
MINUTES OF THE MILLVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023

The Millville Area School Board held their regular meeting on Monday, June 26, 2023 in the Millville Jr./Sr. High School Library beginning 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

The following Board members answered roll call: William Berger, Brynn Clark, Susan Farr, Michael Farrell, Greg Hemsarh, Gena Maize, Heather Mausteller, and Susan Myers, and Jessica Whitmoyer via ZOOM.

Also present were Joseph Rasmus, Whitney Holloway, Dee Davis, Bonnie Gregory, Jeremy Winn, Edward Sanders, Matthew McWilliams, Noah Adams, and Chelsea Rosenberger.

GUEST RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS

Kayleen Jenkins, Khloe Faatz, Wendy Faatz, Emily Bloom, Gwen Utt, Laura Koons, and Megan Hippenstiel signed the register but did not wish to speak.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

High School – Mrs. Gregory

- Mrs. Gregory had previously submitted her report but wanted to add a few items. She commented that the transition with Mr. Jeremy Winn is going well. Additionally, she wanted to thank all of the staff members involved with the Class of 2023 Graduation Ceremony for their hard work in that time and with the end of the year activities. Next, Mrs. Gregory wanted to thank the Millville Community for their generous donations to the Graduating class by way of scholarships and awards.
 - Mrs. Myers wanted to thank Mrs. Gregory for filling in as the High School Principal this past school year.

Elementary School – Mr. Sanders

- Mr. Sanders had also previously submitted his report but wanted to highlight a few items as well. He wanted to thank all the staff for the success with the end of the school year activities, stating that he was grateful it all came together so well. Then, he shared that the district has received the preliminary PSSA results which are a little higher than last year. He was hopeful that the new Math Interventionist position would be helpful for this in the future.
 - Mr. Hemsarh commented that he saw there is a place on Sapphire where PSSA scores could be updated for each student so that parents can view them. However, it had not been updated for some time. He asked if this could be put into Sapphire for review by parents.
 - Mr. Rasmus answered that yes, it could definitely be put into Sapphire for parents to see.

Director of Student Services – Mrs. Davis

- Mrs. Davis submitted her report for the consideration of the Board previously. She explained that they made it to the end of a very busy school year and was hopeful that in the coming year there would be more substitute coverage in the department. Also, she explained that the district is getting prepared to start the Extended School Year program in the beginning of July.
 - Mrs. Mausteller asked about the status of the Filebank boxes.
 - Mrs. Davis answered that they have not yet been able to work on it much. However, she shared that many of the boxes, upon review, may be able to simply be disposed.

Technology – Mr. Adams

- Mr. Adams had also previously submitted his report for the Board, adding that the end of the year is busy with the collection of all devices, checking them for damage, and getting ready for the next school year.

Buildings and Grounds – Mr. McWilliams

- Mr. McWilliams previously submitted his report, commenting that it was a busy time for the summer. He added that the Maintenance department has been busy switching out the water fountains, switching the air filters, and waxing the floors in the buildings.

School Psychologist – Mrs. Longacre

- Mrs. Longacre had previously submitted her report, and no additional questions were asked.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

CMAVTS – Mr. Berger

- Mr. Berger gave an update on the CMAVTS Construction project, adding that they were about a week behind schedule. He also shared that the Executive Director Interview process would be held in Millville School District on July 12, 2023.

CSIU – Mrs. Myers

- Mrs. Myers shared that she attended the June meeting and that the CSIU is looking at the potential of putting in a solar field down there. Additionally, she shared that the IU updated the Board of Directors about their current and upcoming programs and that they always share the offer for the districts to take advantage of their resources.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The monthly financial reports were previously submitted for the consideration of the Board, and no additional questions were asked.

BOARD MINUTES

June 12, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

A motion by Brynn Clark and seconded by Greg Hemsarth that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Millville Area School District June 12, 2023 board meeting minutes. The motion carried by voice vote. 9 Yea; 0 Nay; 0 Absent

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures – June 26, 2023

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve June 26, 2023 general fund expenditures in the amount of \$313,365.18. The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Pay Remainder of June/July Expenditures

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Greg Hemsarth that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve allowing the Business Manager to pay the remaining June expenditures along with the July expenditures with the final approval at the next board meeting.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

NEW BUSINESS

Long Term Disability

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by William Berger that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve a 2-year rate hold from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025 to approve CM Regent Solutions as the carrier of long term disability at a rate of 0.39/\$1,000.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

CSIU Guest Teacher Agreement 23-24

A motion by Susan Farr and seconded by Gena Maize that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the agreement between the CSIU 16 and Millville Area School District for the CSIU to provide guest teacher substitute services for the 2023-2024 school year, not to exceed a cost of \$500.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

CSIU ELECT Program Authorization

A motion by Brynn Clark and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the application certification form by the CSIU 16 to write a grant on the behalf of Millville Area School District for the Education Leading to Employment and Career Training (ELECT) program.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Property Tax Agreement between MASD and First Columbia Bank and Trust Co.

A motion by William Berger and seconded by Greg Hemsarth that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Property Tax Agreement between the Millville Area School District and First Columbia Bank and Trust Co. whereby the bank will accept tax collection payments from residents of Madison Township, Greenwood Township, Pine Township, and Millville Borough on behalf of the Millville Area School District for a \$1950 annual fee.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

School Tax Certifications and School Tax Duplicate Requests

A motion by Brynn Clark and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve charging \$10 per parcel payable to The Millville Area School District for each school tax certification or school tax duplicate bill request for each parcel requested effective July 1, 2023.

- Mr. Hemsarth asked if this rate was comparable with other school districts and if it be higher.
- Mrs. Holloway answered that the rate varies from district to district, adding that it could be reconsidered for the next school year.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Returned Check Fees

A motion by Michael Farrell and seconded by William Berger that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve charging a \$35 fee payable to The Millville Area School District for each check that is returned from the bank.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Electric Stove and Kitchen Supplies Donation Acceptance

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by William Berger that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve acceptance and acknowledgement of a donation of an electric stove and kitchen supplies for usage in the Family and Consumer Science classroom by the Millville High School Senior Class of 2023.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Weight Training Machines Donation Acceptance

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve acceptance and acknowledgement of a donation of Weight Training Machines for usage in the High School Weight Room by Geisinger Medical Center.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Donation Approvals

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the disposals/donations of an obsolete electric stove currently located in the Family and Consumer Science room and of outdated weight training machines currently located in the High School Weight Room.

- Mrs. Maize asked why this needs to come before the board, considering it to be an operational item.
- Mr. Rasmus answered that these items are all paid for with taxpayer dollars, therefore, the donation or disposal must be approved by the Board. However, he added, in the future, these items could be combined into one motion.
- Mrs. Myers added that approving these items clears the district from concerns of liability in the case that someone got ahold of the items with malicious intentions.
- Mrs. Clark agreed that this approval practice should be reconsidered, especially if the district has a policy in place regarding purchase and disposals of items.

After the discussion, the motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Heller's Gas Propane Fuel Provider

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board approve Heller's Gas to provide propane fuel for the District, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the rate of \$1.25 per gallon.

- Mrs. Mausteller asked if the district now owned all of the propane tanks.
- Mrs. Holloway answered that yes, but before last year, we did not. However, we purchased the one remaining tank last year.
- Mrs. Maize asked if this was a contract.
- Mrs. Holloway answered that it is not a contract but rather a bid sheet submitted after requests for proposals were sent out.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Heaps Container Service, LLC Refuse Removal

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board approve Heaps Container Service, LLC for refuse removal for the 2023-2024 fiscal year with a bid of \$825 per month during the school year and \$600 per month during the summer. Additional pickups will be \$35.

- Mr. Berger asked if the cost changed for the upcoming school year.
- Mrs. Holloway answered that no, it had stayed the same.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

CMAVTS Interviews Facility Use

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Greg Hemsarth that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve permission for Columbia Montour Area Vocational Technical School representatives and members of the Joint Operating Committee to use the High School Library and classrooms for the purpose of Executive Director Interviews on Wednesday, July 12, 2023.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Out of District CTE Enrollment

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the enrollment of Gracie Book (Grade 9) and Anastasia Girton (Grade 9) within the Agricultural Mechanization (01.0201) CTE program at the Central Columbia School District at the designated tuition rate for the 2023-24 School Year. In the event that the MASD student disenrolls from the aforementioned CTE program of study or deviates from the prescribed scope and sequence of the approved program of study, their enrollment status will be reconsidered.

- Mrs. Clark asked if these students would need to return to Millville for athletics.
- Mr. Rasmus answered that yes, that was put into the policy last year.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Sapphire Agreement

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the subscription agreement with Sapphire Software for a five- year contract with only one increase of 6% in the 2023-2024 year and the remaining four years holding with no increase at all.

- Mrs. Maize asked if this platform was being utilized across the board.
- Mr. Rasmus answered that this is the district's information system, and it is used for all grades, attendance, and all offices are utilizing it.
- Mrs. Maize then asked if it was being utilized as a communication platform.
- Mr. Rasmus answered that as far as individual communication, that would not be completed in Sapphire. However, for comments on grades, keeping attendance, global communications, etc., it is used.
- Mrs. Maize commented that she is not sure if it is not being used faithfully throughout the year and that it was not helpful if teachers are only putting in information at the end of the marking period.
- Mr. Rasmus clarified that the district does have a communication log if grades are below a certain point in Sapphire and that grades are expected to be put in periodically.

After the discussion, the motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Resolution Supporting HB 132 - Cyber Charter Reform

A motion by William Berger and seconded by Brynn Clark that the Millville Area School Board approve the Resolution Supporting House Bill 132 calling on meaningful reform to the current payment structure for cyber charter schools in Pennsylvania.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

PERSONNEL

Administrator Merit-Based Increases

A motion by Susan Myers and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve merit increases for Act 93 Administrators and the District Business Manager in a manner consistent with recommendation of the Superintendent.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

School Employee Driver Approval

A motion by Michael Farrell and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve employee ROSS STERNHAGEN, as a driver of Millville Area School District vehicles.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Math Interventionist

A motion by Susan Myers and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve appointing HEIDI BRANDT as the Math Interventionist in the Elementary School in the 2023-2024 school year, to be funded by ESSER grant subsidy.

- Mrs. Clark commented that Mr. Sanders believes this will be helpful but asked how many students would this person be able to see regularly.
- Mr. Rasmus answered that there would be a schedule based off the students' individual testing data. He shared that the intervention time would most likely happen in the Activity period or a flextime where students could be pulled as well. Additionally, the Math Interventionist could potentially push into the group math time to help with small group instruction or pull out students as necessary. At this point in time, there was not a set number for the small group, adding that it would depend on the classroom size and needs of the classroom.
- Mr. Hemsarth then asked if the funding for this position would run out after the 2023-24 school year, how would the district pay for this position in the future.
- Mr. Rasmus answered that we do not currently have a plan but would be looking into funding avenues to continue this position in the future.
- Mr. Hemsarth raised his concern about the possibility of not finding the funding in the future to sustain the position.
- Mr. Rasmus answered that he could not forecast how useful it will be, but the district would exhaust every avenue to find the funding.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 8 Yes; 1 No (G. Hemsarth); 0 Absent

Board Treasurer

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board approve BRYNN CLARK, as Board Treasurer through the end of her term.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 8 Yes; 0 No; 1 Abstention (B. Clark); 0 Absent

Resignation - Yaple

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board accept the notice of resignation from AMANDA YAPLE as Elementary School Teacher, effective immediately.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Jr. High Girls Basketball Volunteer Assistant Coach

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Susan Myers that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve DONNA DAVIS, as a Junior High Girls Basketball Volunteer Assistant Coach, for the 2023-24 winter sports season, clearances on file.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Volunteer Assistant Cheer Coach

A motion by Susan Myers and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve AMANDA EGLI, as a Volunteer Assistant Cheerleading Coach, for the 2023-24 winter sports season, clearances on file.

- Mrs. Clark asked if the volunteer coaches could be chosen by the head coach for the sport, provided the head coach has already been approved by the Board.
- Mr. Berger and Mrs. Myers commented that their concern with that would be the district's liability if not every personnel is approved by the Board in the case where something happens.
- Mrs. Clark shared her belief that much of this could be covered through Administrative policy instead of always through the Board.

- Mr. Rasmus shared his concern for the district and for parents if not every staff member, paid or not, was approved by the Board.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Security Assigner

A motion by Susan Myers and seconded by Greg Hemsarh that the Millville Area School Board retroactively approve RACHEL VERSTRAETEN, as security assigner, for the 2022-2023 school year at a rate of \$200.

- Mrs. Mausteller asked if this rate was consistent with the rate given to the previous security assigner as well as if the position was posted for applicants.
- Mr. Rasmus answered that this was consistent with past practice and that the position was indeed posted in the fall with no applications received.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 8 Yes; 1 No (H. Mausteller); 0 Absent

Bloomsburg University Student Teacher Approval

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Myers that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve Bloomsburg University Student Placements: Student teacher, ANTOINETTE CERMINARO (Early Child (PK-4)) with co-op teacher TIFFANY ANDERSON from August 22, 2023 through December 6, 2023; YAMILETTE PACHECO (Special Education PK-12) with co-op teacher EMILY BLOOM from August 22, 2023 through October 13, 2023; GRACE SMIALEK (Special Education PK-12) with co-op teacher DONNA KRAMER from August 22, 2023 through October 13, 2023; and EMILY CULVER (Special Education PK-12) with co-op teacher DANIELLE FRITZ from August 22, 2023 through October 13, 2023.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Girls Basketball Volunteer Coach

A motion by Greg Hemsarh and seconded by Brynn Clark that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve MIRANDA PELL as a Girls Basketball Volunteer Assistant Coach, for the 2023-24 winter sports season. Clearances on file.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

Unpaid Leave

A motion by Susan Myers and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve (5) five unpaid leave days, July 9 - 14, 2023 for employee 996.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Absent

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Farr to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m. Immediately following the meeting, the Board held an Executive Session for personnel matters and for the annual Safety and Security Report from the Superintendent.

Chelsea Rosenberger
Assistant Board Secretary