

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

MINUTES

August 9, 2023

**1.0 The Special Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board President, David E. Moll, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School.**

**1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**1.2 ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Paul L. Bendigo, Nicoleen M. Kleffel, George H. Mertz III, David E. Moll, Alfonso F. Rossi

Board Members Linda R. Lash, G. Dane Miller, and Bryan J. O'Donnell were not physically present but participated and voted via speakerphone.

Members Absent: Robert M. Dempsey

Secretary: Linda R. Lash

Recording Secretary: Susan A. Christman

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Cathy Taschner, Casey Blankenbiller, Robin Brightbill, Michael Sobczak

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

No one addressed the Board.

**3.0 POLICY, PERSONNEL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Employment

**3.1** The Board is requested to consider and approve the employment of the following (all elections are contingent upon receipt and district approval of all necessary pre-employment forms, certification, state-mandated physical examinations, clearances, etc.):

**3.1.1** Ms. Marrassa Ciccarone, Elementary Education K-6 Teacher, Master's Step 5, \$63,486, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Amy Shuman, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year.

**3.1.2** Ms. Vanessa Linkchorst, Elementary Education K-6 Teacher, Master's, Step 8, \$67,968 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Megan Wolfinger, effective pending release from current assignment.

**3.1.3** Mrs. Nadine Poper, Library Science K-12/Elementary Education K-6 Teacher, Master's+6, Step 23, \$92,283 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Mrs. Stephanie Jacobs, effective pending release from current assignment.

**3.1.4** Transfer of Mrs. Michelle Rowles-Cranmer, from Special Education K-12 Teacher to English 7-12 Teacher, to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Mr. Christopher Dean, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year.

3.1.5 Ms. Roxanne Snyder, Biology 7-12 Teacher, Master's+30, Step 17, \$88,007 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Mrs. Lisa Chillot, effective pending release from current assignment.

3.1.6 Extended school year (ESY) staff, with teachers to be paid the professional hourly rate of \$27, per the SVEA Collective Bargaining Agreement; paraprofessional and substitute paraprofessionals to be paid at their regular hourly rate:

Marlene Biros – Teacher

3.1.7 Miss Madisen Keim, Certified Building Substitute Teacher at the elementary school, at an annual rate of pay of \$43,553 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the newly created position, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year.

**Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the employment in Items 3.1.1 through and including 3.1.7, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Bus Routes for 2023-24

3.2 The Board is requested to consider and approve the preliminary bus routes established by Eshelman Transportation for the 2023-24 school year.

**Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the preliminary bus routes established by Eshelman Transportation for the 2023-24 school year.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

4.0 **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

Award of Contracts for HVAC Project / General

4.1 The Board is requested to consider and approve a form contract for general construction work to be completed by S.B. Conrad, Inc. with a Contract Sum in the amount of \$695,000, authorizing the Administration and Solicitors Office to finalize the terms of the form written agreement, and authorizing the Board President, to sign the written agreement on behalf of the School District.

**Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve a form contract for general construction work to be completed by S.B. Conrad, Inc. with a Contract Sum in the amount of \$695,000, authorizing the Administration and Solicitors Office to finalize the terms of the form written agreement, and authorizing the Board President, to sign the written agreement on behalf of the School District.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Award of Contracts for HVAC Project / Electrical

4.2 The Board is requested to consider and approve a form contract for electrical construction work to be completed by A.N. Lynch Co., Inc. with a Contract Sum in the amount of \$260,000, authorizing the Administration and Solicitors Office to finalize the terms of the form written agreement, and authorizing the Board President, to sign the written agreement on behalf of the School District.

**Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve a form contract for electrical construction work to be completed by A.N. Lynch Co., Inc. with a Contract Sum in the amount of \$260,000, authorizing the Administration and Solicitors Office to finalize the terms of the form written agreement, and authorizing the Board President, to sign the written agreement on behalf of the School District.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Award of Contracts for HVAC Project / HVAC

- 4.3 The Board is requested to consider and approve a form contract for HVAC construction work to be completed by MYCO Mechanical, Inc. with a Contract Sum in the amount of \$4,117,000, authorizing the Administration and Solicitors Office to finalize the terms of the form written agreement, and authorizing the Board President, to sign the written agreement on behalf of the School District.

**Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve a form contract for HVAC construction work to be completed by MYCO Mechanical, Inc. with a Contract Sum in the amount of \$4,117,000, authorizing the Administration and Solicitors Office to finalize the terms of the form written agreement, and authorizing the Board President, to sign the written agreement on behalf of the School District.**

Mr. Bendigo asked about the timeline for the project. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that after the contracts are approved, they will try to have their first project meeting the week of August 14. The general contractor would also like to visit the site next week if possible. The equipment will arrive in about 3-4 months and we'll know more after the first meeting. Mr. Bendigo asked how this would work with the time of year as temperatures will drop during construction. Mr. Blankenbiller answered MYCO hopes the boiler lead time will be quick as they plan to concentrate on the mechanical room to remove the old boilers and replace them so we have efficient boilers to begin the winter. In the evenings they will be going from classroom to classroom moving desks, doing the tear out, and putting the temporary units in place. All of our temporary units are heating and air conditioning. Mr. Rossi noted that we would need to stay on top of communicating with the teachers in regard to the status of their rooms so they can be prepared. Mr. Blankenbiller stated there would be a calendar noting when each of the rooms would be under construction and this will be shared with everyone. Mr. Rossi asked that a procedure be put in place so that if items are damaged they are not removed but are kept for the teacher so they can decide the status of the items. Mr. Blankenbiller noted that pictures can be taken of the door number and also the items related to that room so they have a history of the items for each room.

**Yeas: Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Nays: Mertz**

**Motion carried.**

5.0 **STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES**

Revision to Placement Agreement

- 5.1 The Board is requested to consider and approve the revised 2023-24 settlement and release agreement for student #5030.

**Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the revised 2023-24 settlement and release agreement for student #5030.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**5.2 Other (Old/New Business)**

Mr. Miller asked about the status of the fall coaches contracts. Mr. Moll stated that the contracts have not been sent out as the salary information is currently being validated. They had pulled those contracts out of the agreement with SVEA and part of the Board's promise to SVEA when they did this was to make sure that they would hold harmless any changes so that when the new calculation would go through they would not pay anyone less based on this calculation which includes correctly counting their years of service. There is also a Board policy that gives the coaches coverage for liability even though they do not currently have a contract. They will also be confirming that the contracts for winter and spring coaches are going to be submitted on a more timely basis.

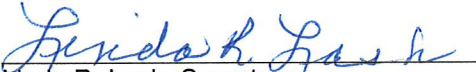
**6.0 ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Yeas: Bendigo, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

  
Linda R. Lash, Secretary  
Board of School Directors