

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

MINUTES

June 27, 2022

1.0 **The 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, George H. Mertz III, G. Dane Miller, David E. Moll, Bryan J. O'Donnell, Alfonso F. Rossi

Secretary: Linda R. Lash

Treasurer: John L. Reedy

Recording Secretary: Susan A. Christman

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Cathy Taschner, Dr. Janet Heilman, Michael Billman, Casey Blankenbiller, Dr. Melissa Brewer, Stephanie Deibler, John Reedy

1.3 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 23, 2022, and the special meeting of June 20, 2022, 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 in executive session on May 23, 2022, following the Board meeting, for negotiations, on June 20, 2022, prior to the Committee meetings, for negotiations, on June 20, 2022, following the Special Board meeting, for personnel matters, and on June 27, 2022, prior to the Board meeting, for personnel matters.

1.5 **RECOGNITION**

The Board is pleased to recognize the accomplishments of the following Track and Field Student Athletes for the 2021-22 school year:

BCIAA County Championship Meet Results

Madison Ziska

Long Jump – BCIAA Champion

100 Dash – 2nd Place

200 Dash – 2nd Place

Luke Seymour

1600 M Run – BCIAA Champion

800 M Run – BCIAA Champion

Emma Deyarmin

Shot Put – 3rd Place

Discus – 2nd Place

District III Championship Meet Results

Madison Ziska
Long Jump – District III Champion
100 Dash – 3rd Place
4 x 100 Relay – 3rd Place
200 Dash – 2nd Place

Annie Gao
4 x 100 Relay – 3rd Place
Long Jump – 2nd Place

Emma Deyarmin
Shot Put – District III Champion
Discus – District III Champion

Nia Wagner
4 x 100 Relay – 3rd Place

Tori Reali
4 x 100 Relay – 3rd Place

Luke Seymour
1600 M Run – District III Champion
800 M Run – District III Champion

PIAA Meet Results

Madison Ziska
Long Jump – 3rd Place
200 Dash – 4th Place

Luke Seymour
1600 M Run – 2nd Place
800 M Run – 2nd Place

2.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

2.1 PRESIDENT – *David E. Moll*

Mr. Moll reported that the Board received the Act 44 Security Report which is currently under review.

2.2 SECRETARY – *Linda R. Lash*

No report.

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

Mrs. Lash reported that their last meeting was held on June 16. They received the BCIU 50th Anniversary Annual Report which highlighted the many responsibilities of the IU. The CrisisGo Emergency Communications Platform subscription was renewed and Schuylkill Valley is a participating district.

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

Mr. Mertz reported that at their last meeting on June 22, they discussed the ongoing transportation issue. The BCTC has a \$500,000 short fall for the upcoming year, some of which is due to fuel. They used to have some of their own buses which are being phased out. Their new business manager came up with a few options including selling some of their existing buses which will save insurance money and maintenance costs. They will need to use \$245,000 from their fund balance to balance transportation as the BCTC pays about \$411 per bus run where most schools pay between \$210 and \$230. They put their transportation out for bid and some of the successful bidders were the BCIU, Eshelman and Quigley. They've been having meetings with the school district business managers because the BCTC is going to transition to having the home school districts of the students do the bus runs since they can get a better rate than the BCTC.

Mr. Mertz also presented pictures of the BCTC student built home that is currently in progress. The students work very hard on this project and when they return in the fall they'll pick up where they left off. All of the students in the different trades do most of the work on the house except for the foundation and this will benefit them when they go into their chosen field of work. They receive many donations for the project which helps them make more profit when the house is sold and in turn carries the BCTC through the next year.

Mr. Mertz reviewed the 2022 Career Camp program for 8th grade students. Programs offered include cabinetry/painting and decorating, cosmetology, dental occupations, HVAC, protective services - law, protective services - homeland security, and SMaRT. SV had the third highest participation at 13 students. Students get a chance to explore BCTC programs they have an interest in and he noted that most students heard about this through their school guidance counselor. He also reviewed our NOCTI scores, taken by senior students in their prospective trades, which were 91.6% are very high considering these students were affected by the pandemic. All seniors scored proficient or advanced. In 2022-23, they are scheduled to have one of their highest enrollments of over 2,000 students.

Mr. Mertz provided an update on BCTC students that attended the SkillsUSA 2022 National Leadership Conference held in Atlanta, GA. Samuel Berryman, Brandywine Heights Area School District, placed second in masonry. Kurt Poland, Schuylkill Valley senior, Alysabeth Rivera, Exeter, Cheyenne Weiss, Wilson, and Grace Moyer, Wilson, placed first in the entrepreneurship category. He congratulated all of the students for their accomplishments.

2.5 TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE – David E. Moll

Mr. Moll stated that their quarterly meeting will be held on June 30. He will provide an update in July.

2.6 PA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION LIAISON – Linda R. Lash

Mrs. Lash reported that she attended two Zoom meetings for PSBA board leadership members. The main topic was the state budget and it's due date of June 30. The state has a good problem this year which is having more money than normal and they are discussing how to spend it. The planned budget is about \$42 billion and out of that they are looking at \$1.8 billion more for instruction operations and special education, which is a 21% increase, and there should also be more money for our career and technical schools. They also discussed new bills that are being put through including Senate Bill 1243 which is an economics and finance course as a graduation requirement. We are fortunate here at SV to already have an excellent economics and finance course for our students.

2.7 SCHUYLKILL VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION – Robert M. Dempsey

Mr. Dempsey reported that the June meeting of the foundation was cancelled and their next meeting is scheduled for July 20. Some items for their next agenda include finalizing the website design and final planning for a kickoff fundraiser event sometime in August.

3.0 PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

John Newton, Ontelaunee Township – Policies and Procedures

4.0 BOARD

Act 80 Day Exception

4.1 The Board is requested to consider and authorize the Administration to apply for an Act 80 day exception for the kindergarten registration day that was held on Friday, May 27, 2022. This exception is for the 2021-22 school year for kindergarten only.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Robert Dempsey to authorize the Administration to apply for an Act 80 day exception for the kindergarten registration day that was held on Friday, May 27, 2022. This exception is for the 2021-22 school year for kindergarten only.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

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 (will resume in September)
- 5.1.3 Dropout Report

Superintendent's Update

5.2 Dr. Taschner reported that the administrators are currently in the midst of summer planning. She asked that if anyone was interested in serving on the Comprehensive Planning Committee to please let her know by emailing Mrs. Christman. The Special Education Plan is posted on the student services site and Dr. Taschner invited everyone to take a moment to review the plan. Questions or comments can be directed to Dr. Brewer, Director of Pupil Services. The elementary HVAC and roof project is in full swing and they are trying to complete the project as quickly as possible. Work is also being completed on the high school HVAC system as well and Mr. Blankenbiller will present a project update at the July 18 committee meetings.

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, June 20, 2022, in the Auditorium of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, July 18, 2022.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

6.1 Accepts, with best wishes for the future, the following resignation due to retirement effective with the last day of the 2022-23 school term unless otherwise noted:

6.1.1 Mrs. Lori Haupt, Full-Time Secretary at the High School, effective July 4, 2022.

6.2 Accepts, with regret and best wishes for the future, the following resignations:

6.2.1 Mrs. Karen Brown, Part-Time Food Services Worker, effective May 23, 2022.

6.2.2 Mrs. Joanna Miller, Chemistry Teacher at the High School, effective with the conclusion of the 2021-22 school year.

6.2.3 Mrs. Kathy Reedy, School Nurse at the High School, effective with the conclusion of the 2021-22 school year.

6.2.4 Mr. Daniel Shuman, 4th Grade Teacher at the Elementary school, effective with the conclusion of the 2021-22 school year.

6.2.5 Ms. Lacey Smey, Assistant Principal at the High School, effective date to be determined.

Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by George Mertz to accept, with best wishes for the future the retirement in Item 6.1.1, and the resignations in Items 6.2.1 through and including 6.2.5, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.2.6 Mrs. Candice Kehres, Assistant Principal at the Middle School, effective date to be determined.
- 6.2.7 Mrs. Courtney Maguire, Principal at the Elementary School, effective June 30, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to accept the resignations in Items 6.2.6 and 6.2.7, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.3 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.):
 - 6.3.1 Ms. Linda Hettrick, Full-Time Custodian, at an hourly rate of \$14.00, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Lucas Etchberger, effective June 27, 2022.
 - 6.3.2 Ms. Paige Bandel, Full-Time Payroll and Taxes Secretary, at an hourly rate of pay of \$25.73, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Claudia Schadler-Duong, effective June 28, 2022.
 - 6.3.3 A change in the rate of pay for substitute food service workers from \$9.00/hour to \$11.00/hour effective with the 2022-23 school year.
 - 6.3.4 Substitutes for the 2021-22 school year:
 - Mr. Logan Grauer Elementary Education PK-4
 - 6.3.5 Volunteers for the 2021-22 school year:
 - Lindsay Rothenberger - ES
 - Heather McCaubrey - ES
 - 6.3.6 Mentor for the 2021-22 school year at a stipend of \$1,175 for full year mentors and \$587.50 for half year mentors:
 - Mrs. Kathy Reedy for Mrs. Stephanie Erb – Full Year
 - 6.3.7 Substitute nurse/teacher, paraprofessional and secretary rates of pay for the 2022-23 school year:
 - Nurse* (\$10.00/day increase) \$130.00/day
 - Teacher* (\$20.00/day increase) \$140.00/day
 - *\$150/day - 10 or more cumulative days (\$20.00/day increase)
 - Retired Nurse/Teacher (NEW) \$175.00/day
 - Nurse/Teacher Short-Term Substitute (6-44 days) in same assignment (\$20.00/day increase) \$160.00/day
 - Paraprofessional (\$0.50 increase) \$12.00/hour
 - Secretary (\$1.00 increase) \$10.50/hour
 - 6.3.8 Extended School Year (ESY) staff, with teachers and homebound instructors to be paid at the professional hourly rate of \$27, per the SVEA Collective Bargaining Agreement; paraprofessionals and substitute paraprofessionals to be paid at their regular hourly rate:

Kaitlin Becker Humphrey - Teacher
Samantha DeLong - Paraprofessional
Jason Kraft - Teacher
Linda Seaman – Paraprofessional
Rita Ernst - Paraprofessional

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the employment in Items 6.3.1 through and including 6.3.8, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.4 Approves a personal leave of absence for Ms. Rita Ernst, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional, effective May 2, 2022, through June 1, 2022.
- 6.5 Approves the training services agreement with Carol H. Gilbert Consulting for the mandatory food service supervisory and staff training on August 18, 2022, in the amount of \$545.00.
- 6.6 Approves the salary and benefits for certified employees pursuant to Act 93, for the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025.
- 6.7 Approves the Non-Union Support Staff Recommendation for a salary increase for the 2022-23 school year.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve a personal leave of absence for Ms. Rita Ernst, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional, effective May 2, 2022, through June 1, 2022; and to approve the training services agreement with Carol H. Gilbert Consulting for the mandatory food service supervisory and staff training on August 18, 2022, in the amount of \$545.00; and to approve the salary and benefits for certified employees pursuant to Act 93, for the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025; and to approve the Non-Union Support Staff Recommendation for a salary increase for the 2022-23 school year.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

7.0 CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY

Summary of Committee Deliberations – G. Dane Miller

The Curriculum and Technology Committee met at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 2022, in the Auditorium of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, July 18, 2022.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 7.1 Approves the Dual Enrollment Agreement with Reading Area Community College for the 2022-2023 academic year, at a dual enrollment tuition rate of \$99.00 per credit.
- 7.2 Approves a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Schuylkill Valley School District and Berks County Head Start relating to coordinating and providing effective services for children and families served, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

- 7.3 Approves an optional non-refundable \$15 student device repair fee for the 2022-2023 school year, to be available to purchase for elementary school, middle school, and high school students. Students who are approved for free or reduced lunch status will have the option to pay a reduced non-refundable \$5 student device repair fee for the 2022-2023 school year. Students who do not purchase the repair fee will be liable for all expenses for repair or device replacement.
- 7.4 Approves the Bulk Services Agreement with ePlus Technology, Inc. for professional services in support of the district network infrastructure on an as needed basis, at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00, to be paid from the Technology Reserve Fund.
- 7.5 Approves the Business Local and Long Distance Services Schedule Agreement, and Services Agreement, with Frontier Communications of America, Inc., effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
- 7.6 Approves the high school math textbooks, as presented at the June 20, 2022 Committee meeting:

<u>Book Title</u>	<u>ISBN</u>
The Practice of Statistics 6E (Starnes/Tabor)	131926929X
Calculus for AP, 2nd edition (Larson/Battaglia)	0357492846
Precalculus, 11th edition (Larson)	0357578732
Trigonometry, 11th edition (Larson)	0357578570
College Prep Algebra, 2nd edition (Larson)	0357078535
Common Core Algebra 2 with CalcChat & CalcView, 1st edition (Larson)	1647276373
Common Core Geometry with CalcChat & CalcView, 1st edition (Larson)	1647275571

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Dane Miller to approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement with Reading Area Community College for the 2022-2023 academic year, at a dual enrollment tuition rate of \$99.00 per credit; and to approve a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Schuylkill Valley School District and Berks County Head Start relating to coordinating and providing effective services for children and families served, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; and to approve an optional non-refundable \$15 student device repair fee for the 2022-2023 school year, to be available to purchase for elementary school, middle school, and high school students. Students who are approved for free or reduced lunch status will have the option to pay a reduced non-refundable \$5 student device repair fee for the 2022-2023 school year. Students who do not purchase the repair fee will be liable for all expenses for repair or device replacement; and to approve the Bulk Services Agreement with ePlus Technology, Inc. for professional services in support of the district network infrastructure on an as needed basis, at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00, to be paid from the Technology Reserve Fund; and to approve the Business Local and Long Distance Services Schedule Agreement, and Services Agreement, with Frontier Communications of America, Inc., effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; and to approve the high school math textbooks, as presented at the June 20, 2022 Committee meeting.

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 7:19 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 2022, in the Auditorium of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, July 18, 2022.

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 May 4, 2022, to June 28, 2022, as presented.

GENERAL FUND	\$1,444,358.50
CAFETERIA FUND	\$37,866.03
CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	\$26,806.13
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FUND	\$15,202.42
SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$14,350.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,538,583.08

- 8.2 Approves business office personnel to process bills for payment up to and including June 30, 2022; the list of bills will be presented for ratification at the regular Board meeting in July 2022.

- 8.3 Approves the BCIU joint purchasing bids for the 2022-2023 school year as follows:

General Supplies - \$29,664.84
Paper - \$21,519.50

- 8.4 Approves the following depositories for the 2022-23 school year:

Tompkins/VIST Bank
PA School District Liquid Asset Fund
PA School District Liquid Asset Max Fund
ACNB Bank
Fulton Bank
TD Bank

- 8.5 Approves the liability insurance package from CM Regent for the 2022-2023 school year, in the amount of \$97,288.

- 8.6 Approves the workers' compensation policy from EHD/Key Risk for the 2022-2023 school year, in the amount of \$85,337, choosing Option #1 - guaranteed cost.

- 8.7 Approves the May 2022 budget transfers in the amount of \$501,351.27.

- 8.8 Approves extending the professional services agreement with the Berks County Intermediate Unit to provide payroll services on behalf of the district, at the rate of \$60/hour, from July 1, 2022, through July 31, 2022, with the option to re-extend the agreement.

Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by George Mertz to approve/ratify the payment of bills in Item 8.1 from May 4, 2022, to June 28, 2022, as presented; and to approve the business office personnel to process bills for payment up to and including June 30, 2022; the list of bills will be presented for ratification at the regular Board meeting in July 2022; and to approve the BCIU joint purchasing bids for the 2022-2023 school year, as presented; and to approve the depositories for the 2022-23 school year, as presented; and to approve the liability insurance package from CM Regent for the 2022-2023 school year, in the amount of \$97,288; and to approve the workers' compensation policy from EHD/Key Risk for the 2022-2023 school year, in the amount of \$85,337, choosing Option #1 - guaranteed cost; and to approve the May 2022 budget transfers in the amount of \$501,351.27; and to approve extending the professional services agreement with the Berks County Intermediate Unit to provide payroll services on behalf of the district, at the rate of \$60/hour, from July 1, 2022, through July 31, 2022, with the option to re-extend the agreement.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 8.9** Approves the addendum to the sports insurance proposal from AXIS Insurance for the 2022-2023 school year to add coverage for the girls' powder puff football game, with no increase in the premium.

Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Linda Lash to approve the addendum to the sports insurance proposal from AXIS Insurance for the 2022-2023 school year to add coverage for the girls' powder puff football game, with no increase in the premium.

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 8:01 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 2022, in the Auditorium of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, July 18, 2022.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 9.1** Approves the agreements from Ehrlich Pest Control, for monthly pest management services as listed, from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

- Elementary School \$117.00
- Middle School \$110.00
- High School \$117.00
- Maintenance Building \$ 52.00

- 9.2** Approves advertising the following surplus equipment items on Municibid:

- 1 - Airflow E-Z Arm welding table exhaust system M#7E07 S#1000512 (480v/3ph) - removal of equipment is the responsibility of winning bidder
- 1 - Miller Econo Twin AC/DC Arc Welding Machine S#HF884099
- 1 - Wellsaw band saw - M#58B S#17208 (115v)
- 1 - Airco 200amp AC MCM Transformer welder M#2ADT-224-A S#K194598 (208/230/460 1ph)
- 2 - Toro Line Painter 1200 - 1 unit is operational but needs general replacement parts and 1 unit is for parts - sold as a pair
- 1 - Hobart Handler 140 wire feed welder - 115v 25-140 amp
- 1 - Dayton 5000lb capacity pallet jack M#3W094B S397468 - has oil seal leak and does not lift
- 1 - Lift Rite pallet jack that does lift
- 1 - Toro Versa Vac leaf vacuum M#07051 S#316000111

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the agreements from Ehrlich Pest Control, for monthly pest management services as listed, from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; and to approve advertising the surplus equipment items in Item 9.2 on Municibid, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

10.0 STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of Committee Deliberations – Nicoleen M. Kleffel

The Student Services and Activities Committee met at 8:20 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 2022, in the Auditorium of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, July 18, 2022.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 10.1** Approves the enrollment of the following students in the agriculture program of the Tulpehocken Area School District for the 2022-2023 school year, at Tulpehocken's state-certified tuition rate:

Makenzie Hansley	Grade 11
Taylor Hansley	Grade 10

- 10.2** Approves the request from Dr. Elizabeth Schucker to participate in the 2022-2023 What's So Cool About Manufacturing (WSCM) Career Awareness Program on October 12, 2022. There is no cost to the district for this program.
- 10.3** Approves the presentation agreement with Dion Leonard, author of "Finding Gobi", for an in-person appearance at the middle school to conduct two presentations on November 14, 2022. The appearance will be paid through the middle school student activity funds.
- 10.4** Approves the one-year contract with School Datebooks for the 2022-23 middle school agenda books, at a cost of \$3,951.38.
- 10.5** Approves the one-year contract with Schoolmate for the 2022-23 elementary school agenda books, at a cost of \$1,904.40.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by George Mertz to approve the enrollment of two students in the agriculture program of the Tulpehocken Area School District for the 2022-2023 school year, at Tulpehocken's state-certified tuition rate, as presented; and to approve the request from Dr. Elizabeth Schucker to participate in the 2022-2023 What's So Cool About Manufacturing (WSCM) Career Awareness Program on October 12, 2022. There is no cost to the district for this program; and to approve the presentation agreement with Dion Leonard, author of "Finding Gobi", for an in-person appearance at the middle school to conduct two presentations on November 14, 2022. The appearance will be paid through the middle school student activity funds; and to approve the one-year contract with School Datebooks for the 2022-23 middle school agenda books, at a cost of \$3,951.38; and to approve the one-year contract with Schoolmate for the 2022-23 elementary school agenda books, at a cost of \$1,904.40.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.6** Approves the contract extension with Penn State Health St. Joseph to extend athletic training services through July 31, 2022, at the rate of \$30/per hour, not to exceed \$2,000. All other terms and conditions of the agreement will continue in effect.
- 10.7** Approves the Settlement Agreement and Release between the parents, individually on their own behalf and on behalf of their minor child, Student #3613, as proposed, and further, authorizes the Board President and Board Secretary to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release on behalf of the District.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the contract extension with Penn State Health St. Joseph to extend athletic training services through July 31, 2022, at the rate of \$30/per hour, not to exceed \$2,000. All other terms and conditions of the agreement will continue in effect; and to approve the Settlement Agreement and Release between the parents, individually on their own behalf and on behalf of their minor child, Student #3613, as proposed, and further, authorizes the Board President and Board Secretary to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release on behalf of the District.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: Middle School Athletic Uniforms

10.8

Miss Deibler, Athletic Director, stated that the district's high school uniforms are in a replacement cycle of 5-6 years depending on their wear. This system was developed many years ago and that way coaches know when its time to replace uniforms. After the lifespan of 5-6 years use at the high school, the uniforms are then passed down to the junior high. They do try to order small sizes for the high school, keeping in mind that the uniforms will eventually be used by the junior high, but you do have a variety of sizes for 7-8th grade athletes, and there are times when a uniform may not be the correct size. She was asked to look at the cost of having dedicated junior high uniforms and worked with a sales representative to get some ball park figures for mid-cost uniforms. They also looked at reversible jerseys for soccer and field hockey, however Miss Deibler recommends having two separate jerseys to make it more convenient for parents. The estimated cost came back at almost \$33,000 if we did everything in a one-year package. She asked the Board to keep in mind that in 5-6 years we would look at another budget item to replace all of the uniforms. We could set up a schedule of replacements much like we do with the high school where we would be replacing junior high uniforms. Mr. Miller asked about the current 5-6 year cycle and is it possible to fit this in as one of those years where one year on that cycle would be junior high uniforms and Miss Deibler stated that they could certainly do a junior high replacement cycle. Mr. Miller asked if there was currently a problem with the junior high football helmets and the sizing because that is a major safety issue. Miss Deibler stated that the estimated cost was strictly for uniforms, but they are good with the sizing of helmets and in fact, all of our helmets are equipped with the *InSite* technology which has concussion sensors. When football was brought back in 1999, all new helmets were needed. We have now committed every year to order at least 12 new helmets, because you never know when we send them away for reconditioning how many won't pass the recertification. By doing at least 12 every year, with losing some after the 10-year cycle or due to a crack in the helmet, we try to maintain a broad enough size range for the helmets. They also have the Riddell sales representative visit the district and do fittings for the athletes so that we know the helmets are fitting correctly. When it comes to the budget, uniforms probably don't make our teams play better, but the number one thing we want to do with the budget is get the best safety equipment for our athletes. Mr. Rossi asked how many bids were received and Miss Deibler stated that she didn't receive any quotes, she used one of our sales reps that does a lot of our uniforms just to get a ballpark idea, however we would look at costing these out. Dr. Taschner added that she asked for an initial idea of what it would cost the district and then we'd go back and try to get the best prices. She clarified with Mr. Miller that for the replacement cycle, he suggested putting it within the existing cycle instead of creating a separate cycle for the junior high. Mr. Moll asked for Miss Deibler's suggestion on replacing uniforms and she stated that if we have the financial resources to replace junior high uniforms, that would be great. We could possibly phase them in over two to three years. In terms of the athletic budget for the 2022-23 school year, she does not have the extra \$33,000, and the kids would appreciate it. There's growth going from youth programs where parents typically buy the uniforms as part of registration and kids have their names on the back of their jerseys, and then you go to junior high where they're getting a seven to nine year old uniform. It all comes down to what the Board would like to recommend. Mr. Mertz stated that he would like to move forward and Mr. Moll added to move forward on a multi-year using a 2-3 year cycle instead of a

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5-6 year cycle. Also, the junior high uniforms will hopefully last a little longer due to a shorter cycle and they'll be in better condition for the athletes. He asked her to give it some thought and come back to the Board. Miss Deibler stated that 2-4 sports are scheduled for replacement each year of the cycle. When the cycle was developed they tried to look at the structure so it would be about \$12,000 to \$15,000 each year in terms of the replacements. Mr. Miller agreed with Mr. Mertz to go ahead and take care of the junior high uniforms as stated in Miss Deibler's memo and then plug them into the cycle however she sees fit. Mr. Moll thanked Miss Deibler for her time.

11.0 OTHER BUSINESS/GOOD OF THE ORDER

12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Moll announced that there would be an executive session immediately following the meeting for negotiations.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Alfonso Rossi, 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 7:56 p.m.



Linda R. Lash, Secretary
Board of School Directors