
MINUTES OF THE MILLVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

The Millville Area School Board held their regular meeting on Monday, September 11, 2023 in the Millville Jr./Sr. High School Library beginning 7:00 pm. Prior to the meeting, the Board held an Executive Session for personnel matters. The Board also held an Executive Session on Thursday, September 7, 2023 for personnel matters.

1. ROLL CALL

The following Board members answered roll call: William Berger, Brynn Clark, Susan Farr, Greg Hemsarh, Heather Mausteller, and Susan Myers.

Also present were Joseph Rasmus, Whitney Holloway, Dee Davis, Edward Sanders, Noah Adams, Matt McWilliams and Chelsea Rosenberger.

2. GUEST RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS

Kayleen Jenkins, Klohe Faatz, Dyson Savage, Paul Haden, Shanna Haden, Jayleen Miller, Matthew Mills, Megan Hippenstiel, Gwen Utt, and Emily Bloom all signed the register.

- Mrs. Shanna Haden asked to read a statement to the Board. In her statement, she raised her concern over the book bag removal at the high school. She shared some statistics about school violence and about the small impact the removal of book bags has had on the amount of school violence across the nation. Additionally, she explained the emotional and physical toll it is taking on her daughter, citing that she has been embarrassed when dropping items as well as had additional anxiety about this situation. Then, she shared a quote from another student who was concerned and frustrated with the removal of book bags. She encouraged the administration to look into alternate ways to address these issues, including talk therapy and social emotional health as well as communicating with families about the concerns in the district.
- Mr. Rasmus thanked Mrs. Haden for sharing and explained that there were issues last school year that solidified the need for some of these additional safety precautions, including the removal of backpacks. Additionally, he shared that the district has made strides towards social emotional health, including daily instruction by the Guidance Department in the middle school grades. Along with that, the district has and will be continuing to use the gold standard program called Positive Action every day. Then, he explained that the district has collaborated in the past with the Center for Safe Schools and will continue to do so in the future as well as look into all discussion points addressed in our most recent Risk and Vulnerability Assessment. In conclusion, Mr. Rasmus said that while some may see intruder drills as an anxiety and fear-inducing practice, he believed that they encourage situational awareness. He believed that the district was well postured to address safety concerns.

3. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

School Performance Data

- Mr. Rasmus shared PSSA score data from the 2022-2023 school year, highlighting areas of growth and showing the need for improvement in Math scores. He shared that in some grades, the district is performing above other schools in the area in ELA, however the Math scores in the 7th and 8th grade are concerning. Then, Mr. Rasmus showed some data from previous school years with a comparison from before and after the pandemic, adding that the district is still seeing residual learning gaps from that time.

Comprehensive Plan 2023-2026:

- Mr. Rasmus explained to the Board that the new Comprehensive Plan would be presented at the next regular board meeting on September 25, 2023. He shared some highlighted items that would be included in the plan. First, the introduction of a Math Interventionist would be included to show the district's initiative for small group instruction and the desire to meet student's specific learning needs. Also, the K-8 Spring Math Initiative would be included utilizing small group time for this Tier I Intervention Curriculum. Both of these programs would take students with like deficits in small groups to better target their individual learning needs. Finally, he explained that the district would be cultivating data meetings even more at the Elementary School and Professional Learning Communities at the High School to view available diagnostic data and discuss plans for growth.

Professional Development

- Mr. Rasmus shared that the district had participated in a district-wide Act 80 day that day, September 11, 2023 wherein teachers participated in Structured Literacy Professional Development K-12 with LETRs training for grades K-6 and PLN training in Collins writing in the grades 7-12. Additionally, the faculty participated in iReady training during the faculty meeting time.

Grievances

- Finally, Mr. Rasmus shared that the district had received a few grievances that had gone through to arbitration.

4. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Millville Area School District August 28, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by voice vote. 6 Yea; 0 Nay; 2 Absent

5. BUDGET AND FINANCE

5.1 Business Manager Report

- Mrs. Holloway had previously submitted her report to the Board and no additional questions were asked.

5.2 Expenditures

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Brynn Clark that the Millville Area School Board is needed to consider and approve the September 11, 2023 general expenditures in the amount of \$133,996.31 and athletic expenditures in the amount of \$1,685.00. The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

5.3 Repurchase Time Deposit #xx340

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Greg Hemsarth that the Millville Area School Board is needed to consider and approve Millville Area School District's repurchase of time deposit #xx340 at the rate of 4.85% for 6 months, with First Columbia Bank and Trust, up from previous rate of 4.00%. The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

6. CURRICULUM/ EDUCATIONAL ITEMS

A motion by Susan Farr and seconded by Brynn Clark that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Curriculum/Educational Items 6.1 – 6.2 as presented. The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

6.1 2023-2024 Updated Student Handbook

- A motion is needed to consider and approve the Updated 2023-2024 Student Handbook.

6.2 Secondary Curricular Excursions

- A motion is needed to consider and approve the curricular excursions as presented.
 - September 22, 2023 - Bloomsburg Fair Setup - Mr. Ritter, Mrs. Laayouni, Ms. Lingafelt
 - September 25, 2023 - FFA Career Development Events (CDEs) at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds - Ms. Guise
 - October 3, 2023 - FFA Leadership Conference at the Blair County Convention Center - Ms. Guise
 - October 12, 2023 - Quiz Bowl at WVIA Studios - Mrs. Myers
 - October 27, 2023 - Toy Adaptation Day at the CSIU - Mrs. Myers
 - November 16, 2023 - Math in Unusual Places at CSIU - Mrs. Myers

7. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

7.1 Child Evangelism Fellowship Facility Use

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve Child Evangelism Fellowship using the Elementary library to provide Good News Club, Tuesdays beginning October 10, 2023, from 3:00 - 4:15 p.m. Certificate of Liability Insurance on file.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Brynn Clark that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Administrative Items 8.1 – 8.4 as presented.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

8.1 Donations

- A motion is needed to consider and approve the donations as presented.
 - FFA
 - 8.1 A - \$30 from Adam Orlando
 - 8.2 B - 4 grow lights from Rohrbach's Farm Market

8.2 CSIU Agreement

- A motion is needed to consider and approve the CSIU Computer Service Rates agreement for the 2023-2024 school year as per attached rate sheet.

8.3 Bayada Agreement

- A motion is needed to consider and approve the agreement with Bayada to provide substitute school nursing services, for 2023-2024 school year at a rate of \$55/hour up from \$50/hour in the previous year.

8.4 Revised 707 AR 1 Usage of District Facilities

A motion is needed to consider and approve revised Administrative Regulation: 707 AR 1 to reflect modifications to fees incurred by outside organizations who seek to utilize district facilities.

9. PERSONNEL AND ACTIVITIES

9.1 Professional Personnel

9.1 A - A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Brynn Clark that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve appointing Matthew Mills as Secondary Principal with a salary of \$95,000.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

9.1 B - A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve appointing Dyson Savage as Technology Coordinator with a salary of \$53,000.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 5 Yes; 1 No (G. Hemsarth); 2 Absent

9.2 Support Personnel – 9.4 Substitute Personnel 2023-2024

A motion by Susan Myers and seconded by Greg Hemsarth that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Personnel Activities Items 9.2 – 9.4 as presented.

- **9.2 Support Personnel:** A motion is needed to consider and approve the support personnel recommendations as presented.
 - **9.2 A - Blain Lohr** - Retroactively approve a change of compensation effective August 17, 2023 to a rate of \$11.40 per hour.
 - **9.2 B** - Approve an unpaid leave of absence for employee #84 from Monday, February 26, 2024 through Friday, March 1, 2024 as requested.

- **9.3 Co-Curricular Personnel 2023-2024:** A motion is needed to consider and approve the Co-Curricular Personnel recommendations for the 2023-2024 school year as presented.
 - **Freshmen Co-Advisors:** Anthony Preston & Christopher Rhinard
 - **Jr. High Student Council** - Mary Schrader
 - **Transition Coordinator** - Lindsey Shultz

- **9.4 Substitute Personnel 2023-2024:** A motion is needed to consider and approve the slate of substitute personnel for the 2023-2024 school year as presented.
 - Teacher Substitutes
 - Samantha Starr
 - Larissa Getz
 - Student Teacher Substitutes (As outlined in PA Act 91)
 - Yamilette Pacheco
 - CSIU Guest Teacher Substitutes
 - Adam Baranik

10. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Susan Farr to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Chelsea Rosenberger
Assistant Board Secretary