
MINUTES OF THE MILLVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2023

The Millville Area School Board held their regular meeting on Monday, October 23, 2023 in the Millville Jr./Sr. High School Library beginning 7:01 pm.

1. ROLL CALL

The following Board members answered roll call: Susan Farr, Michael Farrell (via Zoom), Greg Hemsarth, Gena Maize, Heather Mausteller, and Susan Myers.

Also present were Joseph Rasmus, Whitney Holloway, Dee Davis, Edward Sanders, Alexa Longacre, Bonnie Gregory, Matt McWilliams, Dyson Savage and Chelsea Rosenberger.

2. GUEST RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS

Guests Nicole Allbeck, Shaun Hack, Renee Sewall, and Christopher Sassaman all signed the register.

- Mr. Shaun Hack shared a concern with the Board about recent student safety concerns causing attendance issues at the high school. He explained that as a result, he was concerned for the safety of the faculty and staff dealing with this on a daily basis. Mr. Hack added that the situation seems to be minimized by the administration.
 - In further explanation, Mr. Hack gave a description of his experience. He shared that his student went to the Guidance Office to report a safety concern dealing with another student and did not feel that the concern was heard by administration.
 - Mr. Hack expressed to the Board that parents want to see a legitimate plan formulated, asking how many times the district will allow a student to break the law before anything is done. In conclusion, he urged the Board to take these concerns seriously and not let it go unnoticed as he felt if had in the past.
- Mr. Rasmus answered that he had spoken with Mr. Hack earlier that day regarding the issue but could not speak openly about it because it is a student discipline issue. He thanked the parents for reaching out about this issue.
 - Going further, Mr. Rasmus shared that the district has developed an appropriate plan to address the matter with the safety for students and staff as the priority. He added that in no way was the district downplaying the issue and shared information about the types of consultation received from a variety of avenues.
 - Mr. Hack clarified that his desire is to see action by the district on this issue. Also, he did not want to see students turned away from sharing their concerns.
 - Mr. Rasmus answered that the district is not downplaying the concern.
 - Mr. Hack answered with his concern that faculty feels that no action is being taken to change the situation.
 - Mr. Hemsarth added that he has no doubt that the school administration is doing what they can, however, he shared that as a parent himself, the best recourse for other parents is involvement by law enforcement. He then added that faculty do not always share concerns because they do not seem to be addressed.
 - Mr. Rasmus answered that he shares in the frustration about what can be done legally and the perception that it gives to staff of the lack of support.
 - Mrs. Myers added that any citizen is always welcome to reach out to the Board as well as to administration with any concern.

- Mrs. Renee Sewall then asked to share a statement. She explained that she grew up in Millville and now has two sons in the district. When asked, her older son shared that the behavior of the student is normal and her younger son was terrified to come to school. She explained that this safety concern has been one for several years and was also concerned that the school seemed to be inactive and pushing off the issue. Mrs. Sewall added that she would find it helpful to know the protocols in place so that she and her son feel safe with his return to school.
- Mrs. Nicole Allbeck then asked to speak to the Board as well. Mrs. Allbeck explained that she too is an alumnus and has been waiting until the time when her student is finished in the district. She explained that she does not feel that the district has heard her concerns and that students who share concerns do not see any action by the administration. Going further, she shared that her high achieving student does not like going to school, calling it a prison. She explained that his friends and teachers are not happy and when her student shared concerns, he felt targeted by administration. In conclusion, Mrs. Allbeck told the Board that the district may lose a student because we are harboring other students who are threatening students and staff and not doing anything about it.
 - Mrs. Mausteller then asked if the Board could discuss this further in Executive Session to know the plan moving forward.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mrs. Longacre (Director of Interventional Support), Mr. McWilliams (Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds), and Mr. Sanders (Elementary Principal) had previously submitted their reports for the Board's consideration.

- Mrs. Mausteller asked for clarification on the Buildings and Grounds report saying that maintenance staff were cleaning up decorations after events in the stadium, adding that students should be cleaning up their own decorations used for an event.
- Mrs. Davis expressed her thank you to staff and students for their participation in the recent "Literacy Glow Night" event held at the Elementary School. She was grateful for the great turn out and the success of the event.
- Mrs. Gregory then took a moment to extend a thank you to the student councils and staff for their concerted effort to make the 2023 Homecoming events such a success. Additionally, she shared that the fall sports were wrapping up their seasons. Finally, she shared that the art department has been working to paint the Millville "M" on the wall outside the high school office.
- Then, Mr. Rasmus wanted to thank all staff members for their work on the All Hazards Drill that happened the previous week. He further explained that the district underwent a drill based on a bomb threat scenario on Thursday, October 19, 2023 because recently in the surrounding area schools there have been bomb threats and schools evacuations. Additionally, the focus of the district in this drill was on reunification. Mr. Rasmus explained that prior to the drill, the administrative team reviewed and updated the Crisis Manual to reflect procedures related to a bomb threat as well as put out a notice to families. In conclusion, Mr. Rasmus shared that the administrative team met with local law enforcement and community members to discuss the drill in a round table discussion.
 - Mrs. Mausteller asked if there was a place on the new school district website for students and/or parents to share concerns.
 - Ms. Rosenberger answered that yes there is a form on the website as well as a link to the Safe2Say platform.
 - Mrs. Davis added that the Safe2Say platform is a great avenue for students and parents because it goes straight to the state and is routed to administration appropriately based on the nature of the concern.

4. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

CMAVTS Representative – Mrs. Susan Farr

- Mrs. Farr shared that the CMAVTS JOC meeting was informative and the work done on the school was nice to see. She also shared that the new Executive Director started in his position.
- Mr. Rasmus added that he was pleased with his interaction so far with the new Executive Director. He further explained that the interim director was staying on throughout the year to finish the building project.

CSIU Representative – Mrs. Susan Myers

- Mrs. Myers shared that the October CSIU Board Meeting was routine, but she highlighted a summer Science program being offered that would be beneficial to Millville students. She encouraged the administration to ensure this is presented to our students.

5. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

5.1 Board Meeting Minutes 10.9.23

A motion by Gena Maize and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Millville Area School District October 9, 2023 Board meeting minutes.

The motion carried by voice vote. 6 Yea; 0 Nay; 2 Absent

6. BUDGET AND FINANCE

6.1 Expenditures

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Gena Maize that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the October 23, 2023 general expenditures in the amount of \$329,946.13, nutrition expenditures in the amount of \$31,536.43 and athletic expenditures in the amount of \$1,434.00.

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

6.2 Monthly Reports

- *The monthly financial reports were submitted for the Board's consideration and no additional questions were asked.*

7. CURRICULUM/ EDUCATIONAL ITEMS

7.1 Secondary Curricular Excursions

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the curricular excursions as presented.

- October 24, 2023 - Benton Halloween Parade Band Trip - Mrs. Sweeney
- October 26, 2023 - Danville Halloween Parade Band Trip - Mrs. Sweeney

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

8. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS ITEMS

8.2 Paper Eaters Shredding Services

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve Paper Eaters for district shredding services at \$75.00 for each 65 gallon bin and \$45.00 per office console as well as the discarding of outdated boxes of files, per district retention policy, at a price of \$6.00 per box.

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

9. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

9.1 Conrad Siegel Proposal

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the proposal of Conrad Siegel Actuaries for Affordable Care Act (ACA) consulting services, at \$5,200 for a 12-month period, no change in cost from last year.

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

9.2 Memorandum of Understanding Dedicated Building Substitutes

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Gena Maize that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Millville Area Education Association and the Millville Area School District to appoint qualified professionals to serve as designated day-to-day substitutes within each school building at a rate of \$135 per day, effective October 23, 2023, for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

o Mrs. Mausteller asked if the rate per day was higher than previously discussed.

o Mr. Rasmus answered that yes, there have been few proposed versions of this agreement.

The motion failed by roll call vote. 3 Yes; 3 No (G. Maize, H. Mausteller, S. Myers); 2 Absent

9.3 Waiver of Expulsion Hearing and Stipulation

A motion by Gena Maize and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board is approve the Waiver of Expulsion Hearing and Stipulation for student #30027 for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year through October 23, 2024.

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

9.4 Termination of Competitive Cheer Cooperative Agreement

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board approve the termination of the Cooperative Competitive Cheer Agreement with Southern Columbia Area High School, effective the 2023-2024 season, as presented.

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

10. PERSONNEL AND ACTIVITIES

10.1 - 10.4 Combined Consent

o 10.1 - Bloomsburg University Student Teacher Approval

o Approve the Bloomsburg University Student Placement of student teacher, ERIC VELEZ (Special Ed (PK-12) with co-op teacher KAYLEEN JENKINS from October 16, 2023 to December 6, 2023. Clearances on file.

o 10.2 - Substitute Approval

o Approve utilizing student teacher candidate, ERIC VELEZ, as a day-to-day teacher substitute, as outlined in the Bloomsburg University Student Teacher as Substitute Teacher Verification policy under PA Act 91, for the 2023-2024 school year.

o 10.3 - Athletic Ticket/Admission Prices

o Approve the Athletic Ticket prices for the 2023-2024 school year to include Junior High as recommended.

o 10.4 Jr. High Girls Basketball Assistant Coach

o Approve SASHA MYERS, as Junior High Girls Basketball Assistant Coach, for the 2023-24 winter sports season, clearances on file.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Farr to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m. Immediately following the meeting, the Board held an Executive Session for personnel and legal matters.

Chelsea Rosenberger
Assistant Board Secretary