

Joint Board Committee Meeting at 7:30pm in the Board Room (K108) at the Technical High School (Monday, March 28, 2022)

Generated by Diane Pallotta on Tuesday, March 29, 2022

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE - Present 11

Kellie Buchanan, President, Bristol Township School District
 Kim Rivera, 1st Vice President, Bensalem School District
 Donna Getty, 2nd Vice President, Morrisville School District
 John Allen, Neshaminy School District
 Steve Cullen, Bristol Borough School District
 Adam Kovitz, Neshaminy School District
 Donna Kelly, Bristol Township School District
 David Murray, Morrisville School District
 Gary Sanderson, Pennsbury School District
 Heather Snyder, Bensalem School District
 Chip Taylor, Pennsbury School District

MEMBERS ABSENT - Absent 1

Brianna Curran, Bristol Borough School District

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Dr. Leon Poeske, Administrative Director
 Henry DeGeorge, Assistant Director
 Sharon Rendeiro, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 John Haney, I.T. Supervisor
 Ellis Katz, Solicitor (virtual)
 Melanie Gehrens, Superintendent of Record
 Lydia Pringle, Student Representative
 Pat Cumberland, Treasurer
 Theresa Prato, BCTSEA President
 Evan Baker, BCTHS Teacher

1. OPENING OF MEETING

- A. Call to Order
 - The Meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Approve Agenda
- Recommending Action: Kellie Buchanan asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
 - A motion was made by Gary Sanderson, seconded by Kim Rivera, to approve the agenda as presented. Board Members unanimously approved the agenda (11,0,0).
- Opening Remarks by Board President.
 - Kellie Buchanan announced that Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss a Labor issue.

2. REPORTS

A. Student Representative Report

- Lydia Pringle, Senior Class President, read the attached report.

B. Professional Council Report

- Melanie Gehrens announced that Professional Council met on Monday, March 14, 2022 at 1:00pm in the Board Room. The following Superintendents were in attendance: Sam Lee (Bensalem School District), Sean Haines (Morrisville School District), and Rob McGee (Neshaminy School District), and Leon Poeske. Tom Shafer (Bristol Borough School District), Melanie Gehrens (Bristol Township School District) and Thomas Smith (Pennsbury School District) were unable to attend. The following topics were discussed:
 - COVID
 - The group discussed the downward trend in positive COVID cases being reported in Bucks County.
 - ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT
 - The Revised Articles of Agreement have been approved by 5 of the 6 BCTHS sending Districts. Neshaminy School District will have it on their agenda for their March meeting.
 - TEACHER EDUCATOR CRISIS
 - Dr. Poeske is scheduled to testify at the Senate Education Committee hearings in Harrisburg on Tuesday, March 15 regarding the teacher/educator crisis. He plans to talk about the challenge to get Technical instructors due to the discrepancies in salary in industry vs. education; the lack of reciprocity for individuals earning certifications in other states coming to PA; and enhancing the tuition reimbursement/loan forgiveness program. The group in attendance suggested he mention changes to Act 1 in relation to having salaries be more competitive.
 - PRE-APPRENTICESHIP

- Dr. Poeske spoke about the region-wide initiative to have students in select Technical programs earn pre-apprenticeship certifications. Technical schools are working with the state to get this launched and contacting local industries for sponsorship opportunities. BCTHS plans to start with the Electrical Occupations program and expand to other programs in the future.
- BCTHS NEWS
 - BCTHS Fine Woodworking program is the recipient of a \$15,000 grant from Lowe's.
 - BCTHS Drama Club's production of "Legally Blonde, the Musical" will be held on March 18 and 19.
 - The BCTHS Car Show will be held on April 23rd - proceeds benefit student scholarships.
- SUPPORT STAFF CONTRACT
 - The Administration and Joint Board Committee are working on negotiations with the Support Staff union on a new contract for the next three school years.
- OTHER BUSINESS
 - Dr. Poeske mentioned that BCTHS staff will be contacting the sending districts' Transportation departments about an early dismissal for students May 23 and May 24, 2022 due to testing.
 - The meeting adjourned at 1:35pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 11, 2022 at 1:00pm in the Board Room.

C. Administrative Director's Report

- Student Accounting
 - Dr. Leon Poeske, Administrative Director, referred to Student Accounting, the Bucks County Technical High School Newsletter and newspaper articles relative to the Technical School and upcoming events.
 - Dr. Poeske announced that all Districts have passed the Articles of Agreement. He will get the final document out to members shortly.

D. Committee Report

- PIA Committee
 - Kim Rivera advised that PIA met this evening. Discussed were the following:
 - Action Items - Retirements, Employment motions, Summer Employment, Revision to Health and Safety Plan, Legal Consultation Agreement, Continued Participation with two-year commitment to the Delaware Valley Health Trust, TIPS purchasing cooperative, approval of policies #103 and #104, accept supplemental equipment grant, approval of bid, and budget transfers.
 - Discussion Items - Upcoming budget meetings and update on Warm, Safe, and Dry project.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. None

4. MINUTES

- A. Approve minutes from February 28, 2022
- Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the minutes of February 28, 2022 meeting.
 - A motion was made by Kim Rivera, seconded by Donna Getty, that the Board approve the minutes of the February 28, 2022 Board meeting. Board members unanimously approved the motion (11,0,0).

5. FINANCIALS

- A. Financial Reports
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the Financial Reports, subject to audit, as per pp. C1-C16, as attached
 - A motion was made by Donna Getty, seconded by Gary Sanderson, that the Board approve the Financial Reports, subject to audit, as per pp. C1-C16. Board members unanimously approved the motion (11,0,0).
- B. Bills and Electronic Payments
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for payment of the properly approved bills and electronic payments in the total amount of \$553,182.18 and release salaries, subject to audit, as per pp. D1-D18.
 - A motion was made by Donna Getty, seconded by Gary Sanderson, that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for payment of the properly approved bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$553,182.18 and release salaries, subject to audit, as per pp. D1-D18. Board members unanimously approved the motion (11,0,0).

6. OLD BUSINESS

- None

7. NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Donna Getty, seconded by Heather Snyder, to combine and approve motions A-K and approve the following recommendations:

- Action: A. Accept Retirements

- Recommended Action: Recommend the Board accept the retirement of Supervisor, Kevin Gentilcore, effective August 15, 2022.
- Recommended Action: Recommend the Board accept the retirement of Administrative Assistant to the Director, Nancy Greco, effective July 29, 2022.
- Recommended Action: Recommend the Board accept the retirement of Instructional Facilitator, Mary DeSandro, effective June 21, 2022.
- Action: B. Approve Employment
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the following motions:
 - Approve the employment of Samantha Meade, as the Administrative Assistant to the Pupil Personnel Services Supervisor, to replace Amy McKeon, at an hourly rate of \$21.65 (Step 1), with a retroactive effective date of March 23, 2022, pending completion of new hire paperwork and criminal background checks.
 - Approve the employment of Ireland Dopson as a part-time temporary Instructional Facilitator, to replace Nicole Ebinger-Young, at an hourly rate of \$15.50, effective March 28, 2022, pending completion of criminal background checks and new hire paperwork.
 - Approve the employment of Angela Deans as a part-time Security Monitor/Driver, to replace Michael Bachmayer, at an hourly rate of \$14.63, effective March 29, 2022, pending completion of criminal background checks and new hire paperwork.
 - Approve the employment of Kimberly Knorr as a part-time Monitor, to replace Debra Ann Black, at an hourly rate of \$12.56, effective March 29, 2022, pending completion of criminal background checks and new hire paperwork.
- Action: C. Approve Summer Opportunities Are Real (SOAR) Personnel
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the employment of Summer Opportunities Are Real (SOAR) personnel, which will be funded by tuition, donations and fundraising efforts. Tuition includes the approval of Extended School Year (in the Individualized Education Program) from districts for students with special needs. (Refer to Addendum #1)
- Action: D. Approve Revisions to the BCTHS 2021-2022 Health and Safety Plan
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the revisions to the 2021-2022 Bucks County Technical School Health and Safety Plan. (Refer to Addendum #2)
- Action: E. Approve Legal Services Consultation Agreement
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the Legal Services Consultation Agreement between Sweet, Stevens, Katz and Williams LLP and Bucks County Technical High School, per the attached Legal Services Consultation Agreement, during the 2022-2023 school year, for a fee of \$6,500. (Refer to Addendum #3)
- Action: F. Approve Continued Participation
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the continued participation in the Delaware Valley Health Trust with a two-year commitment to the Trust beginning July 1, 2022 and continuing through June 30, 2024.
- Action: G. Approve TIPS Purchasing Cooperative
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the participation in the TIPS National Purchasing Cooperative.
- Action: H. Approve Policies
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the following policies:
 - Policy #103 - Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students
 - Policy #104 - Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affective Staff
 - Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Bullying/Hazing/Dating Violence/Retaliation Report Form
 - (Refer to Addendums #4,#5,#6)
- Action: I. Accept Grant
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the acceptance of the 2021-2022 Pennsylvania Department of Education Supplemental Equipment Grant, Project #FA-757-0019, in the amount of \$119,753.52.
- Action: J. Approve Bid
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the Bucks County Technical High School bid for a Water Jet Cutter to OMAX Corporation for the 2021-2022 school year in the amount of \$29,304.00, based on the lowest responsible bidder. (Refer to Addendum #7)
- Action: K. Approve Budgetary Transfers
 - Recommended Action: Recommend the Board approve the budgetary transfers for the 2021-2022 budget in the amount of \$9,788. (Refer to Addendum #8)

Board members unanimously approved the motion (11,0,0).

8. CORRESPONDENCE

9. OTHER BUSINESS

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Toni Aquilone, Neshaminy School District spoke about Graduation Date and coordination of dates with the sending districts.

11. NEXT MEETING:

- The next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

12. ADJOURN

- A. Adjourn
- Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn
 - A motion was made by Adam Kovitz, seconded by Heather Snyder, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:47 p.m. Board members unanimously approved the motion (11,0,0).