

The Steelton-Highspire School Board met on the above date for the purpose of planning and developing the agenda for the regular meeting of April 17, 2019 with the following members present: Ms. Karen Harris; Mr. Derek Lewis; Ms. Paula Sviben; Ms. Mary Carricato; Ms. Janice Elliott; Mr. Calvin Johnson; and Ms. Rachel Slade. Also present were Mr. Travis Waters, Superintendent; Mr. Vincent Champion, School Solicitor; Mr. Mick Iskric, Jr., Assistant to the Superintendent; Mr. Michael Simonetti, Business Manager; Ms. Kate Gallagher, Senior High Principal; Mr. Terry Martin, Junior High Principal;. Attached is a copy of a list of names of the members of the public who were present.

Ms. Slade called the meeting to order at 6:48 PM

The meeting opened with the “Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag”.

Executive Session

Announcement of executive session meeting prior to the meeting in regards to legal issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PRESENTATION

The first presentation was given by Mr. Hassinger, the 7th Grade History teacher at Steelton Highspire. Mr. Hassinger stated that himself and Ms. Rhoedts, the 7th grade Math teacher would like to plan a trip across seas. Mr. Hassinger stated that first he would want to have an engagement meeting just to see who is interested. The trip will be the summer of 2020 for our current 7th and 8th graders who will be 9th and 10th graders. We will entertain and try to figure out fundraising. We would have several teachers that are able to come if we need more chaperones depending on the number of students. The trip will be about 10 days, 5 days in Paris and 5 days in London. The trip is planned out by a company and the total price is \$2,000-\$3,000 which includes room and board, flights, and meals.

The second presentation was given by Ms. Lorna LeMelle from The Pennsylvania State University: Cancer Education. Ms. LeMelle stated that on November 2, 2019 the Penn State Cancer Education Institute would like to use the elementary school for the 10th Annual event. Having the even here will reach out to more people and we will like to include the children to help them with healthy living and behaviors. We will setup vendors in the gym and have doctors come in and talk about setting up meeting for different disorders. We would like to hold the event here on Saturday from 8 am -2 pm and we will serve lunch and breakfast. My target will be the school, churches, and children. There are community health workers about 18 people signed up to help. The team name is ROAR. A suggestion was made for the event to be held at the high school for size and room to fit all the people who are invited.

Ms. Carricato made a motion to approve the request for Lorna LeMelle and Penn State University Cancer Education to use our facility November 2, 2019 from 8:00 am – 2:00

pm. Second by Mr. Johnson; Ms. Harris, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Sviben, Ms. Carricato, Ms. Elliott, Mr. Johnson, and Ms. Slade. (7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent)

The third presentation was given by Mr. Michael Simonetti and Mrs. Nikki Moore from the Business Office here at Steelton Highspire School District. Mr. Simonetti stated that we are expecting a \$1.2 million dollar fund balance and it should grow every year. The reason why this is happening is because of the safety grant we received. This year our revenues are over our expenses by \$1.2 million, under the revenue section they got rid of the ready to learn and rolled it into the basic education subsidy and they are also trying to put in the minimum salary for teachers up to \$45,000. There will be a handout next week, so everyone can look at the line items more in depth. We are going to have a fund balance because the safety grant is offsetting some salaries. The grant is for this year and next year and we have to look for more grant money for the next 2 years. A question was asked about why is there a tax increase if there is a \$1.2 million balance being transferred to the fund balance. The answer was because that balance will not always be there. Another question was asked about what was the project from the state auditor that came in and spoke to us. The answer was his suggestion was a 1% tax increase for this year. The projection that the recovery officer gave we were supposed to get a tax increase every year for the last 5 years and some of those years we did not increase at all. Without the grant we would be in the whole \$400,000. The balanced is because of the safety grant. PSERS will be increasing every year, which this is the issue because not only is PSERS is going up so is the health insurance and debt services. After 4 years the bond will be paid off and we will get a little relief but not much. A discussion about how to cut expenses and how the revenues are being generated. The answer to the question why increase the taxes this year is because if we increase this year and all goes to plan we will not have to raise the taxes in the next 2 years. A complaint was made about raising taxes will hurt the elderly and the people need a break, although we say no increases something will happen and we will have to increase the taxes again. A question was asked if the numbers can be shown to see the difference. The increase is still \$1 million, but that will not help us with payroll until we get the subsidy.

FOLLOW UP

Mr. Waters made a couple announcements, the first announcement was about an email sent out about going to the capitol for Advocacy Day, Monday, April 29, 2019. Last year Denae House and Joyce Culpeper went, this year Rachel Slade and Paula Sviben volunteered to go. Also PSSAs start next week. Also on Tuesday the high school will be doing #TRASHTAG and we received a call from Valerie Bridget from ABC 27 news and the Swatara Township will be there too. First Student has donated a bus to take the students to Highspire. Lastly we are having kindergarten registration, student resources, headstart, pregnant mothers, infants, toddlers to

increase school readiness. We have several different people that will be there on May 11, 2019 from 11am – 2pm. Our children in kindergarten are doing better at the half way point this year than last year, so with us having full day kindergarten we are already seeing improvement educationally.

REVIEW OF REPORTS **CURRICULUM REPORT**

No report.

FINANCE REPORT

Finance Report will be brought forward for approval at the Legislative Meeting on April 17, 2019.

Personnel Action Items Report

Mr. Lewis made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Item Report. Second by Mr. Johnson; Ms. Harris, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Sviben, Ms. Carricato, Ms. Elliott, Mr. Johnson, and Ms. Slade. *(7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent)*

Action Items – Student Activities Report

Ms. Elliott made a motion to approve the creation of an elementary step and drill club. Second by Ms. Sviben; Ms. Harris, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Sviben, Ms. Carricato, Ms. Elliott, Mr. Johnson, and Ms. Slade. *(7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent)*

PERSONNEL REPORT

No report.

TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Transportation Report will be brought forward for approval at the Legislative Meeting on April 17, 2019.

Ms. Carricato made a motion to approve the field trip request for the 7th – 11th grade students to travel to Penn State Blue/White game on April 13, 2019. Second by Ms. Elliott; Ms. Harris, Ms. Sviben, Ms. Carricato, Ms. Elliott, Mr. Johnson, and Ms. Slade. *(6 ayes, 1 nay, 2 absent)*

A discussion ensued as a result of not having a booster club, collecting money, who has to have their fundraiser's approved. A discussion was also held about who gets money and how the money is disbursed.

A discussion ensued in regards to facility request's having precedents over using the gym over a coach. A determination was made if a sport is in season they have precedents, but if it is off season they have to go through the board.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES REPORT

Student Activities Report will be brought forward for approval at the Legislative Meeting on April 17, 2019.

PUPIL SERVICES REPORT

Pupil Services Report will be brought forward for approval at the Legislative Meeting on April 17, 2019.

PROPERTY AND SUPPLIES

Property and Supplies Report will be brought forward for approval at the Legislative Meeting on April 17, 2019.

SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT

No report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report

SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent's Report will be brought forward for approval at the Legislative Meeting on April 17, 2019.

Special Reports

- A. Athletic Association: we had a few students qualify for districts;
- B. PSBA Representative: no report
- C. HACC: no report
- D. CAIU: no report
- E. Strategic: no report
- F. Buildings and Grounds: no report
- G. Discipline: no report
- H. Budget Planning: no report
- I. Policy: no report
- J. Negotiations: meeting coming up

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM on a motion by Ms. Carricato. Second by Ms. Harris. All members present voted aye.

ShaQuita Burton

ShaQuita Burton, Board Secretary