

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

MINUTES

December 5, 2022

- 1.0 The Reorganization/Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board President, David E. Moll, in the Auditorium of the Schuylkill Valley High School.**

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

1.2 ROLL CALL

Members Present: Paul L. Bendigo, Robert M. Dempsey, Nicoleen M. Kleffel, Linda R. Lash, G. Dane Miller, David E. Moll, Bryan J. O'Donnell

Members Absent: George H. Mertz III, Alfonso F. Rossi

Secretary: Linda R. Lash

Recording Secretary: Susan A. Christman

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Cathy Taschner, Casey Blankenbiller, Dr. Melissa Brewer, Robin Brightbill, Stephanie Deibler, Diane Kaag, Dr. Joshua Kuehner, Jenny Rexrode, Mike Sobczak

2.0 SELECTION OF A TEMPORARY PRESIDENT

G. Dane Miller served as the temporary President.

3.0 RECOGNITION

The Board recognized the following middle school students in Mrs. Ronda Seymour's art classes whose designs were chosen to represent the school district on holiday cards: Ava Rodriguez, fifth grade; Sydney Miller, sixth grade; Madison Veety, seventh grade; and Kaitlyn Flowers, eighth grade. Each student was presented with a set of cards and a framed poster of their design as tokens of appreciation for their creativity and hard work.

Also recognized were the following senior AP Scholars: Charlotte Baumgard, Seth Geiger, Leila Howe, Erin Livinghouse, Zoe Merkel and Delaney Yeakle, and fall athlete Ava Kichline who made All-County in girls soccer and is also a goalie.

4.0 LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS AND TERMS

Paul L. Bendigo	Region 1	2021-2025
Robert M. Dempsey	Region 2	2019-2023
Nicoleen M. Kleffel	At-Large	2021-2025
Linda R. Lash	At-Large	2021-2025
George H. Mertz III	At-Large	2019-2023
G. Dane Miller	At-Large	2019-2023
David E. Moll	At-Large	2019-2023
Bryan J. O'Donnell	At-Large	2021-2025
Alfonso F. Rossi	Region 3	2019-2023

5.0 NOMINATIONS FOR AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Temporary President G. Dane Miller asked for nominations for President.

Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to nominate David E. Moll for President.

Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Paul Bendigo to close the nominations for President.

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

Motion passed unanimously for David E. Moll for Board President.

6.0 NOMINATIONS FOR AND ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT

President David E. Moll asked for nominations for Vice President.

Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to nominate Paul L. Bendigo as Vice President.

Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to close the nominations for Vice President.

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

Motion passed unanimously for Paul L. Bendigo for Board Vice President.

7.0 APPOINTMENTS: BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

The Board is requested to consider and appoint representatives as listed:

7.1 Berks Career and Technology Center: Joint Operating Committee

(Three-Year Term: January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025)

Mr. George Mertz agreed to serve as the representative for a three-year term and

Mr. David Moll agreed to serve as the alternate representative for the same three-year term.

7.2 Pennsylvania School Boards Association Liaison

Mrs. Linda Lash agreed to serve as the representative for a one-year term and

Mr. Robert Dempsey agreed to serve as the alternate representative for the same one-year term.

7.3 Tax Collection Committee

Mr. David Moll agreed to serve as the representative for a one-year term and

Mr. Paul Bendigo agreed to serve as the alternate representative for the same one-year term.

8.0 CONTINUING APPOINTMENTS

8.1 Berks County Intermediate Unit Board Representative (Three-Year Term)

Mrs. Linda Lash was appointed as the representative through June 30, 2023 at the April 27, 2020 Board meeting.

8.2 Berks Vocational-Technical School Authority Representative (Five-Year Term)

Mr. Geoffrey Miller (past Board Member) is presently the representative and has agreed to serve through December 31, 2025.

9.0 CONTINUING OFFICES

9.1 Secretary

Mrs. Linda Lash was appointed to a four-year term, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025 at the May 24, 2021 Board meeting.

9.2 Treasurer

Mrs. Kristen Wallace was appointed effective September 12, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at the September 26, 2022 Board meeting.

10.0 CURRENT BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: 2022 and 2023

Policy, Personnel and Public Relations

George H. Mertz III, Chair
Paul L. Bendigo

Linda R. Lash
Alfonso F. Rossi

Curriculum and Technology

G. Dane Miller, Chair
Nicoleen M. Kleffel

Linda R. Lash
Bryan J. O'Donnell

Budget and Finance

Paul L. Bendigo, Chair
Robert M. Dempsey

Nicoleen M. Kleffel
Bryan J. O'Donnell

Buildings and Grounds

Alfonso F. Rossi, Chair
Paul L. Bendigo

Robert M. Dempsey
George H. Mertz III

Student Services and Activities

Nicoleen M. Kleffel, Chair
Linda R. Lash

George H. Mertz III
G. Dane Miller

11.0 MEETING DATES: 2023

The Board is requested to consider and approve the Committee and Board meeting dates for the 2023 calendar year.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the Committee and Board meeting dates for the 2023 calendar year.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

12.0 PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one addressed the Board.

13.0 PROCESSING OF BILLS

The Board is requested to consider and authorize the Business Office to process bills for payment up to and including December 22, 2022, with the list of said bills to be presented at the regular Board meeting in January 2023 for ratification.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to authorize the Business Office to process bills for payment up to and including December 22, 2022, with the list of said bills to be presented at the regular Board meeting in January 2023 for ratification.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

14.0 OTHER BUSINESS

- 14.1 The Board is requested to consider and accept, with best wishes for the future, the resignation due to retirement of Mr. Mark Cuccaro, Full-Time Head Custodian at the High School, effective December 9, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Dane Miller to accept, with best wishes for the future, the resignation due to retirement of Mr. Mark Cuccaro, Full-Time Head Custodian at the High School, effective December 9, 2022.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.2 The Board is requested to consider and approve Mr. Eric Favors, Jr., Part-Time IT Technician, at an hourly rate of pay of \$15.51, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Scott Horning, effective November 21, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve Mr. Eric Favors, Jr., Part-Time IT Technician, at an hourly rate of pay of \$15.51, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Scott Horning, effective November 21, 2022.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.3 The Board is requested to consider and approve Mr. Nicholas White, Full-Time IT Technician, at an hour rate of pay of \$15.78, to fill the vacancy created by his resignation, effective November 14, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve Mr. Nicholas White, Full-Time IT Technician, at an hour rate of pay of \$15.78, to fill the vacancy created by his resignation, effective November 14, 2022.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.4 The Board is requested to consider and approve Mrs. Marlene Biros from Full-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Middle School to Long-Term Substitute Special Education Teacher at the Elementary School, Master's, Step 1, \$57,205 (prorated for actual days worked), effective November 21, 2022, through approximately March 1, 2023, to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence of Mrs. Charlotte Lupia.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve Mrs. Marlene Biros from Full-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Middle School to Long-Term Substitute Special Education Teacher at the Elementary School, Master's, Step 1, \$57,205 (prorated for actual days worked), effective November 21, 2022, through approximately March 1, 2023, to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence of Mrs. Charlotte Lupia.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.5 The Board is requested to consider and approve Mr. Howard Cummings, Part-Time Food Services Worker, 4 hours per day at an hourly rate of pay of \$11.00, to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Mrs. Magdalena Twardenga Koss, effective date to be determined.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve Mr. Howard Cummings, Part-Time Food Services Worker, 4 hours per day at an hourly rate of pay of \$11.00, to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Mrs. Magdalena Twardenga Koss, effective date to be determined.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.6 The Board is requested to consider and approve Ms. Joanne Cummings, Part-Time Food Services Worker, 4 hours per day at an hourly rate of pay of \$11.00, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Lisa Lawson, effective date to be determined.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve Ms. Joanne Cummings, Part-Time Food Services Worker, 4 hours per day at an hourly rate of pay of \$11.00, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Lisa Lawson, effective date to be determined.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.7 The Board is requested to consider and approve additional coaches for the 2022-23 school year:

- 14.7.1 Mr. G. Dane Miller, Wrestling Assistant Coach - Volunteer

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve Mr. G. Dane Miller, Wrestling Assistant Coach - Volunteer for the 2022-23 school year.

Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Moll, O'Donnell

Abstain: Miller

Motion carried.

- 14.7.2 Mr. Jeremy Smith, Wrestling Head Coach - \$5,520

Board Action: Moved by Bryan O'Donnell and seconded by Linda Lash to approve Mr. Jeremy Smith, Wrestling Head Coach - \$5,520, for the 2022-23 school year.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.8 The Board is requested to consider and approve the following substitutes for the 2022-23 school year:

Eric Favors - Guest Teacher
Debra Isenberg - Paraprofessional
Bethany Kehs-Rossi - Guest Teacher
Whitney Myers - Paraprofessional

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the substitutes for the 2022-23 school year, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.9** The Board is requested to consider and approve the following substitute for the 2022-23 school year:

Debra Isenberg - Guest Teacher

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the substitute for the 2022-23 school year, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.10** The Board is requested to consider and approve the following volunteers for the 2022-23 school year:

Andrea Ambrus - ES/HS
Dakotah Gracely – ES
James Greene - ES
Andrew Johnson - ES
Benjamin Johnston - ES
Emily Santos – ES

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve the volunteers for the 2022-23 school year, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.11** The Board is requested to consider and approve the following pro-rated extra-curricular salary for 2022-23:

Mr. Friendoll Tucker, Jr., Football High School Assistant Coach, from \$2,100 to \$1,575, due to his resignation effective October 7, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve a pro-rated extra-curricular salary for 2022-23 for Mr. Friendoll Tucker, Jr., Football High School Assistant Coach, from \$2,100 to \$1,575, due to his resignation effective October 7, 2022.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.12** The Board is requested to consider and approve the following mentors for the 2022-23 school year at a stipend of \$1,175 for full year mentors and \$587.50 for half year mentors:

Mrs. Megan French for Mr. Jacob Ford - Half Year
Mrs. Cindy Koehler for Mr. Jason Brader - Half Year
Mrs. Kelli Zimmerman, replacing Mrs. Amy Shuman, for Mr. Daniel Savage - Full Year

Board Action: Moved by Bryan O'Donnell and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the mentors for the 2022-23 school year, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.13** The Board is requested to consider and approve the following co-curricular assignments for the 2022-23 school year:

Mock Trial Advisor - HS - Ms. Dana Heins - \$660
Mock Trial Advisor - HS - Miss Bailey Miller - \$660

Note: The position is normally a split position but a second advisor was not assigned when the co-curricular assignments were approved.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the co-curricular assignments for the 2022-23 school year, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.14** The Board is requested to consider and approve Ms. Charlene Henne, Part-Time Food Services Worker, 5.5 hours per day at the high school, to Part-Time Food Services worker, 4 hours per day at the middle school, effective November 17, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve Ms. Charlene Henne, Part-Time Food Services Worker, 5.5 hours per day at the high school, to Part-Time Food Services worker, 4 hours per day at the middle school, effective November 17, 2022.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.15** The Board is requested to consider and approve an increase in hours for Food Service Workers assigned to the cook position, from 5.5 hours per day to 6 hours per day:

Mrs. Christine Bendigo - Middle School
Ms. Lori Brenner - High School

Note: The elementary cook is currently working 6 hours per day.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve an increase in hours for Food Service Workers assigned to the cook position, from 5.5 hours per day to 6 hours per day for Mrs. Christine Bendigo, Middle School, and Ms. Lori Brenner, High School.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.16** The Board is requested to consider and approve the transfer of Ms. Brittany Cassidy, Part-Time Food Services Worker, 4 hours per day, to Part-Time Food Services Worker, 5 hours per day, to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Ms. Charlene Henne, effective December 5, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the transfer of Ms. Brittany Cassidy, Part-Time Food Services Worker, 4 hours per day, to Part-Time Food Services Worker, 5 hours per day, to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Ms. Charlene Henne, effective December 5, 2022.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.17** The Board is requested to consider and approve Mrs. Susan Breidegan, Part-Time, 3 hours per day Special Education Paraprofessional at the Elementary School to Part-time, 4.5 hours per day ELL Paraprofessional at the Elementary School and Middle School, effective October 12, 2022.

Note: Mrs. Breidegan was approved as 5 hours per day ELL Paraprofessional at the Elementary School and Middle School, the actual hours of work are 4.5 hours per day.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve Mrs. Susan Breidegan, Part-Time, 3 hours per day Special Education Paraprofessional at the Elementary School to Part-time, 4.5 hours per day ELL Paraprofessional at the Elementary School and Middle School, effective October 12, 2022.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.18** The Board is requested to consider and approve Ms. Noelle McBride, Long-Term Substitute 4th Grade Teacher at the Elementary School, Bachelor's, Step 1, \$52,053 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence of Mrs. Amy Shuman, effective October 5, 2022, through approximately December 22, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve Ms. Noelle McBride, Long-Term Substitute 4th Grade Teacher at the Elementary School, Bachelor's, Step 1, \$52,053 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence of Mrs. Amy Shuman, effective October 5, 2022, through approximately December 22, 2022.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.19** The Board is requested to consider and approve the appointment of the following winter coaches:

Ron Beissel - Assistant Junior High Girls Basketball at a salary of \$2,200
Kyle Maurer - Assistant High School Wrestling at a salary of \$1,650
Abigail White - Assistant Junior High Girls Basketball Volunteer

Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the appointment of the winter coaches, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.20** The Board is requested to consider and approve the creation of the position of Certified Building Substitute Teacher at a rate of pay of \$42,053 (prorated for actual days worked) with a reduced rate for candidates electing single person insurance coverage, for the 2022-23 school year. Candidates must hold a valid, active PA teaching certificate to be eligible for the position.

Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the creation of the position of Certified Building Substitute Teacher at a rate of pay of \$42,053 (prorated for actual days worked) with a reduced rate for candidates electing single person

insurance coverage, for the 2022-23 school year. Candidates must hold a valid, active PA teaching certificate to be eligible for the position.

Dr. Taschner noted that this position was discussed previously, and we have different classifications of substitutes. The first is a day-to-day substitute at \$140 per day and moves to \$150 after nine days. They can choose whether they want to come in one day a week or every day during the week as there is no obligation for them to be here every day. They can be a certified teacher or a guest teacher who has gone through the guest teacher program. Another type of substitute is a building substitute. These individuals have gone through the guest teacher program and receive \$150 per day. There is no obligation that they must be here every day but we guarantee them work every day if they are here. This discussion came up with an attempt to guarantee certified teachers work every day so that we can make sure we attract, and continue to attract, substitutes who will be here. Certified teachers would receive this increased rate of pay, they need to have an active and valid teaching certificate, and we do feel that we'll continue to improve the educational outcomes for students who may have a teacher that is out for one or two weeks (considered short-term), and it will also make sure that we're not having to ever split classes. She asked the Board to consider and pass this motion so that we would continue to staff these in our buildings to make sure our students are receiving the best possible education.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.21** The Board is requested to consider and approve Ms. Wendy Lane, homebound instructor, from approximately November 17, 2022 through January 19, 2023.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve Ms. Wendy Lane, homebound instructor, from approximately November 17, 2022 through January 19, 2023.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.22** The Board is requested to consider and approve an extension of the leave of absence of Mrs. Amy Shuman, 4th Grade Teacher at the Elementary School, effective November 29, 2022, through December 22, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve an extension of the leave of absence of Mrs. Amy Shuman, 4th Grade Teacher at the Elementary School, effective November 29, 2022, through December 22, 2022.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.23** The Board is requested to consider and approve the leave of absence for Ms. Deborah Hughes, Special Education Paraprofessional at the Middle School, effective October 11, 2022, through approximately December 22, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Linda Lash to approve the leave of absence for Ms. Deborah Hughes, Special Education Paraprofessional at the Middle School, effective October 11, 2022, through approximately December 22, 2022.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.24** The Board is requested to consider and acknowledge the following Family & Medical Leave:

Mr. Hunter Beane, 4th Grade Teacher at the Elementary School, effective November 14, 2022, through approximately January 3, 2023.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to acknowledge the Family & Medical Leave for Mr. Hunter Beane, 4th Grade Teacher at the Elementary School, effective November 14, 2022, through approximately January 3, 2023.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.25** The Board is requested to consider and approve the Undergraduate Internship Affiliation Agreement between The Pennsylvania State University and the Schuylkill Valley School District, for the purpose of education and training undergraduate interns from the University, effective December 10, 2022 through August 31, 2023.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the Undergraduate Internship Affiliation Agreement between The Pennsylvania State University and the Schuylkill Valley School District, for the purpose of education and training undergraduate interns from the University, effective December 10, 2022 through August 31, 2023.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.26** The Board is requested to consider and approve the adoption of the Schuylkill Valley School District Comprehensive Plan, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the adoption of the Schuylkill Valley School District Comprehensive Plan, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.27** The Board is requested to consider and approve the order form from Canva US, Inc. for a 36-month subscription, at no cost for the district. Canva for Education is a free-to-use online graphic design tool used to create social media posts, presentations, posters, videos, logos and more.

Board Action: Moved by Bryan O'Donnell and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the order form from Canva US, Inc. for a 36-month subscription, at no cost for the district. Canva for Education is a free-to-use online graphic design tool used to create social media posts, presentations, posters, videos, logos and more.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.28** The Board is requested to consider and approve the quote from ClassLink, Inc. for an annual subscription in the amount of \$9,056.00, with a one-time setup fee of \$2,495.00, for a total year-one cost of \$11,551.00. ClassLink integrates district software and cloud accounts to one interface, enables simplified account creation, rostering, and management.

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the quote from ClassLink, Inc. for an annual subscription in the amount of \$9,056.00, with a one-time setup fee of \$2,495.00, for a total year-one cost of \$11,551.00. ClassLink integrates district software and cloud accounts to one interface, enables simplified account creation, rostering, and management.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.29** The Board is requested to consider and approve the statement of work with BCIU for support in curriculum development work that will be completed with SVSD principals and teachers.

Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the statement of work with BCIU for support in curriculum development work that will be completed with SVSD principals and teachers.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.30** The Board is requested to consider and approve the Act 1 resolution which states that 2023-24 real estate taxes will not increase more than the Act 1 index of 5.1%.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the Act 1 resolution which states that 2023-24 real estate taxes will not increase more than the Act 1 index of 5.1%.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.31** The Board is requested to consider and approve the Director of Food Services as duly authorized to execute the worker protection and certification form on behalf of the District.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the Director of Food Services as duly authorized to execute the worker protection and certification form on behalf of the District.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.32** The Board is requested to consider and approve the proposal from Berkshire Systems Group, Inc., for the installation of a video door entry system for the Administration Building, at a cost of \$5,570.00.

- 14.33** The Board is requested to consider and approve the proposal from Berkshire Systems Group, Inc., for the installation of a video door entry system for the Elementary School, at a cost of \$5,050.00.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the proposal from Berkshire Systems Group, Inc., for the installation of a video door entry system for the Administration Building, at a cost of \$5,570.00; and to approve the proposal from Berkshire Systems Group, Inc., for the installation of a video door entry system for the Elementary School, at a cost of \$5,050.00.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.34** The Board is requested to consider and approve EI Associates to release for bid the Emergency Generator Project.

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Dane Miller to approve EI Associates to release for bid the Emergency Generator Project.

Mr. Blankenbiller stated that EI Associates is doing the design and full project management for the Emergency Generator Project. This is for all three buildings and includes two new generators, one at the high school and the other at the elementary school, and a massive amount of work that needs to be completed in the buildings. There is some extra work as an alternate that came up through discussions with the IT Department. Mr. Rob Henning, Gatter and Diehl, Inc., confirmed they are replacing the generator in the high school and elementary school. They will be upgraded to further support cooking needs, some of the IT components, and our heating systems. In the event of an outage the district will be able to provide heating, cooking, and sanitation to these two schools. The middle school will have IT receptacles added to all of the IT closets to provide power in the event of an outage. Dr. Taschner added that this will allow for voice over IP as well and Mr. Henning confirmed that was correct and would be accomplished with the additional IT receptacles in the IT closets. Mr. Bendigo asked what the timeline would be for completing the entire project in all three buildings. Mr. Henning stated that right now the generators are over 60 weeks out and this is an estimate. Mr. Bendigo asked about the timeline after the generators are received and Mr. Henning stated it would be another 8-10 weeks on average. The contractor would set this schedule after they are on site. With this lead time, installation would be sometime in the summer of 2024. The generators operate on natural gas which would be pulled off of our existing systems. Dr. Taschner noted that part of the discussion around an outage occurring was making sure that if there were students in the buildings, that we have enough lighting and if we did have to feed students that we would be able to have ovens that could function and to make sure that we would have phones. This would allow us to do all of those things. The cost estimate is around \$1.2 million which does not include the alternate for the cable runs. Mr. Blankenbiller explained that the intent is to do the work this summer and have all of the backbone systems in place and get ready for the generator swap-outs. The nice part is that we'll know where everything is at to turn on and off, so if we do have an emergency that we would need the kitchen equipment, we would turn some of the items off that are currently on the generator and we could possibly run some bare-bones items if needed. This does not impact our day-to-day operations while we wait for the equipment to arrive. Everything would be ready to go so that when the new generators are delivered, the old generators are removed and the new ones go in, with everything else already installed. All the new panels and wiring will be installed and we'll just have certain items turned off during the school year so the generator continues to run. We can still do life safety loads that we would need to operate, and if we would need anything other than that, we would be very selective as to what we turn on and off for the needs of the school. Mr. Bendigo asked if there was value in the generators that we would be removing and Mr. Blankenbiller stated it would be scrap value. Mr. Blankenbiller added that they've been working on this for about six months and one of the alternates, while the ceilings are open and the contractors are pulling power down the hallways, is for new cable pulls for IT, based on what Mr. Sobczak, Director of Technology, needs to upgrade the backbone of our IT network. Mr. Moll noted that at this point the Board is releasing the project for bid.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 14.35** The Board is requested to consider and approve the donation of a discus net from Garage Strength Sports Performance.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the donation of a discus net from Garage Strength Sports Performance.

Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Moll, O'Donnell

Abstain: Miller

Motion carried.

- 14.36** The Board is requested to consider and approve the agreement between Elaine Torres, Psychologist, and SVSD for the purpose of a bilingual evaluation of an ELL student (#5490), in need of a psychological evaluation.

Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the agreement between Elaine Torres, Psychologist, and SVSD for the purpose of a bilingual evaluation of an ELL student (#5490), in need of a psychological evaluation.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

15.0 GOOD OF THE ORDER

Dr. Taschner stated that winter is upon us and soon parents will be receiving morning robocalls regarding winter weather. We have heard that some parents prefer the calls instead of emails, so we plan to send these out through robocall, email and text. We'll also be putting out an email to parents regarding the use of snow days and FID days. We received considerable positive feedback from the staff and from parents last year because we chose a format that allowed students to still enjoy snow days and allowed teachers to actually prepare for the FID day in the spring. If needed, we will continue to do that so it gives our students the best of both worlds. We've also received feedback that it would be helpful to know when offices are open or closed on snow days and during the summer. We'll be posting this information to our social media sites and to our website so that people can easily access that information. Dr. Taschner thanked the Board as the district is fully staffed in Food Service. Our Food Service Director noted that it's been quite some time since we've been fully staffed and it's good to have a full department. Dr. Taschner thanked the Board for allowing the district to continue to advertise these positions for backup and substitutes so that when someone is absent, we have someone to fill those positions. We appreciate the opportunity to use SOS staffing for substitutes. As a clarification, it is not outsourcing and we have no plans to outsource. This was a concern brought to us by employees and we're trying to make sure that we are honoring concerns that we're hearing from them.

Dr. Taschner thanked the staff members who have met with her over the past few weeks. It's been a pleasure to sit with them and hear their ideas and concerns. She also thanked everyone that has met with New Solutions. A lot of our staff members and board members have met with New Solutions to discuss ideas about special education and we're excited to see that work come to fruition and to hear some of the outcomes of that work. We are also excited about the work of our BCBA and our social worker. They have started and are supporting our staff and students. We know that COVID has had an impact on the mental health of our students, and so we are very much looking forward to the work that they will do as they continue to support the district.

At the last board meeting, we posted the air quality report that had been completed in response to concerns about a room in the high school and we'll be posting other air quality reports as we have them. Dr. Taschner encouraged any staff member who has concerns regarding air quality to inform their principal, facilities, and if need be, she can be copied as well. Dr. Taschner thanked the Board for the commitment to improving these things in all of our schools. These projects were already under way when she started in November 2022, but we're currently completing the elementary project and this will substantially improve our HVAC systems at the elementary school. We have the same thing on par for the high school and we're mid-way through that project, and there is also a controls project being prepared for the middle school. Sometimes things occur which are unplanned, which is what happened this week when a unit ventilator failed at the elementary school. Facilities and the construction teams came in over the weekend to make sure that they pressure tested everything and we were pleased that everything was working well. She thanked the administrative team, assistant principal and principal, who made other arrangements for the students and teacher. She also thanked the teacher for their flexibility, as it is never easy to move your whole class on a moment's notice, and also the Buildings and Grounds staff who were immediately able to correct the issue.

Dr. Taschner stated there was a question at a previous meeting regarding the district's current affiliation agreements. We have the following affiliation agreements with universities in order to host student teachers: Albright College through 2024; Alvernia University which is current and renews every year; Kutztown University through 2023; Millersville University through 2026; and Shippensburg University through 2024. We are reaching out and trying to make sure that where there's an opportunity for student teachers to come and be a part of our district, that they have an opportunity to do that. If you're a teacher that's interested in that, please let your principal know and they will work with HR. Student teachers do need to come through HR to make sure we have all of the appropriate paperwork completed before they're with students.

Dr. Taschner congratulated Dr. Kuehner, Middle School Principal, and Mrs. Gabryluk, Middle School Assistant Principal, and all of the middle school teachers. The middle school was redesignated as a *School to Watch*. It is a lengthy process that they go through to get redesignated and the middle school received word this week that they were successful.

Mr. Moll stated that there would be a special event on January 28, 2023 for basketball/wrestling to unveil the 1,000 point/100 win boards, and he thanked Miss Deibler for coordinating the event. Many of the district's past scorers are looking forward to getting together. He also thanked Mrs. Kleffel and the committee for their efforts in organizing this event.

16.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

17.0 ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Linda R. Lash, Secretary
Board of School Directors