

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

MINUTES

August 28, 2023

1.0 The Regular 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, Robert M. Dempsey, Nicoleen M. Kleffel, Linda R. Lash, George H. Mertz III, G. Dane Miller, David E. Moll, Bryan J. O'Donnell, Alfonso F. Rossi

Secretary: Linda R. Lash

Recording Secretary: Susan A. Christman

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Cathy Taschner, Casey Blankenbiller, Dr. Melissa Brewer, Robin Brightbill, Toni Crater, Jennifer Gabryluk, Kristin Holst, Jacqueline Rivas, Michael Sobczak, Kristen Wallace

1.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 24, 2023, and the special meeting of August 9, 2023, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

1.4 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Moll reported that the Board met in executive session on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, prior to the Special Meeting, for personnel matters.

2.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

2.1 PRESIDENT – *David E. Moll*

Mr. Moll addressed some of the comments that were made during the hearing of visitors last month including grievances, 3rd and 4th grade class sizes and possibly adding teachers. In regard to the county youth shelter, the Board has asked the county for written plans for the shelter, but as of this date, have not received a written plan.

2.2 SECRETARY – *Linda R. Lash*

No report.

2.3 BERKS COUNTY I.U. BOARD – *Linda R. Lash*

Mrs. Lash reported that at their meeting on Thursday, August 17, they recognized Chief County Detective Michael Gombar as the 2023 BCIU Outstanding Community Partner. Also, at this time the BCIU is in need of 171 employees which includes bus drivers, early education teachers, special education teachers and many more. They have increased their starting salaries and advertised for these positions to generate interest. They reviewed the budget summary as the Pennsylvania budget was approved in August but somethings were not included such as level funding. They will

hold another session on August 30 to hopefully vote on the outstanding items. The BCIU began their early childhood program last week with 2,459 students in 64 classrooms.

2.4 BERKS CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER – *George H. Mertz III*

Mr. Mertz noted that it was a busy summer which included a BCTC Career Camp run for 6th grade students. Programs offered included health occupations, electrical occupations, welding technology, precision/computerized machining technology, and culinary arts. School district participation is capped at 100 students with 90+ students on the waiting list. Of the 100 students who attended the camp, 63 were eligible to apply to BCTC for the 2023-24 school year, and of the 20 students who applied, 15 were accepted for the 2023-24 school year. Mr. Mertz also shared the BCTC 2022-23 data assessment summary. Enrollment trends show a growth from 2019 of 1,570 students to the 2023 projected enrollment of 1,988 students. In 2022-23, Schuylkill Valley had 482 students in grades 10-12 eligible to attend the BCTC, and 22.4% of our students attended. SV enrollment for 2023-24 increased by 7 students and attendance averages over 90% for the past three years. The BCTC is now the #1 ranked CTC in the state with an excellent NOCTI performance. Also, the BCTC student-built home was sold for \$510,000, which is \$60,000 over asking price, with the extra money going back into the program to be used for the next house. They were able to hire 23 employees over the summer however they are still in need of cafeteria staff.

2.5 TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE – *David E. Moll*

Mr. Moll reported that the committee meets quarterly with their next meeting scheduled for September.

2.6 PA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION LIAISON – *Linda R. Lash*

Mrs. Lash reminded the Board that the PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference will take place October 15-17, 2023 in the Poconos.

2.7 SCHUYLKILL VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION – *Robert M. Dempsey*

Mr. Dempsey reported that he and Dr. Taschner attended the foundation meeting on August 15. There is a small group of people committed to the success of the foundation, and since their presence at National Night Out on August 1, they received a positive response from the community. The foundation will also be attending Leesport Community Days on September 8-9. The process continues for the reinstatement of their 501(c)(3) status and they are seeking legal counsel. The foundation continues to seek involvement from businesses in the community.

3.0 PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Brian Feeney, Centre Township – Elementary Personnel
Amanda Hoover, Bern Township – Substitute Personnel
Bethany Hoover, Bern Township – Board Responsibilities
Michelle Conway, District Employee – Substitute Personnel

4.0 BOARD

PSBA Officer Elections

4.1 The Board is requested to consider and recommend the election of officers for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association for the following positions:

- President-Elect
- Vice President
- PSBA Treasurer
- Western Zone Representative
- Section W3 Advisor
- PSBA Insurance Trustees – choose up to 2

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Linda Lash to elect Allison Mathis, President-Elect; Sabrina Backer, Vice President; Karen Beck Pooley, PSBA Treasurer; Marsha Pleta, Western Zone Representative; Erik Meredith, Section W3 Advisor; and Marianne Neel and Michael Faccinetto, PSBA Insurance Trust Trustees.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

5.0 SUPERINTENDENT

Monthly Reports

5.1 The following monthly reports will resume in September:

5.1.1 Enrollment Year-To-Date

5.1.2 Principals' Dashboard Reports

Other (Old/New Business)

5.2 Dr. Taschner noted that it's been an exciting couple of weeks leading up to school and she thanked the district secretaries, custodians and technology specialists for all of the work they've completed during the summer to get ready for the new school year. She also thanked the administrators for being committed to having a great start to the 2023-24 school year. Dr. Taschner welcomed our new teachers and employees to the district. New teacher orientation was held on August 16-17 and opening day for faculty and staff took place on August 21. Back-to-School nights at the elementary school and middle school were a great success with many parents and students in attendance. Senior class members participated in Senior Sunrise on August 24 and parents were invited to decorate HS parking spots for their senior student. Dr. Taschner also shared an article on positivity.

6.0 POLICY, PERSONNEL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Summary of Committee Deliberations – George H. Mertz III

The Policy, Personnel and Public Relations Committee met at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2023, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

6.1 Accepts, with regret and best wishes for the future, the following resignations:

6.1.1 Mrs. Toni Crater, Assistant Principal at the high school, effective on or before October 1, 2023.

6.1.2 Ms. Tiffany Denk, Part-Time Food Services Worker, effective June 8, 2023.

6.1.3 Mrs. Katharine Koch, Reading Specialist at the elementary school, effective on or before September 15, 2023.

6.1.4 Ms. Trisha Roy, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the middle school, effective June 8, 2023.

6.1.5 Mrs. Joanna Schlottman, School Counselor at the elementary school, effective on or before October 7, 2023.

6.1.6 Ms. Kelly Duncan, Special Education Teacher at the middle school, effective on or before October 15, 2023.

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to accept, with regret and best wishes for the future the resignations in Item 6.1.1 through and including 6.1.6, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.2** Approves 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.):
- 6.2.1** Transfer of Ms. Charlene Henne, Part-Time Food Services Worker at the middle school, to Part-Time Food Services worker at the high school, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year.
 - 6.2.2** Mr. Hunter Jones, Elementary Education Teacher at the Elementary School, Bachelor's, Step 1, \$53,553, to fill the newly created position, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year.
 - 6.2.3** Ms. Annalyse Miner, Full-Time Secretary to the Assistant Principal at the Elementary School, at an hourly rate of pay of \$16.87, to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Mrs. Kerry Jensen, effective date to be determined.
 - 6.2.4** Ms. Jessica Neumann, Elementary Education Teacher at the Elementary School, Bachelor's, Step 2, \$54,663 to fill the newly created position, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year.
 - 6.2.5** Ms. Brittany Pyle, Elementary Education Long-Term Substitute Teacher at the Elementary School, Master's, Step 2, \$60,299, to fill the vacancy created by the transfer of Mrs. Christina Sossong, effective for the 2023-24 school year.
 - 6.2.6** Mr. Logan Borkey, Certified Building Substitute Teacher at the high school, at an annual salary of \$43,553 (reduced rate of pay with single level benefit option is available), to fill the newly created position, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year.
 - 6.2.7** Increase in hours for the 3.50 hours per day food service worker position at the Elementary School to 4.00 hours per day.
 - 6.2.8** Approves the following substitutes for the 2023-24 school year:
 - Julia Stricker - Guest Teacher, Paraprofessional
 - Bethany Kehs-Rossi - Guest Teacher, Paraprofessional
 - Barbara Hill - Food Services Worker
 - Patricia Fiucci - Food Services Worker
 - 6.2.9** Approves the following volunteers for the 2023-24 school year:
 - Karen Degler - ES
 - Benjamin Varner - MS/HS
 - Colby Varner - MS/HS
 - Halie Varner - MS/HS
 - Sarah Strausser - ES
 - 6.2.10** Ms. Marlene Biros, Long-Term Substitute Special Education Teacher at the high school, Master's, Step 2, \$60,299 (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by

the leave of absence of Mrs. Arianna Bressler, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year through approximately October 31, 2023.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the employment in Items 6.2.1 through and including 6.2.10, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

6.2.11 Approves the appointment of coaches, salaries, and the coaching contracts.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the appointment of coaches, salaries, and the coaching contracts.

Mr. Moll explained that this was difficult as we have had coaches that are on an annual contract from July to June, and for the Board to be approving this in August where our coaches are now in season, he believes this should have been completed sooner. He would expect to see our winter coaches in the next 30-45 days, and the spring coaches should then be before the end of the calendar year. Mr. Moll added that coaches should have new coaches gear on a yearly basis. He asked Dr. Taschner to consult Miss Deibler to see if we're issuing coaches' apparel, and if not, what is the reason. Mr. Bendigo added that the district should establish a written guideline that is easy for the athletic department to follow. Mrs. Kleffel stated that the Coaches Committee was working with the coaches salary structure and it was not finished in a timely manner, which is understandable. However going forward, it's been communicated that it will be submitted in a more timely fashion and now that the process has been implemented, she believes it will be more streamlined and go smoother as we move ahead.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.3 Approves renewal of the agreement with VectorSolutions for its Vector Training, Employee Safety and Compliance Library for trainings for district staff, at an annual cost of \$2,140.20, for the period of 09/25/2023 - 09/24/2024.
- 6.4 Approves the salary increases for support staff and administration per the terms of the board approved compensation plans, agreements and contracts.
- 6.5 Approves the co-curricular positions, salaries and contracts for the following persons for the 2023-2024 school year.
- 6.6 Approves the creation of a French Club at the HS, at a base stipend of \$720 per year.
- 6.7 Approves six (6) paid release days for Christina Miller and Ronda Seymour to participate in the Total Experience Learning Program at Albright College.
- 6.8 Approves the mentors for the 2023-2024 school year.

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Linda Lash to approve the renewal of the agreement with VectorSolutions for its Vector Training, Employee Safety and Compliance Library for trainings for district staff, at an annual cost of \$2,140.20, for the period of 09/25/2023 - 09/24/2024; and to approve the salary increases for support staff and administration per the terms of the board approved compensation plans, agreements and contracts; and to approve the co-curricular positions, salaries and contracts for the following persons for the 2023-2024 school year; and to approve the creation of a French

Club at the HS, at a base stipend of \$720 per year; and to approve six (6) paid release days for Christina Miller and Ronda Seymour to participate in the Total Experience Learning Program at Albright College; and to approve the mentors for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

6.9 Approves the department chairpersons for the 2023-24 school year:

Cindy Koehler	Business/Computer	\$2,100.00
Heather Barrett	English	\$1,920.00
Rebecca Boland	FACS	\$1,680.00
Anthony Deininger	Fine Arts	\$1,800.00
Jeremy Crills	Fitness/Wellness	\$1,440.00
Jeffrey Chillot	Mathematics	\$2,160.00
Lisa Chillot	Science	\$2,220.00
Philip Wert	Social Studies	\$1,740.00
Crystal Cammauf	Special Education	\$2,280.00
Erik Johanson	Technology Education	\$1,320.00
Sharon Koller	World Language	\$1,980.00

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the department chairpersons for the 2023-24 school year.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

6.10 Mrs. Amanda Clark, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional, at an hourly rate of pay of \$12.91, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Sherry Aulenbach, effective date to be determined.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the employment in Item 6.10, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

6.11 Other (Old/New Business)

Mr. Mertz stated that he has reached out to past and present employees, has met with SVEA leadership, and has listened to everyone's concerns. He noted that he doesn't have all the answers, and the meetings were held in order to get us back on track. He will gladly respond to questions and comments that are sent to him via district email.

7.0 CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY

Summary of Committee Deliberations – G. Dane Miller

The Curriculum and Technology Committee met at 6:56 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2023, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 7.1 Approves the Certiport Agreement which is used to prepare students for their industry level credential in computer software.
- 7.2 Approves the disposal of ninety (90) *The American Tradition in Literature* textbooks. Copyright 1994, ISBN 0-07-049367-7, Publisher McGraw-Hill, Inc.
- 7.3 Approves the Cisco SmartNet Renewal from ePlus, in the amount of \$13,383.72, as presented.
- 7.4 Approves renewing the membership of the BCIU Ed Tech Pool Counsel, at a cost of \$550.00, as presented.
- 7.5 Approves the renewal quote from CDW-G for renewal of our backup and recovery solution, in the amount of \$15,500.00, as presented.

Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the actions in Items 7.1 through and including 7.5, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 7.6 Approves the proposal from SafeWare to provide Accidental Damage Protection on 1,902 student Chromebooks, at a cost of \$59,889.20, as presented.

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the proposal from SafeWare to provide Accidental Damage Protection on 1,902 student Chromebooks, at a cost of \$59,889.20, as presented.

Mr. Bendigo noted that the proposal states this is for student Chromebooks only. He asked if there are any numbers from last year on how many Chromebooks were accidentally damaged. Mr. Sobczak stated that the district does not have the data on breakages and loss, but he did reach out to our repair company to provide a report from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 which he will share with the Board when it's received. Mr. Bendigo stated that we're only looking at Option 1 which is accidental damage and Mr. Sobczak added this this is for all student Chromebooks as our student Windows devices are already covered; this does not include staff devices. We looked at a one-year coverage option to see how it performs for the district and did not look at any additional warranty coverage or theft, which is currently not a significant issue. Mr. Bendigo explained that approximately seven years ago, the Board approved a Chromebook protection plan which had a detailed layout on first, second and third damages and the responsibility of the student and parents participating in the plan. He asked since this program was approved, does it have to be unapproved if we're going in a different direction. Also, what happens if the Chromebook is lost or stolen or something happens that is not covered and what is the parent/student obligation since there is nothing in writing. Dr. Taschner stated that she is researching the past plan and trying to find any existing documentation, and if the Board would like to table this item that would be fine. Mr. Bendigo added that since the Board is moving from one protection plan to another, should we have something in writing as to what plan we're moving to. Mrs. Lash noted that the fees had changed and she believes this was yearly since each year there was a different fee, therefore it could not be permanent. Mr. Bendigo stated that when we started introducing Chromebooks, we knew the fees that were charged would not cover the expenses, it was just a matter of the students having an incentive to take care of the Chromebooks, and if there was damage, they would need to pay a small fee. He asked how long the warranty lasts on the Chromebooks and Mr. Sobczak stated that typically the manufacturer only has a 30-day warranty for factory defects. Mr. Bendigo asked how we differentiate between a mechanical breakdown and a manufacturer defect versus accidental damage. Mr. Sobczak explained that claims need to be made timely, and after 30 days, mostly everything can be covered through insurance unless it's malicious damage or theft. Mr. Bendigo asked for the resolution to be tabled.

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Linda Lash to table the resolution.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 7.7 Approves the renewal of Zoom, in the amount of \$9,690.00, as presented.
- 7.8 Approves the renewal proposal from Visual Sound, Inc. for SMART Learning Suite, in the amount of \$5,644.00.
- 7.9 Approves the renewal quote from Follett, in the amount of \$4,456.15, as presented.
- 7.10 Approves the renewal and upgrade quote from Xello, in the amount of \$8,155.50, as presented.
- 7.11 Approves the quote from Fireplace, Inc., in the amount of \$1,360.00, as presented.
- 7.12 Approves the renewal quote from Amplify, in the amount of \$6,948.00, as presented.
- 7.13 Approves the proposal from Visual Sound, Inc., to replace the audio and visual system in the Elementary School Cafeteria, in the amount of \$28,795.73, as presented. Note: This expense will be coming from Technology Reserve.
- 7.14 Approves the order from Securly for the E-Hall Pass Solution, in the amount of \$2,831.00, as presented.
- 7.15 Approves the on-site consultative training services with Schoology to provide additional and specific support to ES teachers & staff during teacher in-service days.

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve the actions in Items 7.7 through and including 7.15, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

8.0 BUDGET AND FINANCE

Summary of Committee Deliberations – Paul L. Bendigo

The Budget and Finance Committee met at 7:16 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2023, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 8.1 Approves/ratifies the payment of bills in the following amounts from July 10, 2023, to August 29, 2023, as presented.

GENERAL FUND	\$2,525,343.60
CAFETERIA FUND	\$2,080.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FUND	\$373,900.57
MS/HS ACTIVITY FUND	\$9,316.35
GRAND TOTAL	\$2,910,640.52

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve/ratify the payment of bills in Item 8.1, from July 10, 2023, to August 29, 2023, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

9.0 BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Summary of Committee Deliberations – Alfonso F. Rossi

The Buildings and Grounds Committee met at 7:42 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2023 in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 9.1** Approves the following change orders for the SVSD Emergency Generator Upgrade Project-Termination and Testing Data Lines:

Change Order E-1 for the Elementary School in the ADD amount of \$9,500.00 to Pagoda Electrical, Inc. for Electrical work on the above project.

Change Order E-2 for the Middle School in the ADD amount of \$10,450.00 to Pagoda Electrical, Inc. for Electrical work on the above project.

Change Order E-3 for the High School in the ADD amount of \$10,687.00 to Pagoda Electrical, Inc. for Electrical work on the above project.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve Change Orders E-1, E-2, and E-3 in Item 9.1, as presented.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 9.2** Approves the Construction Change Directive, as provided in Section 7.3 of AIA Document A201-2017, for the Middle School Pool Restoration, dated August 11, 2023.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the Construction Change Directive, as provided in Section 7.3 of AIA Document A201-2017, for the Middle School Pool Restoration, dated August 11, 2023.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 9.3** Approves Change Order #1 from Pagoda Electric to install 3 underwater speakers in the deep end of the Middle School pool, in the amount of \$4,992.72.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and Nicoleen Kleffel to approve Change Order #1 from Pagoda Electric to install 3 underwater speakers in the deep end of the Middle School pool, in the amount of \$4,992.72.

Mr. Blankenbiller stated that the underwater speakers have a 35-day lead time. The issue is that we need the back boxes in order to plaster the wall of the pool, and the back boxes come with the speaker in order to mount the speaker. This is time sensitive to make sure we have the speakers in hand and is related to the core drilling in item 9.5.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 9.4 Approves Change Order #2 from Pagoda Electrical to remove the Middle School pool's existing sound system and to provide and install a new sound system, in the amount of \$19,363.08.

Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve Change Order #2 from Pagoda Electrical to remove the Middle School pool's existing sound system and to provide and install a new sound system, in the amount of \$19,363.08.

Dr. Taschner noted that at the last committee meeting, the architect spoke about the pool wall construction and how it took 40-45% less material and time. They're expecting some kind of credit and are hoping to have this information shortly. They are also expecting information about any additional costs for duct work. The Board may want to have all of this information before making a decision.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by George Mertz to table the resolution.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 9.5 Approves the core drilling of (3) 8-inch holes for underwater speakers, in the deep end of the Middle School pool, to be installed by the electrical prime, in the amount of \$3,634.00. This will also include the costs for augering holes behind the existing pool wall to speaker location for electrical prime to install conduits.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by George Mertz to approve the core drilling of (3) 8-inch holes for underwater speakers, in the deep end of the Middle School pool, to be installed by the electrical prime, in the amount of \$3,634.00. This will also include the costs for augering holes behind the existing pool wall to speaker location for electrical prime to install conduits.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 9.6 Approves Change Order #1 from Vision Mechanical, Inc. to provide labor and material to camera and jet existing sump pump discharge piping in the Middle School pool, in the amount of \$2,705.00.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Linda Lash to approve Change Order #1 from Vision Mechanical, Inc. to provide labor and material to camera and jet existing sump pump discharge piping in the Middle School pool, in the amount of \$2,705.00.

Mr. Blankenbiller explained that when the pool was emptied there were two sump pumps. If they ran both sump pumps, the drain line could not take the water away fast enough and it would back up into the floor drains on the first floor. These drains are hardly ever used because of where they're located and are dry rotted and leaking. Mr. Mertz asked if there was a calculation done on the system and Mr. Blankenbiller noted that it may just be too much capacity as the controls

allowed both pumps to run at the same time, but he will confirm that the replacement can handle both pumps.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 9.7 Approves Change Order #2 from Vision Mechanical, Inc. to provide labor and material to replace the existing above ground sanitary piping in the pump room of the Middle School pool, in the amount of \$7,350.00.

Board Action: Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve Change Order #2 from Vision Mechanical, Inc. to provide labor and material to replace the existing above ground sanitary piping in the pump room of the Middle School pool, in the amount of \$7,350.00.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 9.8 Approves the sale, disposal or donation of weight room equipment, tables and student desks that have been replaced, are damaged, or need repair.

Board Action: Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve the sale, disposal or donation of weight room equipment, tables and student desks that have been replaced, are damaged, or need repair.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

- 9.9 **Other (Old/New Business)**

Mr. Bendigo asked if we had received the final punch list for the ES HVAC project and Mr. Blankenbiller stated we have not. Mr. Bendigo asked if they've been given a final date when it needs to be presented or do we need to involve our solicitor. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that at this point to move things along, we should have our solicitor involved. Mr. Bendigo asked if the Board would want to take this action and they agreed. Mr. Mertz asked for an update in regard to Trane, the outside air and the classrooms. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that Trane was at the elementary school and they did find a fair number of units that were still at 100% outside air at all times. Trane has made those adjustments but we have not put dehumidifiers in the hallway so as not to give a false impression that the system was working. With the students in the building its gotten better as the units have been running for a longer period of time, however, there is still one unit that is not working correctly that has a static air pressure issue.

Mr. Bendigo asked about the HVAC controls in the middle school cafeteria needing to be rewired with a separate thermostat and had he received a price. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that the price was \$3,680.00, which he reviewed with Dr. Taschner, and the work is scheduled for the end of this week or the beginning of next week. The thermostat in the kitchen will be on the return air duct and the other thermostat will be on the wall.

Mr. Bendigo asked if Mr. Blankenbiller had received a price on white boards at the elementary school that included installation. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that he spoke with the vendor last week and he was leaving for vacation but will have a price at the beginning of this week.

10.0 STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of Committee Deliberations – Nicoleen M. Kleffel

The Student Services and Activities Committee met at 8:46 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2023, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023.

Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration

Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:

- 10.1** Approves overnight athletic trips for the 2023-24 school year.
- 10.2** Approves accepting the following donations from the Schuylkill Valley Athletic Booster Club:
 - 1 Industrial Treadmill at a cost of \$3,845
 - 2 Industrial Exercise Bicycles at a cost of \$2,268 per bike (\$4,536 total)
 - 2 Stadium Bleacher Banners at a cost of \$1,196 (\$2,392 total)
- 10.3** Approves the entertainment contract with B&B Light and Sound for the SVHS Homecoming dance on September 30, 2023.
- 10.4** Approves the change of contract with Stericycle for the pick-up of medical waste at each building twice a year (rather than once a month).
- 10.5** Approves the HUDL agreement. This is an upgrade to our account that will benefit all teams. The new account allows students to create individual highlight films, provides additional statistics, and live streaming.
- 10.6** Approves the out of district placement for Student #3006.
- 10.7** Approves the confidential student agreement for Student #4758 for the 2023-24 school year.
- 10.8** Approves the confidential student agreement for Student #4006 and Student #1752 for the 2023-24 school year.
- 10.9** Approves the out of district placement for Student #5030.
- 10.10** Approves the out of district placement ESY services for Student #5030.

Board Action: Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve the overnight athletic trips for the 2023-24 school year; and to approve accepting the donations from the Schuylkill Valley Athletic Booster Club, as presented; and to approve the entertainment contract with B&B Light and Sound for the SVHS Homecoming dance on September 30, 2023; and to approve the change of contract with Stericycle for the pick-up of medical waste at each building twice a year (rather than once a month); and to approve the HUDL agreement; and to approve the out of district placement for Student #3006; and to approve the confidential student agreement for Student #4758 for the 2023-24 school year; and to approve the confidential student agreement for Student #4006 and Student #1752 for the 2023-24 school year; and to approve the out of district placement for Student #5030; and to approve the out of district placement ESY services for Student #5030.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

August 28, 2023

- 10.11 Approves the enrollment of Student #2460 in the agriculture program of the Tulpehocken Area School District for the 2023-2024 school year, at Tulpehocken's state-certified tuition rate.

Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the enrollment of Student #2460 in the agriculture program of the Tulpehocken Area School District for the 2023-2024 school year, at Tulpehocken's state-certified tuition rate.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

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

12.0 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Moll announced that there would be an executive session immediately following the meeting for personnel matters.


13.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.


Linda R. Lash, Secretary
Board of School Directors