

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Special Meeting
Monday, 3 April 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, 3 April 2017 by Vice President Joshua Klingerman 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., Mr. Norman Mael, Mrs. Gail Moore, and Mr. Leo “Joe” Yodock III. Ms. Marianne Kreisher was absent from the meeting.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Ms. Donna Christensen, Mrs. Melissa Day, Mr. Marc Freeman (left at 7:38 p.m.), Mr. Trevor Palmatier (left at 7:38 p.m.), Mr. Josh Tabor (left at 7:38 p.m.), Mr. Michael Upton, and Dr. Donald Wheeler

Others present were: Mr. Phil Burrell (arrived at 7:18 p.m., Ms. Kori Britton, Mr. Dennis Delorso, Ms. Terri Drucker, Ms. Stephanie Kessler, Mr. David Marsiglio, Ms. Brittney Smith (arrived at 7:05 p.m., and Mr. Jed Smith (arrived at 7:05 p.m.).

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK

Mr. Dennis Delorso, the district’s K-12 Itinerant Autistic Support Specialist, spoke to board members about autism, saying April was Autism Awareness Month. He said of the four different positions he’d had in Bloomsburg, his current position as an autistic support specialist was his favorite. Mr. Klingerman thanked Mr. Delorso for his hard work. Mr. Hock asked how many students Mr. Delorso worked in, and Mr. Delorso said he worked with about 30 students with autism, autism spectrum disorder, behavior issues, and social skills issues. Ms. Christensen said Mr. Delorso was a very valuable member of the special education department, adding that he had visited students in the hospital and had helped students who were suicidal and depressed, as well.

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Homebound Instruction Request

Mr. Yodock made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hock, to approve a homebound instruction request for a Bloomsburg High School student, retroactive to 28 March 2017 through the end of the 2016-2017 school year. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trip Requests

Mr. Yodock made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Howell, to approve the following out-of-state/overnight field trip requests: a Bloomsburg High School Chorus student to State Chorus from 19 April 2017 – 22 April 2017 in Erie, Pennsylvania, at a cost to the district of \$1,201.41; and a Bloomsburg High School A.P. U.S. History class students to Baltimore, Maryland from 18 May 2017 – 19 May 2017, at a cost to the district of approximately \$705.00. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Agreements with MetroCast Channel 10

Mrs. Moore made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Howell, to approve the following Release and Request to Distribute agreements with MetroCast Channel 10: Baseball at Benton on 3 April 2017; Softball at Central Columbia on 11 April 2017; Baseball at Millville on 17 April 2017; Baseball at Central Columbia on 11 May 2017; and Softball at Bloomsburg (versus Millville) on 17 May 2017. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Using Instructional Hours Instead of Days to Meet Attendance Requirement for 2016-2017 for Seniors

Mr. Yodock made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve using the annual instructional hours requirement (being 990 hours for secondary students) rather than meeting the requirement of 180 days, as permitted by Act 4 of 2016, Section 1505, with seniors' last day of school being 8 June 2017, with dismissal for them being at 11:15 a.m. that day. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Using Instructional Hours Instead of Days to Meet Attendance Requirement for 2016-2017 for Students in Kindergarten Through 11th Grade

Mrs. Howell made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yodock, to approve the annual instructional hours requirement (being 990 hours for secondary students and 900 hours for elementary students) rather than meeting the requirement of 180 days, as permitted by Act 4 of 2016, Section 1505, with their last day of school being 14 June 2017, with dismissal for secondary students being at 11:15 a.m. that day and with dismissal for elementary students being at 12:15 p.m. that day. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Revised 2016-2017 Calendar

Mrs. Howell made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Dunn Haney, to approve as presented the revised Bloomsburg Area School District 2016-2017 calendar. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Nature Trail Beautification Project

Mrs. Howell made the motion, which Mr. Yodock seconded, to approve permitting Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School SkillsUSA students to complete a beautification project for the nature trail at Beaver-Main Elementary School on 8 April 2017. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Facilities Use Agreement with Bloomsburg University

Mr. Yodock made the motion, which Mr. Jones seconded, to approve as presented the facilities use agreement between Bloomsburg High School and Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania for High School Girls Field Hockey Day Camps in July 2017. Mr. Klingerman told directors that Ms. Kreisher had asked him to point out that there was no cost to the district for these camps, as the field hockey booster club was covering all costs. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL

Approval/Acceptance of Personnel Items

Mrs. Howell made the motion, which Mr. Yodock seconded, to approve/accept the following personnel items:

- Approve the following as Extended School Year staff for Summer 2017:
 - Julie Adams – Elementary Teacher;
 - Victoria Dent – Elementary Personal Care Aide;
 - Stephanie Geise – Elementary Personal Care Aide;
 - Makayla Hess – Elementary Paraprofessional;
 - Sue Nevius – Elementary Paraprofessional;
 - Michelle Adams – Middle/High School Paraprofessional;
 - Amy Fuehrer – Middle/High School Paraprofessional;
 - Katelyn Piestrak – Middle/High School Teacher;
 - Rose Strausser – Middle/High School Paraprofessional;
- Approve the leave of absence request of Bloomsburg Middle School Music Teacher Holly Lapinski, effective 31 May 2017 through the end of the 2016-2017 school year;
- Approve the following individuals as professional day-to-day substitutes as per Policy 405: Employment of Substitute Professional Employees, effective 4 April 2017 through the end of the 2016-2017 school year:
 - Melissa Sears (CSIU Guest Teacher);
 - Marisa Rhodes (CSIU Education Major as Teacher);
- Accept the retirement of Bloomsburg High School Head Cook Beverly Hunsinger, effective 30 June 2017;
- Approve the following individuals as drama club advisors with their stipends being reimbursed by the Bloomsburg High School Drama Club:
 - Steffanie Bowes – Set Designer - \$350;
 - Alyssa Wawroski – Choreographer - \$500.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Classified Staff Termination

Mr. Hock made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yodock, to approve the termination of Beaver-Main Elementary School Custodian Mark Roberts, retroactive to 23 March 2017.

At this point, Mr. Hock made the motion to move into executive session to discuss personnel matters, and Mr. Yodock seconded this motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. The executive session lasted from 7:14 – 7:18 p.m.

The motion to terminate the employment of Mr. Roberts passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Business Administrator

Mr. Yodock made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve David Marsiglio as the Bloomsburg Area School District Business Administrator as per his negotiated contract, effective 4 June 2017. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:20 p.m., Mrs. Howell made the motion to adjourn the special meeting and move into the work session. Mr. Yodock 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, 3 April 2017
7:00 p.m.
District Office Board Room**

MINUTES

Administrative Reports

Mr. Tabor said that he was looking forward to working with Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School students on the Beaver-Main Elementary School nature trail, and also told directors that PSSAs would be starting the following day.

Mr. Palmatier asked if there were any questions on his report or on Dr. Stutzman's report, as she was not able to make the meeting, and there were not. Mr. Palmatier recognized Health and Physical Education Teacher Christian Golfieri for his work on an online newsletter. Mr. Jones said that Mr. Golfieri's program was fantastic, as relayed to him by his elementary school-age children. Mr. Palmatier said that so far that school year, there had been 64 students enroll in Memorial and 54 students withdraw from the school. Mr. Yodock asked why there was such transience, and Mr. Palmatier replied that there were a number of students moving back and forth between districts, especially Berwick.

Next, Mr. Freeman reported that Keystone Camp was going at the middle school. He then invited directors to attend the school's fourth annual science fair, which would be held from 7-9 p.m. on May 11. He said that if anyone was interested in being a judge, they should let him know.

Mrs. Day then told directors that the college course recommendation had been updated to include wording that students could take up to three pass/fail classes. She then moved on to the topic of before-class physical education classes. She said that she had worked with parents attending her parent advisory meetings in coming up with a solution that would allow students to take before-school physical education classes so that their schedules would be freed up to take STEM classes. Mrs. Day said this option would be available to high school students starting in 2017-2018, and that she hoped this would be approved before she would be talking to students with schedule conflicts. Ms. Dunn Haney asked if a student could possible take two before-school physical education classes to help fulfill their physical education course requirements early so their schedules would be freer during the senior year. Mrs. Day said that yes, this was a possibility.

Ms. Christensen then gave her report, which centered around the potential for an emotional support class to be added at Bloomsburg High School in 2017-2018. Ms. Christensen said that the next step in the process would be for the district to be granted approval from the state to start this program. She said that if approved, this program would be financially beneficial to the district because some students currently attending emotional support classes outside of the district would be able to return to Bloomsburg High School. Mr. Hock asked how many students the program would be servicing, and Ms. Christensen responded that there would probably be about five to 10 students in this class. Dr. Wheeler asked the board if it was alright for Ms. Christensen to submit the request to add the high school emotional support program to the state, and the board agreed that it was. Ms. Christensen pointed out that the district would

not be hiring an additional teacher for this program and that special education teachers would still have manageable caseloads. Mr. Yodock asked if the district ever pulled an emotional support teacher to fill in as a substitute if needed, and Mr. Tabor replied that this was not the case, adding that he had used reading specialists as substitutes only if necessary. Mr. Hock asked if there would be any danger to other students in the high school if an emotional support program was started there, and Ms. Christensen said that only non-aggressive students would be in this class.

Middle School Student Handbooks

Mr. Freeman said that the only change from the previous year's handbook was wording about students no longer being allowed to be placed at the alternative education program for truancy issues.

Budget Update

Mr. Upton told directors that because it was so late in the fiscal year, it was highly unlikely that the real estate tax elimination proposal would be in place for the 2017-2018 school year. He also told them that the initial transportation reduction of about 8.6% was probably not going to happen. He said that the entire administrative staff was reviewing its programs to check for efficiency and ways to reduce costs, and also that he was working on a new 10-year budget projection.

Auditing Firms

Mr. Upton said that (because the district's current local auditor, Forgett & Kerstetter, would not longer be conducting school districts audits), he had reached out to four auditing firms for proposals. He said that of the three proposals he'd received, he would be recommending the board approve Wagner, Dreese, Elsasser & Associates, P.C. as the district's local auditor for the years ending 30 June 2017, 2018, and 2019 at a cost not to exceed \$13,000 per year. Mr. Upton said that both Central Columbia and Danville school districts used this firm. Mr. Mael asked how much the district had paid for its most recent audit, and Mr. Upton replied that it had been \$12,800 but that it was going up each year.

Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School Report

Mr. Jones reported that the student application process for 2017-2018 was complete, and that SkillsUSA students had spoken at the last Joint Operating Committee about community service projects they were completing, including the Beaver-Main Elementary School nature trail beautification project. He said that students would be competing in the SkillsUSA competition from April 19 – 21. Mr. Yodock added that the school was looking to get a grant for generators so it could be used as an emergency evacuation site.

Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit Report

Mr. Mael reported that there had not been a Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit board meeting that month due to the snow storm.

Adjournment

At 7:46 p.m., Mr. Hock made the motion to adjourn the work session, and Mrs. Howell seconded this motion. The motion then passed by a unanimous voice vote, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary