

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

MINUTES

June 20, 2022

1.0 **The Special Meeting was called to order at 8:30 p.m. by the Board President, David E. Moll, held in the Auditorium 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

Board Member Paul L. Bendigo was not physically present but participated and voted via speakerphone.

Members Absent: 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, Casey Blankenbiller, Dr. Melissa Brewer, Robin Brightbill, Diane Kaag, Dr. Joshua Kuehner, John Reedy

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

Marie Perry, Centre Township - Board Appreciation, CNN10, USDA Press Release
Kelly Steinke, Bern Township – Policies and Procedures, Staff Turnover Rate

3.0 **BOARD**

Schuylkill Valley Education Association: Collective Bargaining Agreement

3.1 The Board is requested to consider and approve the tentative agreement and new collective bargaining agreement between the Schuylkill Valley School District Board of School Directors and the Schuylkill Valley Education Association. The Agreement shall commence on July 1, 2023 following the expiration of the current contract and shall be in effect until June 30, 2028. In approving this motion, the Board so authorizes the Superintendent of Schools along with the Board Personnel Committee and the District's Labor Counsel to finalize any and all applicable language for the successor collective bargaining agreement.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to consider and approve the tentative agreement and new collective bargaining agreement between the Schuylkill Valley School District Board of School Directors and the Schuylkill Valley Education Association. The Agreement shall commence on July 1, 2023 following the expiration of the current contract and shall be in effect until June 30, 2028. In approving this motion, the Board so authorizes the Superintendent of Schools along with the Board Personnel Committee and the District's Labor Counsel to finalize any and all applicable language for the successor collective bargaining agreement.

Roll Call Vote

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

Motion passed unanimously.

SVSD Hybrid Regional Based Electoral Plan

3.2 RESOLVED that the Board of School Directors hereby authorize and approve the revisions to the Schuylkill Valley School Districts' Hybrid Regional Based Electoral Plan by adopting a regional plan which will have Board Representation by three (3) Regional representatives from each of the three regions below:

1. Region 1: The present boundaries of the First and Third Districts of Bern Township.
2. Region 2: The present boundaries of the Second Districts of Bern Township, the Borough of Leesport, and Ontelaunee Township.
3. Region 3: The Present boundaries of the First and Second Districts of Centre Township and the Borough of Centerport.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of School Directors, by and through its conflict counsel, Brumbach, Mancuso, & Fegley, P.C., hereby authorize the filing of a Petition with the Court of Common Pleas of Berks County, Pennsylvania pursuant to Section 3-303 of the Pennsylvania School Code to establish the new representation plan for the School District. Further, the Board of School Directors authorize its Superintendent to execute the necessary documents to effectuate and carry out the said Petition.

Approved and executed on this 20th day of June, 2022.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the revisions to the Schuylkill Valley School Districts' Hybrid Regional Based Electoral Plan by adopting a regional plan which will have Board Representation by three (3) Regional representatives from each of the three regions, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

4.0 BUDGET AND FINANCE

Homestead and Farmstead Resolution

4.1 The Board is requested to consider and approve adopting a resolution authorizing homestead and farmstead real estate tax assessment reductions.

2022-2023 Tax Structure/Resolution

4.2 The Board is requested to consider and approve the tax structure and resolution for the 2022-2023 fiscal year as follows:

Real Estate Tax	27.82 mils
Real Estate Transfer Tax	½ %
Earned Income Tax	½ %

Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve adopting a resolution authorizing homestead and farmstead real estate tax assessment reductions; and to approve the tax structure and resolution for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 4.3** 2022-23 Final General Fund Budget
The Board is requested to consider and approve the adoption of the 2022-23 Final General Fund Budget in the amount of \$42,995,392, which does not include a real estate tax increase.

Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the adoption of the 2022-23 Final General Fund Budget in the amount of \$42,995,392, which does not include a real estate tax increase.

Roll Call Vote

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

Motion passed unanimously.

5.0 STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

- 5.1** ESY Supplemental Staffing: Soliant Health, LLC
The Board is requested to consider and approve the client assignment confirmation with Soliant Health, LLC, to provide supplemental staffing for the Extended School Year (ESY) Registered Nurse position from June 21, 2022 through August 4, 2022, at the rate of \$73.00 per hour.

Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the client assignment confirmation with Soliant Health, LLC, to provide supplemental staffing for the Extended School Year (ESY) Registered Nurse position from June 21, 2022 through August 4, 2022, at the rate of \$73.00 per hour.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

6.0 Other (Old/New Business)

Mrs. Lash stated that the district is required to have their budget to the state by June 30, but as yet we do not have a state budget. This is something that we need to consider and one major item that we're looking for in schools is the mental health distribution of funds. There is a bill pending that the mental health funds could be available via grants and a lot of districts are upset about this because they would like to have that money distributed across all of the school districts and not have to fill out a lot of paperwork just to get some money from the state. She encouraged everyone to contact their legislators to get the budget completed so that school districts know what they're getting and can start their school year on a good note.

7.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

8.0 ADJOURNMENT


Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel that, there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

**June 20, 2022
Special Meeting**



Linda R. Lash, Secretary
Board of School Directors