

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Regular Monthly Meeting
Monday, 17 December 2012
7:00 p.m.
District Office Board Room**

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, 17 December 2012, in the district office board room, 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, Ms. Cristina Mathews, Mrs. Sandra Rupp, and Mr. Thomas Tobin.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Ms. Donna Christensen (left at 7:04 p.m.), Dr. Cosmas Curry, and Mr. Michael Upton.

Others present included: Ms. Susan Forgett (left at 7:25 p.m.), Ms. Stephanie Kessler, and Mrs. Susan McGarry (arrived at 7:45 p.m. and left at 8:35 p.m.).

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK

As Ms. Christensen was unable to make the 3 December 2012 work session, she was at this meeting to give her monthly special education report. She reported that even though the district was unsuccessful in obtaining a second long-term behavior support specialist for the remainder of this school year, the district is using a professional day-to-day substitute to help with this three days a week.

At this point, Ms. Susan Forgett from Forgett and Kerstetter addressed the board to review the findings of the 2011-2012 local financial audit. Ms. Forgett reported that the audit findings were clean. Ms. Forgett highlighted some of the information from the audit report, which had been distributed to the school board the previous Friday.

APPROVAL OF AUDIT REPORT

Mr. Tobin made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hock, to amend the agenda so the motion to approve the audit report would take place at this point in the meeting. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Tobin then made the motion to approve the local audit by Forgett & Kerstetter for the Bloomsburg Area School District for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Tobin made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Fiedler, to approve the minutes of the following Bloomsburg Area School District Board of Directors' meetings: the 19 November 2012 regular monthly meeting and the 3 December 2012 special meeting and work session. The meeting minutes were then approved by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Fiedler, to approve the financial reports for November 2012. The motion then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE

Mr. Tobin made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Kreisher to approve the bills payable for 20 November 2012 – 17 December 2012, ranging from check #00033419 – check #00033586, including wire transfers totaling \$249,401.77, in the amount of \$861,747.37. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE – CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Mrs. Fiedler made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Mathews, to approve the bills payable for the Capital Reserve Fund for 20 November 2012 – 17 December 2012, being check #00001742 – #00001743, totaling \$8,577.60. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Curry reported that at W.W. Evans Elementary School, the two fourth-grade classes both have 30 students. Because of this, one of the W.W. Evans Elementary School reading specialists will be working with students in reading so there are smaller groups for reading. The same is being done with Memorial Elementary School's fourth-grade classes, where students are being broken down into smaller classes for math. The current Memorial fourth-grade class sizes are 26, 26, and 28 students, as some students recently transferred out of Memorial.

Also reported, Dr. Curry met with Dick Klingerman the previous week to discuss renovations to Panther Stadium. The board will be responsible for voting on any renovations to be made. The group wishing to fund this project would be going through the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation. The vision is to fund reseeding, aerating, and fertilizing the soil and turf at the stadium. All work will be subject to board approval.

Dr. Curry let the board know that through the EverFi financial program, as discussed at a work session earlier in the fall, if funding was to dry up, EverFi would pick up the cost of the program.

Lastly, Dr. Curry distributed a brochure about a STEM project in which Bloomsburg University would partner with Bloomsburg Area, Berwick Area, and Central Columbia school districts in enabling high school students to take courses at Bloomsburg University for college credits. The target would be 18 students maximum and would be cohort-based. Mrs. Fiedler said she would be interested in knowing what the selection criteria would be, and Dr. Curry said those criteria were being worked on. Ms. Mathews said she would be in favor of this opportunity, but that there would need to be communication between the university and the school districts to ensure the students are indeed attending their college classes.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

There was no student representative report given, as Colton Hock was unable to attend the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Hock made the motion, which Mr. Tobin seconded, to hold a discussion regarding the Side Effects contract.

Ms. Mathews made the motion to negotiate with Side Effects a three-year contract with the stipulation that we don't have to move the signs if the district plays at Bloomsburg University, and that the language directing litigation to be in Ohio be removed. Mr. Hock seconded this motion.

Mr. Tobin then spoke against this motion, saying he knows that Side Effects was aware of the fact that the contract was never legitimate. He said he discovered a similar issue took place in a school district in western Pennsylvania, where an athletic director lost his position as the result of signing a contract with Side Effects.

Mr. Hock said the district has already paid money to attorneys Noah Naparsteck and Jeff Hill, and asked if it was worth proceeding with legal measures.

The motion was then voted on, with one yes vote and eight no votes (being Mrs. Bonnie Crawford, Mrs. Bonnie Fiedler, Mr. Brent Hock, Mr. Justin Hummel, Ms. Marianne Kreisher, Ms. Cristina Mathews, Mrs. Sandra Rupp, and Mr. Thomas Tobin). The motion failed.

It was the direction of the board for Dr. Curry to share with Attorney Jeff Hill the original Side Effects contract to find out his opinion on if the contract was legal.

NEW BUSINESS

Acceptance of Natatorium Bids

Mrs. Crawford made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Rupp, to accept the low bids for prime contractors for the Bloomsburg Middle School natatorium renovation project as indicated:

General Contractor: T-Ross Brothers

Base Bid	Bid Alt #1	Bid Alt #2	Bid Alt #3	or Bid Alt #4	Total
\$332,000	\$13,900	\$14,500	\$3,100	\$4,400	\$364,800

Electrical Contractor: I. Ray Zimmerman

Base Bid	Total
\$104,250	\$104,250

Mechanical Contractor: Silvertip Inc.

Base Bid	Total
\$326,000	\$326,000

Plumbing Contractor: Yannuzzi Inc.

Base Bid	Total
\$199,000	\$199,000

Grand Total

Base Bid	With Bid Alt #1	With Bid Alt #2	With Bid Alt #3	or With Bid Alt #4	Grand Total
\$961,250	\$975,150	\$989,650	\$992,750	\$994,050	\$994,050

The bid alternates are as follows:

1. Go to plastic lockers in the locker rooms instead of metal.
2. Replace the wood bleachers in the natatorium with plastic bleachers.
3. Replace the lockers in the office areas with new metal lockers.
4. Replace the lockers in the office areas with new plastic lockers.

Mrs. McGarry summarized the renovations included in the bids. Mr. Upton said the district was expecting to spend about \$1.2 million on this project, which came in under \$1 million.

After discussion, the motion to accept the bids, including alternates 1, 2, and 4, totaling \$994,050, passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Track Renovations

Mr. Tobin made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hock, to approve Green Mountain Excavating & Hauling Inc. to complete renovations to the high school track, in the amount of \$9,920. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL

Approval of Classified Substitutes

Mrs. Fiedler made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hock, to approve the following individuals as classified substitutes:

- Sarah Buechele, effective 18 December 2012;
- Eileen Buffone, effective 18 December 2012;
- Graciela Franklin, effective upon receipt of her Act 151 Clearance and tuberculosis test results; and
- Carin Marks, effective 18 December 2012.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Acceptance of Coaching Resignation

Mr. Tobin made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Kreisher, to accept the resignation of Assistant Baseball Coach James Coombe, retroactive to 7 December 2012. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Bus and Van Drivers

Mr. Hock made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Crawford, to approve Jason Hartman as a substitute bus driver for MS Bond Busing and Jennifer Derr, David Johnson, and Jessie Stroh as van drivers through contractor Lone Derr for the 2012-2013 school year. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

INFORMATION

It was announced that the next special meeting and work session would be held on Monday, 7 January 2013, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the district office board room, and that the next regular monthly meeting would be held on Monday, 21 January 2013, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the district office board room.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:45 p.m., Mr. Hock made the motion to adjourn the regular monthly meeting and move into executive session to discuss professional staff negotiations and Ms. Mathews seconded this motion. The motion then passed by a voice vote of eight yes votes to one no vote (Mr. Tobin).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was held from 8:45 – 9:07 p.m. for the purpose of discussing professional staff negotiations. The executive session was adjourned at 9:07 p.m. following a motion by Mr. Tobin, a second by Ms. Kreisher, and a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary