

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
APRIL 20, 2020

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District conducted a virtual Board meeting on Monday, April 20, 2020 due to the closure of school during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Board meetings on March 23, 2020 and April 6, 2020 were cancelled.

An Executive Session was held prior to the start of the meeting to discuss legal issues. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Lesia Dobo, Board President.

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. McKittrick. Roll call by the secretary followed. Those Directors in attendance were:

Daniel Caton  
Lesia Dobo  
Matthew Erickson  
Lori McKittrick  
Darren Newberry  
Kathryn Oblak  
Jeffrey Winkle

Members Absent:  
Daniel Santia

Also in attendance were: Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent, Dr. Jacie Maslyk, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. John Salopek, Solicitor; Jennifer Conrad, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Michael Allison and Edward Katkich, Principals; and visitors.

Mrs. Conrad gave an update on the 2020-2021 budget. This presentation can be found on our website at [hopewellarea.org](http://hopewellarea.org).

Mrs. Dobo asked for approval of minutes.

MOTION #1

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the February 24, 2020 Business Meeting Minutes and the March 9, 2020, Work Meeting Minutes. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMSMOTION #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 and March, 2020, 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 and March, 2020, as presented, and make said report a part of these minutes.

Financial Statements

3. Recommendation to accept Financial Statements for the month of February and March, 2020, as presented, and make said statements a part of these minutes.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

Since this meeting is being conducted virtually, visitors were asked to email questions prior to the meeting.

Bethany Pistorius asked the following questions:

Due to the special circumstances we are under at this time, it is clear virtual meetings will be necessary. With the current instructions the visitor portion is read aloud but not responded to during the meeting. As the meetings are typically public meetings, the visitor portion is imperative to host a public dialogue regarding important issues (especially with the potential big changes our district is facing). How will the board respond to the questions/concerns/comments in a public manner so that those in "attendance" or those reviewing the meeting minutes afterwards are able to hear/read the board or district's response? (My current understanding of the instructions is that the person asking the question would receive potential follow up, how can the public have access to that follow up as well?)

Dr. Miller responded that she would be answering questions this evening.

How/is the district and/or board conducting reviews of the current remote instruction/learning, as well as instituting any adjustments needed as the school year progresses?

In part, Dr. Miller responded, “the district has a series of checks and balances currently in place at various levels to monitor the implementation of the Continuity of Education Plan. We are continuing to monitor, revise, and adjust our plans as needed. We seek feedback daily from students, parents, teachers, and leaders as we strive to provide the best education as possible during this time”.

At this time, Mrs. Dobo reviewed the agenda. in its entirety.

### APPROVAL OF GROUPEd ITEMS

#### MOTION #3

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve items (1) through (9) 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. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

1. Awarding 142 high school diplomas to Hopewell High School Senior Class of 2020. Further, awarding of said diplomas is contingent upon student completion of all graduation requirements. (Copy in Superintendent’s Office).
2. Revised 2019-2020 School Calendar (Attachment).
3. Act 55 Resolution 3-2020 for the collection of delinquent food service accounts using Creditech, establishing commission fees be assigned to the accounts, and that delinquent accounts may be reported to credit agencies.
4. One-year agreement with Creditech to collect delinquent food service accounts, effective August 1, 2020.
5. Exoneration of the following property tax collectors from uncollected 2019 taxes: Mary Ellen Oros, Independence Township; Diane Palsa, Hopewell Township; and Sandra Cain, Raccoon Township.
6. Ratification of Hopewell Area School District’s approval of the Beaver County Tax Collection Committee’s recommendation to extend the filing date for Earned Income Tax (EIT) from April 15, 2020, to July 15, 2020, to reflect the State and Federal filing date changes already in place.
7. Approval of Resolution #2-2020 for a 48-month lease with Wesbanco for \$145,614 with 4 annual payments of \$38,456 and an interest rate of 2.2% for

devices as outlined in the District's Viking CONNECT 1:1 device program. Total repayment will be \$153,823.56.

8. Resignation for retirement of Terry Borkovic, Physical Education teacher at the Junior High School, effective June 5, 2020.
9. Payment to Chris Nee and Morgan Singletary, Unified Bocce coaches, in the amount of \$500.00 each. This stipend is provided to the District by Special Olympics.

#### MOTION #4

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the ratification of February 2020 General Fund payments in the amount of \$2,504,504.04. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

#### APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

#### MOTION #5

By Dan Caton, seconded by Matthew Erickson, to ratify the following March 2020 payments 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 List of Bills in the amount of \$4,127,903.20
2. Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of \$49,431.76
3. Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of \$5,917.33

#### APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

#### MOTION #6

By Kathryn Oblak, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the following April 2020 payments 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 List of Bills in the amount of \$467,714.14
2. Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of \$93,927.63
3. Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of \$1,635.00

MOTION #7

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the 2020-2021 Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit general operating budget in the amount of \$1,490,348.00. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #8

By Dan Caton, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve Resolution 1-2020 approving the appointment of an investment banker from PNC and bond counsel from Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP regarding the possible refunding of the District's General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2015. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the contract with Nutrition, Inc. to provide management services for the 2020-2021 school year. This would be Year 1 of 4 renewal periods under the food service management company bid effective July 1, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #10

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the appointment of Lindsay Zupsic to fill Region 2 Board vacancy. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Superintendent's Report

Nothing to report.

Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Caton congratulated Dr. Miller on receiving the Jean E. Winsand Distinguished Woman in Education Award from the Tri-State Area School Study Council.

Upcoming School Board Meetings

May 11, 2020: Work Meeting, Central Administration  
May 18, 2020: Business Meeting, Central Administration

MOTION by Dan Caton, seconded by Jeff Winkle that the meeting be adjourned.  
MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mrs. Dobo adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Lesia Dobo, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary