

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Regular Monthly Meeting
Monday, 21 October 2013
7:00 p.m.
District Office Board Room**

MINUTES

Attendance

The regular monthly meeting of the Bloomsburg Area School District Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, 21 October 2013, in the district office board room, followed by the pledge to the flag. Directors in attendance were: Mrs. Bonnie Crawford, Mrs. Bonnie Fiedler, Ms. Marianne Kreisher, Mr. Norman Mael, Mrs. Sandra Rupp, and Mr. William Snavely. Mr. Brent Hock, Mr. Justin Hummel, and Mr. Thomas Tobin were absent from the meeting.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Dr. Cosmas Curry and Mr. Michael Upton.

Others present were: Ms. Stephanie Kessler, Mrs. Deborah Krupp, and Dr. Kevin Singer (left at 7:10 p.m.).

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK

At this point in the meeting, Dr. Kevin Singer from the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) gave an update on what's happening with the CSIU.

Mrs. Deborah Krupp addressed the school board to voice concern about the paraprofessionals' schedules since their daily schedules were cut by one hour per day. She also said that she appreciates the work the custodial staff does. She said she would like support staff to be treated as well as possible as the school board begins to negotiate its future contract.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Fiedler made the motion, which Mrs. Crawford seconded, to approve the minutes of the 16 September 2013 regular monthly meeting and the 7 October 2013 special meeting and work session.

Ms. Kreisher questioned why there was not a lot of information being included in the work session minutes. She said she would like there to be narrative for each work session agenda item.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Fiedler seconded, to approve the financial reports for September 2013. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE

Approval of Bills Payable

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Fiedler, to approve the bills payable for 17 September 2013 – 21 October 2013, ranging from check #00035149 – check #0003385, including wire transfers totaling \$667,261.81, in the amount of \$1,558,032.55. The motion passed by a roll call vote of five yes votes and one no vote (being Mr. Snavely).

Approval of Bills Payable – Capital Reserve Fund

Mrs. Fiedler made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Kreisher, to approve the bills payable for the Capital Reserve Fund for 17 September 2013 – 21 October 2013, ranging from check #00001771 – check #00001776, totaling \$118,928.84. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the board at this point.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Curry reported that, regarding the football field, the district would begin aerating and reseeding it in the very near future. He said this would be done immediately even though there were two junior high football events and a midget football event remaining. Dr. Curry said that the district could get ahead of this project by three weeks on field maintenance.

Next, Dr. Curry reported on the information he found relative to the proposed pig farm slated to be located two miles west of W.W. Evans Elementary School. He said that he is not overly concerned about safety hazards to students at the school, as the proposed pig farm would be more than two miles from the school, and asked board members if they had any concerns. Mrs. Fiedler said that she had concerns about potential water pollution issues. Mr. Snavely said that from what he knew of the proposed pig farm, he did not have any concerns.

Next, Dr. Curry reported on the proposed variance for the property across from Memorial Elementary School and voiced some concerns he had over that. He then reported that since the board packets went out Friday morning, there had been two staff leave of absence requests and a resignation letter received from the secondary school nurse. These three items, he said, would be on the next school board meeting agenda. Dr. Curry then distributed a chart of the proposed grading system and said this item would appear on the next board work session as a discussion item. Several board members said they felt comfortable with the system, as it's what they had experienced as students. Mr. Mael and Ms. Kreisher expressed concern that there would be grade creep and said that teachers should make classes harder rather than adjust the grading system.

Dr. Curry next reported that the all-call for the phone system at Beaver-Main Elementary School (dialing "777") was not working. In order to remedy this (would need an overhead call system), the cost would be approximately \$4,600. The "777" code was working in the other four schools, Dr. Curry reported. Board members agreed this would be an appropriate expenditure of district funds.

Lastly, Dr. Curry reported on the junior high after-school tutoring (study hall) program available for students who were participating in sports after school. (Some sports are not able to start immediately following school, as many coaches' work schedules will not allow for this.) Dr. Curry said that because of

this tutoring, which goes on from 2:45 – 3:45 p.m., there were no students ineligible due to academic issues this school year. Dr. Curry said that there are times the coach arrives early, and when this occurs, the study hall may be reduced by 15-30 minutes. This program is for junior high football and girls' basketball for this school year. The tutoring is also available to students not in junior high football and girls' basketball, though not advertised to the general middle school populace. Mrs. Crawford asked that since it was not advertised to the entire school if the cost should be added to the cost for junior high football and girls' basketball. Mrs. Crawford said she would like to make this opportunity advertised to all middle school students and she would also like to find out how many students would want to take advantage of this program. Ms. Kreisher said she'd like to make this opportunity made available to all middle school students. Dr. Curry said he would check to see if there was interest and then report back to the school board.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

As Colton Hock was not in attendance, there was no student representative report given at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Homebound Instruction Request

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Fiedler, to approve a homebound instruction request for a Bloomsburg High School student, retroactive to 8 October 2013 and lasting for a period of at least 20 school days. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL

Acceptance of Classified Staff Resignation

Mrs. Fiedler made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Kreisher, to accept the resignation of W.W. Evans Elementary School Paraprofessional Sharon Heydenreich, retroactive to 10 October 2013. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Classified Staff Transfers

Mrs. Fiedler made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Kreisher, to approve making the following classified staff transfers:

- Diane Crist from the position of W.W. Evans Elementary School Personal Care Aide (6.5-hours-per-day position) to the position of W.W. Evans Elementary School Paraprofessional (5.5-hours-per-day position), effective 22 October 2013;
- Shawna Malencore from the position of W.W. Evans Elementary School Paraprofessional to the position of W.W. Evans Elementary School Personal Care Aide, effective upon receipt of her Act 34, 114, and 151 clearances and her tuberculosis test results (both are 5.5-hours-per-day positions); and
- Sue Nevius from the position of Memorial Elementary School Paraprofessional to the position of Memorial Elementary School Personal Care Aide (both are 5.5-hours-per-day positions), effective 22 October 2013.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Classified Staff

Mrs. Fiedler made the motion, which Ms. Kreisher seconded, to approve the following individuals as classified staff:

- Marsha Fahringer as a Personal Care Aide (5.5-hours-per-day position) for a Bloomsburg High School student, at an hourly rate of \$8.50 and with benefits as per the negotiated contract, effective upon receipt of her Act 34, 114, and 151 clearances and her tuberculosis test results;
- Samantha Bittner as a Fifth-Grade Classroom Paraprofessional (5.5-hours-per-day position) at W.W. Evans Elementary School, at an hourly rate of \$8.50 and with benefits as per the negotiated contract, effective 22 October 2013.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Athletic Coaches

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which seconded by Mrs. Fiedler, to approve as presented the Winter 2013-2014 athletic coaches.

After pointing out that Marc Freeman was listed as both a Volunteer Junior High Wrestling Coach and an Assistant Junior High Wrestling Coach (paid position), Ms. Kreisher moved to remove him as a Volunteer Junior High Wrestling Coach. Mrs. Fiedler seconded the motion to amend the original motion, and this motion then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

The amended motion then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Substitute Bus Driver

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Fiedler, to approve Dorothy Williams as a substitute bus driver for FishingCreek Transportation for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:40 p.m., Ms. Kreisher made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mrs. Crawford seconded this motion. The meeting was then adjourned following a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary