Date January 22, 2025	Regular Meeting	High School Career Center	Kevin Wigoda
	Kind of Meeting	Where Held	Presiding Officer

Members Present:	Members Absent
Kevin Wigoda	Albert D. Marazas
James T. Croley, II	Cynthia Lubinsky
Michael Andruchek	Jessica M. McGrath
Sarah R. Newton	Christopher M. Bowers
James O'Brien, Jr.	

The regular monthly meeting of the Minersville Area Board of Education was held in the Career & Counseling Center of the Junior-Senior High School and Zoom on Wednesday evening, January 22, 2025. The meeting was called to order by President, Kevin Wigoda at 7:00 PM.

On roll call, the following responded: Kevin Wigoda, Albert D. Marazas, Jessica McGrath, James T. Croley, II, Dr. Cynthia Lubinsky, James O'Brien, Jr., Michael Andruchek, Sarah R. Newton, and Christopher Bowers.

Others present: Michael Maley, Superintendent; Brittany K. Doyle, Business Manager; Joel Motuk, High School Principal; Nannette Bentz, Elementary Principal; Jill Atkinson, Special Education Director; Nicholas A. Quinn, District Solicitor; and Barbara Conville, Secretary to the Superintendent/Assistant to the Secretary.

Approve Meeting Minutes of 12/03/2024

MOTION - by Marazas, seconded by O'Brien, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 3, 2024. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of 12/18/2024

MOTION - by McGrath, seconded by Lubinsky, to approve the Policy Committee Meeting minutes of December 18, 2024. Motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

AGENDA

Acknowledgments

Students of the Month

Mr. Maley read item #1 on the agenda as the students of the month for December 2024 and January 2025 were both recognized. Mr. Motuk read biographies for all of the students; Olivia Kopenitz and Robert Bruce as the Students of the Month for December and Ava Long and Logan Hutsko as the Students of the Month for January. None of the students were in attendance.

Christmas Toy Program

Continuing with the agenda, Mr. Maley acknowledged on behalf of Mrs. Joanne Murphy, coordinator of the Elementary Christmas Toy Program, the Girls' and Boys' Basketball Teams, Minersville Youth Football, Minersville Cheerleading, Sts. Peter and Paul Church, The First Baptist Church of Pottsville, and teachers and staff for providing Christmas gifts to more than 76 district families with over 150 children this holiday season. The project included a collaborative effort from these clubs with outside sources including Reading Outfitters, who supplied toys and a very generous monetary donation. Monetary donations were also supplied by The Minersville Lions and Quandels.

Mr. Motuk added that AP Bio students also helped deliver gifts to families.

Board Member Recognition

Lastly, under acknowledgments, Mr. Maley thanked a Board Members for their service and dedication to the students of the district and handed each a certificate for Board of Director Month.

Use of Facilities

MOTION - by Newton, seconded by Marazas to approve the following "Use of Facility" requests approved by the Superintendent under standing policy:

a. 12/17/2024 - Minersville Police Department- High School Auditorium 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM for Police Defensive Tactics Training.
b. 02/04/2025 and 02/05/2025 - Branch/Miners Teener Baseball - Llewellyn Building - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM for baseball sign-ups.
c. 02/01/2025 - 05/31/2025 - PA Flight Girls' Basketball - High School Gymnasium two (2) nights per week depending on availability and conflicts with softball

All members in favor on a voice vote. Motion carried.

Payment for credits

MOTION - by Newton, seconded by Bowers to approve payment for credits earned to:

a. Stacey Faustner - 6 credits @ $750 = $4,500
b. Katherine Herring - 6 credits @ $485 = $2,910
c. Rochelle Jones - 3 credits @ $862 = $2,586
d. Erin Zollars - 6 credits @ $516 = $3,096

All in favor on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Travel rate revised 01/01/2025

MOTION - by Marazas, seconded by O'Brien to retro-active approve to January 1, 2025 a revised travel reimbursement of 70.0 cents.

On a voice vote, all in favor.

2024 Real Estate Collection Report

MOTION - by McGrath, seconded by Lubinsky to record in minutes 2024 Real Estate Collection Report. Report included in Livebinder.

All in favor on a voice vote. Motion carried.

Exonerate Tax Collectors for 2024 tax collections

MOTION - by O'Brien, seconded by Andruchek to exonerate the following tax receivers from further tax collection efforts relative to 2024 Schuylkill County Real Estate Duplicate:

a. Mrs. Gail Bedford, Branch Township
b. Mrs. Barbara Conville, Cass Township
c. Mrs. Lisa Michelcavage, Foster Township
d. Mrs. Heidi Hashin, Minersville Borough
e. Mrs. Mary Ann Matukewicz, Reilly Township

On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Transportation changes

MOTION - by Marazas, seconded by McGrath to approve additional transportation changes with Earl Renninger, Inc. as follows:

a. End M - Minersville/HS (Mid-day Roundtrip) effective January 15, 2025.
b. Revise M6 - IU/EC for $94.00 per day effective January 7, 2025.
c. Revise M24 - LVHN (A.M. & P.M.) for $89.00 per day effective January 2, 2025.
d. M25 - Blue Mountain (A.M. only) for $52.00 per day for the period of December 19, 2024 through January 9, 2025.
e. Revise M28 - STC Annex at the IU for $72.00 per day effective January 16, 2025.

On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Taxpayer refund

MOTION - by Andruchek, seconded by Lubinsky to authorize the request for refund by Mrs. Gail Bedford, Branch Township Tax Collector, for a Real Veteran's Real Estate Tax Exemption to:

Parcel #	Taxpayer/Address	Refund Amount
3-4-29(1)	Heffron, Martin T. & Tanya M., 63 Stein's Mill Rd, Pottsville	$869.69

All in favor on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

K. Rittenbaugh salary amendment

MOTION - by Newton, seconded by McGrath to amend previously approved overstated starting salary for Katelyn Rittenbaugh as Head Girls' Softball Coach to $4,000 for the 2024-2025 season.

On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Resignations

On item #12 on the Agenda, a brief discussion ensued with Wigoda asking Atty. Quinn some background on the "reverter" clause that the Citizens Fire Company is looking for approval to remove. Atty Quinn stated that this clause goes back a longtime. Croley asked the reason to remove the clause. O'Brien stated that the Fire Company is doing upgrades on the property and they have no plans to sell it. Atty. Quinn said he would follow the Boards wishes. Mr. Maley stated we are not trying to take anything away and we should not give up any land. There was a MOTION - by McGrath, seconded by Lubinsky to Table #12 until Atty. Quinn gets more information.

All in favor on a voice vote to Table #12. Motion carried.

MOTION - by Lubinsky, seconded by O'Brien to approve the leave of absence for the purpose of maternity leave under FMLA for employee #1615, a professional employee, to begin on or about February 20, 2025, with the intent to return on April 14, 2025. Employee intends to utilize accumulated sick balance and unpaid leave during this absence. FMLA - #1615

On a voice vote, all members in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION - by Newton, seconded by Bowers to ratify the hire of the following 21st Century Schuylkill Achieve After School staff beginning January 1, 2025. All program funds are fully reimbursed from the Intermediate Unit #29 through a federal grant program. Additional 21st CCLC staff

	Staff	Position	Salary
a.	Rochelle Jones	Teacher	$24.70/hour
b.	Robyn Chadwick	Teacher	$24.70/hour
c.	Maria Spotts	Teacher	$24.70/hour
d.	Sara Sukeena	Teacher	$24.70/hour
e.	Laura Yazemboski	Teacher	$24.70/hour
f.	Tracey Urquiza	Teacher, Substitute	$24.70/hour
g.	Jose Urquiza	Coordinator, Substitute	$26.30/hour

On a roll call vote all members in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION - by Lubinsky, seconded by McGrath to approve the hire of the following: Hires

	Name	Position, subject to assignment	Effective Date	Step	Salary
a.	Karleen Leonard	PT, Instructional Aide	01/06/2025	n/a	$15.17/hr.

On a roll call vote, all members in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION - by Bowers, seconded by Lubinsky to review and allow for 30 day inspection the Minersville Area Junior-Senior High School Course Selection Guide for the 2025/2026 school year. See attached. 2025/2026 Course Catalog changes and review

All in favor on a voice vote. Motion carried.

MOTION - by O'Brien, seconded by Andruchek to approve the first reading of revisions to the following Board Policies: Policy updates

a. 113.1 - Discipline of Students with Disabilities
b. 113.2 - Behavior Support
c. 113.4 - Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information
d. 251 - Homeless Students

All in favor on a voice vote. Motion carried.

MOTION - by McGrath, seconded by Newton to approve the update to the 2024-2025 school calendar. Attached. 2024/2025 calendar revisions

On a unanimous voice vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Staff Reports

Atty. Quinn told the Board that assessment notices have been going out to residents from the courthouse. Other items were Reading Anthracite and a teacher still owing course credit money back to the District. Maley stated that previous employee has until February 15, 2025, to make payment or further action will be necessary. Maley also asked about the threshold for the tax assessment. Atty. Quinn said the board can set the threshold as

long as it is consistent.

Building administrators also delivered their reports that were included in the Livebinder.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Treasurer's Report

MOTION - by Marazas, seconded by O'Brien to approve the Treasurer's Report as prepared and submitted. On a voice vote - all in favor; Motion passed.

MOTION - by Newton, seconded by Lubinsky to ratify the payment of bills for December and January from the General Fund in the amount of $2,226,709.25; Cafeteria Account in the amount of $149,136.43; 21st CCLC - Schuylkill Achieve Account in the amount of $0.00; Federal Programs Account in the amount of $2,029.07; High School Athletics in the amount of $47,053.81; High School Activities Account in the amount of $11,515.02 for a total bills payable $2,436,443.58.

All in favor on a voice vote. Motion carried.

Statement of Taxes

MOTION - by Marazas, seconded by Andruchek to approve Statement of Taxes for November as prepared and submitted. All in favor on a voice vote. Motion passed.

MOTION - by Marazas, seconded by Andruchek to approve Statement of Taxes for December as prepared and submitted. All in favor on a voice vote. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Reports

McGrath stated that the Policy Committee Meeting minutes were included in the Livebinder and approved earlier and many policies will be reviewed in July 2025. Croley stated he has been in contact with Mike Hoptak regarding a better anti-virus. New network wire installation is being paid through grant money along with vape detectors, outside cameras and updating ipads. He expects a meeting within the next two months. Newton said there is a Professional Negotiation Meeting set for February 20th.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Old Business

None.

NEW BUSINESS

New Business

Additional Agenda item discussed

Croley suggested an additional item be added to the agenda relating to him chairing a committee to search for and speak on behalf of the district for potential donations to fund football stadium renovations and upgrades. After a brief discussion, MOTION - by Croley, seconded by Bowers to add an additional agenda item. All in favor on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Special Committee added

MOTION - by Croley, seconded by Bowers to chair a special committee, with its mission being to discuss the stadium renovation project with potential enterprises and or donors about sponsorship opportunities in an effort to see how much of the projects cost may be able to be offset.

On a roll call vote, all member voted in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business to report or discuss, the meeting adjourned on MOTION by McGrath seconded by Lubinsky at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica McGrath

Jessica McGrath, Secretary

Barbara J. Conville

Barbara J. Conville, Assistant to the Secretary