

GREENSBURG SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2023

PRESENT:

Mr. Brian Conway
Mr. Frank Gazze
Miss Lynn Jobe
Mrs. Emily Miller
Mrs. Robin Savage
Mrs. Heather Shearer
Mr. Stephen Thomas (via phone)

ABSENT:

Mr. Jonathan O'Brien

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Dr. Kenneth A. Bissell, Superintendent
Mrs. Allison Willis, School Board Secretary
Mr. Lee Demosky, Solicitor

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. James Baker, Coordinator of Technology Integration & Student Information
Mr. Anthony Barbato, Hutchinson Elementary School Associate Principal
Mr. Kevin Bringe, Director of Human Resources & Online Learning
Dr. Justine Federico, Metzgar Elementary School Principal
Mr. Ray Francis, Middle School Associate Principal
Mrs. Ashley Kertes, Associate Administrator to the Superintendent & Community Outreach
Mr. Todd McMillen, Coordinator of Student Services
Mr. Matt Sofran, Greensburg Salem Education Association Representative
Mr. Christopher Thomas, Nicely Elementary School Principal
Mr. David Zilli, High School Principal

NEWS MEDIA

Jeff Himler, Greensburg Tribune Review Newspaper Reporter

Approximately seven (7) citizens of the community.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Jeffrey Metrosky School Board Vice-President, called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 pm. Mrs. Ashley Kertes called the Roll, which is indicated above.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

An Executive Session of the Board was held prior to the Board Voting Meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 6:00 pm to discuss legal and personnel matters. The Regular School Board Meeting of February 8, 2023 convened at 7:00 pm.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Robin Savage gave an update on student Rubbee Stillwagon and her efforts in raising money for the Blackburn Center. As of February 8, Rubbee had surpassed her goal of raising \$6,000 to purchase period products to donate to the Blackburn Center for women who are victims of domestic violence. This is thanks in part to the donation drive that Rubbee held outside of the Hempfield Sam’s Club on Saturday, February 4th.

VISITORS

Mr. Justin Aion, district resident and parent, addressed the board regarding Board Policy 805.2 – School Security Personnel. The second reading of this policy was on the evening’s meeting agenda for approval. Mr. Aion reference page 4 of 7, which reads as follows: School police officers shall possess and exercise the following duties:[37] 1. Enforce good order in school buildings, on school buses or vehicles owned or leased by the district, and on school grounds. Mr. Aion urged the Board to be very careful with the wording, ‘enforce good order’, and said that it is very loosely defined and open to interpretation.

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made Savage/Miller to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 11, 2023.

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative.

SEE ATTACHMENTS 1 – 11

DISCUSSION ITEMS AND PRESENTATIONS

Greensburg Salem sophomore Natalia Backos was in attendance with her parents and dog Boozer to be recognized for her achievements at the National Dog Show in Philadelphia. On behalf of the Greensburg Salem School District, Dr. Kenneth Bissell presented Natalia with a Certificate of Achievement and thanked her and Boozer for making Greensburg Salem proud.

Dr. Bissell informed the Board that Mrs. Ashley Kertes and Mr. David Redinger have been working with the Greensburg YMCA to help organize an after school program for 8th grade students to get them engaged in after school activities and visit local businesses. Mrs. Ashley Kertes added that this is a pilot program but the YMCA would like to kick off an official program in the fall.

SEE ATTACHMENTS 12 - 13

FINANCIAL MATTERS: REPORTS

A motion was made by Savage/Miller to accept the following financial reports for December 2022, items 3.1 - 3.8: Treasurer’s Report; Tax Collection Report; Grant Report; Financial Reports for the General Fund; Financial Reports for the Capital Project Fund; Financial Reports for the Food Service Fund; Middle School Activity Fund Report; High School Activity Fund Reports.

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative.

SEE ATTACHMENTS 14 - 33

FINANCIAL MATTERS: NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Thomas/Conway to accept the following financial reports, items 4.1 – 4.4: General Fund Disbursements; Food Service Fund Disbursements; General Fund Bill List; Capital Projects Fund Bill List

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative.

SEE ATTACHMENTS 34 - 116

FEDERAL PROGRAMS REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

BOARD REPORTS

Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center (CWCTC) – Mrs. Robin Savage gave the CWCTC report. She announced a reminder that that CWCTC application portal is now open for any 9th or 10th grade student who is interested in attending. Interested students should speak with their guidance counselor and visit the website to begin the application process. An Elementary Open House will be held on March 1st where kids may sign up for the programs they are interested in. She asked Mrs. Kertes to share it on the school district Facebook page and website. Adult education at night is growing and having more classes than anticipated.

Westmoreland Intermediate Unit – Nothing to report.

Greensburg Salem Education Foundation (GSEF) – Miss Lynn Jobe gave the GSEF report, reminding everyone that the purse and cash bash will take place on March 11 at Marion Hall. Anyone interested in donating a basket may contact Sheila Brumley.

Greensburg Community Development Corporation (GCDC) – Nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee – Mrs. Emily Miller gave the Education Committee report. The committee held a meeting on January 30 where they reviewed the District’s comprehensive planning process. She announced that the process has been put on hold due to orders from the state, but Dr. Nedley will have more details soon.

Facility Committee – Mr. Jeff Metrosky gave the Facility Committee update. He announced that Dr. Bissell and team are wrapping up their tours with Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC).

Policy Committee – Mrs. Emily Miller gave the Policy Committee report. The committee held a meeting on January 30, where the second readings of the policies on this evening’s agenda were discussed. There was much discussion about the Trauma Informed Approach.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – PERSONNEL

All appointments are pending proper governmental clearances, certification, and/or medical records as required by the District.

CORRECTIONS

A motion was made by Savage/Jobe to approve the following corrections to be made to the motions from the January 11, 2023 Board meeting as listed:

1. Recommend approval to amend Motion 9.3.1 and 9.3.2 from the January 11, 2023 Board Voting Meeting to reflect the correct rate for Bachelor's - Step 1 is \$54,221.
2. Recommend approval to amend Motion 9.8.1 and 9.8.2 from the January 11, 2023 Board Voting Meeting to reflect the correct rate for Bachelor's - Step 1 at 80% is \$43,376.80.

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

RESIGNATIONS

A motion was made by Conway/Jobe to accept the following resignations:

1. Valerie Tantlinger, Custodian
2. Tracy Myers, Lunchroom Supervisor
3. Kristy Valotta, Lunchroom Supervisor
4. Nicholas Diehl, Baseball HS Assistant JV Coach
5. William Wisniewski, Football HS Assistant Coach
6. Tyler George, Track MS Assistant Coach
7. Jeremy Lenzi, Track HS Assistant Coach
8. Matthew Boe, Track MS Head Coach
9. David Keefer, Strength & Conditioning Coach

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

LEAVES

A motion was made by Savage/Conway to grant the following leave(s) per the Family & Medical Leave Act, not to exceed 60 workdays:

1. Employee 680

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

APPOINTMENTS: MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAL

A motion was made by Savage/Miller to hire the following individual for the custodial/maintenance position listed, with compensation set per the contractual agreement with Maintenance and Custodial Workers, Local 627, or otherwise set by Board policy:

1. Mark Lukasic, Custodian - \$17.00/hour
2. Kevonna Parker, Lunchroom Supervisor (Hutchinson) - \$8.00/hour

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

APPOINTMENTS: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS, CLASSROOM ASSISTANTS, NURSE ASSISTANTS

A motion was made by Conway/Miller to hire the following individual(s) for the support staff position(s) listed, with compensation set per the Board policy for Administrative Assistants, Classroom Instructional Assistants, and Nurse Assistants:

1. Kristen Eversole, Nurse Assistant - \$23.50/hour
2. Allison Roman, Nurse Assistant - \$23.50/hour

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

APPOINTMENTS: ATHLETICS

A motion was made by Thomas/Jobe to hire the following individuals for the athletic positions listed at the supplemental rates negotiated per the contract with GSEA or otherwise set by the Board:

1. Caitlin Kravulick, Softball HS Assistant Coach - \$3895
2. Jeremy Lenzi, Track MS Assistant Coach - \$2753
3. Ryan Hayden, Baseball HS Assistant Coach - \$3954
4. Braden Hoffer, Baseball HS Assistant JV Coach - \$3253
5. Nicholas DeMary, Baseball MS Head Coach - \$3011
6. Rich Bowen, Football HS Assistant Coach - \$6608
7. Braden Hoffer, Football HS Assistant Coach - \$6608
8. Ryan Hayden, Football MS Head Coach - \$4920
9. Scott Steele, Track HS Assistant Coach - \$4800
10. Tyler George, Strength & Conditioning Coach - \$24.00/hour

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SUPPLEMENTALS, SUBSTITUTES, VOLUNTEERS, ADDITIONS TO THE BUS DRIVER LIST, RESIGNATIONS, ADVERTISEMENTS

SUBSTITUTES

A motion was made by Conway/Gazze to hire the following individuals as substitutes for the district:

1. Lucas Ali, ASSIST Teacher (Hutchinson ES) - \$29.50/hour, retroactive to 1/11/2023
2. Billie Jo Crouse, ASSIST Teacher (Hutchinson ES) - \$29.50/hour, retroactive to 1/31/2023
3. Justyne Vuckovich, Nurse Assistant - \$18.00/hour
4. Peter Cofrancesco, Custodian - \$15.00/hour

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

VOLUNTEERS

A motion was made by Conway/Savage to accept the following individual as a volunteer coach/sponsor for the 2022-2023 school year:

1. Moe Bolen, HS Softball
2. Rick Koebuck, HS Softball

VOLUNTEERS CONT'D.

3. Randy Naggy, HS Baseball
4. Patrick Boyer, HS Baseball
5. Steven Saunders, HS Baseball (JV)
6. Nick Diehl, HS Baseball (JV)
7. Jacob Hoyle, MS Baseball

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

ADDITIONS TO THE BUS DRIVER LIST

A motion was made by Jobe/Shearer to approve the following additions to the list of bus drivers for DMJ Transportations, Inc. for the 2022-2023 school year:

1. Robin Booker
2. Amanda Stouffer
3. Tom Sidun

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

ADVERTISEMENTS

A motion was made by Thomas/Miller to retroactively advertise for the following job vacancies within the district:

1. Football HS Assistant Coach
2. Baseball HS Assistant Coach JV
3. Baseball MS Head Coach
4. Track HS Assistant Coach
5. Track MS Head Coach
6. Track MS Assistant Coach
7. Strength & Conditioning Coach [spring]
8. Lunchroom Supervisors [All Elementary Schools]

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – FINANCE

TAX REFUND

No action was taken on this agenda item.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – CONTRACTS/CONTRACTED SERVICES

AGREEMENTS

A motion was made by Savage/Shearer to approve the agreement between Greensburg Salem School District and The Meadows Psychiatric Center in the event a student from Greensburg Salem is hospitalized at The Meadows Psychiatric Center during the 2023-2024 and/or 2024-2025 school year.

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SEE ATTACHMENTS 117

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – BOARD POLICIES

A motion was made by Shearer/Savage to update Board Policy 610: Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation to reflect the bid and quote thresholds set for 2023 as contained herein.

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SEE ATTACHMENTS 118

A motion was made by Savage/Conway to approve the second readings of the following Board Policies:

- 1.) 146.1: Trauma-Informed Approach
- 2.) 218.3: Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault
- 3.) 236.1: Threat Assessment, 252 Dating Violence
- 4.) 252: Dating Violence
- 5.) 800.1: Electronic Signatures/Records
- 6.) 805.2: School Security Personnel
- 7.) 816: District Social Media

A discussion followed.

A subsidiary motion was made by Miller/Conway to vote for each individual item separately under agenda item 12.2.

A discussion followed.

Voting Aye: Conway, Gazze, Miller, Thomas
Voting Nay: Jobe, Savage, Shearer, Metrosky
Abstaining: No one.
Absent: O’Brien

Tie vote 4 – 4; motion fails.

A motion was made by Savage/Shearer to approve the second readings of the following Board Policies:

- 1.) 146.1: Trauma-Informed Approach
- 2.) 218.3: Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault
- 3.) 236.1: Threat Assessment, 252 Dating Violence
- 4.) 252: Dating Violence
- 5.) 800.1: Electronic Signatures/Records
- 6.) 805.2: School Security Personnel
- 7.) 816: District Social Media

Voting Aye: Conway, Gazze, Jobe, Metrosky, Savage, Shearer, Thomas
Voting Nay: Miller
Abstaining: No one.
Absent: O’Brien

Motion passed 7 – 1.

SEE ATTACHMENTS 119-158

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – BOARD POLICIES CONT’D.

A motion was made by Savage/Conway to approve the second reading of the following Board Policy:

- 1.) 210.2: Use of medical marijuana by students.

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SEE ATTACHMENTS 159-160

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – STUDENT MATTERS

A motion was made by Miller/Shearer to add the following school picnic dates to the 2023-2024 school year calendar:

1. Monday, June 10, 2024 – Kennywood School Picnic
2. Friday, June 21, 2024 – Idlewild School Picnic

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

A motion was made by Miller/Conway to approve up to five (5) qualifying students, accompanied by sponsors Mary Logan and another educator to be determined at a later date, to compete in the Pennsylvania High School Speech League State Championships at Bloomsburg University on March 18-19, 2023 at an approximate cost to the district of \$1,740.00.

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SEE ATTACHMENTS 161

A motion was made by Thomas/Shearer to reject the application to reapply for student number 312790.

Voting Aye: Conway, Gazze, Jobe, Metrosky, Miller, Savage, Shearer, Thomas

Voting Nay:

Abstaining: No one.

Absent: O’Brien

Motion passed 8 – 0.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

A motion was made by Gazze/Jobe to approve the following conferences/workshops requests:

- 1.) Recommend approval for up to five (5) Greensburg Salem educators to attend Semper-Fi Odyssey, February 27 - March 3, 2023. At a cost not to exceed \$2,400.00 per person and will be paid through the use of PCCD funds for safety, security, and mental health.
- 2.) Recommend approval for Frank Sundry to attend the Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Association Conference at Hershey Lodge from March 21-24 at a cost of \$685.98

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT - FACILITIES/FACILITIES USAGE

A motion was made by Conway/Miller to approve the following facilities usage requests:

- 1.) Salem Township Gymnastics to use the High School gymnasium for their gymnastics show from 3:00-10:00 P.M. on Friday, June 2, 2023.
- 2.) Recommend approval to allow the Boys' Soccer Boosters to host a "Roarin' Into Spring" Soccer Tournament at Offutt Field on March 25 from 10am-3pm.
- 3.) Recommend approval of the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit to use the Middle School Auditorium for the Rachel’s Challenge Program from 5:45 – 8:00 pm on Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Dr. Ken Bissell announced that the next Board Discussion meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 in the Administrative Office Staff Development Room.

The next Board Monthly Voting Meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 in the John N. Scales Legislative Meeting Room at the Middle School.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Savage/Conway to adjourn the meeting.

Section 508 vote: All eight Board Members present voted in the affirmative.

The Regular School Board Meeting of the Greensburg Salem School District Board of Education held on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 beginning at 7:04 pm at the Middle School in the John N. Scales Legislative Meeting Room was adjourned at 7:28 pm.

ATTEST:

Allison Willis, School Board Secretary