

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Special Meeting
Tuesday, 8 September 2015
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 Tuesday, 8 September 2015 in the district office board room, followed by the pledge to the flag. Directors in attendance were: Mr. Brent Hock, Mrs. Tina Howell, Mr. Terry Kramarz, Ms. Marianne Kreisher (arrived at 7:14 p.m.), Mrs. Sandra Rupp, Mr. Thomas Tobin, Mr. Joe Yodock, and Ms. Deb Zollmann. Mr. Josh Klingerman was absent from the meeting.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Dr. Cosmas Curry, Mr. Marc Freeman (left at 7:26 p.m.), Mr. Josh Tabor (left at 7:26 p.m.), and Mr. Michael Upton.

Others present were: Mr. Phil Burrell (left at 7:12 p.m.), Mrs. Bonnie Crawford, Ms. Terri Drucker (left at 7:12 p.m.), Ms. Stephanie Kessler, Mr. Jason Moser, Ms. Lauren Strauch (left at 7:12 p.m.), and Mr. Anthony Russo (left at 7:12 p.m.).

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK

At this time, Mrs. Crawford expressed her concern about the lack of air conditioning in the middle school. She said that in cases of extreme heat, it becomes very difficult for students to focus. She said she would like the district to make installing air conditioning in the middle school a priority. Mr. Upton replied that this is on the radar, but that the district would like to first protect the middle school from flooding before it spent the approximately \$2-\$3 million on this air conditioning project.

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

Acceptance of Donation

Mr. Tobin made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Kramarz, to accept the following donation made to the Bloomsburg Area School District: a monetary donation of \$500 from Maria and Dennis Schlauch, made in honor of Mary Schlauch, for the music department of Beaver-Main Elementary School. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

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

Mr. Kramarz made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Rupp, to approve the following out-of-state/overnight field trip request: Bloomsburg Area School District French students to Quebec, Canada

from 11 November 2015 – 15 November 2015, at a cost to the district of \$994. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL

Approval/Acceptance of Personnel Items

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

- Approve as presented the advisors for the 2015-2016 school year;
- Approve the following individuals as long-term volunteers/overnight chaperones:
 - Tina Hrinda;
 - Joelle Leh;
 - Scott McBride;
 - Jane Mensch; and
 - Megan Scherer;
- Approve Dr. William Kuprevich as the Bloomsburg Area School District Physician for the 2015-2016 school year at a stipend of \$8,000;
- Accept the resignation of Bloomsburg High School Paraprofessional Sandy Estrada, retroactive to 24 August 2015;
- Approve Erin Scandle as a classified substitute, effective 9 September 2015;
- Accept the resignation of Bloomsburg Middle School Social Studies Teacher Roger Boschetto, retroactive to 20 August 2015;
- Approve the following individuals as professional staff:
 - Anthony Russo as a Bloomsburg Middle School Social Studies Teacher at Step 16 MS and an annual pro-rated salary of \$65,075 and with benefits as per the negotiated professional staff agreement, effective 9 September 2015; and
 - Jennifer Mertz as a professional day-to-day substitute, retroactive to 19 August 2015, and as a Beaver-Main Elementary School Half-Time Reading Specialist at ½ Step 12 MS and an annual pro-rated salary of \$28,934.50 and with benefits as per the negotiated professional staff agreement, effective 9 September 2015;
- Approve the following individuals as professional day-to-day substitutes:
 - David Dancho (Physics 7-12), effective 9 September 2015; and
 - Kathryn Meyer (Grads PK-4), effective 9 September 2015;
- Approve the following individuals, both of whom are already approved as professional day-to-day substitutes, as long-term professional substitutes:
 - Lauren Strauch as a W.W. Evans Elementary School Long-Term Substitute Teacher, effective on or about 14 September 2015 – 1 January 2016; and
 - Elizabeth Mocarski as a Bloomsburg Middle School Long-Term Substitute Social Studies Teacher, retroactive to 24 August 2015 – approximately 6 November 2015;
- Reapprove the following individuals as athletic coaches for the 2015-2016 season:
 - Suzanne Noll – Volunteer Girls' Seventh- and Eighth-Grade Basketball Coach;
 - Robert Noll – Seventh-Grade Girls' Basketball Coach at Step 3 and a salary of \$1,729; and
 - Janna Ward – Eighth-Grade Girls' Basketball Coach at Step 3 and a salary of \$1,729; and
- Approve the leave of absence request of Maintenance Worker Norm Swisher, retroactive to 23 July 2015 until on or before 14 December 2015.

Ms. Zollman questioned why Anthony Russo was recommended to start at Step 16. Dr. Curry said that after two rounds of interviews, Mr. Russo had surfaced as the lead candidate, and that teachers had served on the interview committee and he was their number-one choice. Mr. Yodock asked if Mr. Russo was the best candidate for the position of middle school social studies teacher, and Mr. Freeman replied that he “absolutely” was and that he had great confidence in Mr. Russo’s teaching ability.

A voice vote was then taken and the motion passed by a voice vote of seven yes votes to one no vote (being Mr. Tobin).

Approval of Renewal of Employment Contract with Technology Director

Mrs. Rupp made the motion, which Mr. Tobin seconded, to approve renewing the employment contract as presented between the Bloomsburg Area School District and Technology Director Gary Honabach, effective 8 September 2015. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Amendment to Employment Contract with Business Administrator

Mr. Tobin made the motion, which Ms. Zollmann seconded, to approve as presented the amendment to the employment contract between the Bloomsburg Area School District and Business Administrator Michael Upton, effective 8 September 2015. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT TO WORK SESSION

At 7:12 p.m., Mrs. Rupp made the motion, which Mrs. Howell seconded, to adjourn the special meeting and move into the work session. A unanimous voice vote followed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Work Session
Tuesday, 8 September 2015
7:00 p.m.
District Office Board Room**

MINUTES

Administrative Reports

Mr. Freeman reported that Mike Cunfer and Gregg Wirth would again be advisors for Odyssey of the Mind. He also reported that he was looking to initiate a National Junior Honor Society in the middle school and that Michelle Hintz was interested in being an advisor for this organization. He said that so far, hybrid learning was going very well and that Rae Ann Crispell from the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) had conducted a survey with middle school students. This survey indicated that students were very excited about the hybrid learning model. He said that the middle school, in conjunction with the high school, was going to be starting to recycle more. Mr. Tobin suggested that Mr. Freeman consider going with Evans Disposal for recycling, as students and staff would be able to put all of their recycling, which would not need to be sorted, into one large container.

Mr. Tabor reported that W.W. Evans Elementary School was hosting the Girls on the Run program, which uses physical activity to help promote positive self-esteem in young girls. At the end of the program, which will be in November, the girls will participate in a 5k run, he said. Mr. Tabor also reported on W.W. Evans Elementary School's first Multi-Thon, which was scheduled for 16 October 2015 from 3:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the school. During the Multi-Thon, students will participate in approximately eight different thon-type activities. Mr. Tabor said that students will ask individuals to sponsor them, and that this one fund-raising endeavor would take the place of holding several fund-raising events throughout the school year.

Ms. Kreisher arrived at this point in the meeting, during Mr. Tabor's report.

Policy 228: Suicide Prevention

Dr. Curry referred directors to the draft of the revised Policy 228: Suicide Prevention. He pointed out that the added definitions in the revised policy were helpful and also said that the suicide awareness and prevention resources listed at the end of the revised policy were also beneficial. He said that he would be recommending the board approve this policy on first reading at the 21 September 2015. He asked if anyone had any questions on this draft policy, and no one did.

Borton Lawson Flood Study

Dr. Curry summarized the flood protection study from Borton Lawson. The study outlined two options for flood protection around the middle/high school. The one option would be to flood-proof the schools and the second option would be building a permanent flood protection system. Dr. Curry said that if the district chose to go with a permanent flood protection system, it would then need to decide if it would go along with the Town of Bloomsburg in creating a flood wall, or if it would be going on its own.

PSBA Delegate Approval

Ms. Kreisher said that she had e-mailed the recommended candidates out to the board the week prior to the board meeting. No directors had any objection to any of the candidates so the board asked Ms. Kreisher to go ahead with voting.

Subcommittee Reports

Mr. Hock read an e-mail from Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) Senior School Services Consultant Wayne LeClair regarding the superintendent search. The letter stated that PSBA had already begun advertising at both the state and national level, and that Mr. LeClair had already been contacted by several potential candidates. Mr. Hock said that a link to a community superintendent search survey had been posted on the district's and individual schools' web sites. Mr. Hock said he would send out an e-mail containing the survey link to all Bloomsburg Area School District staff.

Dr. Curry said that he had met with Mr. Hock earlier that day regarding the district's safety and security plan. He also reported that Mr. Dennis Delorso had been working on a reunification plan to be included in the safety and security plan as part of his administrative internship.

Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School Report

Mr. Tobin reported that Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School (CMAVTS) had received a Perkins grant in the amount of \$196,000. Mr. Yodock reported that CMAVTS was running out of funds and that the school could end up being bankrupt in five years. This being the case, he said, the sending districts should be prepared to be asked for more money for CMAVTS. Mr. Tobin said that the school was working on a strategic vision and that once it was completed, it would be presented to the sending districts.

Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit Report

Mr. Yodock said that he did not have anything to report.

Other Items

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Hock said that the board would be working with teachers during the current school year to set up times for board members to job shadow teachers.

Ms. Kreisher asked if a link to the athletics page could be added to the main page of the district's web site.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:57 p.m., Mr. Tobin moved to adjourn the work session and move into an executive session to discuss personnel matters. Ms. Kreisher seconded this motion, which then passed by a voice vote of seven yes votes to one no vote (being Mr. Hock). The executive session was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. following a motion by Mrs. Rupp, a second by Mrs. Howell, and a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary