

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

**MINUTES**

**June 28, 2021**

- 1.0 The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board President, G. Dane Miller, in the LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room 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, Kevin Raudenbush, Alfonso F. Rossi

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

Secretary: Linda R. Lash

Treasurer: Michelle Kauffman (not present)

Recording Secretary: Susan A. Christman

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Janet Heilman, Michael Billman, Casey Blankenbiller, Robin Brightbill, Changming Wang, Jason Williams

- 1.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Kevin Raudenbush to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 24, 2021, and to approve the minutes of the special meeting on June 21, 2021, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 1.4 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Miller reported that the Board met in executive session on May 24, 2021, for personnel matters and negotiations, and on June 8, 2021, for personnel matters, and on June 21, 2021, for personnel matters.

- 2.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

- 2.1 PRESIDENT – G. Dane Miller**

Mr. Miller noted that Board members will meet with Commissioner Rivera on July 16 in regard to the Incarcerated Youth Education Program.

- 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 17. There is no meeting scheduled for July. The BCIU's Preparation for Adult Life (PAL) Program honored two students during a graduation ceremony at the BCTC East on May 26. One of the students is from SV and she and her paraeducator were pictured in the BCIU NewsLink June newsletter. The IU passed its 2021-22 Health and Safety Plan. They also discussed cyber charter education, the progress of the state budget, and the current school bus driver shortage.

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

Mr. Mertz reported that Dr. Stauffer, the former East Campus principal, has been appointed the Executive Director after Dr. Kraft's retirement. Mr. Mertz also presented a video showing all of the BCTC student built homes. They are building their 22<sup>nd</sup> home this year and the students are hands-on for almost every task involved. They try to do one home about every two years with a different concept. There is a development near the East Campus in Oley and they are ready to start the second phase. Also, the CDL program for adults is growing and they will now be offering a course at night for high school students that are 17 years old and have their driver's license. They will be taught the theory portion of the course and then if they turn 18 while they are a senior, BCTC will help them get their permit and start learning how to drive. The BCTC students of the quarter at the East Campus were Nathan Raver for computer systems, networking and security and Sebastian Rentschler for auto collision repair and technology.

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

Mr. Moll reported that they held their quarterly meeting on June 24. He gave an update in regard to the tax software. Berks EIT had signed an agreement with a programming firm to spend \$1 million for a tax software package. They got to around \$750,000 and it really was not adequately doing what it was supposed to be doing, so it was decided to stop using the software and also terminate the executive director. Two lawsuits were filed back and forth and everyone lost. Berks EIT did not get the \$750,000 back and were not required to pay the last \$250,000. However, when this went to arbitration it was decided that Berks EIT needed to pay the remaining \$250,000. They have now gone with another firm in Lancaster.

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

Mrs. Lash reported that their meeting on June 1 was in regard to school counselors. They noted that there would be an increased number of students suffering from depression and other mental health issues this year. They are advocating for school counselors to be able to attend conferences in the upcoming school year. Last week they discussed senate and house bills including SB1 which is a charter school reform proposal as well as an automatic Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program funding escalator. Also, Senate Bill 664: Optional Year of Education Due to COVID-19 will go to Governor Wolf for signature. This bill amends the Public School Code to permit an optional additional year of education at a school entity for the 2021-22 school year. The bill would also extend that option to parents of special education students and parents must elect to enroll their students by July 15. Special education students who have reached age 21 may continue to be enrolled for the upcoming school year. In addition, the state budget went to the governor on June 26 for his signature.

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

Lisa Jacobson, Bern Township, stated that the Board would be approving her resignation this evening as the School Psychologist at the elementary school. She started with Schuylkill Valley in 2003 and even before she started here she had a great connection with the district. She admired the close-knit community and throughout her time here she learned to value this even more. She has been with the district for 18 years and has had many different supervisors. She felt confident that she was here for the long haul and whatever was going on, she would outlast the issues and stay the course. This changed the past school year, and as it went on, her loyalty was badly shaken and for the first time she wasn't sure whether she could outlast what was going on nor did she really want to. She chose to seek employment elsewhere and chose to take a pay cut and leave an amazing group of co-workers. She feels that this year the environment in the district was so toxic that she no longer wanted to be here and that the culture



was so difficult to work with. There are a lot of current administrators that are new and inexperienced in their positions. She stated that the Board and the district are at crossroads right now and soon a decision will be made on how the district moves. There is a lot of damage that has been done in our district and the impact of that will continue to be felt by the staff even though the superintendent is gone. Our next superintendent needs to be someone who can not only run this district, but who can heal the damage that has been done this past year. We need someone with district-level experience who cannot only guide the new administrators so their buildings can run effectively, but who can also make this a place where staff members will want to stay and a district where parents can be proud to say their children attend. Our community deserves so much better than what has gone on this past year.

Kelly Steinke, Bern Township, stated that at the May 24 meeting a parent expressed concern regarding flags hanging in our classrooms that maybe shouldn't be there. The parent was cut off and was told that was a personnel issue. She doesn't know what the parent was going to discuss at the time but she feels there are things that should be taught in school and things that should be taught at home. She has many friends, colleagues and associates that are in the LGBTQ+ community and she is not opposed to anyone being happy and living their life in the fashion that they see fit, but she doesn't think this should be taught at school. This is something that a parent should teach their children in the form and fashion that they see fit. There are things that are offensive to some that may not be offensive to others that don't belong in the school building. We need to make sure that when we are discussing issues, that it is on a level that parents are comfortable. She met with Dr. Heilman to discuss this topic and wanted to bring it to the Board's attention. Her children received a survey which asked for gender and the choices were "male, female, non-binary and I prefer not to say." She was told that the Board did not prepare the survey but it was still allowed to be sent out. She feels that "male, female and I prefer not to say" should be the choices as she had to explain to her 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade children what that meant. She feels she should not have had to have this conversation with her children at this time. They are here to be taught English, math, science and social studies and they are here to socialize with their friends. Students have gone through enough in the past year and do not need to have things like this in our classrooms that parents then have to decide how to handle those topics at home.

Heather Yobb, Ontelaunee Township, stated that she was addressing the Board about masking our children. Although the Board may be willing to lift the mask mandate here at SV she feels it is important to keep this topic at the forefront of the conversation. Whatever happens in the future, a mask mandate should never be put into place again. Not only is she a parent of three children but she is an educator that teaches 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students, so she believes she has the unique ability to see how the masking mandates have affected students in a negative manner. Covering up faces takes away the positive social emotional impact that we have on each other. Students have personally confided in her how they are now depressed and have social anxiety when being around people. Are we willing to allow a pandemic with a less than 1% death rate to destroy the mental well-being of our growing and developing children and teens? Are we teaching them to treat others as though they are lepers? The message "care for others" however does not convey care. In October 2020, in a German study of mask wearing in nearly 30,000 children, 68% of the parents reported impairments caused by wearing a mask. The complaints included irritability, headaches, difficulty concentrating, less happiness, reluctance to go to school, malaise, shortness of breath, impaired learning, and drowsiness and fatigue. Nearly one-third of the children developed sleep issues and a quarter of the children developed new fears. How can we expect children to learn when they're feeling like this? Can you work to your best potential when you feel like this? Although there are many more studies that have come out to show the harmful effects of mask wearing, due to her limited time to speak she wants to move on to what the experts have stated. In March 2020, Dr. Fauci stated wearing a mask might make people feel a bit better, but it's not providing the protection people think it does. In February 2021, five days after Dr. Fauci said that it's common sense to wear two masks, he admitted there's no data supporting that statement. Do you make life or death decisions with no data? In February 2020, the U.S. Surgeon General stated masks are not

effective in preventing the general public from catching the corona virus. In a March 2020 interview, he said that one of the things the general public should not be doing is going out and buying masks. He continued by saying that it actually does not help and it has not been proven to be effective at preventing the spread of the virus. In October 2020, the CDC said the risk for infection was higher for those wearing cloth masks versus medical masks, and the filtration effectiveness, fit and performance of cloth masks are inferior to those of medical masks and respirators. A CDC report released in September 2020 shows masks and face coverings are not effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and always wearing a mask did not reduce the risk of infection. 85% of people infected with the virus reported always wearing a mask. With that said she requested that the Board make a motion to move into the 2021-22 school year providing students and staff with the option to wear masks or not. Allow families to decide on what is best for their child regardless of what happens in the future because only a parent truly knows what's best for his or her individual child.

Katrina Gonzalez, Centerport Borough, asked if the school was funded for having a shot clinic on campus. Mr. Miller stated that he did not know the answer to that. She also asked if there was funding for the school for following the CDC and state guidelines and mandates. Mr. Miller stated that the district is required to follow state guidelines. There is also ESSER funding which is COVID relief funding. Ms. Gonzalez stated that the Acting Education Secretary, Noe Ortega, was asked about the PDE guidelines and the vaccination requirements for the upcoming school year. Mr. Ortega stated that the schools did not need to follow this for the upcoming school year.

Mr. Miller stated that there would be a very extensive discussion among Board members about what should be and what should not be in the Health and Safety Plan. The Board has heard a lot from the residents of the district and there has been a lot of feedback which will be part of their discussion on this topic.

#### 4.0 BOARD

##### Revised Emergency Instructional Time Template

- 4.1 The Board is requested to consider and approve the 2021-2022 Emergency Instructional Time Template, as presented.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Kevin Raudenbush to approve the 2021-2022 Emergency Instructional Time Template, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

##### Enrollment: Tulpehocken Area School District

- 4.2 The Board is requested to consider and approve the enrollment of the following student in the agriculture program of the Tulpehocken Area School District for the 2021-2022 school year, at Tulpehocken's state-certified tuition rate:

Makenzie Hansley                      Grade 10

**Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the enrollment of Makenzie Hansley, Grade 10, in the agriculture program of the Tulpehocken Area School District for the 2021-2022 school year, at Tulpehocken's state-certified tuition rate.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**



Settlement Agreement and Release

- 4.3 The Board is requested to consider and approve the Settlement Agreement and Release between the parents, individually on their own behalf and on behalf of their minor child, Student #1877, 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 Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve the Settlement Agreement and Release between the parents, individually on their own behalf and on behalf of their minor child, Student #1877, 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, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Contract for Services

- 4.4 The Board is requested to consider and approve the service agreement with PSBA (Pennsylvania School Boards Association) to provide an online posting of the Superintendent of Schools position, at a cost of \$475.00.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the service agreement with PSBA (Pennsylvania School Boards Association) to provide an online posting of the Superintendent of Schools position, at a cost of \$475.00.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, 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' Report
- 5.1.3 Dropout Report

Superintendent's Update

- 5.2 Dr. Heilman welcomed the individuals in the audience who were being approved for employment with the district. She also thanked the high school staff and administration for the wonderful graduation ceremony held on June 8.

6.0 **POLICY, PERSONNEL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**

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

The Policy, Personnel and Public Relations Committee met at 6:44 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 2021, in the Schuylkill Valley High School LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, July 19, 2021.

***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

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

- 6.1 Accepts, with regret and best wishes for the future, the following resignation due to retirement effective with the last day of the 2020-21 school term unless otherwise noted:

Ms. Eileen Coulehan, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher at the Elementary School.

**Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the resignation due to retirement in Item 6.1, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

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

**6.2.1** Mr. Francis Davitt, III, Full-Time Custodian, effective June 4, 2021.

**6.2.2** Ms. Lisa Jacobson, School Psychologist at the elementary school, effective June 24, 2021.

**6.2.3** Ms. Deanne Johnson, Part-Time Lunchroom Aide at the elementary school, effective June 4, 2021.

**6.2.4** Ms. Angela Lucas, Full-Time Head Custodian at the elementary school, effective July 15, 2021.

**6.2.5** Ms. Michelle Reed, Guidance Secretary at the high school, effective June 30, 2021.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the resignations in Items 6.2.1 through and including 6.2.5, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, 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. Alexis Grimm, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher at the Elementary School, Bachelor's, Step 3, \$53,022, to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Ms. Eileen Coulehan, effective with the start of the 2021-22 school year.

**6.3.2** Mrs. Danielle Neuin, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher at the Elementary School, Bachelor's, Step 3, \$53,022, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Paige Harding, effective with the start of the 2021-22 school year.

**6.3.3** Mrs. Rachel Wade, Digital Citizenship Teacher at the Middle School, MS, Step 2, \$57,549, to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Mr. Charles Mohn, effective with the start of the 2021-22 school year.

**6.3.4** Mrs. Lori Shuart, from Special Education (Autistic Support) Teacher at the elementary school to Special Education (Autistic Support) Teacher at the middle school, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Ean Costenbader, effective with the start of the 2021-22 school year.

**6.3.5** Additional 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.

- 6.3.6 Summer school staff at the middle school, with teachers to be paid at the professional hourly rate of \$27, per the SVEA Collective Bargaining Agreement, for a maximum of 9 hours per week and per staff member.
- 6.3.7 Mr. Peter Laspopoulos, Part-Time Lunchroom Aide, 4 hours per day at an hourly rate of \$11.00, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Deanne Johnson, effective with the start of the 2021-22 school year.
- 6.3.8 Mr. Jacob Jerdan, from Part-Time Food Services Worker, 3 hours a day, to Part-Time Food Services Worker, 3.5 hours a day, due to increased need, effective with the start of the 2021-22 school year.
- 6.3.9 Mr. Kurt Poland, Part-Time Temporary Summer IT Intern, at an hourly rate of pay of \$10.00, effective approximately July 1, 2021, through no later than August 27, 2021.
- 6.3.10 Department chairperson for the 2020-21 school year.
- 6.3.11 Substitute for the 2021-22 school year.
- 6.3.12 Volunteers for the 2020-21 school year.

**Board Action: Moved by Robert Dempsey and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the employment in Items 6.3.1 through and including 6.3.12, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.3.13 Miss Jade Gery, Kindergarten Teacher at the elementary school, Bachelor's, Step 2, \$51,913, to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Mr. Micah Storms to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Rachel Himes-Dewalt, effective with the start of the 2021-22 school year.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the employment in Item 6.3.13, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.3.14 Miss Katelyn Faux, Long-Term Substitute 4th Grade Teacher at the elementary school, Bachelor's, Step 2, \$51,913, to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Mr. Daniel Shuman, effective for the 2021-22 school year.

**Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by George Mertz to approve the employment in Item 6.3.14, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.3.15** Mr. Clayton Pirtle, Long-Term Substitute 2nd Grade Teacher at the elementary school, Bachelor's, Step 1, \$50,803 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence of Mrs. Jill White; effective with the start of the 2021-22 school year through approximately November 24, 2021.

**Board Action:** Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the employment in Item 6.3.15, as presented.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.3.16** Mrs. Taylor Serafin, Long-Term Substitute Kindergarten Teacher at the Elementary School, BS, Step 1, \$50,803, to fill the new position created due to increased need, effective for the 2021-22 school year.

**Board Action:** Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the employment in Item 6.3.16, as presented.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.3.17** Ms. Robin Brightbill to the Berks County School District Health Trust Board for a two-year term, July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023.

**Board Action:** Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the employment in Item 6.3.17, as presented.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.3.18** Summer school staff at the elementary school, with teachers to be paid at the professional hourly rate of \$27, per the SVEA Collective Bargaining Agreement, paraprofessionals to be paid at their regular hourly rate, for a maximum of 6 hours per week and per staff member, maximum of 9 hours per week and per staff member for lead teachers with 5 hours prior to the start of the program and after the conclusion of the program for reports.

**Board Action:** Moved by Robert Dempsey and seconded by George Mertz to approve the employment in Item 6.3.18, as presented.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.3.19** Mrs. Jenny Rexrode, Principal at the High School, at an annual salary of \$116,000 (prorated for actual days worked) and a one-time, non-PSERS eligible bonus of \$9,000, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. Sarah Yoder, effective date to be determined.

**Board Action:** Moved by George Mertz and seconded by David Moll to approve the employment in Item 6.3.19, as presented.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi



**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.3.20** Mr. Christopher Dean, English Teacher at the high school, Bachelor's, Step 2, \$51,913, to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Ms. Katie Heffner, effective with the start of the 2021-22 school year.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Kevin Raudenbush to approve the employment in Item 6.3.20, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.3.21** Mr. Shane Silas, Special Education Teacher at the Elementary School, \$57,996 (prorated for actual days worked), Bachelor's, Step 8, to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Ms. Lori Shuart, effective pending release from current assignment.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Linda Lash to approve the employment in Item 6.3.21, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.4** Approves the agreement with Carol H. Gilbert Consulting for the mandatory café supervisory and staff training on August 23, 2021, in the amount of \$658.00, and an additional \$20.00 estimated for travel and mileage expenses.

**Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Kevin Raudenbush to approve the agreement in Item 6.4, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.5** Approves the following childrearing leave of absences for the 2021-2022 school year:

- Mrs. Kelly Duncan, Special Education Teacher at the Middle School, effective September 7, 2021, through September 30, 2021.
- Mrs. Janel Smith, School Counselor at the Middle School, effective for the 2021-22 school year.

**Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by George Mertz to approve the childrearing leave of absences in Item 6.5, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.6** Approves the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of School Directors of the Schuylkill Valley School District and the Schuylkill Valley Education Association relating to course development positions for the Schuylkill Valley Cyber Academy for the 2021-22 school year.

**Board Action:** Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by David Moll to approve the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of School Directors of the Schuylkill Valley School District and the Schuylkill Valley Education Association relating to course development positions for the Schuylkill Valley Cyber Academy for the 2021-22 school year.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.7 Approves the second reading and final adoption of Policy 103: Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students, as revised.

**Board Action:** Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the second reading and final adoption of Policy 103: Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students, as revised.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.8 Approves the second reading and final adoption of Policy 104: Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff, as revised.

**Board Action:** Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve the second reading and final adoption of Policy 104: Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff, as revised.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.9 Approves the second reading and final adoption of Policy 247: Hazing, as revised.

**Board Action:** Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by George Mertz to approve the second reading and final adoption of Policy 247: Hazing, as revised.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.10 Approves the second reading and final adoption of Policy 249: Bullying/Cyberbullying, as revised.

**Board Action:** Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by George Mertz to approve the second reading and final adoption of Policy 249: Bullying/Cyberbullying, as revised.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.11 Approves the second reading and final adoption of new Policy 317.1: Educator Misconduct.

**Board Action:** Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve the second reading and final adoption of Policy 317.1: Educator Misconduct.



**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.12** Approves the second reading and final adoption of Policy 824: Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries, as revised.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve the second reading and final adoption of Policy 824: Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries, as revised.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **7.0 CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY**

### ***Summary of Committee Deliberations – Kevin Raudenbush***

The Curriculum and Technology Committee met at 7:15 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 2021, in the Schuylkill Valley High School LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, July 19, 2021.

### ***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

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

- 7.1** Approves ratification of the agreement with Melney Reich to provide Students #3613 and #3702 extended school year services, at the rate of \$85 per hour, from June 21, 2021, through August 27, 2021.
- 7.2** Approves the agreement with EdInsight, for professional development and curriculum management, from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024, in the amount of \$16,000.00.
- 7.3** Approves the agreement with EBS (Educational Based Services) to provide extended school year services, from June 22, 2021, through August 5, 2021.
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst \$83 per hour, minimum 10.5 hours per week
  - Occupational Therapist \$62 per hour, minimum 10.5 hours per week
  - Speech Language Pathologist \$64 per hour, minimum 10.5 hours per week

- 7.4** Approves the Dual Enrollment Agreement with Albright College for the 2021-2022 academic year. NOTE: The student and parent/family will be responsible for the cost of tuition, purchasing of textbooks and any course instructional materials unless otherwise specified.

**Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by George Mertz to approve the actions in Items 7.1 through and including 7.4, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **8.0 BUDGET AND FINANCE**

### ***Summary of Committee Deliberations – David E. Moll***

The Budget and Finance Committee met at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 2021, in the Schuylkill Valley High School LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, July 19, 2021.

***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 12, 2021, to June 29, 2021, as presented.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$822,626.03</b>
<b>CAFETERIA FUND</b>	<b>\$10,214.22</b>
<b>CAPITAL PROJECT FUND</b>	<b>\$34,116.87</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FUND</b>	<b>\$685,126.00</b>
<b>TECHNOLOGY RESERVE FUND</b>	<b>\$19,157.45</b>
<b>SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS</b>	<b>\$10,700.00</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,581,940.57</b>

**Board Action:** Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve/ratify the payment of bills in Item 8.1 from May 12, 2021, to June 29, 2021, as presented.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.2** Grants approval for business office personnel to process bills for payment up to and including June 30, 2021; the list of bills will be presented for ratification at the regular Board meeting in July 2021.
- 8.3** Approves the BCIU joint purchasing bids for the 2021-2022 school year as follows:
- General Supplies - \$26,647.25  
Paper - \$2,065.60
- 8.4** Approves the 2020-21 budget transfers in the amount of \$1,979,802.
- 8.5** Approves the following depositories for the 2021-22 school year:

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

**Board Action:** Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by George Mertz to approve business office personnel to process bills for payment up to and including June 30, 2021 (the list of bills will be presented for ratification at the regular Board meeting in July 2021); and to approve the BCIU joint purchasing bids for the 2021-2022 school year in Item 8.3, as presented; and to approve the 2020-21 budget transfers in the amount of \$1,979,802; and to approve the depositories for the 2021-22 school year in Item 8.5, as presented.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi



**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.6 Approves the adoption of the 2021-2022 Final General Fund Budget in the amount of \$41,680,075, which does not include a real estate tax increase.

**Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the adoption of the 2021-2022 Final General Fund Budget in the amount of \$41,680,075, which does not include a real estate tax increase.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.7 Approves the tax structure for the 2021-2022 fiscal year as follows:

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

- 8.8 Adopts a resolution authorizing homestead and farmstead real estate tax assessment reductions.

- 8.9 Approves the insurance rates for the 2021-2022 school year as follows:

- Liability: CM Regent - \$84,347
- Workers' Compensation: Key Risk - \$98,551

- 8.10 Accepts a donation from the United Way of Berks County, in the amount of \$5,000.00, to support Title I Students' Literacy Learning.

**Board Action: Moved by David Moll and seconded by Kevin Raudenbush to approve the tax structure for the 2021-22 fiscal year in Item 8.7, as presented; and adopts a resolution authorizing homestead and farmstead real estate tax assessment reductions; and approves the insurance rates for the 2021-2022 school year in Item 8.9, as presented; and accepts a donation from the United Way of Berks County, in the amount of \$5,000.00, to support Title I Students' Literacy Learning.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.11 Accepts a donation from Mr. George Grauer, in the amount of \$2,500.00, for the Schuylkill Valley Scholarship Fund.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to accept a donation from Mr. George Grauer, in the amount of \$2,500.00, for the Schuylkill Valley Scholarship Fund.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**9.0 BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

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

The Buildings and Grounds Committee met at 8:13 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 2021, in the Schuylkill Valley High School LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, July 19, 2021.

***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

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

- 9.1** Approves the quote from The A.G. Mauro Company for the replacement of the storage room doors in the softball dugout, in the amount of \$8,095.00, to be paid from the Capital Project Fund.
- 9.2** Approves the proposal from Integrated Aquatics Engineering for the filter replacement and plaster finish/concrete repairs at the middle school pool, in the amount of \$29,500.00, to be paid from the Capital Project Fund.
- 9.3** Approves the quote from Veritiv Corporation for a carpet extractor, in the amount of \$3,082.95.
- 9.4** Approves the machinery maintenance agreement with Shop Specialties Inc., for the high school wood shop, for the 2021-22 school year, in the amount of \$1,800.00.
- 9.5** Approves the agreements from Ehrlich Pest Control, for monthly pest management services as listed, from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.
- |                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| • Elementary School    | \$107.50 |
| • Middle School        | \$101.50 |
| • High School          | \$107.50 |
| • Maintenance Building | \$ 48.00 |

**Board Action:** Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve the quote from The A.G. Mauro Company for the replacement of the storage room doors in the softball dugout, in the amount of \$8,095.00, to be paid from the Capital Project Fund; and to approve the proposal from Integrated Aquatics Engineering for the filter replacement and plaster finish/concrete repairs at the middle school pool, in the amount of \$29,500.00, to be paid from the Capital Project Fund; and to approve the quote from Veritiv Corporation for a carpet extractor, in the amount of \$3,082.95; and to approve the machinery maintenance agreement with Shop Specialties Inc., for the high school wood shop for the 2021-22 school year, in the amount of \$1,800.00; and to approve the agreements in Item 9.5 from Ehrlich Pest Control, for monthly pest management services from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, as presented.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

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

Mr. Rossi noted that the commemorative bricks at the stadium entrance are due to be cleaned and sealed. Mr. Blankenbiller has this on his schedule for July. Also, Mr. Blankenbiller stated that the BCIU did a walk-through about a year and a half ago and provided a report stating that the signage throughout the campus is lacking in how to direct people to our buildings. Part of the grant that was approved and received was \$15,000 for signage and the installation of the signage. He walked the campus with Sign Pros and has emailed Board members the proofs for



the signage. If there are no objections to the proofs, he will continue with Sign Pros to complete the project. The larger signs are 30' wide x 40' tall and will be mounted on two 4x4 pressure treated posts with a white vinyl sleeve. The logo will be at the top of the sign and the address of the space will be centered under the logo. Mr. Blankenbiller also stated that currently the roof at the high school is being restored. Every roof drain will be rebuilt, all flashing will be replaced, expansion joints are replaced, and all stone is removed and the roof is recoated with new stone. Our insulation was in good shape and everything was structurally sound, and it is much more economical to restore the roof rather than replace it. The project is going very well and is ahead of schedule.

## **10.0 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

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

The Extracurricular Activities Committee met at 8:21 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 2021, in the Schuylkill Valley High School LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, July 19, 2021.

### ***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

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

- 10.1** Approves the proposal from Pro Max Fence Systems for additional fencing at the stadium, at a cost of \$9,620.00, to be fully funded by the Panther Pride Stadium Committee.

**Board Action:** Moved by David Moll and seconded by George Mertz to approve the proposal from Pro Max Fence Systems for additional fencing at the stadium, at a cost of \$9,620.00, to be fully funded by the Panther Pride Stadium Committee.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

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

Mr. Miller asked the Board members to address their questions and concerns to Dr. Heilman regarding the Health and Safety Plan for the 2021-22 school year. The plan will be discussed at the July meetings. Mr. Dempsey noted the passing of former Board member Glenn Jacoby. Mr. Jacoby served 12 years on our school board and was intelligent and well respected. He also served the district as our Berks Vocational-Technical School Authority Representative.


## **12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by David Moll and seconded by George Mertz, there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned.**

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

  
Linda R. Lash, Secretary  
Board of School Directors