

Steelton, Pennsylvania  
June 8, 2015

The Steelton-Highspire School Board met on the above date for the purpose of planning and developing the agenda for the regular meeting of June 18, 2015 with the following members present: President, Ms. Mary Carricato; Vice President, Ms. Rachel Slade; Mr. Derek E. Lewis; Ms. Sarah F. Metallo; Mr. Samuel Petrovich; Mr. John Salov; Mr. Robert Spizzirri; and Mrs. Rosemary Tonkin. Mr. Barry L. Baumgardner was absent. Also present were Dr. Ellen Castagneto, Superintendent; Mr. Travis Waters, Assistant to the Superintendent; Cynthia Craig, Business Manager; Mick Iskrac, High School Principal; and Ms. Debora Kagarise, Board Secretary. Attached is a copy of a list of names of the members of the public who were present.

Ms. Carricato called the meeting to order at 6:36 P.M.

The meeting opened with the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag".

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Carricato announced an Executive Session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

##### **Penn State's Select Medical Program**

Dr. Judith Witmer, Director, Capital Area Institute for Mathematics and Science, spoke about the Select Medical Science and Careers Program through Penn State Harrisburg. Dr. Witmer stated when approached with the opportunity of a grant from Select Medical, Steelton-Highspire was the first school they thought of, because of the great experience working previously with Ms. Rhodes, Mr. Wolfe and the students. Dr. Witmer conveyed the experiences seventh grade science classes had making bracelets out of DNA; hearing about career opportunities from a male nurse and others; and students worked with a science teacher on a math and science thinking problem of keeping a squirrel out of a bird feeder. On May 12 the grant paid for students to spend a full day at Penn State, touring the campus, hearing about career decisions, performing experiments in the biofuels lab and taking part in the nursing simulation lab. Dr. Witmer was astounded to see how interested the students were with the program. They are planning to offer this again next school year, along with a field trip to the Philadelphia Zoo, contingent on the Board's approval. Also, a bus trip to Franklin Institute and the planetarium will be an incentive to the top sixteen students. \$3,000 of lab equipment and supplies have been purchased by the Select Medical grant, including microscopes that project onto screens for students to view. Dr. Witmer gave handouts to the Board with more information about the program.

### **Greenhouse Aquaponics Recognition**

Dr. Castagneto recognized, on behalf of the Board, Mr. Iskric, Ms. Rhodes, Ms. Steinhauer, Mr. Wolfe and Ms. Kane with their efforts with the Agtec WheelHouse greenhouse aquaponics program. Mr. Iskric reported ten students began work today with Johnny Scollo, the Manager in the greenhouse. The greenhouse is capable of growing various items, a banana and mango tree, as well as vegetables and the tilapia fish. Prawn fish will be introduced within the next three weeks. Stocks on Second is interested in purchasing from the project, as well as numerous other restaurants.

Mr. Wolfe thanked Dr. Witmer on her presentation this evening and the opportunity given our students. He spoke on the STEM system and the aquaponics program, school to table, helping the environment. Dr. Castagneto thanked each student of the program and expressed gratitude for their contribution toward the program. Each student was recognized and given a certificate created by the art department students.

Ms. Steinhauer spoke about the opportunities students had working with the greenhouse ribbon cutting ceremony creating the gifts given to the designated guests. Copies were on display in the conference room. Dr. Castagneto presented certificates to the art department students.

Ms. Rhodes spoke of how exciting it is to work with students in preparation of the greenhouse, through the types of weather they've experienced. Dr. Castagneto recognized Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Lehigh and Mr. Ulrich for the extra hours and their hard work with the project and Ms. Romanofsky and the elementary band for performing.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT (Action Items)**

There was no public comment.

### **FOLLOW UP**

Dr. Castagneto said there was no change with the Highspire petition and elementary fence. There was no follow-up from the last meeting.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

### **GRIEVANCE**

Ms. Metallo made a motion to approve the denial of Grievance #3915. Second by Ms. Slade. All members present voted aye on roll call. (8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, 1 absent)

## FUNDRAISERS

Ms. Metallo made a motion to approve the following fundraisers. Second by Ms. Slade. M. Carricato requested Mr. Erby or a team member to come to a meeting with a sample of the t-shirts. All members present voted aye on roll call. (8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, 1 absent)

<u>Club/Group</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Type of Funding</u>
Football Team	6/8/15-7/14/15	T-shirt sale

## CHEERLEADING APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Metallo made a motion to approve the following appointments for Cheerleading Staff. Second by Ms. Slade. Mr. Lewis abstained his vote, family member, all other members present voted aye on roll call. (7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstentions, 1 absent)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Ms. Ryan House	Cheerleading Head Coach	\$2,220.00, Step 1	June 9, 2015
Ms. Brittany Rogers	Cheerleading Assistant Coach	\$1,750.00, Step 1	Pending receipt of remaining clearances

## REVIEW OF BOARD REPORTS

### Curriculum Report

Fuel Ed, K-12 cyber curriculum continuation and school improvement plans will be brought forward for approval at the June 18, 2015 Legislative Meeting. Mr. Petrovich questioned the motion. Dr. Castagneto explained the curriculum and the support by Ms. Kane. The average cost is \$8200-\$21,000. Mr. Petrovich stated the public may not realize how much it costs them for students to attend cyber school.

### Financial Report

Financial reports for the General Fund, Cafeteria Fund, Student Activities Fund, Athletic Fund for the month of May, 2015, school district insurance coverage, 2015-2016 Final Steelton-Highspire School District General Fund Budget and awards of bids for food services will be brought forward for approval at the June 18, 2015 Legislative Meeting. Ms. Carricato requests if the amount is not known at the time of the planning meeting, don't include on agenda.

### Personnel Report

Appointments and resignations will be brought forward at the Legislative Meeting on June 18, 2015.

### **Property and Supplies Report**

High school roof restoration/replacement, announcements of paving/macadam project bids, elementary gym restoration project costs, CAIU Barracuda agreement and facilities usage report for June, 2015 will be brought forward at the Legislative Meeting on June 18, 2015.

### **Student Activities Report**

Creation of two additional Junior High sports will be brought forward at the Legislative Meeting on June 18, 2015. Ms. Metallo questioned additional costs for these two sports. Dr. Castagneto reported the additional costs were allowed in the athletic budget.

### **Pupil Services Report**

Contracts for occupational and physical therapy services and health professional services will be brought forward at the Legislative Meeting on June 18, 2015.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Donations will be brought forward at the Legislative Meeting on June 18, 2015.

## **SPECIAL REPORTS**

### **PSBA Representative**

There was nothing to be reported.

### **HACC**

There was nothing to be reported.

### **Strategic Planning**

There was nothing to be reported.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

Mr. Lewis said multiple projects are in the works for this summer.

### **Discipline Committee**

There was nothing to be reported.

**Budget Committee**

There was nothing to be reported.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. John Hoerner, Mayor of Highspire, Second Street, commented on the latest news regarding the coach at Steelton-Highspire. Although this person is a great coach, please take in consideration the roll-model a person is with the students, before something more tragic occurs.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Slade. Second by Mr. Petrovich. All members voted aye.

*Debora Kagarise*  
Debora Kagarise, Board Secretary