

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Special Meeting
Monday, 5 June 2017
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, 5 June 2017 by President Marianne Kreisher in the district office board room, followed by the pledge to the flag. Directors in attendance were: Ms. Stephanie Dunn Haney, Mr. Brent Hock, Mrs. Tina Howell, Mr. Jonathan Jones, Mr. Joshua Klingerman Sr., Ms. Marianne Kreisher, Mr. Norman Mael, Mrs. Gail Moore, and Mr. Leo “Joe” Yodock III.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Ms. Donna Christensen (left at 7:54 p.m.), Mrs. Melissa Day, Mr. Marc Freeman (left at 7:54 p.m.), Mr. David Marsiglio, Mr. Trevor Palmatier (left at 7:54 p.m.), Mr. Justin Simpson (left at 7:54 p.m.), Dr. Amanda Stutzman, Mr. Joshua Tabor (left at 7:54 p.m.), Mr. Michael Upton, and Dr. Donald Wheeler.

Others present were: Mr. Phil Burrell, Mrs. Bonnie Crawford, Ms. Terri Drucker, Mrs. Kim Honabach (left at 7:27 p.m.), Ms. Stephanie Kessler, Mrs. Tara Mentzer (left at 7:27 p.m.), and Atty. Noah Naparsteck (left at 7:34 p.m.).

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK

Mr. Freeman recognized Bloomsburg Middle School Math Teachers Tara Mentzer, Terri Drucker, and Kim Honabach for their work in the classroom and also with Panther Camp, a camp that prepares students to take the Keystone Algebra I Exam.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to be voted on at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Final Budget

Mr. Hock made the motion, which Mr. Klingerman seconded, to approve the final 2017-2018 Bloomsburg Area School District budget, in the amount of \$26,308,549.61, with tax rates being set as follows, with the continuation of existing penalties and discounts:

Real Estate	43.09 mils (up 1.29 mils from 2016-2017)
Act 511	
Per Capita	\$0.00

Local Services Tax	\$52.00 (Bloomsburg, Hemlock Twp, Montour Twp) \$10.00 (Beaver Twp, Catawissa Twp, Main Twp)
Real Estate Transfer	1.0%
Earned Income	1.56%
Per Capita Section 679	\$0.00

Mr. Upton said that there had been no changes with the budget from the last time it was presented. Mr. Yodock asked what would happen if the board voted to not approved the budget that night, and Mr. Upton replied that per the state, the budget needed to be approve by July 1, so the board would have to approve it at the June 19 meeting. Mr. Hock said that he hated the tax increase, but also knew that the district needed money to fund its programs. Mr. Mael asked how directors should answer someone who accused the district of hoarding money, and Mr. Hock responded that he thought the local newspaper had punished the district for being fiscally responsible. Furthermore, he said that all the money the district had was earmarked for something, such as PSERS and capital improvement projects including the floodwall. Dr. Wheeler added that Bloomsburg's taxes were still the lowest in the area. Additionally, he said that the district did not want to use its reserves to cover day-to-day expenditures because reserves should be used of one-time projects or expenses only. He said that the district needed to be very diligent with its spending in 2017-2018, as it had a \$600,000 deficit to make up.

After discussion, the motion to approve the final 2017-2018 budget passed by a roll call vote of eight yes votes to one no vote (being Mrs. Moore).

Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution

Mr. Klingerman made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve as presented the 2017 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trip Request

Mrs. Howell made the motion, which Mr. Yodock seconded, to approve the out-of-state/overnight field trip request for Bloomsburg High School track and field student-athletes to attend the state track and field competition at Shippensburg University from 25 May 2017 – 27 May 2017 at a cost to the district of \$2,522.50.

Mr. Mael said he would like the board to be able to vote on out-of-state and overnight field trips before they actually occurred. Mr. Simpson said it was difficult to do this, seeing as the number of students making it to state competitions varied from year to year. Mr. Hock said that out-of-state and overnight athletic trip requests had been taken to the board with “to be determined” as the names of students attending, and with an estimated cost. The board agreed it would like Mr. Simpson to proceed in this fashion in the future.

After discussion, the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Donation

Mr. Klingerman made the motion, which Mr. Yodock seconded, to accept the donation of a 10' – 15' oak tree to be planted on the grounds of Beaver-Main Elementary School in celebration of its 80th year of serving the students and community of Beaver and Main townships (a value of \$150), made by the Beaver-Main Elementary School Parent Co-op. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Athletic Handbook

Mrs. Howell made the motion, which Mr. Yodock seconded, to approve as presented the 2017-2018 athletic handbook. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Athletic Schedule

Mrs. Howell made the motion, which Mr. Jones seconded, to approve as presented the 2017-2018 athletic schedule.

Mr. Klingerman asked if Bloomsburg High School's Homecoming was aligned with Bloomsburg University's Homecoming for Fall 2017, and Mr. Simpson replied that due to scheduling issues, this was not able to be arranged for 2017. Mr. Klingerman said he thought it was extremely important for the two entities to hold their Homecomings on the same weekend, and Mr. Mael agreed.

The motion to approve the 2017-2018 athletic schedule then passed by a voice vote of seven yes votes to two no votes (being Mr. Hock and Mr. Klingerman).

Athletic Handbook (revisited)

At this point in the meeting, Mrs. Moore said she wished to revisit the 2017-2018 athletic handbook. She said that according to the handbook, volunteer coaches could not supervise students without the presence of a paid coach. She said that this was not occurring in all sports, and questioned if this information should be revised. Dr. Wheeler said he would get more information on this and that if necessary, a revised 2017-2018 athletic handbook would be brought to the board for reapproval at its 19 June 2017 meeting.

Athletic Co-op with Saint Columba School

Mr. Hock made the motion, which Mr. Yodock seconded, to approve a cooperative agreement between the Bloomsburg Area School District and Saint Columba School for all middle school athletics. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Hock made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve/accept the following personnel items:

- Approve Annie Seif (Early Childhood Education PK-4) as a professional day-to-day substitute as per Policy 405: Employment of Substitute Professional Employees, effective 6 June 2017;
- Approve Kelly Pegg as a Bloomsburg Middle School Peer Helper/Homework Advisor for the 2016-2017 school year at 8 units and a stipend of \$600;
- Accept the resignation of William Finnerty as the Boys' Head Varsity Tennis Coach, retroactive to 31 May 2017;
- Approve Abigail Stout as a Volunteer Fall Cheerleading Advisor for the 2017-2018 school year, pending receipt of her clearances;
- Accept the resignation of Secondary School Nurse Sara Ervin, effective 2 August 2017;
- Approve the following professional staff transfers, effective for the start of the 2017-2018 school year:
 - Lauren Strauch from the position of Long-Term Professional Substitute Teacher to the position of Memorial Elementary School Third-Grade Teacher at Bachelors Step 2 and a salary of \$39,228 and with benefits as per the negotiated professional staff agreement;

- Alyssa McNamara from the position of Long-Term Professional Substitute Teacher to the position of Memorial Elementary School Third-Grade Teacher at Masters Step 2 and a salary of \$41,254 and with benefits as per the negotiated professional staff agreement;
- Approve Vanessa Whitenight as a Long-Term Volunteer/Overnight Chaperone, as per Policy 916: School Volunteers;
- Reapprove Andrew Brown as the Memorial Elementary School Dean of Students for the 2017-2018 school year.

Mr. Klingerman asked what the dean of students position entailed, and Mr. Palmatier answered that it primarily dealt with attendance and discipline issues. He added that since this position was added, discipline issues had considerably decreased at Memorial. Ms. Dunn Haney asked how the position of dean of students was different from the position of assistant principal, and Mr. Palmatier replied that the dean position was in the professional staff contract, whereas the assistant principal position was in the Act 93 Agreement. Dr. Wheeler said this would be addressed in his year-end report to the board.

After discussion, the motion to approve/accept the aforementioned personnel items passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:27 p.m., Mr. Klingerman made the motion adjourn the special meeting and move into the work session. Mrs. Moore seconded this motion, which then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Work Session
Monday, 5 June 2017
7:00 p.m.
District Office Board Room**

MINUTES

Right to Know Law Request

Bloomsburg Area School District Solicitor Mr. Noah Naparsteck was present at the meeting to give directors an overview of a Right to Know Law Request (RTKL) sent out to school districts statewide from Simon Campbell, dated 8 May 2017. Atty. Naparsteck said that Mr. Campbell had made several RTKL requests in the past, and that this most recent request dealt primarily with the Pennsylvania School Boards Association's interactions with school districts in Pennsylvania. Mr. Naparsteck said that Mr. Upton had done a great job of collecting the information requested by Mr. Campbell. Mr. Upton said that he had gathered about 1,400 – 1,500 pages of information for this RTKL request, all of which was to be e-mailed to Mr. Campbell. Ms. Kreisher asked if the district needed to supply Mr. Campbell with school directors' addresses, and Mr. Upton replied that unfortunately it did, as that was considered public record. The board did not have any further questions pertaining to this RTKL request.

Systematic Maintenance Plan

Dr. Wheeler said that this item, which included several personnel changes, would be discussed after the work session in executive session.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Tabor told directors that the end of the school year had been calm so far. He said that the tree dedication ceremony at Beaver-Main Elementary School would likely be scheduled for that Friday, and that he would notify the board via e-mail with the details. Mr. Yodock asked if there was still a substitute crisis, and Mr. Tabor responded that some days were better than others. Dr. Wheeler said that he would be talking to the board about instituting building substitutes in the near future.

Ms. Christensen said she had met with all guidance counselors in the district regarding suicide prevention in an effort to ensure that all buildings were handling the issue consistently. Dr. Wheeler said that in a previous district in which he worked, there was a special education executive session held 15 minutes prior to a school board meeting each month to discuss in greater detail information about the special education program. He said that no student names were shared, and that this helped school directors have a better context of the special education program. He said he would like to start this practice in Bloomsburg next year.

Mrs. Day reported that seniors would be done on Thursday of that week, and that they would be having a senior breakfast on Wednesday followed by the senior walk through all of the other school buildings in the district. She said that the senior trip to Baltimore would be held on Tuesday. Lastly, she said that commencement was at Mitrani Hall on Thursday and that board members wishing to attend should let her know so she could reserve a seat for them.

Mr. Freeman said he wanted to thank everyone for their support with the science fair. He said that science fair winners had gone on a field trip to the PPL Wetlands. Mr. Freeman also said that he and his staff were preparing for orientation, which would include a presentation on hybrid learning and an escape room, for current fifth-grade students. Lastly, Mr. Freeman told directors that the middle school's academic awards assembly would be held from 8 – 10 a.m. on June 14, and that directors were welcome to attend.

Mr. Simpson said that he did not have anything to add from his written report. Mr. Klingerman implored Mr. Simpson and Dr. Wheeler to talk with whoever makes the football schedule to ensure that Bloomsburg High School's and Bloomsburg University's Homecoming is on the same weekend. Dr. Wheeler said that for years when this could not happen, the district could still have Homecoming and senior night on the same day and have elementary students bussed to the high school for a pep rally, and that high school students could then hold their pep rally afterwards. He added that it was still a goal to have Bloomsburg Area School District participate in Bloomsburg University's Homecoming parade.

Mr. Palmatier and Dr. Stutzman reported that because Memorial Elementary School students had met their reading challenge, they had been treated to a sumo wrestling event involving faculty and administrators.

At the end of the administrative reports, Mr. Hock thanked the administrative team for the adjustments they'd had to make over the past year with a new superintendent and the district moving in a very different direction.

Teacher for Before-School Physical Education Class

Mrs. Day reported that Mr. Troy Charles was the sole employee who had submitted a letter of interest for the high school's before-school physical education class. She said that she would like to change his daily schedule so he could start his day earlier than the rest of the high school's faculty and then end earlier. Mrs. Day said that this would not affect students, as the last period of the day was a make-up gym period and Ms. Andrea Heckman would be able to run this by herself.

Capital Project Financial Presentation

Mr. Upton distributed to directors a handout displaying two options for the board to consider regarding funding for a potential capital project. One option was for a \$10,000,000 bond and the second was for a \$15,000,000 bond. Dr. Wheeler said the district was in a position to complete a capital project without raising taxes, and said he would like to have Mr. Brad Remig from PFM Financial Advisors LLC talk to the board about this at a future meeting.

Cyber Security Insurance

Mr. Klingerman distributed to his fellow board members a handout containing information on cyber security insurance, for their review and consideration. Mr. Upton said he was in the process of working with Mr. Honabach to get a quote through PSBA. He said this insurance would not prevent a cyber issue from happening, but that it would help if something did occur.

Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School Report

Mr. Jones reported that Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School (CMAVTS) had recently received a \$10,000 grant from Williams Gas to purchase a Lincoln welder, and also a \$30,000 grant from Kawneer. He said that the school would again be holding its career camp in the summer, which was

offered to middle school-aged students, and that the Beaver-Main Elementary School nature trail beautification project taken on by a former Beaver-Main student (now attending CMAVTS) had been completed. Mr. Jones said that CMAVTS administrators would like to get middle school students from the sending districts to the school to gain a better understanding of the options available to their students, maybe during an in-service day. Mr. Yodock added that the Joint Operating Committee was considering making the superintendent of record a two-year term instead of a one-year term.

Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit

Mr. Mael said that he had called in to the last Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit board meeting, and that he did not have anything to report.

Adjournment to Executive Session

An executive session was held from 8:18 – 9:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. The executive session began at 8:18 p.m. following a motion from Mr. Yodock, a second from Mr. Klingerman, and a unanimous voice vote. The executive session was adjourned at 9:20 p.m. following a motion from Mrs. Moore, a second from Mr. Klingerman, and a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary