

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2019

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Monday, January 28, 2019, in the Board Room, Administration Building, 2354 Brodhead Road, Hopewell Township.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Lesia Dobo, Board President.

Prayer and flag salute was led by Mrs. Oblak. Roll call by the secretary followed. Those Directors in attendance were:

Daniel Caton
Lesia Dobo
Rob Harmotto
Darren Newberry
Kathryn Oblak
George Patterson
Daniel Santia
Jeffrey Winkle

Members absent:
Lori McKittrick

Also in attendance were: Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent; Mr. John Salopek, Solicitor; Jennifer Conrad, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Michael Allison, Douglass Rowe, Korri Kane, and Jessica Webster, Principals; Dr. Lynn Utchell, Director of Special Education; Don Short, Athletic Director and visitors.

“Good News” was presented by Mr. Rowe from the Senior High School, Mrs. Kane from the Elementary Schools, Mrs. Webster from the Junior High School, and Mr. Short, athletics.

Mrs. Dobo asked for approval of minutes.

MOTION #1

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the December 17, 2018, Business Meeting Minutes and the January 14, 2019, Work Meeting Minutes. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance. Mr. Patterson abstained from the vote as he was not a member of the Board at that time and was not present for the meetings.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

MOTION #2

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve items (1) through (3) as presented in accordance with School Board's agreement for grouping items in a single motion. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Tax Collectors' Report

1. Recommendation to accept report for taxes collected for the month of December, 2018, as presented, and make said report a part of these minutes.

Treasurer's Report

2. Recommendation to accept report of the Treasurer for the month of December, 2018, as presented, and make said report a part of these minutes.

Financial Statements

3. Recommendation to accept Financial Statements for the month of December, 2018, as presented, and make said statements a part of these minutes.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

There were no visitors wishing to address the Board.

Educational/Curriculum/Instruction by Jeff Winkle, Chair

MOTION #3

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the request of Andy Robertson for the creation of the Hopewell High School Sports Hall of Fame. Funding will be solely by donation to the Committee. There is no cost to the District. The first class of inductees will be recognized in August 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

MOTION #4

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve items (1) and (2) as presented in accordance with School Board's agreement for grouping items in a single motion. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

1. Senior High School Course Curriculum Guide for the 2019-2020 school year.
2. Junior High School Course Curriculum Guide for the 2019-2020 school year.

MOTION #5

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the Membership Agreement with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit to participate in their BVIU Lending Library. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Dr. Miller presented the Board with a list of grants that the District has recently received. Seventeen teachers received over \$10,000 from the Beaver County Educational Trust. The District also received a \$35,000 Target PA Smart grant to advance the computer science curriculum.

Dr. Miller gave an overview of substitute usage and substitute shortages for the District. Dr. Miller would like for the Board to consider increasing the daily substitute rate on the 45th day of subbing (non-cumulative), the daily sub rate increases to \$90. On the 90th day of subbing (non-cumulative), the daily sub rate increases to \$100.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

MOTION #6

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Rob Harmotto, to approve items (1) and (2) as presented in accordance with School Board's agreement for grouping items in a single motion. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

1. Victoria Hinds, a student at Geneva College, to do an internship during the second semester, under the guidance of Susan Burak.
2. Alex Nicholson, a student at Geneva College, to do an internship during the second semester, under the guidance of Aubre Lindner.

Athletics by Daniel Caton, Chair

MOTION #7

By Dan Caton, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the request of Central Valley School District for students from the Central Valley Middle School swim team to practice with the Hopewell Junior High School swim team for the 2018-2019 season. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Buildings and Grounds by Daniel Santia, Chair

MOTION #8

By Dan Santia, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the sale of New Alexandria Trailer (VIN 198T20223N121004) in “as is” condition by sealed bids advertised appropriately to employees of the School District or such other bidding parties but without the cost of further public advertising. The sealed bids shall be received by 3:00 p.m. in the Business Office on Thursday, February 21, 2019. The sealed bids shall be opened and tabulated by the Business Administrator for presentation to the Board at the meeting on February 25, 2019, with final approval of the sale at the meeting. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Dan Santia, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the Master Natural Gas Sales Agreement with UGI Energy Services, for the purchase of natural gas, effective September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Finance and Budget by Kathryn Oblak

APPROVAL OF GROUPEd ITEMS

MOTION #10

By Kathryn Oblak, seconded by George Patterson, to approve items (1) through (3) and ratify items (4) and (5) as presented, in accordance with School Board’s agreement for grouping items in a single motion. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

1. General Fund payments in the amount of \$492,498.40
2. Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of \$91,299.48
3. Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of \$27,749.91
4. General Fund payments in the amount of \$419,828.22
5. Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of \$5,826.16

MOTION #11

By Kathryn Oblak, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve Resolution #1-2019, a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District, certifying that the District will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of the public schools for the following fiscal year by more than its index, which for the 2019-2020 school year is 3.0%. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #12

By Kathryn Oblak, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the request of Jeanne Samovoski to purchase tax parcel #65-184-0142.000 located in Hopewell Township out of repository. The 2016-2017 and prior years' taxes shall be exonerated. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Personnel by Rob Harmotto, Chair

MOTION #13

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Dan Caton, to accept the resignation for retirement of Marina Rosatelli, accountant, assistant to the Business Administrator, and PIMS Administrator, effective April 1, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #14

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the request of Brittany Covalt, high school science teacher, for an eight-week unpaid leave of absence, effective on or about March 1, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #15

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Jeff Winkle, to accept the resignation of Brittany Story-Stelzner as co-sponsor of the Gay Straight Alliance Club at the Senior High School, effective September 1, 2018. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #16

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the appointment of Rich Collins as co-sponsor of the Ski Club at the Senior High School, effective September 1, 2018. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #17

By Lesia Dobo, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to table the approval of the Act 93 Agreement. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

MOTION #18

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve items (1) through (4) as presented, in accordance with School Board's agreement for grouping items in a single motion. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

1. Employment of Richard Cropper, substitute transportation aide and driver, effective January 23, 2019.
2. Employment of Peter Alan Noyes, substitute transportation aide and driver, effective January 23, 2019.
3. Employment of Leola Robenski, substitute transportation aide and driver, effective January 23, 2019.
4. Employment of Cara Sembower, substitute transportation aide and driver, effective January 23, 2019.

Transportation by Jeffrey Winkle, Chair

MOTION #19

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve participation in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit's joint purchasing program for the purchase of gasoline and diesel fuel for the 2019-2020 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mrs. Conrad asked the Board to consider eliminating the bid bond requirement when purchasing new District vehicles. After clarification by Mr. Salopek, the Board agreed to eliminate this requirement from bid guidelines.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Miller gave a weather update for later this week. Due to extremely cold temperatures, school will most likely be cancelled on Wednesday and Thursday. Wednesday will be an Act 80 day so that students will not have to make this day up. Thursday will be considered a snow day.

Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business

Nothing to report.

Upcoming School Board Meetings

February 11, 2019: Work Meeting, Central Administration

February 25, 2019: Business Meeting, Central Administration

Executive Session

Mrs. Dobo announced the Board would be meeting in executive session following this evening's meeting to discuss personnel. The announcement was made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended.

MOTION by Dan Santia, seconded by Kathryn Oblak that the meeting be adjourned.
MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mrs. Dobo adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Lesia Dobo, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary