

**Bloomsburg Area School District  
Board of School Directors  
Special Meeting  
Monday, 4 November 2013  
7:00 p.m.  
Memorial Elementary School**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance**

A special meeting of the Bloomsburg Area School District Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, 4 November 2013, at Memorial Elementary School, followed by the pledge to the flag. Directors in attendance were: Mrs. Bonnie Crawford, Mrs. Bonnie Fiedler, Mr. Brent Hock, Mr. Justin Hummel, Ms. Marianne Kreisher, Mr. Norman Mael, Mrs. Sandra Rupp, Mr. William Snavelly, and Mr. Thomas Tobin.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Mr. Dan Bonomo, Mr. Steve Bressi, Ms. Donna Christensen, Dr. Cosmas Curry, Mr. Marc Freeman, Mr. Chris Groody, Mr. Trevor Palmatier, and Mr. Michael Upton.

Others present were: Mrs. Deb Krupp, Mrs. Susan McGarry, and Mrs. Karen Radice.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK**

At this point in the meeting, Mrs. Krupp addressed the board to say that she did not think the secondary grading system should be changed, but that more rigor needed to be added to curricula.

**PERSONNEL**

**Approval/Acceptance of Personnel Items**

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mrs. Fiedler seconded, to approve/accept the following personnel items:

- Approve the leave of absence extension request for Beaver-Main Elementary School Personal Care Aide Lisa Roberts, with an anticipated return date of 4 November 2013;
- Approve the following professional staff leave of absence requests:
  - Bloomsburg Middle School and W.W. Evans Elementary School Librarian Jean Crane, retroactive to 1 October 2013 and lasting through 18 November 2013; and
  - Memorial Elementary School Special Education Teacher Kristen Eby, effective on approximately 7 April 2014 and lasting through the end of the 2013-2014 school year;
- Accept the resignation of Secondary School Nurse Leanne Ryan, retroactive to 21 October 2013;
- Approve Roberta Pepe as Volunteer Cafeteria Staff Member, effective upon receipt of her Act 34 and 151 clearances;
- Reapprove Mark Potora as a CSIU Guest Teacher for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year;
- Approve the following individuals as Winter 2013-2014 athletic coaches:
  - Robert Wittman Jr. – Elementary Girls' Basketball Coach – 13 units - \$975.00;
  - Danny Roeder – Volunteer Elementary Wrestling Coach; and
  - Aaron Diehl – Volunteer Junior High Wrestling Coach;

- Approve the transfer of the following classified staff members, effective 5 November 2013:
    - Diane Crist from W.W. Evans Elementary School Classroom Paraprofessional (5.5 hours per day) to Beaver-Main Elementary School Personal Care Aide (6.5 hours per day); and
    - Lisa Roberts from Beaver-Main Elementary School Personal Care Aide (6.5 hours per day) to W.W. Evans Elementary School Classroom Paraprofessional (5.5 hours per day); and
  - Approve Ann Kostiuk as a Support Teacher for Cheri Balmer at 7 units and a stipend of \$525.00.
- The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:00 p.m., Ms. Kreisher made the motion to adjourn the special meeting and move into the work session. Mrs. Rupp seconded the motion, which then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler  
Recording Secretary

(compiled by notes from  
Dr. Curry and Mr. Upton)

Bloomsburg Area School District  
Board of Directors  
Work Session  
Monday, 4 November 2013 - 7:00 p.m.  
Memorial Elementary School

**MINUTES**

**I. Buildings, Grounds, & Maintenance Report**

Mrs. Susan McGarry reported that Zimmerman Construction would be in the following day to check on the emergency pool lights wired to the generator. In a test conducted on 4 November 2013, the generator worked well and provided power to all circuits except the pool emergency lights. The problem was a connection, she said, and it should be resolved within 24 hours. She also reported that the toilets in the girls' pool locker room were being removed and that the floor was being patched to match the existing floor. Mrs. McGarry reported that the district still needed the frame to complete the flood mitigation project, and that there was still a leak in the pool pump room that Yanuzzi would need to fix.

**II. Administrative Reports**

**III. Secondary Grading**

Administrators and board members engaged in a discussion concerning the possibility of changing the secondary grading system so that students would need to earn at least a 70% to pass a subject, rather than the current minimum of 65%. During this discussion, Mrs. Fiedler said she believed students would work to reach whatever the necessary percentage was to pass their courses. Ms. Kreisher and Mr. Mael said they wanted to see the grading system remain the same, but with increased rigor of classes. Dr. Curry explained that the board's concerns of increasing the expectations of upper-level students, providing support for lower-level students, and the concern of "grade creep" had been discussed and evaluated and he recommended increasing the rigor of classes while increasing the expectations of minimal performance. Mr. Hummel then asked if there was enough support to have this as an agenda item to be voted on at the next meeting, and the board agreed it should be included on the next agenda.

**IV. Reorganization Meeting and 2014 Board Meeting Schedule**

It was reported that the reorganization meeting would be held on 2 December 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the district office board room. Directors reviewed the proposed board meeting date schedule for 2014 and decided that all meetings would be held in the district office board room from that point forward.

**V. Policy Updates**

Mr. Hummel reported that Dr. Curry would soon be sharing with school directors, for their review, several policies that needed to be either changed or added to the policy manual. He gave examples of concussion and student wellness policies as ones that would be reviewed.

**VI. Budget**

Mr. Upton addressed the board regarding salaries and the impact that the two upcoming negotiations (both classified and professional staff) would play with creating the 2014-2015 budget.

**VII. CMAVTS Report**

It was reported that the Columbia-Montour AVTS support staff contract had been approved, and that there was a \$.25/hour annual raise for the next four years. Also, it was reported that test scores had declined.

**VIII. CSIU Report**

No CSIU report was given at this meeting.

Board members present: Mrs. Bonnie Crawford, Mrs. Bonnie Fiedler, Mr. Brent Hock, Mr. Justin Hummel, Ms. Marianne Kreisher, Mr. Norman Mael, Mrs. Sandra Rupp, Mr. William Snavely, and Mr. Thomas Tobin.

Board members absent: None.

Staff members present: Mr. Dan Bonomo, Mr. Steve Bressi, Ms. Donna Christensen, Dr. Cosmas Curry, Mr. Marc Freeman, Mr. Chris Groody, Mr. Trevor Palmatier, and Mr. Michael Upton.

Others present: Mrs. Deb Krupp, Mrs. Susan McGarry, and Mrs. Karen Radice.

Speakers: None.

Adjournment Time: 8:28 p.m.