

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

MINUTES

January 27, 2020

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: Paul L. Bendigo, Robert M. Dempsey, Nicoleen M. Kleffel, Linda R. Lash, George H. Mertz III, G. Dane Miller, David E. Moll, Kevin Raudenbush, Alfonso F. Rossi

Secretary: Linda R. Lash

Treasurer: Changming Wang

Recording Secretary: Susan A. Christman

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Cynthia S. Mierzejewski, Michael Billman, Casey Blankenbiller, Robin Brightbill, Brian Feick, Dawn Harris, Dr. Janet Heilman, Melissa Kelchner, Courtney Maguire, Melissa Rhoads, Changming Wang

1.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 18, 2019, and the reorganization/regular meeting of December 3, 2019, 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 January 13, 2020, for a personnel matter.

2.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

2.1 PRESIDENT – G. Dane Miller

Mr. Miller noted that he and Dr. Mierzejewski attended the Annual Superintendents' and Board Presidents' Workshop on January 23 at the BCIU. Mr. Bill Gleason discussed school safety and security.

2.2 SECRETARY – Linda R. Lash

No report.

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

Mrs. Lash reported that the annual Student Artwork Showcase was held on January 16. Zoe Limberiou represented the district and her artwork is now displayed in the BCIU Board Room along with artwork from other county schools. Mr. Timothy Heffner resigned from the

BCIU Board after 19 years of service which included the role of Board President since 2006. Mrs. Lash also discussed topics including HB 1897 regarding cyber education, guest substitute teachers, School Choice Week and PlanCon.

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

Mr. Mertz reported that their last meeting was held on January 22. The 2020-21 budget was approved and will be forwarded to the districts. Also, two SV students placed in the SkillsUSA District Competitions. Reese Nowotarski's team placed third in welding fabrication and Alex Milanek placed first in CNC milling technology. BCTC will be running a STEAM Camp for 7-8th grade students from June 15-19, 2020 at the East Campus. In addition, there is a new program for seniors who have not previously attended the BCTC, where they can attend a one-year program to receive training in a trade.

2.5 TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE – *David E. Moll*

Mr. Bendigo reported that the new operating budget was approved. It was the first meeting with the new EIT Director and she reviewed the software transition and the legal action being taken against the prior software company.

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

No report.

2.7 STUDENT COUNCIL

Tessa Dracha, Student Council President, reported on this year's activities at the high school including spirit days for homecoming, fund raisers, theme days and faculty madness.

3.0 PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one addressed the Board.

4.0 BOARD

PSBA Principles for Governance and Leadership

4.1 The Board is requested to consider and adopt as a resolution the "Principles for Governance and Leadership" for members of Pennsylvania School Boards, as proposed by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Robert Dempsey to adopt as a resolution the "Principles for Governance and Leadership" for members of Pennsylvania School Boards, as proposed by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Retirement

4.2 The Board is requested to consider and accept, with best wishes, the retirement of Dr. Cynthia S. Mierzejewski, Superintendent of Schools, effective June 30, 2020.

Mrs. Lash thanked Dr. Mierzejewski for her service to the district. She noted that Dr. Mierzejewski has brought a lot to the district and Mrs. Lash wished her well on her retirement. Mr. Chillot thanked Dr. Mierzejewski for working with the SVEA. Mr. Dempsey stated that he enjoyed working with Dr. Mierzejewski and thanked her for her work in starting the SV Education Foundation.

Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by George Mertz to accept, with best wishes, the retirement of Dr. Cynthia S. Mierzejewski, Superintendent of Schools, effective June 30, 2020.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Search

- 4.3** The Board is requested to approve and retain the services of the Berks County Intermediate Unit to conduct the search process to select a Superintendent of Schools with the services as proposed and at no contracted fee.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by David Moll to approve and retain the services of the Berks County Intermediate Unit to conduct the search process to select a Superintendent of Schools with the services as proposed and at no contracted fee.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

Presentation

- 4.4** Stifel Public Financial Management presented a financial overview for the district.

Mr. Mark Quinn, Managing Director at Stifel, began by reviewing the interest rate market over the past ten years and then provided an overview of the district's debt profile. All of the district's debt will be gone by 2025 and there are only two issues outstanding. There was a series in 2014 which was our last bond issue and we did a bank loan in 2017. Each year the district budgets approximately \$3.1 million for debt service for both the note and loan. Our current borrowing capacity is about \$84 million and there is \$16 million in current outstanding debt, which leaves \$68 million to borrow. There are various financing tools to assist the district with borrowing needs including level debt service or wrap around. Level debt service means that the payments are the same over the life of the issue. Wrap around debt service allows for very low payments for a period of time and then the payments increase after other debt matures. Mr. Quinn noted that for new money issue there is also capitalized interest or the district could restructure existing debt. The issue with the district's debt is that in 2023-24, if we were to borrow any new money, there is only a certain period of time before we would need to pay interest on some of the bonds. This would cause our payments to increase in these years which could possibly result in a tax increase.

Mr. Quinn stated that when a district or municipality borrows money on a tax exempt basis they are required to spend 85% of that money within the first three years. The district does have about \$800,000 in unspent proceeds from our 2017 note. His suggestion is to spend the existing \$800,000 first on any projects that we are considering. He noted that it takes the school district about 9-12 weeks to fund the money. Mr. Quinn also provided the Board with information regarding a plan of finance for borrowing new money with the goal of keeping its budgeted debt service at its current level. Through the use of refinancing/restructuring of our existing debt or employing capitalized interest, the district can meet this goal. Part of the reason the district is able to complete these various projects without a tax increase for debt service is because our debt is so short. A consideration for the district is that should we need to borrow again in 5-7 years, we may not want to wrap as short as possible because we will need some debt service capacity for future projects.

Mr. Miller stated that Mr. Quinn's presentation was very informative and he thanked him for attending the meeting.

- 4.5 Other (Old/New Business)**

Dr. Mierzejewski stated that February would have a few additional meetings including a Curriculum and Technology Committee meeting on February 10 at 5:45 p.m.; paper screening of

superintendent applications on February 24 at 5:30 p.m.; and a co-curricular meeting on February 24 at 6:15 p.m. followed by the Board meeting at 7 p.m. Mr. Miller added that there will be a Board Retreat on Saturday, March 7 at 8:30 a.m. in the Seip Room.

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' Reports
- 5.1.3 Dropout Report

Dr. Mierzejewski noted that enrollment is currently a little over 2,100 students.

Updates

5.2 Dr. Mierzejewski stated that Schuylkill Valley was awarded part of the state's PA SMART Grant initiative. Mr. Billman added that we are one of seven districts that received \$35,000. The purpose of this grant is to increase the number of educators prepared to teach computer science and STEM and also to increase participation in those areas. He thanked Dr. Mierzejewski and Mr. Mitchell who helped to spearhead this as part of the high school program, as well as Mr. Cullen and Mr. Binkley for their collaboration. This grant will allow the district to focus on professional development; integrate and align curriculum; new CS and STEM courses; and lab upgrades in regard to software and equipment. Mr. Billman stated that it's exciting to be a part of this and there is a lot of work ahead. Also, there is a summit in June that they will be attending at PATTAN in Harrisburg.

Dr. Mierzejewski stated that the Board received a draft of the new Administrator Performance Evaluation. The leadership team has reviewed the document and she will gladly answer any questions after the Board has had time to review the draft.

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, January 13, 2020, in the Schuylkill Valley High School LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, February 10, 2020.

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 2019-20 school term unless otherwise noted:

- 6.1.1 Ms. Elaine Balthaser, Health Assistant at the Middle School.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by David Moll to accept with best wishes for the future, the retirement in Item 6.1.1, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

6.2 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.):

- 6.2.1** Miss Katelyn Faux, 4th Grade Long-Term Substitute Teacher at the Elementary School, BS, Step 1, \$48,303 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Mr. Daniel Shuman, effective January 2, 2020, through the conclusion of the 2019-20 school year.
- 6.2.2** Miss Danielle Fritz, 2nd Grade Long-Term Substitute Teacher at the Elementary School, BS, Step 1, \$48,303 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the compensated leave of absence of Ms. Kathy Gwiazdowski, effective with the start of the second semester of the 2019-20 school year through the conclusion of the 2019-20 school year.
- 6.2.3** Ms. Krista Sayer, from Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Elementary School to Full-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Middle School, no change in hourly rate of pay, to fill a newly created position, effective January 6, 2020.
- 6.2.4** Mrs. Heather Weller, from Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Elementary School to Full-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Elementary School, no change in hourly rate of pay, due to an increase in student need, effective December 3, 2019.
- 6.2.5** Ms. Ashleigh Augustine, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Elementary School, at an hourly rate of pay of \$13.00, to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Ms. Krista Sayer, effective January 6, 2020.
- 6.2.6** Ms. Christine Wentzel, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Middle School, at an hourly rate of pay of \$12.50, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Elizabeth Martini, effective January 6, 2020.
- 6.2.7** Mrs. Karin Manwiller, Part-Time Reading Paraprofessional at the Elementary School, at an hourly rate of pay of \$13.28, to fill a newly created position, effective January 21, 2020.
- 6.2.8** Mrs. Victoria Molio'o-Bejarano, Part-Time Lunchroom Aide at the Elementary School, at an hourly rate of \$9.75, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Mariya Mitov, effective January 13, 2020.
- 6.2.9** Mrs. Barbara Good, Part-Time Lunchroom Aide at the Elementary School, at an hourly rate of \$9.75, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Lisa Lawson, effective January 6, 2020.
- 6.2.10** Mrs. Heather Billman, Part-Time Food Services Worker, 4 hours a day at an hourly rate of \$9.75, to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Lori Johnson, effective January 2, 2020.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the employment in Items 6.2.1 through and including 6.2.10, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.2.11** Mrs. Christine Bendigo, Part-Time Food Services Worker, 5 hours a day to 5.5 hours per day, no change in hourly rate of pay, due to an increase in need, effective January 21, 2020.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Kevin Raudenbush to approve the employment in Item 6.2.11, as presented.

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

Motion carried.

- 6.2.12** Mentors for the 2019-20 school year at a stipend of \$1,175.00 for full year mentors and \$587.50 for half year mentors.

- 6.2.13** Change of Panthers-On-Parade salaries for the 2019-20 school year.

- 6.2.14** New bus driver utilized by Eshelman Transportation for the 2019-20 school year.

- 6.2.15** Additional Winter coach for the 2019-20 school year.

- 6.2.16** Substitutes for the 2019-20 school year.

- 6.2.17** Volunteers for the 2019-20 school year.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the employment in Items 6.2.12 through and including 6.2.17, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.2.18** Job description for the position of School Police Officer.

Mr. Bendigo stated that he thinks this should be tabled until it's decided which way the district is going. The job description talks about having a Schuylkill Valley police department, and we do not have any idea what the budget would be for this department. It's premature to approve the position description at this time when we don't know which way we're going to go. He believes it should be broken down into primary duties and secondary duties.

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by David Moll to table the job description for the position of School Police Officer.

- 6.3** Approves the request for a leave of absence for Ms. Lisa Young, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Elementary School, effective November 11, 2019, through December 20, 2019.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Kevin Raudenbush to approve the leave of absence in Item 6.3, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.4** Approves the following requests for unpaid days:

6.4.1 Ms. Lisa Young, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Elementary School, for 12.5 consecutive unpaid days, December 4-20, 2019.

6.4.2 Mrs. Donna Fuerst, Full-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Middle School, for five consecutive unpaid days, February 10-14, 2020.

6.4.3 Ms. Deborah Hughes, Full-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Middle School, for four consecutive unpaid days, March 4-9, 2020.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the requests for unpaid days in Item 6.4.1 through and including 6.4.3, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

6.5 **NON-UNION SUPPORT STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.5.1 Approves the Substitute wages for the 2019-20 school year.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the substitute wages for the 2019-20 school year, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

6.6 Approves the following conference requests:

6.6.1 Mrs. Dawn Harris, to attend the PASA Leadership Forum, from March 30-31, 2020, in State College, PA, at an approximate cost of \$1,099.00.

6.6.2 Mr. Joshua Kuehner, Mrs. Courtney Maguire, Mrs. Christina Miller, and Mrs. Christine Wysocki, to attend the 2020 PAMLE State Conference - Schools to Watch, from March 1-3, 2020, in State College, PA, at an approximate cost of up to \$2,300.00.

6.6.3 Mr. Scott Piergrossi, to attend the 2020 PMEA Annual In-Service Conference, on April 23-24, 2020, in Pocono Manor, PA, at an approximate cost of \$400.00.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the conference requests in Items 6.6.1 through and including 6.6.3, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

6.7 Approves the second reading and final adoption of Policy 204: Attendance, as revised.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the second reading and final adoption of Policy 204: Attendance.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.8 Approves the second reading and final adoption of Policy 233: Suspension and Expulsion, as revised.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by David Moll to approve the second reading and final adoption of Policy 233: Suspension and Expulsion.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.9 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.):

- 6.9.1 Change of Winter coach salaries for the 2019-20 school year.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Kevin Raudenbush to approve the employment in Item 6.9.1, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.9.2 Miss Elizabeth Ebert, 3rd Grade Long-Term Substitute Teacher at the Elementary School, BS, Step 1, \$48,303 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence of Mrs. Paige Harding, effective approximately February 21, 2020, through the conclusion of the 2019-20 school year.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by David Moll to approve the employment in Item 6.9.2, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.10 Approves the conference request from Miss Stephanie Deibler to attend the PA State Athletic Directors Association Conference from March 25-27, 2020, in Hershey, PA, at an approximate cost of up to \$800.00.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the conference request in Item 6.10, as presented.

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 7:24 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2020, in the Schuylkill Valley High School LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, February 10, 2020.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 7.1** Approves the high school enrollment agreement between Schuylkill Valley School District and Education First: High School Exchange Year for a J-1 VISA for the 2020-21 school year, and further, authorizes the Director of Special Education and Pupil Services to execute the agreement.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the high school enrollment agreement between Schuylkill Valley School District and Education First: High School Exchange Year for a J-1 VISA for the 2020-21 school year, and further, authorizes the Director of Special Education and Pupil Services to execute the agreement.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 7.2** Approves the request for Student #1389 to remain in the district for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, per Policy 202: Eligibility of Nonresident Students.

Board Action: Moved by David Moll and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the request for Student #1389 to remain in the district for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, per Policy 202: Eligibility of Nonresident Students.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 7.3** Approves the standard agreement with Sweet, Stevens, Katz and Williams LLP, for the 2020-21 fiscal year, according to the schedule of fees and services outlined in their agreement, to be used for special education matters.

- 7.4** Approves the agreement with EBS (Educational Based Services) to provide the following services from January 21, 2020, through June 8, 2020, and further, authorizes the Director of Special Education & Pupil Services to execute the agreement.

- Board Certified Behavior Analyst \$83 per hour; maximum 32 hours per week

- 7.5** Approves the agreement between Kutztown University and the Schuylkill Valley School District, for the district to provide coaching internships, effective January 27, 2020, for a period not to exceed five years, and further, authorizes the Athletic Director to execute the agreement.

- 7.6** Approves the quote and the Equipment Purchase, Installation, and Maintenance Schedule Agreement from Frontier Communications of America, Inc., for the district's phone voicemail migration and upgrade, at a cost not to exceed \$15,506.06, to be paid from the Technology Reserve Fund, and further, authorizes the Director of Instructional and Information Technology to execute the quote and schedule.

Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by Linda Lash to approve the actions in Items 7.3 through and including 7.6, 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, January 13, 2020, in the Schuylkill Valley High School LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, February 10, 2020.

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 November 5, 2019, to January 28, 2020, as presented.

GENERAL FUND	\$1,807,329.34
CAFETERIA FUND	\$122,785.56
CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	\$21,364.48
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,951,479.38

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by David Moll to approve/ratify the payment of bills in Item 8.1 from November 5, 2019, to January 28, 2020, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 8.2** Approves the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Reports for November and December 2019, as presented.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the Treasurer's Reports and the Financial Reports for November and December 2019, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 8.3** Approves exonerating the school district tax collectors from collecting unpaid April 2019 interims billed July 1, 2019, which are delinquent after December 31, 2019, and that the Board approve submitting the taxes to the Berks County Tax Claim Bureau for collection. There are 4 bills totaling \$2,363.55 (last year there were 2 bills totaling \$935.27).

- 8.4** Approves exonerating the school district tax collectors from collecting unpaid July 2019 real estate taxes which are delinquent after December 31, 2019, and that the Board approve submitting the taxes to the Berks County Tax Claim Bureau for collection. There are 174 bills totaling \$490,919.94 (last year there were 180 totaling \$446,914.12).

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the tax collector exonerations in Items 8.3 and 8.4, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 8.5** Approves the BCIU Joint Purchasing Bid for copy paper for January - June 2020 in the amount of \$4,912.61.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by George Mertz to approve the BCIU Joint Purchasing Bid for copy paper for January - June 2020 in the amount of \$4,912.61.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 8.6** Approves accepting a donation from Karen L. Kleffel and Mary C. Kleffel in the amount of \$200.00 for the Conner Kleffel Scholarship Fund.

Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by George Mertz to approve accepting a donation from Karen L. Kleffel and Mary C. Kleffel in the amount of \$200.00 for the Conner Kleffel Scholarship Fund.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 8.7** Approves the mileage reimbursement rate of 0.575 cents per mile as per Internal Revenue Service Regulations, effective January 1, 2020.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Linda Lash to approve the mileage reimbursement rate of 0.575 cents per mile as per Internal Revenue Service Regulations, effective January 1, 2020.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 8.8** Approves eliminating monthly Board Meeting advertisements. The meetings will be advertised once in December for the following year.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by David Moll to approve eliminating monthly Board Meeting advertisements. The meetings will be advertised once in December for the following year.

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

Motion passed unanimously

- 8.9** Approves entering into a consortium with Fleetwood Area School District for the 2019-20 school year for the Title III grant, with Schuylkill Valley's share to be \$2,307.00, and further, authorizes the Superintendent to execute the Memorandum of Understanding.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve entering into a consortium with Fleetwood Area School District for the 2019-20 school year for the Title III grant, with Schuylkill Valley's share to be \$2,307.00, and further, authorizes the Superintendent to execute the Memorandum of Understanding.

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 7:54 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2020, in the Schuylkill Valley High School LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, February 10, 2020.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

There were no Committee recommendations.

9.1 Other (Old/New Business)

Mr. Rossi stated that he asked Mr. Blankenbiller to provide a grand total of all of the projects he had discussed with the Board on January 13. Mr. Blankenbiller noted that his projection covers the next 11 years and includes items such as replacement doors, concrete maintenance, HVAC, roofing, painting and rug replacement in classrooms, tennis courts, gym floors, terrazzo floors, dugouts, turf replacement, grounds equipment, additional card access and generators. The estimated total is \$25.5 million which does not include a field house but does include repairing the bleachers. The work is projected to start in the 2020-21 school year and continue through the 2030-31 school year.

Mr. Blankenbiller stated that for the high school library, auditorium and lobby areas, gymnasium and offices the estimated budget is \$1.9 - \$2.1 million. The roof estimate for those same areas is \$497,000. The estimate from Trane on energy savings is approximately \$42,500 per year after the entire project is complete. This would be a 3-4 year phase in, however every year that you push out the roof work is another year that the roof is exposed. This is a 20-year roof that is now 25 years old. Mr. Rossi asked for an estimate if the roof and HVAC were all done at the same time in all buildings. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that it could be anywhere from \$12-20 million. This is broken down in phases on the spreadsheet that he provided to the Board. The estimate per phase for the first four years is \$4.7 million for year one; \$5.7 million for year two; \$6.7 million for year three; and \$5.4 million for year four. Mr. Bendigo noted that he is in favor of doing everything at one time and doing one bond issue. He asked Mr. Blankenbiller at what point in time would he have to make a decision to get work completed this summer. Mr. Blankenbiller answered that Trane would need approval from the Board to order the equipment at the end of February or early March. He noted that Trane would be willing to come to a February meeting to answer any questions the Board may have. Mr. Rossi noted that we do not have any imminent failures at this time.

10.0 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Summary of Committee Deliberations – Nicoleen M. Kleffel

The Extracurricular Activities Committee met at 8:48 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2020, in the Schuylkill Valley High School LeRoy K. Seip Memorial Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, February 10, 2020.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 10.1** Approves the agreement with Classic Ski Tours for the Schuylkill Valley Ski and Snowboard Club trip to Killington, VT, scheduled for March 5-8, 2020, and further, authorizes the high school advisor to execute the agreement.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Kevin Raudenbush to approve the agreement in Item 10.1, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.2** Approves the agreement with BigTeams LLC, to provide web-based athletic management software, from January 27, 2020 through July 15, 2021, at a cost of \$1,000, and further, authorizes the Athletic Director to execute the agreement.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the agreement in Item 10.2, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

11.0 OTHER BUSINESS/GOOD OF THE ORDER

12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

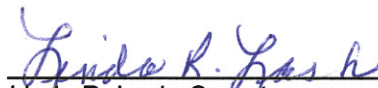
13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Kevin Raudenbush, 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 9:05 p.m.



Linda R. Lash, Secretary
Board of School Directors