

Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

May 17, 2010 School Board Meeting

NOTE: This Board Highlights document includes the actions of the School Board Meeting. It is not meant to be an exact reflection of the meeting's minutes.

ROLL CALL – All members present.

The Board unanimously approved the following items:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The Board approved the minutes of the April 19, 2010 Regular Meeting, with one correction noted by Mrs. Judy Wisner.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – **Mr. Jon Rupert**, Board Secretary, reported that the district Safety Committee received certification from the state Department of Labor and will receive a 5 percent discount for workmen's compensation coverage. In addition, two architect firms will be available to present information to the School Board at its public meeting on June 14, 2010 at Highlands High School library. A third firm will be available to present on June 21, 2010 at the public meeting at Highlands High School library. Both meetings will begin at 7 p.m.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – **Mr. Corey Negley** was absent and presented no report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – **Dr. Louis J. Baldassare** noted the following achievements:

- Highlands High School was awarded a 2010 Fatal Awareness Teen Leadership Award for outstanding leadership used to save lives through creative school programming and community service and for inspiring school spirit, strengthening self esteem and building strong character among our student body. The following students represented Highlands:
 - o **Josh Carney**
 - o **Carly Jo Bacha**
 - o **Gabe Clark**
 - o **Corey Negley**
 - o **Shelby Brown**
 - o **Chad Penn**
- Grandview and Fairmount Elementary Schools were awarded a grant for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program. Grandview will receive \$33,076.80 and Fairmount will receive \$17,847.69. The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program grants were available through the USDA. The criteria for winning was based on a high percentage of low income children and a plan on implementing a program on making fresh fruits and vegetables available to all students during the school day at times other than during the school lunch period. This also includes nutrition education and introducing students to all types of new fruits and vegetables that they may have never tried before. Thank you, Food Service

Director **Mrs. Sharon Conway**, for pursuing and submitting the proposals for this grant.

- The **Highlands Marching Band** will perform at the American Legion Post 48 and VFW Post 894 Joint Memorial Day service on Sunday, May 30, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. The parade will begin at Mt. Airy Cemetery in Natrona Heights.
- Thank you to the staff and administrators who worked hard to make this year's **Early Childhood Fair** held on May 1, 2010 a successful community event.
- **Mr. Matthew Bonislowski**, Athletic Director, was awarded certification from the **National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association** and the distinction of a Certified Athletic Administrator title after completing a rigorous program and testing. Congratulations, Mr. Bonislowski!
- **Mr. Tyler Kirin**, coach, and the Boys Varsity Tennis Team, won the WPIAL section championship. Congratulations on a successful season!

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Joseph Latess noted the following:

- AFG (Accreditation for Growth): The process is moving smoothly and will next focus on technology. The committees will reconvene in the Spring.
- Physical Education Classes – Faculty and students attended a daylong trip to Camp Guyasuta in Sharpsburg, learning new physical skills and building confidence in daring exercises. The teachers presented a briefing on this experience later in the meeting.

CAFETERIA – Mrs. Wantland, Mrs. Wisner

The Board approved the Cafeteria Fund Financial Report for May 2010, as submitted.

The Board approved the payment of Cafeteria Fund bills, as submitted.

To be paid \$102,858.60

The Board approved bids for Ice Cream, Milk and Bread to:

Turner – Milk
Pittsburgh's Best Ice Cream
Schwebels – Bread

STUDENT ACTIVITIES – Mrs. Thimons, Mrs. Wisner

The Board approved the Student Activities Fund Financial Report for April 2010, as submitted.

The Board approved awarding the band and band front uniforms bid to Stanbury Uniforms, Inc. in the amount of \$67,050 in accordance with all bid specifications.

- *Mr. Lang voted "NO".*

The Board approved **Mr. Nicholas Polcha** as the 2010-2011 Junior Class Advisor.

INSTRUCTION – Mrs. Wisner, Mrs. Wantland

The Board approved adopting The American Journey – Early Years, McGraw Hill - Glencoe 2009, US History Series for 8th Grade, as submitted.

Physical Education Department instructors **Mr. Charles Debor** and **Mr. Patrick Polcha** shared a presentation with the School Board detailing the Camp Guyasuta experience. About 80 students from physical education, fire training and alternative education classes in grades 9 through 12 participated in a field trip to Camp Guyasuta in Sharpsburg on May 10, 2010. The experience included a high ropes challenge course, a low obstacle course and cooperative trust exercises. Students were split into teams, or groups, and briefed by experienced instructors at the camp. They were challenged to complete the high- and low-ropes courses, and then worked on trust-, cooperation- and team-building skills. The experience resulted in a desire to establish similar courses and develop a curriculum based on the challenges and skills learned at Camp Guyasuta. View the “Camp Guyasuta” Power Point presentation found on the www.GoldenRams.com/highlights page.

TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Heasley, Mr. Lang

No report.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Mr. Heasley, Mrs. Fox

The Board approved the use of facilities, as submitted.

PERSONNEL – Mrs. Fox, Mr. Miles

The Board approved accepting the retirement, with regret, of the following employees:

A. Jack E. Miller

Buildings and Grounds
Effective June 30, 2010

B. Janice D. Steward

Food Services – Middle School
Effective June 30, 2010

C. Theresa M. Dunlap

Food Services – Middle School
Effective June 30, 2010

D. Sunny Gould

Food Services – High School
Effective June 30, 2010

E. Barbara Ann Crawford

Food Services – Middle School
Effective June 30, 2010

F. Darla Toborkey

1st Grade Teacher – Fairmount Elementary
Effective June 30, 2010

G. Charleen Tench

7th Grade Teacher – Middle School
Effective June 30, 2010

The Board approved the following 2010 Summer School Programs:

Highlands High School Summer Program

June 17, 2010 – July 15, 2010, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
Teachers are paid the contractual curriculum rate.

Teachers

Hassler, Pat
Bengel, Todd
Wilhelm, Kala
Doggrell, Cassandra
Bonislowski, Jennifer
McCue, Catherine
Polcha, Patrick
Debor, Chuck
Keenan, Kathleen

Coordinator

Culleiton, Tom

Secretary

Hines, Kim

Title 1/Special Education Summer Program/Extended School Year

Summer Special Education Programs occur at Fairmount Elementary and Highlands Middle School from July 6, 2010 – July 30, 2010. Teachers, Behavior Specialists and Nurses are paid at the contractual curriculum rate from ESY Funds/IDEA Funds and District Funds. Title 1 positions are paid from Title 1 funds.

Title 1 Teachers

Shumaker, Jody
Walter, Kara
Milberger, Lauralee
Burris, Patty
Turk, Autumn
Mazzotta, Jan
Perlik, Samantha
Mason, Kevin

Data Collector

Rybak, Randall

Substitute

McCurdy, Melissa

Special Education

Smith, Jason

Paraprofessionals

Artman, Teri

Misejka, Jaye

ESY Summer School

Teachers

McLaughlin, Christine

McCurdy, Janet

Koty, Andrew

DePew, Bridgette

Seery, Bridget

Foster, Faith

Szurley, Kristina

Nania, Vickie

Brown, Michelle

Ferrante, Kristan

Trettel, Mary Ann

Data Collector

O'Hara, Rebecca

Nurses

Jones, Mary Beth

Long, Shelly

Woodrow, Kim

Aides

Valenti, Lois

Dorn, Sandra

Corey, Cindy

Joyce, Michelle

Mazza, Lisa

Garrett, Andrea

Brukner, Brandi

Stauffer, Rebecca

Glaister, Stephanie

Morgan, Amy

Essay, Suzanne

Bonifati, Carol

The Board tabled the SEIU Memorandum of Understanding, as submitted, until the June board meeting.

The Board approved the motion to approve the attached resolution to furlough professional employees as presented and agreed upon in accordance with HEA contract.

The Board approved the hiring the following Classified Employees: (In accordance with Board Policy #504 (Pre-employment Drug Test), #514, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check:

A. Deborah Brukner
Cafeteria Alternate

B. Tracy Szalanski
Cafeteria Alternate

C. Jennifer Glaister
Cafeteria Alternate

The Board approved the internship of the following persons in accordance with Board Policy #404 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #414, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check:

A. Amanda Fleming
School Psychologist – Paid Internship
August 2010 through May 2011
Not to exceed \$10,000 (*1,500 hours*)

The Board approved the internship/volunteer of the following person in accordance with Board Policy #916 (Pre-Employment Drug Test):

A. Brittany Fisher
School & Community Relations – Unpaid Internship
June 21, 2010 through August 30, 2010

The Board approved the following Curriculum Writers for the 2010-2011 School Year:

A. Caroline Jackson
B. Nicholas Polcha
C. Jeff McLafferty

The Board approved ratifying the 2009-2010 Substitute Teacher Call List, as submitted. As per Board Policy #405 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #414, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check.

The Board approved ratifying the 2009-2010 Substitute School Nurse List, as submitted. As per Board Policy #405 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #414, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check.

The Board approved the hiring of the following summer workers, in accordance with Board Policy #505 (Pre-Employment Drug Test) Act 34, and Act 151:

Buildings & Grounds - Alternates

Kylie Moucheron

Jason Flatt

Jaron Mosovsky

Kevin Swanter

Nate Hargraves

FINANCE/TAX – Mr. Miles, Mrs. Thimons

The Board approved the Treasurer's Report for March 2010, as submitted and subject to audit.

The Board approved Tax Refunds for May 2010, as submitted.

May to be paid \$4,430.43

The Board approved payment of General Fund bills for May 2010, as submitted.

May to be ratified \$ 977,728.12

May to be paid \$ 719,832.26

TOTAL \$1,697,560.38

The Board approved adopting the preliminary budget for the 2010-2011 school year in the amount of **\$38,826,187.**

The Board approved PNC Bank as the District's Depository for the 2010-2011 school year, in accordance with Section 621 of the Pennsylvania School Code.

The Board approved the District investment institutions, in accordance with Section 440.1 of the Pennsylvania School Code:

PNC Bank

Citizens Bank

PSDAF

First Commonwealth

PLGIT

PA State Treasurer's

Investment Program

The Board approved awarding the General Supply bids, as submitted.

The Board approved participation in the AIU Electricity Consortium.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – Mrs. Wantland, Mrs. Fox, Mr. Krzton, Mrs. Thimons

Mrs. Wantland noted the following available scholarship for students: The Alle-Kiski Health Foundation is soliciting applicants for the The **Helen Rakowski Bole Literary Scholarship Program** is offered to seniors at Highlands High School, with preference to females, intent on majoring in English Literature, English Education, Communication, Library Science, or related fields of study. The program was made possible through the generosity of Ms. Bonnie Orkow, daughter of the late Helen Rakowski Bole, a 1930 graduate of Har-Brack High School. Awards are up to **\$2,000 per**

year, for each of the two years a candidate is eligible. Interested applicants should contact the foundation or the guidance office at the High School.

FORBES ROAD CTC – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Beale

Mrs. Fox reported that the Forbes Certificate Ceremony will be held on May 25 at Woodland Hills High School. Also, two students placed in the following competitions: **Joshua Tompkins** placed third in Database Design & Application at the FBLA State Leadership Conference. **Paige Reed** placed second in the Dental Assistant competition in the Skills USA Conference held in Hershey, Pa. Congratulations, students!

The Board approved the adoption of the Forbes Road Budget.

PSBA/NSBA – Mrs. Wisner

Mrs. Wisner reported that the General Assembly is in recess until May 24. Pre-K items were approved. There is an available active school grant for \$5,000. The primary election is being held on May 18, 2010, and some bills or decisions will likely be affected by those results, including House Bill 2499. Also, PSBA has established a budget help line for board members.

POLICY – Mr. Krzton, Mr. Lang, Mrs. Wantland

No report.

ATHLETICS – Mr. Lang, Mr. Heasley, Mr. Krzton

The Board approved the Athletic Fund Report for April 2010, as submitted.

The Board approved the hiring of the following athletic personnel for the 2010-2011 school year, in accordance with Board Policy #404 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #414, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check (Salary as per board/HEA Collective Bargaining Agreement.):

Name	Position
Chester, Robert	Boys JV Soccer Coach
Masarik, Andrew	Boys Volunteer Soccer Coach
Turner, Jim	Boys Varsity Head Soccer Coach
Meyer, Greg	Girls Varsity Head Soccer Coach
Ziemanski, Meghan	Varsity Girls Basketball Coach
Abbott, Tom	Head Cross Country Coach
Bowser, Dave	Assistant Cross Country Coach
Urik, Dave	Head Boys Golf Coach
Hone, Craig	Offensive Coordinator – Varsity Football
Anuszek, Todd	Defensive Coach – Varsity Football
DeJidas, Ron	Assistant Coach – Varsity Football
Heasley Sr., Bill	Volunteer Assistant Coach – Varsity Football
Heasley Jr., Bill	Volunteer Assistant Coach – Varsity Football

- *Mr. Heasley abstained from voting for himself and Mr. Heasley, Jr.*
- *Mr. Heasley and Mrs. Wisner voted “NO” for Meghan Ziemanski.*

The Board approved the contract extension of **Matthew Bonislawski**, Athletic Director, for 3 years.

TECHNOLOGY – Mrs. Thimons, Mr. Miles

No report.

MISCELLANEOUS – Mr. Tom Shirey, High School principal, invited the Board and the community to attend Baccalaureate on Sunday, May 23 at 7 p.m. at the High School, and to the 42nd Commencement on Thursday, June 3, 2010, beginning at 6 p.m. at Golden Rams Stadium. In the case of inclement weather, Commencement will be held in the High School gymnasium.

2010 Highlands School Board Members

Debbie Beale – President

Carrie Fox – Vice President

Laura Thimons William Heasley

Ron Lang William Krzton

Eric Miles Karen Wantland

Judy Wisner