Adding a non-gender sport such as track is a better option. Mr. D'Angelo indicated he believes the largest hurdle is being out of compliance with gender equity.

Mrs. Kinosz asked about compliance. Mrs. Kinosz added that is difficult to say no to people willing to get involved and helping to keep students involved in programs.

Mrs. Key discussed concerns regarding responsibility of a volunteer coach as opposed to a hired coach.

Dr. Wagner agreed with Mrs. Key's concerns.

Mr. Caprino asked if parents could raise money to give to the District to start the program, would the Board support it?

Mr. Druga stated that no one can force girls to participate in a sport to make numbers more equitable.

Dr. Wagner explained the issue is equal opportunity for both genders.

Dr. Linderman stated the District is required to follow the law regarding equal opportunity.

Mr. D'Angelo explained Title IX equal opportunities in athletics and the requirements. He stated that the District is required to report enrollment figures, the number of students participating per sport, expenditures, Boosters, etc.

Ms. Shank stated that the parents present should be commended for their support of the boys and athletics.

**REQUESTS FOR USE OF BUILDINGS (Attachment 10-7)**

Motion by: Mrs. Kinosz

Seconded by: Dr. Linderman

Roll Call: All in Favor

Motion carried.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS (Attachment 10-8)**

Motion by: Dr. Linderman

Seconded by: Mrs. Kinosz

Roll Call: All in Favor

Motion carried.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Scott Whaley, 287 Hastings

- Suggested parents requesting boys baseball team meet with Athletic Director to discuss issues

Mr. D'Angelo added that he believes it is important for kids to be involved in sports.

Mr. Ferra stated he would like to see a Middle School spring sport and that he believes track would be a better option and would likely attract more student participation.

Mr. D'Angelo stated Middle School track would require some costs for a few pieces of equipment and uniforms.

Mrs. Beveridge asked how many students participate in track.

Mr. D'Angelo reported that track is the District's largest team with 68 boys and 45 girls.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Beveridge made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wojcik, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Roll Call: All in Favor.

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Jennifer S. Callahan  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

JSC/lew