

RINGGOLD SCHOOL DISTRICT
400 Main Street
New Eagle, PA 15067

Regular Ringgold Board of School Directors' Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Ringgold Board of School Directors, for General Purposes, was held at 7:00 P.M. Notices of this meeting were sent to all Board Members and it was properly posted and advertised. The meeting was called to order by President William Stein Jr. and the following Board Members were present/participating to the call of the roll. *The community was given the information to join on a virtual platform.

II. ROLL CALL

President
First Vice President

Mr. William C. Stein, Jr.
Mr. James R. Dodd
Ms. Harley Bobnar
Mrs. Carol F. Flament
Mr. Jason H. Gerard
Mr. Gene R. Kennedy
Mr. Lawrence L. Mauro
Mrs. Maureen A. Ott

Absent

Second Vice President

Mrs. Sherrie L. Garry

Also Present/Participating

Acting Superintendent
Board Secretary
Solicitor
Accounting & HR Specialist
Administrator on Special Assignment

Mr. Randall S. Skrinjorich
Mr. Timothy R. Berggren
Mrs. Mariah Carpenter
Dr. Cathy Taschner

III. ACTING SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – MR. SKRINJORICH

Mr. Skrinjorich started by thanking everyone in the RAMS community for their continued efforts. All students, whether attending in-person live instruction, virtual instruction, or the Ringgold Cyber academy, are benefiting from these efforts. Mr. Skrinjorich noted that approximately 200 additional students returned to the District on campus five days a week for the second quarter instruction, and he commended all of the Building Principals and staff for working schedules, moving classrooms, and finding ways to maintain the strict social distancing guidelines that are in place. The safety of the students and staff is the foremost goal and we must continue to work together to continue moving forward. He also noted that he recently met with Senator Bartolotta and her office and had the opportunity to discuss the manner Ringgold is working to provide Ringgold parents with Cyber schooling options. Mr. Skrinjorich thanked the Senator for her commitment to and interest in our community, District, and tax payers. Mr. Skrinjorich also expressed how grateful he is for all Ringgold students, staff, and families, and wished everyone a safe and happy holiday.

IV. SECRETARY'S REPORT

No Report

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to accept the following minutes as presented:

A. Regular Board Meeting of Wednesday, October 21, 2020

VI. MON VALLEY CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER REPORT - MR. KENNEDY

No Report

VII. INTERMEDIATE UNIT I REPORT –MRS. OTT

No Report

VIII. SHASDA REPORT – MRS. OTT

No Report

IX. PSBA REPORT – MRS. OTT

Mrs. Ott spoke with Senator Bartolotta for advocacy day and discussed the various options Ringgold students have for learning during COVID. She commented on the presentation that was presented at the meeting with Senator Bartolotta, and Dr. Taschner highlighted two slides that were presented at the meeting with Senator Bartolotta which related to Ringgold's cyber school and the savings the District has seen because of it.

X. SOLICITOR'S REPORT - MR. BERGGREN

Mr. Berggren stated that he had nothing to report.

XI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - MR. STEIN

Mr. Stein announced that the Board met in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting, to discuss the following:

- A. Possible Litigation Matters**
- B. Personnel Matters**
- C. Receive Legal Counsel and Information**

Mr. Stein addressed the fire that occurred at Ringgold High School and commended the staff for their quick reaction to prevent a potential disaster. He would like to follow and echo Mr. Skrinjorich and his comments about the staff, he thanked the staff for doing an admirable job. Safety is our primary concern and the District has been fortunate to get through the school year as far as we have gotten with in-person live instruction despite the current COVID-19 spread around us.

XII. VISITORS' REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Mary & David Jericho –Donora, PA **Topic:** Mr. Jericho has a child at Ringgold Elementary School South and wanted more information on the calm down room. He asked the following questions: why is the room in place and what protocols are in place for this room; are parents notified when a child is placed in this room? Also, Mr. Jericho asked about his child's bus stop which is down a road with no sidewalk.

Jim Dodd- Carroll Township **Topic:** Mr. Dodd has three children in the District who are in option 2 and he commented on how impressed he is with the instruction his children are receiving (commented specifically on art teacher). He also made a general comment about the District's hiring process across the Board and wants to ensure that we are doing all we can to recruit and advertise to get the best person for any position.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Business And Financial Services - Chairperson: Mrs. Flament - Co-chairpersons: Ms. Bobnar, Mr. Gerard and Mrs. Ott

1. Treasurer's Reports

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Gerard, to accept the Treasurer's Reports as presented. A copy of the Treasurer's Reports can be found in the Appendix of these Minutes on pages

2. **Payment of Bills**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to accept the Bills as presented. A copy of the Bills can be found in the Appendix of these Minutes on pages

3. **Agreement with PowerSchool Group LLC**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to enter into an agreement with PowerSchool Group LLC for applicant tracking services for the period of December 1, 2020 through November 30, 2023.

4. **Purchase and Use of the ALLHere Education Program**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, for the purchase and use of the ALLHere Education program which will provide attendance reminders at the high school.

5. **Approval of Additional Fees with Transformational Learning**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mrs. Ott, to approve the additional COVID-19 related expenses for the months of September and October in the amount of \$865 per month as requested by Transformational Learning for unexpected services being provided to Ringgold students as a result of COVID-19.

6. **Agreement with AMCA Systems, LLC**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to enter into an agreement with AMCA Systems, LLC. in the amount of \$2,650.00 for an ACA TaxTrack software license for the tax year 2020.

7. **Intermediate Unit 1 Services**

The Board, by a vote of 6-1-1 to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to take such action as is necessary to ensure that Intermediate Unit 1 does not terminate the services to any student it provides services to under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, said action to include filing any necessary law suit and/or appeals in state or federal court. The Administration, with the assistance of legal counsel, will notify the Board of School Directors of all other school districts in Intermediate Unit 1 of the billing methodologies of the Intermediate Unit; and the Administration and counsel is authorized to tach such action, including the filing of suit, as is necessary to recover the overcharges by the Intermediate Unit.

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Voting Yes - Messrs.: Gerard, Kennedy, Dodd, and Stein. Mesdames: Bobnar, and Flament

Voting No – Messrs.: Mauro

Abstain - Mesdames: Ott

B. Personnel And Administration – Chairperson: Mrs. Ott Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Flament, Mrs. Garry And Mr. Dodd

1. Acceptance of Resignations

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to accept the following resignations:

Alicia Moon – Special Education Teacher for Ringgold High School effective on or before the completion of the 60 day hold period.

Steven Sion – Police Officer for Ringgold School District effective November 25, 2020.

Pamela Rossey – Administrative Assistant for Ringgold High School effective October 23, 2020.

Kelli Dellarose – Assistant Principal at Ringgold High School effective on or before the completion of the 60 day hold period.

Timothy Ayres – Custodian for Ringgold School District, effective November 16, 2020.

2. Letters of Retirement

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to accept the following letter of retirement:

Robbin Jackson – Bus Driver for Ringgold School District effective December 2, 2020.

3. Employment of Personnel

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to employ the following individuals, pending proper documentation:

Trina Payne – Full-Time Bus Driver for Ringgold School District effective Thursday, November 19, 2020

Paula Englert - as a Custodian at Ringgold Elementary School North effective Thursday, November 19, 2020.

4. **Additions to the Substitute Rosters**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mrs. Flament, granting permission to add the following persons to the substitute rosters, pending proper documentation:

Bus Driver

Robbin Jackson Monongahela

Teacher

Rachel Anderson Monongahela

Custodian

Jeffrey Miller Monongahela

5. **Approval of the Creation of a Position**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mr. Dodd, for the creation of the position of “Interpreter for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing”, as per policy 301.

6. **Appointment of Assistant Superintendent**

Mrs. Ott made a motion to appoint Dr. Cathy L. Valotta-Taschner as Assistant Superintendent for a period commencing December 1, 2020 and to run for a period up through November 30, 2025, pursuant to the terms and conditions outlined in the employment agreement between the parties, and approving and rarifying the employment agreement between the parties. The Assistant Superintendent shall sign and execute the employment agreement in compliance with the provision of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended, and Act 141 of 2012.

Mr. Dodd moved to table the vote, seconded by Mr. Mauro. The Board, by a vote of 3-5 to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, failed to approve a motion to table the motion.

Voting Yes - Messrs.: Dodd and Mauro; Mesdames: Bobnar

Voting No - Messrs.: Gerard, Kennedy, and Stein; Mesdames: Flament, and Ott

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

The Board, by a vote of 6-2 to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to appoint Dr. Cathy L. Valotta-Taschner as Assistant Superintendent for a period commencing December 1, 2020 and to run for a period up through November 30, 2025, pursuant to the terms and conditions outlined in the employment agreement between the parties, and approving and rarifying the employment agreement between the parties. The Assistant Superintendent shall sign and execute the employment agreement in compliance with the provision of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended, and Act 141 of 2012.

Voting Yes - Messrs.: Gerard, Kennedy, Mauro, and Stein; Mesdames: Flament, and Ott

Voting No - Messrs.: Dodd; Mesdames: Bobnar

C. Curriculum, Education & Technology – Chairperson: Mr. Mauro Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Bobnar, Mr. Gerard and Mrs. Garry –

1. Approval of the Agreement with Focus School Software

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Mauro, seconded by Ms. Bobnar, to enter into an agreement with Focus School Software that will allow for needed upgrades to the Student Information System for the 2021-2022 school year through the 2025-2026 school year. These upgrades will allow the learning management system and student information system to communicate. The amount for the first year is \$33,229.00.

2. Approval of the Agreement with Full Service Network

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Mauro, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to enter into an agreement with Full Service Network for District phone service. The estimated monthly cost is \$1,125.00 plus a one-time activation fee of \$399.99.

3. Appointment of the Comprehensive Planning Steering Committee

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Mauro, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to appoint the following stakeholders to the Comprehensive Planning Steering Committee:

- Parent of a child(ren) attending school in the District: **Tiffany Stotka**
- Local business representative: **Rick Lawson**

D. Athletics – Chairperson: Mrs. Garry Co-chairpersons: Mr. Gerard, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Mauro

1. PIAA Championship Requests

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a retroactive motion by Mr. Gerard, seconded by Mrs. Ott, authorizing any athlete(s) and/or team(s) to attend the PIAA State Championships, if they were to qualify. The following are the dates for each trip:

1. Cross Country – November 7, 2020 in Hershey, PA

2. Appointment of A Coach

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Gerard, seconded by Ms. Bobnar, to appoint the following coaches. Coaching appointments are subject to contract documents prepared by the Administration and Solicitor. Individuals are required to sign a contract and the Coach's Code of Ethics and Conduct documents as a condition of their employment. All clearances and a drug test are mandatory and have been received.

Winter Coaches

1. Girls Basketball

- a. **Eric James** – Assistant Varsity Coach at a salary of \$4,200.00 (contract follows head coach)
- b. **Natalie Adams** – Assistant Varsity Coach at a salary of \$2,800.00 (contract follows head coach)

2. Wrestling

- a. **Luke Smith** – Head Varsity Coach at a salary of \$9,000.00 (3 year contract)
- b. **Dean Mathies** – Assistant Varsity Coach at a salary of \$5,000.00 (contract follows head coach)
- c. **Chris Brown** – Assistant Jr. High Coach at a salary of \$1,560.60 (annual contract)

3. Resignation of a Coach

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Gerard, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to accept the following resignations:

Alex Vaughan - Assistant Varsity Swimming Coach – effective October 29, 2020

Jeff Lessman - Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach – effective November 8, 2020

4. **Approval of the amended District's Athletic & Activities Health and Safety Plan**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Gerard, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to accept and approve the Amended District's Athletic & Activities Health and Safety Plan, subject to amendments and changes as determined necessary by the Acting Superintendent consistent with direction and guidance from the Department of Education, the Department of Health and WPIAL. Further, in the event that the District shall be required to provide instruction by full remote, all athletic activities shall be suspended during such time, and shall resume when full remote instruction is no longer required.

5. **Implementation of General Procedures for Ringgold Winter Athletic Events**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Gerard, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to adopt and approve the General Procedures for Ringgold Winter Athletic Events.

6. **Purchase of Wrestling Mat**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Gerard, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to accept the proposal from Resilite Sports Products for the purchase of a new wrestling mat in the amount of \$23,476.06. Pricing is based on COSTARS ID #014-202.

E. **Health and Nutrition & Safety and Security – Chairperson: Ms. Bobnar Co-chairpersons: Mr. Dodd, Mr. Kennedy and Mrs. Flament**

No Report

F. **Facilities, Planning, and Transportation – Chairperson: Mr. Dodd Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Ott, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Mauro**

1. **Outside Transportation Contracts**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Dodd, seconded by Mrs. Ott, approving the amended contracts for the following carriers:

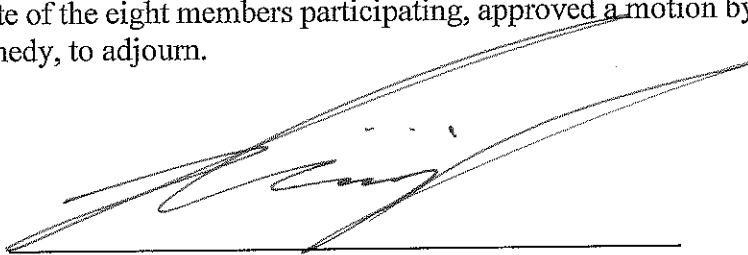
FIRST STUDENT

10 Students	Seton laSalle High School	\$315.28 Daily Rate
10 Students	Central CA – Faith -JFK	\$315.28 Daily Rate
7 Students	Laboratory	\$315.28 Daily Rate
	Monitor	\$114.45 Daily Rate
5 Students	Watson Institute South	\$362.97 Daily Rate
	Monitor	\$114.45 Daily Rate
1 Student	Children's Institute	\$362.97 Daily Rate

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the eight members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to adjourn.

The Board adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randall S. Skrinjorich', written over a horizontal line.

Randall S. Skrinjorich
Secretary of the Board Ringgold Board of School
Directors