

March 27, 2023

**SCHUYLKILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
929 Lakeshore Drive  
Leesport, PA 19533-8631**

**MINUTES**

**March 27, 2023**

- 1.0 The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board President, David E. Moll, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School.**
- 1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**
- 1.2 ROLL CALL**  
Members Present: Robert M. Dempsey, Nicoleen M. Kleffel, Linda R. Lash, George H. Mertz III, G. Dane Miller, David E. Moll, Bryan J. O'Donnell, Alfonso F. Rossi (arrived at 7:04 p.m.)  
  
Board Member Paul L. Bendigo was not physically present but participated and voted via speakerphone.  
  
Secretary: Linda R. Lash  
  
Recording Secretary: Susan A. Christman  
  
Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Cathy Taschner, Casey Blankenbiller, Dr. Melissa Brewer, Robin Brightbill, Toni Crater, Stephanie Deibler, Jennifer Gabryluk, Jacqueline Rivas, Michael Sobczak
- 1.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
**Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 27, 2023, as presented.**  
  
**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**  
  
**Motion passed unanimously.**
- 1.4 EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
Mr. Moll reported that the Board met on March 20, 2023, prior to the Committee meetings, for legal matters and personnel matters.
- 1.5 RECOGNITION**  
The Board is pleased to recognize the following individuals for their accomplishments:
- |                               |                      |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| <u>Athletics</u>              | <u>Music Program</u> |
| Colin Stoudt - wrestling      | Ian Luckey           |
| Ben Bitting - swimming        | Andrew Kerper        |
| Angela Leshner - swimming     | Chad Gangewere       |
| Gabe Martin - swimming        | Thea Gangewere       |
| Megan Raifsnider - swimming   | Megan Raifsnider     |
| Nya Solvino - swimming        |                      |
| Charlotte Wallace - swimming  |                      |
| Leiland Wisniewski - swimming |                      |
- 2.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**
- 2.1 PRESIDENT – *David E. Moll***

No report.

**2.2 SECRETARY – *Linda R. Lash***

No report.

**2.3 BERKS COUNTY I.U. BOARD – *Linda R. Lash***

Mrs. Lash reported that Miss Dana Carter, middle school special education teacher, has been nominated for the Annie Sullivan Award. The ceremony will be held on Wednesday, April 5 at the BCIU. The next COLA meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 11 with guest speaker Mrs. Hannah Barrack, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials (PASBO). The Commonwealth of PA budget summary was released with proposed education highlights which include new funding for school-based mental health block grants and new funding for environmental repairs and upgrades in schools. Also included were proposed funding increases in basic education, special education, Pre-K Counts, Career and Technical Education, and Early Intervention. They are currently in the process of doing the BCIU Executive Director's evaluation.

**2.4 BERKS CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER – *George H. Mertz III***

Mr. Mertz stated that every three years the Pennsylvania Builders Association Workforce Training and Education Committee reapproves the BCTC construction programs for another three years. They received a grant for \$3,418 for the BCTC's advertising art and design technology program to purchase a die sub-lamination printer to complement the program in the area of printing and graphics. Mr. Mertz shared a video that gave an overview of the BCTC campus, and another video explaining the BCTC's involvement in building a handle for the NASA Space Station.

**2.5 TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE – *David E. Moll***

Mr. Moll reported that the committee's next meeting will be on Thursday, March 30, 2023.

**2.6 PA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION LIAISON – *Linda R. Lash***

Mrs. Lash noted that PSBA Advocacy Day will be held virtually on April 18, 2023. A webinar will be presented on April 4, 2023, at 6 p.m. on improving school safety and security and will include a live panel discussion.

**2.7 SCHUYLKILL VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION – *Robert M. Dempsey***

Mr. Dempsey reported that their last meeting was on March 15. They are still in the process of getting their 501(c)(3) status reinstated. They continue to fill positions on the board with two prospective members attending the March meeting. There was also discussion of a future fundraising activity.

**3.0 PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Louis Shucker, Bern Township - SV Reading Program

Beth Hoover, Bern Township - Board Meeting Location, Security, Building Conditions

**4.0 BOARD**

**4.1 Motion To Add an Agenda Item**

The Board is requested to consider and approve a motion to add an agenda item to consider and approve the award of emergency generator contracts to the selected contractors, subject to the contractor signing the contract and submitting the required bonds and insurance certificates. Notice to proceed will be issued once all contracts are submitted, required bonds and insurance certificates are presented and reviewed by the solicitor. Item will be added under 9.0, Buildings and Grounds.

**Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by George Mertz to approve a motion to add an agenda item to consider and approve the award of emergency generator contracts to the selected contractors, subject to the contractor signing the contract and submitting the required bonds and insurance certificates. Notice to proceed will be issued once all**



contracts are submitted, required bonds and insurance certificates are presented and reviewed by the solicitor. Item will be added under 9.0, Buildings and Grounds.

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**4.2 Other (Old/New Business)**

Mr. Mertz stated that there was a speaker at the February Board meeting who spoke about Panthers-on-Parade, the condition of the stage and on-line ticket sales for the play. The reason the district is not doing online ticket sales this year is due to the fact that the company we had used took a fee on all online transactions and also a fee for the tickets that were sold in the school. This year's contract had terms that stated it could cancel our production, which was unacceptable, and therefore there will be no online sales. There were also comments about the stage splintering and rotting. Mr. Mertz noted that in 2010 the Board approved \$451,913 for an auditorium refurbishment including refinishing the stage floor, and at that time they painted, added lighting, sound boards, new carpet and a new projection system. Mr. Blankenbiller noted that he had walked the entire stage to check for splinters and any other deformities and was unable to find any defects, however there are some spots that are taped. Mr. Mertz added that the stage should be checked for any defects after the POP production is complete, and Mr. Blankenbiller stated that was the plan. He also stated that out of 932 auditorium seats only one is damaged and has been removed for repair.

**5.0 SUPERINTENDENT**

Monthly Reports

**5.1** The following monthly reports have been provided to the Board:

- 5.1.1** Enrollment Year-To-Date
- 5.1.2** Principals' Dashboard Reports

Other (Old/New Business)

**5.2** Dr. Taschner congratulated seniors Alyssa Armpriester and Delmarie Santos who recently competed at the regional Science Olympiad tournament. She also thanked Mr. Worrell for his efforts in preparing them and accompanying them to the competition. Dr. Taschner thanked Gary Wenzel, senior, for his recent work on the Panther Podcast. He has been interning with Mrs. Manzer and has been doing a great job highlighting some of our students at the high school. Our high school student council members visited the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on March 22 to answer any questions they might have about the high school. Also coming up this week on March 31 and April 1 is the POP production of *Mamma Mia!* Dr. Taschner thanked the many individuals that it takes to make the spring musical a success. She also had the pleasure of attending the 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school biography reception on March 24 and congratulated the students on all of their hard work. Dr. Taschner congratulated Miss Dana Carter for being nominated for the Annie Sullivan Award as the SV representative. In addition, the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students took a field trip to Harrisburg which included a guided tour and a chance to sit in the House while it was in session. Dr. Taschner added that we are excited about our Panthers Read programming at the elementary school. SV places a significant importance on ensuring that our children become excellent readers. In this program every student will read and receive a copy of the same book, which this year is "*A Boy Called Bat*."

Dr. Taschner reviewed some of the questions she's received in the past few months in regard to: our new ESL teacher, Mrs. Deborah Hill, the mice issue at the middle school, bathroom closures at the high school, the leak at the elementary school, safety protocols, and staff resignations.

**6.0 POLICY, PERSONNEL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**

***Summary of Committee Deliberations – George H. Mertz III***

The Policy, Personnel and Public Relations Committee met at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2023, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 17, 2023.

***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

**Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:**

- 6.1** Approves the amendment to the 2023-24 school year calendar. A teacher in-service day will be held the afternoon of June 6, 2024.
- 6.2** Accepts, with best wishes for the future, the following resignations due to retirement, effective with the last day of the 2022-23 school term, unless otherwise noted:
  - Ms. Shannon Lewis, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at the Middle School
  - Mrs. Christine Wysocki, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at the Middle School
  - Mrs. Karen Degler, Kindergarten Teacher at the Elementary School
- 6.3** Accepts, with regret and best wishes for the future, the following resignations:
  - 6.3.1** Ms. Rebecca Johnson, School Psychologist, effective on or before May 4, 2023.
  - 6.3.2** Dr. James Whitaker, School Psychologist, effective April 14, 2023.
- 6.4** Approves the employment of the following (all elections are contingent upon receipt and district approval of all necessary pre-employment forms, certification, state-mandated physical examinations, clearances, etc.):
  - 6.4.1** Ms. Deborah Hill, ESL Teacher at all buildings, Bachelor's, Step 13, \$64,397 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Traci Pawling, effective date to be determined.
  - 6.4.2** Mrs. Kristin Holst for the position of Supervisor of Special Education, at an annual salary of \$118,650, effective July 3, 2023.
  - 6.4.3** Mrs. Jacqueline Rivas, Interim Assistant Principal at the Elementary School, to Assistant Principal at the Elementary School, at an annual salary of \$75,400 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Jason Williams, effective March 8, 2023.
  - 6.4.4** Ms. Trisha Roy, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional, at an hourly rate of pay of \$12.91, to fill the vacancy created by Mrs. Deborah Hughes, effective date to be determined.
  - 6.4.5** Co-curricular assignments for the 2022-23 school year:
    - Family Reading Night – ES – Stephanie Jacobs - \$240
    - Family Reading Night – ES – Deborah Werstler - \$240
  - 6.4.6** Volunteers for the 2022-23 school year:
    - Bradley Bonkoski - ES
    - Evan Jack - ES/MS
    - Tiffani Kinsey - ES
    - Christina Merris - MS
    - Nivia Sonon - HS
    - Thomas Moore - ES



Tanya Rupp - ES/HS

- 6.4.7** Transfer of Mrs. Lisa Chillot from Chemistry/Biology/Environmental Science Teacher at the High School, to Agriculture Science Teacher at the High School, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year.
- 6.4.8** Mr. David Horton, Health & Physical Education Long-Term Substitute Teacher at the Middle School, Bachelor's, Step 1, \$52,053 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Nicholas Pirrocco, effective November 29, 2022, through approximately the conclusion of the 2022-23 school year.
- 6.5** Approves the renewal of the agreement with Frontline Education for the Absence & Time, Applicant Tracking, and Professional Learning Management products, at a total cost of \$29,775.47 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
- 6.6** Approves the request from Mrs. Heather Barrett, English Teacher at the High School, to use six consecutive unpaid days, June 1, 2023 - June 8, 2023.
- 6.7** Acknowledges the Family and Medical Leave Act leave of Mr. Daniel Mullin, Full-Time Custodian, effective January 16, 2023, through March 29, 2023.
- 6.8** Acknowledges the intermittent Family and Medical Leave Act leave of Mrs. Elizabeth Oswald, Full-Time Health Assistant at the Middle School, effective March 2, 2023, through June 8, 2023.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Dane Miller to approve the amendment to the 2023-24 school year calendar. A teacher in-service day will be held the afternoon of June 6, 2024; and to accept, with best wishes for the future, the resignations due to retirement in Item 6.2, as presented; and to accept, with regret and best wishes for the future, the resignations in Items 6.3.1 and 6.3.2, as presented; and to approve the employment in Items 6.4.1 through and including 6.4.8; and to approve the renewal of the agreement with Frontline Education for the Absence & Time, Applicant Tracking, and Professional Learning Management products, at a total cost of \$29,775.47 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; and to approve the request from Mrs. Heather Barrett, English Teacher at the High School, to use six consecutive unpaid days, June 1, 2023 - June 8, 2023; and to acknowledge the Family and Medical Leave Act leave of Mr. Daniel Mullin, Full-Time Custodian, effective January 16, 2023, through March 29, 2023; and to acknowledge the intermittent Family and Medical Leave Act leave of Mrs. Elizabeth Oswald, Full-Time Health Assistant at the Middle School, effective March 2, 2023, through June 8, 2023.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.9** Approves the changes to Policy 004: Membership.
- 6.10** Approves issuing a professional employee contract to the following temporary professionals who have served three (3) years and have received satisfactory ratings, in accordance with Section 1108 of the Pennsylvania School Code:
- Megan French
  - Amanda Hix
  - Caitlin Robinson
- 6.11** Approves the Resignation and Release Agreement for Employee #1482, as proposed, and further, authorizes the Board President and Board Secretary to execute the Resignation and Release Agreement on behalf of the district.

- 6.12** Approves the filing of a civil complaint regarding former Employee #1204, and further, to authorize the Director of Human Resources to sign the civil complaint as an authorized agent of the District.
- 6.13** Approves eight (8) summer learning positions for each building. The summer learning positions will be paid in accordance with the professional hourly rate as specified in the collective bargaining agreement.

**Board Action:** Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the changes to Policy 004: Membership; and to approve issuing a professional employee contract to the temporary professionals in Item 6.10, as presented; and to approve the Resignation and Release Agreement for Employee #1482, as proposed, and further, authorizes the Board President and Board Secretary to execute the Resignation and Release Agreement on behalf of the district; and to approve filing of a civil complaint regarding former Employee #1204, and further, to authorize the Director of Human Resources to sign the civil complaint as an authorized agent of the District; and to approve eight (8) summer learning positions for each building. The summer learning positions will be paid in accordance with the professional hourly rate as specified in the collective bargaining agreement.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.14** Approves the position and position description for the Director of Finance. This is a re-organization of the Business Office, and the Director of Finance will oversee the Business Office and all functions, including the oversight of the Accountant, Payroll and Taxes Secretary, and Accounts Payable/Transportation Secretary. The Director of Finance will also provide oversight to the Food Services Director and programming.
- 6.15** Approves the employment of Mrs. Joan Groves, School Counselor at the High School, MS+42, Step 11, \$83,217, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Stephanie Burkart, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year.
- 6.16** Approves the transfer of Ms. Kristen Wallace from Accountant to Director of Finance, at an annual salary of \$125,000 (prorated for actual days worked), effective March 28, 2023.

**Board Action:** Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the position and position description for the Director of Finance in Item 6.14, as presented; and to approve the employment of Mrs. Joan Groves, School Counselor at the High School, MS+42, Step 11, \$83,217, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Stephanie Burkart, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year; and to approve the transfer of Ms. Kristen Wallace from Accountant to Director of Finance, at an annual salary of \$125,000 (prorated for actual days worked), effective March 28, 2023.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.17 Other (Old/New Business)**  
Mr. Dempsey recognized the service of our retirees, Mrs. Karen Degler, Mrs. Shannon Lewis, and Mrs. Christine Wysocki, who have taught thousands of students in the district.

## **7.0 CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY**

*Summary of Committee Deliberations – G. Dane Miller*

The Curriculum and Technology Committee met at 6:51 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2023, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 17, 2023.

***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

**Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:**

- 7.1 Approves the proposal from K12 Systems, Inc. for a block of 40 training hours, at a cost of \$7,000.00.
- 7.2 Approves the Dual Enrollment Agreement with Reading Area Community College for the 2023-24 school year, at a dual enrollment tuition rate of \$99.00 per credit.
- 7.3 Approves the warranty agreement for cyber security.

**Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by George Mertz to approve the proposal from K12 Systems, Inc. for a block of 40 training hours, at a cost of \$7,000.00; and to approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement with Reading Area Community College for the 2023-24 school year, at a dual enrollment tuition rate of \$99.00 per credit; and to approve the warranty agreement for cyber security.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**8.0 BUDGET AND FINANCE**

***Summary of Committee Deliberations – Paul L. Bendigo***

The Budget and Finance Committee met at 6:59 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2023, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 17, 2023.

***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

**Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:**

- 8.1 Approves/ratifies the payment of bills in the following amounts from February 14, 2023, to March 28, 2023, as presented.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$1,261,150.55</b>
<b>CAFETERIA FUND</b>	<b>\$62,164.71</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FUND</b>	<b>\$127,678.16</b>
<b>MS/HS ACTIVITY FUND</b>	<b>\$5,761.08</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,456,754.50</b>

- 8.2 Approves exonerating the school district tax collectors from collecting unpaid interim bills dated September 15, 2022, and October 15, 2022, and that the Board approve submitting to the Berks County Tax Claim Bureau for collection. There are 20 bills totaling \$4,155.02.
- 8.3 Approves the Computer Service Rates for 2023-2024 with the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) for the district's fund accounting, payroll and personnel software. The estimated cost for 2023-2024 is \$24,600 based on estimated student enrollment at year end. This compares to the actual cost spent for 2022-2023 of \$23,753.40, a 3.56% increase due to annual rate increases.
- 8.4 Approves ratification of budgetary transfers, as presented.



**Board Action:** Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve/ratify the payment of bills in Item 8.1 from February 14, 2023, to March 28, 2023, as presented; and to approve exonerating the school district tax collectors from collecting unpaid interim bills dated September 15, 2022, and October 15, 2022, and that the Board approve submitting to the Berks County Tax Claim Bureau for collection. There are 20 bills totaling \$4,155.02; and to approve the Computer Service Rates for 2023-2024 with the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) for the district's fund accounting, payroll and personnel software. The estimated cost for 2023-2024 is \$24,600 based on estimated student enrollment at year end. This compares to the actual cost spent for 2022-2023 of \$23,753.40, a 3.56% increase due to annual rate increases; and to approve ratification of budgetary transfers, as presented.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.5** Approves the Berks Career and Technology Center budget for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$18,779,056; Schuylkill Valley's member share is \$739,552 and \$74,378 for special needs.

**Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the Berks Career and Technology Center budget for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$18,779,056; Schuylkill Valley's member share is \$739,552 and \$74,378 for special needs.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi, Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.6** Approves accepting the report of the annual local audit, as performed by Herbein & Company, for fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.
- 8.7** Approves, in conjunction with the closing of the 2021-2022 financial audit, a transfer of \$947,160 from the unassigned fund balance into the Capital Reserve Fund (the transfer will be posted to the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year).

**Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve accepting the report of the annual local audit, as performed by Herbein & Company, for fiscal year ending June 30, 2022; and to approve, in conjunction with the closing of the 2021-2022 financial audit, a transfer of \$947,160 from the unassigned fund balance into the Capital Reserve Fund (the transfer will be posted to the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year).**

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**9.0 BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

***Summary of Committee Deliberations – Alfonso F. Rossi***

The Buildings and Grounds Committee met at 7:11 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2023 in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 17, 2023.

***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***



**Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:**

- 9.1 Approves the listing of technology education items on Municibid.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the listing of technology education items on Municibid.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 9.2 Approves the award of each of the prime contracts to the selected contractor for the indoor swimming pool renovation, subject to the contractor signing the contract and submitting the required bonds and insurance certificate. Notice to proceed will be issued once all contracts are submitted, required bonds and insurance certificates are presented and reviewed by the Solicitor.

**Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by George Mertz to approve the award of each of the prime contracts to the selected contractor for the indoor swimming pool renovation, subject to the contractor signing the contract and submitting the required bonds and insurance certificate. Notice to proceed will be issued once all contracts are submitted, required bonds and insurance certificates are presented and reviewed by the Solicitor.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 9.3 Approves the award of emergency generator contracts to the selected contractors, subject to the contractor signing the contract and submitting the required bonds and insurance certificates. Notice to proceed will be issued once all contracts are submitted, required bonds and insurance certificates are presented and reviewed by the solicitor.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the award of emergency generator contracts to the selected contractors, subject to the contractor signing the contract and submitting the required bonds and insurance certificates. Notice to proceed will be issued once all contracts are submitted, required bonds and insurance certificates are presented and reviewed by the solicitor.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 9.4 **Other (Old/New Business)**

Mr. Sobczak provided an update on the scoreboard. He stated that Degler-Whiting Inc. looked at the scoreboard and noticed that there is a media converter which works in the press box but there is a second set that sits behind the scoreboard that was not working. The company was working with the manufacturer and they do need to make another site visit. They also discussed the power issues that have happened in the past and using a power conditioner or some other unit that can go in front of the utility panel to prevent this from happening. Mr. Sobczak is in the process of trying to schedule a return visit with Degler-Whiting for the video board only. Miss Deibler worked with the coaches on the timing system for track and field and has everything connected. There is a test scheduled for March 29 with that team. Mr. Sobczak will also ask Degler-Whiting to do a moisture test to confirm that the scoreboard is sealed correctly to prevent water damage inside the board.

**10.0 STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES**

***Summary of Committee Deliberations – Nicoleen M. Kleffel***

The Student Services and Activities Committee met at 7:27 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2023, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 17, 2023.

***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

**Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:**

- 10.1** Approves the District's 339 Plan.
- 10.2** Approves the summer ESY staffing.
- 10.3** Approves the ECYEH Agreement between the Schuylkill Valley School District and Region 2: Berks County Intermediate Unit for the district to comply with the requirements and goals of Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH) Program.
- 10.4** Approves the contract with Higher Impact Entertainment to provide an educational assembly at the Elementary School for 3rd and 4th grade students on April 24, 2023. NOTE: The cost will be paid by the SVE PTO.
- 10.5** Approves accepting the Excellence in Highway Engineering Design Award of \$175.00, awarded to our MS team at the Regional Future City Competition. The money will be used to purchase materials needed for future competitions that the students in the MS gifted program will be entering.
- 10.6** Approves the trip for SV high school Student Council members. The cost will be paid by the organization.
- 10.7** Approves the Senior Class Trip.
- 10.8** Approves the use of the S.E.L.F. Curriculum for Student #4727.
- 10.9** Approves the Settlement Agreement and Release for Student #4995, and further, authorizes the Board President and Board Secretary to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release on behalf of the District.
- 10.10** Approves the waiver of expulsion hearing and release for Student #3689.
- 10.11** Approves the Science Explorer's Assembly for 1<sup>st</sup> Grade on April 11 and April 12, 2023.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the District's 339 Plan; and to approve the summer ESY staffing; and to approve the ECYEH Agreement between the Schuylkill Valley School District and Region 2: Berks County Intermediate Unit for the district to comply with the requirements and goals of Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH) Program; and to approve the contract with Higher Impact Entertainment to provide an educational assembly at the Elementary School for 3rd and 4th grade students on April 24, 2023 (NOTE: The cost will be paid by the SVE PTO); and to approve accepting the Excellence in Highway Engineering Design Award of \$175.00, awarded to our MS team at the Regional Future City Competition. The money will be used to purchase materials needed for future competitions that the students in the MS gifted program will be entering; and to approve the trip for SV high school Student Council members (NOTE: The cost will be paid by the organization); and to approve the Senior Class Trip; and to approve the use of the S.E.L.F. Curriculum for Student #4727; and to approve the Settlement Agreement and**



**Release for Student #4995, and further, authorizes the Board President and Board Secretary to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release on behalf of the District; and to approve the waiver of expulsion hearing and release for Student #3689; and to approve the Science Explorer's Assembly for 1st Grade on April 11 and April 12, 2023.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**10.12 Discussion: Summer Programming**

The Assistant Principals provided a discussion on summer learning programs.

Mrs. Crater stated that the preliminary summer programming information was shared with high school faculty and staff on March 14 in an after school meeting. She also emailed the presentation to the faculty and staff for those who could not attend on March 14. She received extremely positive feedback and has had three teachers express interest in applying for the summer school teaching positions. They have added a third summer session for ninth grade transition and Mrs. Crater has received interest from teachers who would like to help plan this session. Their next steps will be to finalize the registration process including letters of notification for high school students about the credit recovery process and what courses will be offered throughout the summer sessions. They will also be finalizing their staffing needs and the location of the sessions.

Ms. Gabryluk stated that a summer programming presentation was provided to middle school faculty on February 21. They were very receptive and several faculty members have approached her with ideas for topics and asking if topics were flexible to align with their ideas. They have been working with Dr. Taschner and Ms. Brightbill to move forward with posting the summer programming positions so they can firm up their staffing and begin the registration process.

Mrs. Rivas stated that the elementary school offered two sessions on summer programming, March 2 and March 3. The faculty had great questions and great ideas for what the design looks like. They are currently working on the registration process and are very excited to offer project-based learning across the district this summer. Dr. Taschner noted that this is ESSER's money, and therefore this money is available for summer learning loss. She thanked everyone that has been a part of this process. In addition, Dr. Taschner will have a discussion with SVEA at a later date in regard to summer programming and what the rates will be for teaching these sessions.

**11.0 OTHER BUSINESS/GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Mr. Miller noted that the Pan Am games are being held in Argentina and Schuylkill Valley alumni Hayley Reichardt earned a silver medal which is a personal best.

**12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Moll announced that there would be an executive session immediately following the meeting for legal matters and real estate.


**13.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell, there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.



Linda R. Lash, Secretary  
Board of School Directors