

SCHUYLKILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
929 Lakeshore Drive  
Leesport, PA 19533-8631

MINUTES

December 7, 2023

**1.0 The Reorganization/Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board Secretary, Linda R. Lash, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School.**

**1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**1.2 LIST OF HOLDOVER MEMBERS**

Holdover Members Present: Nicoleen M. Kleffel, Linda R. Lash, Bryan J. O'Donnell

Holdover Member Paul L. Bendigo was not physically present but participated and voted via speakerphone.

Secretary: Linda R. Lash

Recording Secretary: Susan A. Christman

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Cathy Taschner, Dr. Melissa Brewer, Michael Sobczak

Solicitor: Alicia Luke, Esq., Fox Rothschild LLP

**1.3 PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

No one addressed the Board.

**1.4 NOTICE OF THE ORGANIZATION MEETING**

Linda R. Lash, Board Secretary, read the Notice of the Organization Meeting.

**1.5 FAREWELL TO BOARD MEMBERS**

We thank each outgoing Board member for their dedicated service to the citizens and students of the Schuylkill Valley School District and for their devotion in serving the district. We wish them well in their future endeavors: Mr. Robert M. Dempsey, 24 years of service; Mr. George H. Mertz, 8 years of service; and Mr. G Dane Miller, 16 years of service.

**2.0 SELECTION OF A TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (from holdover members)**

**Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to nominate Linda R. Lash as the temporary president.**

**Roll Call Vote (Holdover Members)**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, O'Donnell**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Linda R. Lash served as the temporary President.

**3.0 CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION FOR NEWLY ELECTED OR REELECTED BOARD MEMBERS**

Linda R. Lash, Temporary President, read the Certificates of Election from the Berks County Board of Elections for Franklin M. Ammarell, Region 2; David E. Moll, Region 3; Alfonso F. Rossi, Region 3; Kelly J. Steinke, Region 1; and Daniel B. Weyandt, Region 2.

**4.0 SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED AND REELECTED BOARD MEMBERS**

Linda R. Lash, Temporary President, administered the oath of office to newly elected and reelected Board members:

- Franklin M. Ammarell                      Four-year term to conclude first Monday in December 2027  
Region 2
- David E. Moll                                Four-year term to conclude first Monday in December 2027  
Region 3
- Alfonso F. Rossi                            Four-year term to conclude first Monday in December 2027  
Region 3
- Kelly J. Steinke                            Four-year term to conclude first Monday in December 2027  
Region 1
- Daniel B. Weyandt                        Four-year term to conclude first Monday in December 2027  
Region 2

**5.0 LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS AND TERMS**

Franklin M. Ammarell	Region 2	2023-2027
Paul L. Bendigo	Region 1	2021-2025
Nicoleen M. Kleffel	Region 3	2021-2025
Linda R. Lash	Region 1	2021-2025
David E. Moll	Region 3	2023-2027
Bryan J. O'Donnell	Region 2	2021-2025
Alfonso F. Rossi	Region 3	2023-2027
Kelly J. Steinke	Region 1	2023-2027
Daniel B. Weyandt	Region 2	2023-2027

**6.0 NOMINATIONS FOR AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT**

Temporary President Linda R. Lash asked for nominations for President.

**Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to nominate David Moll for President.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Yeas: Ammarell, Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi, Steinke, Weyandt**

*Motion passed 9-0 for David E. Moll for Board President.*

**7.0 NOMINATIONS FOR AND ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT**

President David Moll asked for nominations for Vice President.

**Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Linda Lash to nominate Alfonso Rossi as Vice President.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Yeas: Ammarell, Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi, Steinke, Weyandt**

*Motion passed 9-0 for Alfonso F. Rossi for Board Vice President.*

**8.0 APPOINTMENTS: BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

The Board is requested to consider and appoint representatives as listed:

**8.1 Berks Career and Technology Center: Joint Operating Committee**

Mr. David Moll agreed to serve as the representative, to fill the unexpired term of Mr. George Mertz, through December 31, 2025. Mr. Daniel Weyandt agreed to serve as the alternate representative, to fill the unexpired term of Mr. David Moll, through December 31, 2025.

**8.2 Pennsylvania School Boards Association Liaison (One-Year Term)**

Mrs. Linda Lash agreed to serve as the representative for a one-year term and Mr. Frank Ammarell agreed to serve as the alternate representative for the same one-year term.

**8.3 Tax Collection Committee (One-Year Term)**

Mrs. Nicoleen Kleffel agreed to serve as the representative for a one-year term and Mrs. Kelly Steinke agreed to serve as the alternate representative for the same one-year term.

**Board Action: Moved by David Moll, President, to approve the appointments in Items 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3, as presented.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Yeas: Ammarell, Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi, Steinke, Weyandt**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**9.0 CONTINUING APPOINTMENTS**

**9.1 Berks County Intermediate Unit Board Representative (Three-Year Term)**

Mrs. Linda Lash is presently the representative through June 30, 2026, as appointed at the June 15, 2023, BCIU Board meeting.

**9.2 Berks Vocational-Technical School Authority Representative (Five-Year Term)**

Mr. Geoffrey Miller (former Board member) is presently the representative through December 31, 2025, as appointed at the December 1, 2020 Board meeting.

**10.0 BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: 2024 and 2025**

Policy, Personnel and Public Relations

Paul L. Bendigo, Chair	Linda R. Lash
Franklin M. Ammarell	Kelly J. Steinke

Curriculum and Technology

Linda R. Lash, Chair	Nicoleen M. Kleffel
Franklin M. Ammarell	Bryan J. O'Donnell

Budget and Finance

Nicoleen M. Kleffel, Chair	Alfonso F. Rossi
Paul L. Bendigo	Kelly J. Steinke

Buildings and Grounds

Bryan J. O'Donnell, Chair	Alfonso F. Rossi
Paul L. Bendigo	Daniel B. Weyandt

Student Services and Activities

Alfonso F. Rossi, Chair	Nicoleen M. Kleffel
Franklin M. Ammarell	Daniel B. Weyandt

**11.0 MEETING DATES: 2024**

The Board is requested to consider and approve the Committee and Board meeting dates for the 2024 calendar year.

**Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the Committee and Board meeting dates for the 2024 calendar year, as presented.**

**Yeas: Ammarell, Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi, Steinke, Weyandt**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**12.0 OTHER BUSINESS/GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Recognition of Students: Holiday Cards

The Board recognized the following middle school students in Mrs. Ronda Seymour's art classes whose designs were chosen to represent the school district on holiday cards: Carson Blanski, fifth grade; Megan Angstadt, sixth grade; Zoe Clark and Hennessey Kehs-Rossi, seventh grade; and Genevieve Disney, eighth grade.

Each student was presented with a set of cards and a framed poster of their design as tokens of appreciation for their creativity and hard work.

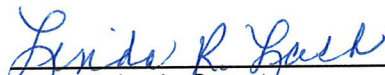
**13.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel that, there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned.**

**Yeas: Ammarell, Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi, Steinke, Weyandt**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

  
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Linda R. Lash, Secretary  
Board of School Directors