

**GREENSBURG SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 2023**

PRESENT:

Mr. Brian Conway
Mr. Frank Gazze
Miss Lynn Jobe
Mr. Jeffrey Metrosky
Mrs. Emily Miller
Mr. Jonathan O'Brien
Mrs. Robin Savage

ABSENT:

Mrs. Heather Shearer
Mr. Stephen Thomas

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Dr. Kenneth A. Bissell, Superintendent
Mrs. Allison Willis, School Board Secretary/Business Manager
Mr. Lee Demosky, Solicitor

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Dr. James Baker, Coordinator of Technology Integration & Student Information
Mr. Kevin Bringe, Director of Human Resources & Online Learning
Dr. Justine Federico, Metzgar Elementary Principal
Mrs. Jennifer Kapusta, Hutchinson Elementary Principal
Mr. Todd McMillen, Coordinator of Student Services
Dr. Lenni Nedley, Coordinator of Elementary Education, Federal Programs and Instruction
Mrs. Kayla Tamer, Associate Administrator to the Superintendent & Community Outreach
Mr. Matt Sofran, Greensburg Salem Education Association Representative

NEWS MEDIA

Jeff Himler, Greensburg Tribune Review Newspaper Reporter
Approximately five (5) citizens of the community.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Jeffrey Metrosky School Board President, called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 pm. Mrs. Allison Willis called the roll, which is indicated above.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Two brief Executive Sessions of the Board were held prior to the Board Voting Meeting on Wednesday, August 9, 2023. The first was held prior to the Board Discussion Meeting on August 2, 2023. The second was held August 9, 2023, prior to Board Voting Meeting. Both were held to discuss personnel, legal, disciplinary, and contractual matters.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mrs. Savage commented on the appearance of the buildings looking very nice and ready for the new school year. She thanked the maintenance and custodial staff for their hard work.

VISITORS

No visitors

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Savage/O'Brien to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on June 21, 2023, and the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on July 13, 2023.

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative.

FINANCIAL MATTERS: REPORTS

A motion was made by Savage/O'Brien to accept the following financial reports for June 2023 items 3.1 - 3.8: Treasurer's Report; Tax Collection Report; Grant Report; Financial Reports for the General Fund; Financial Reports for the Capital Project Fund; Financial Reports for the Food Service Fund; Middle School Activity Fund Report; High School Activity Fund Reports.

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative.

FINANCIAL MATTERS: NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Gazze/O'Brien to accept the following financial reports, items 4.1 – 4.3: General Fund Disbursements; Food Service Fund Disbursements; General Fund Bill List

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS REPORT

Dr. Nedley updated the board on the 2023-24 Federal allocations and their intended usage.

BOARD REPORTS

Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center (CWCTC) – Mrs. Savage gave a report on the following topics related to the CWCTC: The leadership conference, recognition by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, 2023-24 enrollment numbers, Perkins Grant approval and the annual golf outing to be held on September 22, 2023.

Westmoreland Intermediate Unit – No report.

Greensburg Salem Education Foundation (GSEF) – Ms. Jobe gave a report on the following topics related to the GSEF: new membership drive in progress and alumni picnic being planned.

Greensburg Community Development Corporation (GCDC) – Mr. Conway gave a report on the following topics related to the GCDC: Alec Italiano hired as the new Executive Director

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee – No report.

Facility Committee – No report.

Policy Committee – No report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – PERSONNEL

All appointments are pending proper governmental clearances, certification, and/or medical records as required by the District.

9.1 Retirements

A motion was made by Conway/O’Brien to accept the following retirements:

1. Amy Brant, Elementary K-6 Teacher - effective 8/9/2023

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

9.2 Resignations

A motion was made by Savage/Gazze to accept the following resignations:

1. Rachel Lhota, Special Education, PK-12, Teacher - retroactive to 7/25/2023

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

9.3 Rescindments

A motion was made by Savage/Conway to rescind the following appointments:

1. Carianne Savage, Special Education, PK-8, Teacher - effective 8/9/2023
2. Amanda Sanguini, Special Education, PK-8, Teacher - effective 8/8/2023

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

9.4 Leaves: Other

A motion was made by Jobe/O’Brien to accept the following unpaid leaves per Board policy:

1. Employee 1755 - 2023-2024 school year
2. Employee 1881 - 2023-2024 school year
3. Employee 1713 - from 10/27/2023 through 1/19/2024

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

9.5 Appointments: Professional Staff

A motion was made by Savage/Gazze to hire the following professional staff for the position listed under the terms negotiated in the contract with GSEA:

1. Lindsey Swartz, Math 7-12 Teacher - Master's, Step 8 [\$69,362]
2. Heather Meyer, School Counselor PK-12 - Master's +30, Step 1 [\$61,460]
3. Nicholas DeMary, Social Studies 7-12 Teacher - Bachelor's, Step 1 [\$55,060]
4. Gabrielle Giovenco, Art PK-12 Teacher - Bachelor's, Step 1 [\$55,060]
5. Margaret Oliver, Music PK-12 Teacher - Bachelor's, Step 1 [\$55,060]
6. Christen Negich, Special Education Teacher K-12 - Master's, Step 1 [\$58,460]
7. Kala Hutchinson, School Nurse PK-12 (Long-term, permanent substitute) - Bachelor's, 80% of Step 1 [\$44,048]
8. Emily Shelley, Elementary Teacher PK-4 (Long-term, permanent substitute) - Master's, 80% of Step 2 [\$47,897.60]
9. Isabella Merlino, Special Education Teacher K-12 (Long-term, permanent substitute) - Bachelor's, 80% of Step 1 [\$44,048]
10. Madison McMichael, Elementary Teacher PK-4 (Long-term, permanent substitute) - Bachelor's, 80% of Step 1 [\$44,048]
11. Tracy Shaner Elementary Teacher Pk-4 (Long-term, permanent substitute) - Bachelor's, 80% of Step 1 [\$44,048]

Roll call vote:

Voting Aye: Conway, Gazze, Jobe, Miller, O'Brien, Savage, Metrosky

Voting Nay: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Shearer, Thomas

Motion passed 7-0

9.6 Appointments: School Police Officers

A motion was made by Conway/Savage to hire the following individuals as School Police Officers at the rate of \$25.00 per hour:

1. David Wilkinson
2. Frank Gardone

Roll call vote:

Voting Aye: Conway, Gazze, Jobe, Miller, O'Brien, Savage, Metrosky

Voting Nay: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Shearer, Thomas

Motion passed 7-0

9.7 Appointments: Athletics

A motion was made by Miller/O'Brien to hire the following individuals for the athletic positions listed at the supplemental rates negotiated per the contract with GSEA or otherwise set by the Board:

1. Jay Kapusta - Soccer Boys' HS Assistant Coach [\$2,666]
2. Sarah Harrison - Soccer Girls' HS Assistant Coach [\$2,666]
3. Heather Zeoli - Cheerleader Sponsor JV/9th [\$3,288]
4. Sean Galvin - Soccer Boys' MS Head Coach [\$2,462]

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

9.8 Appointments: Supplemental

A motion was made by Miller/Conway to hire the following individuals for extracurricular positions listed at the supplemental rate(s) negotiated per the contract with GSEA:

1. Stephanie Grace - World Languages Department Head - \$1,761.

Roll call vote:

Voting Aye: Conway, Gazze, Jobe, Miller, Savage, Metrosky

Voting Nay: O'Brien

Abstaining: none

Absent: Shearer, Thomas

Motion passed 6-1

9.9 Substitutes

A motion was made by Savage/Conway to hire the following individuals as substitutes for the district:

1. Kathryn Cutia, Classroom Instructional Assistant - \$23.98/hour

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

9.10 Volunteers

A motion was made by Miller/Conway to accept the following individuals as volunteer coaches/sponsors for the 2023-2024 school year:

1. Linsy Wilson - Soccer Girls' MS
2. Mike Kovak - Soccer Girls' MS
3. Shawn Helman - Soccer Girls' MS
4. Marissa Miller - MS Cheer

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

9.11 Bus Driver List

A motion was made by Miller/Gazze to approve the attached list of bus drivers and support personnel for DMJ Transportation, Inc. for the 2023-2024 school year, plus the following individuals:

1. Joseph Hornock
2. Nicole Zajdel
3. Rene Davis

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

9.12 Salary

A motion was made by Savage/Miller to approve setting the salary for Dr. Kenneth A. Bissell, Superintendent at \$154,000 for the 2023-2024 school year effective retroactive July 1, 2023.

Roll call vote:

Voting Aye: Conway, Gazze, Jobe, Miller, O'Brien, Savage, Metrosky

Voting Nay: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Shearer, Thomas

Motion passed 7-0

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – FINANCE

10.1 Donation Acceptance

A motion was made by Savage/O’Brien to accept \$1,471.93 from the Westmoreland County District Attorney's office for the funding of a taser to assist in the enforcement of the provisions of the Controlled Substance, Drug, & Cosmetic Act.

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – CONTRACTS/CONTRACTED SERVICES

11.1 Reading Interns

A motion was made by Savage/O’Brien to approve the updated agreement between the Greensburg Salem School District and the Indiana University of Pennsylvania to provide up to three (3) IUP reading interns working toward their Reading Specialist Certification for the 2023-2024 school year.

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

11.2 Title I – Non-Public

A motion was made by Savage/Gazze to approve the agreement between the Greensburg Salem School District and Catapult Learning, Inc. to provide intervention and support services for the 2023-2024 school year to the Non-Public Title I Schools.

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

11.3 Title II – Non-Public

A motion was made by Conway/Gazze to approve the agreement between the Greensburg Salem School District and Intermediate Unit I to provide Professional development services for the 2023-2024 school year to the Non-Public Title II School.

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

11.4 Middle School Outdoor Basketball Court – Add Alternate

A motion was made by Savage/Conway to approve the add alternate of \$20,000 to the Middle School Outdoor Basketball Court project awarded to C. H. & D. Enterprises Inc. for the purpose of sealing and painting lines on the surface of the newly constructed outdoor basketball court and recreation space.

Roll call vote:

Voting Aye: Conway, Gazze, Jobe, Miller, O’Brien, Savage, Metrosky

Voting Nay: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Shearer, Thomas

Motion passed 7-0

11.5 Contracted Services

A motion was made by Gazzo/O'Brien to approve the following contracts and contracted services between the Greensburg Salem School District and the following:

1. CCP Blairsville to serve as the school physician and provide student physical examinations as contained herein as an amendment to the agreement passed by the Board of Directors on May 17, 2023.
2. Westmoreland Case Management and Supports Inc. (WCSI) to provide student assistance program services from August 14, 2023, to June 14, 2024, as contained herein.
3. Southwestern Pennsylvania Human Services Inc. (SPHS) Behavioral Health to provide drug and alcohol case management services from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

11.6 Service Agreement

A motion was made by Savage/O'Brien to approve the following contracts and contracted services between the Greensburg Salem School District and the following:

1. Justifacts Credential Verification, Inc. - 3 year agreement (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026) per attached

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – BOARD POLICIES

12.1 Board Policy Approval

A motion was made by Savage/Gazzo to approve the following Board policy updates:

- 1) Policy 137: Home Education Programs
- 2) Policy 137.1 Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
- 3) Policy 137.2 Participation in Cocurricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students (new)
- 4) Policy 200 Enrollment of Students
- 5) Policy 202 Eligibility of Nonresident Students
- 6) Policy 217 Graduation
- 7) Policy 218 Student Discipline
- 8) Policy 237 Electronic Devices
- 9) Policy 251 Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care, and Other Educational Instability

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – STUDENT MATTERS

None

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

A motion was made by Savage/Conway to approve the following conference and workshop requests:

- 1) Chris Thomas and Adam Jones to the Pennsylvania Principals Association State Conference, PA Summit 23, King of Prussia PA, on August 6 - 8, 2023 at a total cost of \$1,949.07.

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – ATHLETIC MATTERS

None

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – FACILITIES/FACILITIES USAGE

16.1 Facility Usage Requests

A motion was made by Gazze/Miller to approve the following facility usage requests:

1. Charter Oak Church Club Crossroads to use the Hutchinson Elementary cafeteria and gymnasium from 5:00 - 8:00 pm on the dates listed in the attached facility request form at no cost.
2. Charter Oak Church Club Crossroads to use the Middle School cafeteria and gymnasium from 3:00 - 5:00 pm on the dates listed in the attached facility request form at no cost.
3. Salem Township Gymnastics to use the Metzgar Elementary School multi-purpose room from 4:00 - 8:00 pm on the dates listed in the attached facility request form at a cost of \$5,000 for long-term use.
4. Greensburg YMCA BASE Program to use the Hutchinson Elementary gymnasium from 3:15 - 6:00 pm on the dates listed in the attached facility request form at no cost.

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – GENERAL/MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Dr. Ken Bissell announced that the Board facility committee will meet on Tuesday, August 22, from 6:00 - 6:45 pm in the administrative staff development room.

The Board will meet as a committee of a whole on Tuesday, August 22, from 6:45 - 7:30 pm in the administrative staff development room.

The next Board discussion meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the administrative staff development room. The next Board voting meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the John N. Scales Legislative Room.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS

Bob Izzilino – commented on motion 9.6 and had a question on e-Academy costs.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Savage/Gazze to adjourn the meeting.

Section 508 vote: All seven (7) Board Members present voted in the affirmative

The Regular School Board Meeting of the Greensburg Salem School District Board of Education held on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, beginning at 7:00 pm at the Middle School in the John N. Scales Legislative Meeting Room was adjourned at 7:37 pm.

ATTEST:



Allison Willis, School Board Secretary