

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
MARCH 25, 2019

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Monday, March 25, 2019, in the Board Room, Administration Building, 2354 Brodhead Road, Hopewell Township.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Lesia Dobo, Board President.

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

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

Members Absent
Daniel Santia

Also in attendance were: Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent; John Salopek, Solicitor; Jennifer Conrad, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Jessica Webster and Rob Kartychak, Principals; Don Short, Athletic Director; and citizens.

“Good News” reports were presented by Mr. Kartychak, from the Elementary Schools, Mrs. Webster from the Junior High School and Mr. Short from athletics. Copies of each report are attached to these minutes.

Mr. Short introduced Jacob Ealy, PIAA State Champion in wrestling. Jacob has a career total of 137 wins and 21 losses. He will be attending Pitt Johnston in the fall. The Board congratulated him and expressed how proud they were of him.

Mrs. Conrad presented information regarding the 2019-2020 General Fund budget.

Mrs. Dobo asked for approval of minutes.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

MOTION #1

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve items (1) and (2) as presented in accordance with the School Board's agreement for grouping items in a single motion. MOTION carried by majority affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance. Mr. Patterson abstained from voting on the March 11, 2019 minutes, as he was not present for that meeting.

Approval of Minutes

1. Recommendation to approve the February 25, 2019 business meeting minutes as presented.
2. Recommendation to approve the March 11, 2019 work meeting minutes as presented.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

MOTION #2

By Jeff Winkle, 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 February 2019, 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 February 2019, as presented, and make said report a part of these minutes.

Financial Statements

3. Recommendation to accept Financial Statements for the month of February 2019, as presented, and make said statements a part of these minutes.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

Carrie Ann Wise, transportation union steward, requested a meeting with members of her union and the Board to discuss issues at the bus garage. Andrea Kypta reiterated that the proposed meeting was only with the Board and not Administration. Guy Celeste asked that the meeting be scheduled as soon as possible.

Lindsay Zupsic and Leah Donovan, PTA Presidents from Hopewell Elementary and Margaret Ross Elementary, respectively, stated concerns regarding the lack of substitute teachers and the need to pull “specials” teachers for fill-ins. Mrs. Zupsic also reported that parents were discouraged from attending parent/teacher conferences if their child was doing well in school. She and Ms. Donovan would like to see an administrator in each building. When there are issues with students and the Crisis Intervention team is needed, teachers must leave their classrooms to assist another teacher. They believe that this happens often and interferes with other classrooms. They feel that if an administrator was present at all times, teachers wouldn't be pulled from their classrooms as often to assist. Mrs. Zupsic also feels that accelerated students are not being offered advancement and enrichment when they finish an assignment or project and are waiting for the class to catch up. Another concern for them was available space in the buildings and questioned whether we should continue to offer space to the Head Start program.

Dr. Miller addressed their concerns and said that she would look into items that she was not aware of.

Michael Leonard was also concerned for the lack of substitute teachers available. He believes that teachers are out of the classroom too much for non-illness reasons.

At this time Mrs. Dobo asked that Committee discussion and recommendations begin.

Education/Curriculum/Instruction by Jeff Winkle, Chair

MOTION #3

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the 2019-2020 School Calendar. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #4

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by George Patterson, to approve the request of Jeneane Hugus, a graduate student at Westminster College, to complete a school counseling internship under the direction of Anjelica Diehl. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #5

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve adoption of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law with respect to a disciplinary hearing involving MG. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #6

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve adoption of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law with respect to a disciplinary hearing involving NJ. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Athletics by Daniel Caton, Chair

MOTION #7

By Daniel Caton, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the payment of winter coaches beyond the regular season. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Buildings and Grounds by Darren Newberry

MOTION #8

By Darren Newberry, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the request from Jeff Homziak to use the main and auxiliary gyms at Hopewell High School and Gym B at the Junior High School to have a basketball summer league for girls in grades 7 through 12 from May 8, 2019 through June 27, 2019 on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. until 9:45 p.m. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Darren Newberry, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the request of Colleen Jesko to use Gym A at the Junior High School for Hopewell Youth Cheer practice from April 23, 2019 through May 24, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #10

By Darren Newberry, seconded by George Patterson, to approve the request of Hopewell Township to use the parking lots at Hopewell and Margaret Ross Elementary Schools during Hopewell Park Fest Community Day on July 6, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #11

By Darren Newberry, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the request from Beaver County Flag Football to use the stadium and grass fields for games and practices from April 6, 2019 through June 15, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #12

By Darren Newberry, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the request of Hopewell Soccer Club to use the practice fields at Hopewell High School on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. beginning March 15, 2019 for practice. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #13

By Darren Newberry, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the request of Hopewell Soccer Club to use the turf field on Sunday afternoons beginning April 7, 2019 through June 9, 2019 for games. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #14

By Darren Newberry, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the request of Hopewell Soccer Club to use either the turf field or practice field on Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. for practice of their in-house program. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #15

By Darren Newberry, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the request of Drew Falletta to use the Main Gym at the Senior High School from June 24th through June 27, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. for a basketball camp for boys in grades 3 through 6. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #16

By Darren Newberry, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the request by David Bufalini, on behalf of the Memorial Day Planning Committee, to use the Hopewell Junior High School facility for the annual Memorial Day parade and ceremony on May 27, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. In the event of rain, the Committee is requesting use of the Senior High School Auditorium. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Finance and Budget by Lori McKittrick, Chair

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

MOTION #17

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve items 1 through 3 and to ratify item 4 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 \$408,881.26
2. Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of \$87,729.07
3. Capital Reserve payments in the amount of \$227,056.41
4. General Fund payments in the amount of \$2,210,984.97

MOTION #18

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the 2019-2020 pay schedule, as presented. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #19

MOTION by Lori McKittrick, seconded by Jeff Winkle, to approve the 2019-2020 Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit general operating budget in the amount of \$1,455,636.00. MOTION carried unanimously by affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #20

MOTION by Lori McKittrick, seconded by Jeff Winkle, to approve the request of Brian D. and Kelly J Fortner to purchase tax parcel #65-004-0912.000 located in Hopewell Township out of repository. The 2017-2018 and prior years' taxes shall be exonerated. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #21

MOTION by Lori McKittrick, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the advertisement for receipt of bids for supplies and/or equipment for the 2019-2020 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Legislative by Kathryn Oblak, Chair

MOTION #22

MOTION by Kathryn Oblak, seconded by Jeff Winkle, to approve the following Board policies. MOTION carried unanimously by affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

1. Policy 610 – Bid/quote amounts
2. Policy 626 – Procurement attachment
3. Policy 827 – Board member abstention
4. Policy 906 – Federal programs complaint procedure
5. Policy 918 – School-level attachment
6. Policy 150 – Title I Comparability of Services - new recommended policy

Personnel by Lori McKittrick, Co-Chair

MOTION #23

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to accept the resignation of Donna McDole, substitute secretary, effective February 26, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #24

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the employment of Hope Haddad, permanent bus aide, effective March 18, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #25

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the change of employment status of Richard Cropper to permanent bus driver, effective March 14, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #26

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the change of employment status of Peter Noyes to permanent bus driver, effective March 19, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #27

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Darren Newberry, to accept the resignation of David Parrish, substitute bus driver, effective March 20, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #28

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the change of employment status for Kim Barger, bus driver, to substitute driver, effective March 11, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Transportation by Jeff Winkle, Co-Chair

MOTION #29

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the request by Hopewell Township to use District buses and drivers for Hopewell Park Fest Community Day on July 6, 2019, at no cost to the District. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #30

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the request by Hopewell Township to use District van for Rec-on-the Run from June 7, 2019-August 10, 2019, at no cost to the District. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Superintendent's Report

Nothing to report.

Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business

Nothing to report.

Upcoming School Board Meetings

April 8, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. Work Meeting, Central Administration
April 29, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. Regular Business Meeting, Central Administration

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Dobo announced that an Executive Session was held prior to and after the meeting to discuss personnel matters. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion or recommendations to come before the Board of Directors, Mrs. Dobo asked for a motion for adjournment.

MOTION by Lori McKittrick, seconded by Darren Newberry, that the meeting be adjourned. MOTION CARRIED.

Mrs. Dobo adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Lesia Dobo, President

Nancy Barber, Secretary