

---

---

MINUTES OF THE MILLVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024

---

---

The Millville Area School Board held their regular meeting on Monday, May 6, 2024 in the Millville Jr./Sr. High School Library beginning 7:00 pm. Prior to the meeting, the Board held an Executive Session for personnel matters.

### **1. ROLL CALL**

The following Board members answered roll call: William Berger, Matthew Deihl, Susan Farr, Gena Maize (via ZOOM), Heather Mausteller, Susan Myers, and Jessica Whitmoyer.

Also present were Joseph Rasmus, Superintendent; Whitney Holloway, Business Manager; Matthew Mills, Secondary Principal; Edward Sanders, Elementary Principal; Alexa Longacre, Director of Interventional Support; Dyson Savage, Technology Coordinator; and Chelsea Rosenberger, Assistant Board Secretary.

### **2. GUEST RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS**

*Guests Christopher Sassaman, Gwen Utt, Wendy Faatz, Drue Fisher, and Emily Bloom all signed the register.*

- Mrs. Wendy Faatz asked to share a thank you for a donation with the Board on behalf of Little Fishing Creek Area Swimming Pool. She shared that the CMSU recently agreed to give grant money they received as a donation to the Little Fishing Creek Area Swimming Pool for the purchase of pool passes for all Millville Area School District students. Mrs. Faatz wanted to say thank you to the CMSU for this awesome opportunity for our students. She concluded her statement by sharing with the Board that the district would be doing a fundraiser to purchase one pass for parents who would need to attend with their child for supervision.

### **4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Mr. Rasmus began by commending Mrs. Faatz and the CMSU for the work put into this opportunity for students.
- Rural Pathways to Success Grant
  - Mr. Rasmus explained the Rural Pathways to Success Grant opportunity that has been recently been made available to Millville Area School District. He shared that the most recent statistics have only about 29% of students in rural areas enrolled in a postsecondary education, highlighting some of the barriers for students. He explained that the University of Pennsylvania recently collaborated with the district for professional development, and we recently learned that the district is one of ten schools who has been chosen for this tutoring program.
  - He explained that we would be looking for students in grades 10, 11, and 12 who are interested in pursuing a career in education or high achieving students. For their participation in the program, students will earn six graduate credits for free. Mr. Rasmus reiterated that students do not necessarily have to pursue a career in education. These interested students will undergo a few weeks of training and will be part of a tutoring program with students across the Commonwealth. Throughout the program, the participating students will be monitored and receive coaching from the UPENN faculty. In conclusion, Mr. Rasmus shared that there would be an informational session held for parents and students on May 20, 2024.

- Academic Schedules
  - Mr. Rasmus explained that the administrative team continues to work on the academic schedules. At the Secondary campus, he shared that they are working to remove Quaker Time and set up double periods of English Language Arts and CTE courses, as necessary for the CTE programming. At the Elementary campus, Mr. Rasmus explained they are working to departmentalize grades two through six.
  - Mr. Rasmus shared that there would be a Curriculum Committee scheduled on Thursday, May 23, 2024 to further discuss these changes.

**5. BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT**

*Mrs. Holloway had previously submitted her report for the Board, and no additional questions were asked at that time.*

**6. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

6.1 April 22, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

A motion by Susan Farr and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board approve the April 22, 2024 Millville Area School District Board meeting minutes.

The motion carried by voice vote. 7 Yea; 0 Nay; 2 Absent

**7. BUDGET AND FINANCE**

7.2 Expenditures

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the May 6, 2024 general fund expenditures in the amount of \$93,897.89 and athletic expenditures in the amount of \$1,924.00.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

7.3 Proposed Final 2024-2025 Millville Area School District Operating Budget

A motion by William Berger and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Millville Area School District 2024-2025 Proposed Final Budget with total expenditures of \$15,238,060 with a millage of 59.5501 mills which is an increase of 6.8% consistent to the Act 1 Index.

- Mrs. Holloway reviewed the budget documents presented to the Board. She explained that the first page showed the total district expenditures with the different proposed variances in revenue, primarily based on the tax increase calculation. Mrs. Holloway shared that the numbers could very well change because she had not yet received the updated assessed home values from the county, which could change the revenues. Going further, Mrs. Holloway explained that since the Finance Committee meeting, she had received the updated Homestead/Farmstead figures, which did increase and aid the district’s budget calculation.
- Next, Mrs. Holloway showed the sources of revenues and expenditures, explaining that the district will no longer have access to ESSER funding at the end of the school year. The district would need to find funding for those positions to either be absorbed or eliminated. Additionally, she shared that the district would see an 8.4% increase in the health insurance premium. Unfortunately, the CSIU would not be giving a holiday break in cost which would be an expenditure needing to be absorbed as well. Mrs. Holloway said that the district would need to continue cutting back on supplies to try to close the gap as much as possible on individual budgets.
- On the third page of the information given to the Board, Mrs. Holloway reviewed the calculations for taxes, explaining that with the proposed increase, the taxpayer would pay an additional average of 107 dollars. However, she stated that this figure was simply an estimate until the Homestead figures were returned from the county.

- Next, Mrs. Holloway shared the extracurricular schedule, adding that the Co-Curricular Committee would need to make adjustments to this information.
- Finally, Mrs. Holloway showed the final page including all “extra hours” for professional staff, substitute needs for the school year, Extended School Year staffing, summer student workers, security for events, and curriculum writing for professional staff to name a few.
  - Ms. Maize asked if the Board was looking to approve this budget today as it currently stands.
  - Mrs. Holloway answered that yes, we were looking to move on this item today, however, this proposed final budget had to be posted from a month before it would come back in its final form to the Board for the final approval. She added that there would be additions and changes before the final approval, but that the final budget would need to be submitted and approved by the state by June 30, 2024.
  - Mrs. Mausteller shared a concern that this budget was named “proposed final” and wanted to ensure that this was not the final approval for the budget.
  - Mr. Berger added in clarification that the budget would need to have five votes in favor in order to pass.
  - Mrs. Holloway mentioned that an additional item not yet included in these budget calculations was the Community Eligibility Provision Application, which the district would be applying to receive. If approved, every student would receive free lunch and breakfast.
    - Mr. Rasmus added that this would not be an additional expense to the district but would rather aid the district in funding for school meals.
  - Mrs. Myers commented that this would not be the final iteration of the budget and that the Board would approve the final budget in a month.
  - Ms. Maize questioned why it was named as a “proposed final” budget.
  - Mrs. Myers answered that this was the title from the state but that changes would still be made to it.
  - Mrs. Farr added that she was also concerned about the language of the motion.

After the discussion, the motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

## **8. CURRICULUM / EDUCATIONAL**

### **8.1 Secondary Curricular Excursion & Field Trips**

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Secondary curricular excursions and trips as presented.

- 8.1 A - May 10, 2024 - 24 Math Competition Trip - Mrs. Myers
- 8.1 B - May 16, 2024 - Penn Museum Trip - Mr. Marshman
- 8.1 C - May 30, 2024 - Rescue Pets Fundraiser Trip - Mrs. Schrader

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

### **8.2 Waiver of Expulsion Hearing and Stipulation**

A motion by Susan Farr and seconded by William Berger that the Millville Area School Board approve the Waiver of Expulsion Hearing and Stipulation for student #35322 for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

## **9. PERSONNEL AND ACTIVITIES**

### **9.1 Unpaid Leave**

A motion by Jessica Whitmoyer and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve (1) one unpaid leave day, May 20, 2024 for employee 702.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

9.2 Volunteer Personnel

A motion by Susan Farr and seconded by Jessica Whitmoyer that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the list of Volunteer Personnel for the 2023-2024 school year as presented. Current clearances and Volunteer Forms on file.

- Shanna Haden, Elizabeth Hower, Caitlin Karl, Erin Kohrherr, Amanda McCormick, Tracey Rowlands, Ashley Shaner, Kristine Summers, and Abra Weaver

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Farr to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Chelsea Rosenberger  
Assistant Board Secretary