

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
APRIL 26, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District conducted a virtual and in person Board meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. This meeting was recorded.

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

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

David Bufalini  
Daniel Caton  
Matthew Erickson  
Lori McKittrick  
Jeanette Miller  
Bethany Pistorius  
Lindsay Zupsic

Members Absent  
Daniel Santia

Also, in attendance were: Dr. Robert Kartychak, Acting Superintendent, John Salopek, Solicitor; Brooke Baker, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Joel Roth, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Michael Allison, Nadia Engel, Lou Ceccarelli and Gary Hutsler, principals; and visitors.

Good News in our Schools reports were presented by Ms. Engel, Mr. Ceccarelli and Mr. Hutsler. Copies of their reports are attached to these minutes. Mr. Allison also wanted to thank Ms. Meyers and her students for working at Hopewell Park for Earth Day. He said that the group did work painting fences and cleaning up the grounds.

MOTION #1

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the agenda as written.

An Executive Session was held on April 12, 2022 for personnel matters relating to the Superintendent search. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended

Kim Cassidy of the Nutrition Group, presented the proposed budget for the 2022-2023 school year. She reported that the District made a profit this year, however this was mainly due to federal reimbursements and waivers. For the past two years, meals were free for all students. She said that the expectation for the 2022-2023 school year is that those waivers and reimbursements will no longer exist. Several factors weigh heavily on the budget for 2022-2023, including the loss of \$1.00 per student on reimbursement, the possible increase in the cost of supplies and the cost of District labor. The projected loss for the 2022-2023 school year is \$373,034.35.

Mr. Bufalini asked for approval of minutes.

### MOTION #2

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the March 22, 2022 and April 12, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

### APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

#### MOTION #4

By Bethany Pistorius seconded by Matt Erickson, 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 March, 2022, 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 March, 2022, as presented, and make said report a part of these minutes.

#### Financial Statements

3. Recommendation to accept Financial Statements for the month of March, 2022, as presented, and make said statements a part of these minutes.

### VISITOR'S COMMENTS

Effective October 12, 2021, a maximum of thirty minutes total will be reserved during the Board meeting for community members who request to speak. At any time, the Board may allow additional time for the visitors portion of the Board meeting.

Whether the community member is participating virtually, or in-person, the community member will:

- State their name
- Have up to three minutes to make a statement and/or ask a question to the Board
- Only be able to speak once during the visitors portion of the board meeting
- Have their time begin when the individual begins to speak

It is recommended that community members wishing to speak during the visitors portion email the Board Secretary prior to the board meeting, however the online chat will be monitored during the visitors portion of the meeting for anyone wishing to speak.

A response may be given during the meeting, however, it is also possible that no response be provided during the Board meeting. The Board will instruct the Superintendent, the Business Administrator and/or the Solicitor to either respond to the inquiry or do further research and report back to the Board and/or the resident. For any question that requires a response, the District will contact the individual directly to respond or will share responses at the following Board meeting.

### **Barbara Reda, Hopewell Township**

Mrs. Reda asked if the District was pushing binary and transgender ideology. She reported that a local school District supported these issues and she was concerned about what Hopewell was teaching their students.

Dr. Kartychak said that the District teaches to Department of Education standards.

Mr. Bufalini continued with committee recommendations and discussion.

### **Educational/Curriculum/Instruction by Matt Erickson, Chair**

#### **MOTION #5**

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the awarding of 141 high school diplomas to Hopewell High School Senior Class of 2022. Further, awarding of said diplomas is contingent upon student completion of all graduation requirements. (Copy in Superintendent's Office). MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mrs. Pistorius and Mr. Bufalini congratulated graduates.

#### **MOTION #6**

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve Ashlynn Young, a student from Geneva College, to complete student teaching during the second semester of the 2022-2023 school year under the guidance of Mrs. Bober and Mrs. Ozimok. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

#### **MOTION #7**

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the Settlement Agreement and Release by and between the Hopewell Area School District and KidsVoice, with respect to the education of SC. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

#### **MOTION #8**

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the Pilot MyView ELA through SAVVAS Learning in grades three, four, and five for the 2022-23 school year. This pilot will be at no cost to the District. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the Pilot MyWorld Social Studies through SAVVAS Learning in grades three, and four for the 2022-23 school year. This pilot will be at no cost to the District. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Athletics by Daniel Caton, Chair**MOTION #10

By Dan Caton, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the payment of Chris Nee and Morgan Singletary, Unified Bocce coaches. Stipend is provided to the District by Special Olympics. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Buildings and Grounds by Lindsay Zupsic**APPROVAL OF GROUPEd ITEMSMOTION #11

By Lindsay Zupsic seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve items (1) through (12) 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. Request of Terry Borkovic to conduct a volleyball skills camp for girls in grades 6 through 9 from June 6 through June 10, 2022 in Gym A at Hopewell Junior High School.
2. Request of the Senior High School Boys Soccer Boosters to use Tony Dorsett Stadium on August 4, 2022 to host an alumni game.
3. Request of Matt Weiss to use Tony Dorsett Stadium to conduct a youth football camp July 11, 2022 through July 13, 2022 from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.
4. Request of Hopewell Youth Football to use the gym at the Senior High School on September 25, 2022 from 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. for a cheer competition.
5. Request of Stephany Richards to use the Junior High School library August 2, 2022 through August 4, 2022 from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. for driver instructor class.
6. Request of Hopewell Youth Football League to use Tony Dorsett Stadium on May 28, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. for a skills and development camp.
7. Request of Joe Sullivan to use the Junior High School facilities in the event of inclement weather during their summer concert series.

8. Request of the Hopewell Viking Football Boosters to use the Senior High School cafeteria to serve lunch during football camp, August 15, 2022 through August 19, 2022.
9. Request of the Hopewell Viking Football Boosters to use the Senior High School cafeteria on Thursday evenings from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. during football season to provide dinner for players and coaches.
10. Request of the Hopewell Viking Football Boosters to use the area around the concession stand on Friday, August 19, 2022 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. for a pre-season picnic.
11. Request of the Hopewell Viking Football Boosters to host a pep rally on Thursday immediately following the homecoming parade at Tony Dorsett Stadium. All fall sports would be recognized during the pep rally. (This is in the event the Township does not host a bon fire).
12. Request of David Bufalini and the Robert W. Young VFW Post 8805 to use the Junior High School Memorial on May 30, 2022 for the Memorial Day ceremony.

#### MOTION #12

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the request of Hopewell Viking Football Boosters to conduct 50/50 raffles at each of the varsity, junior varsity and 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade football games. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

#### **Finance and Budget by Lori McKittrick, Chair**

#### MOTION #13

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve items (1) and (2) and to ratify items (3) and (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 List of Bills in the amount of \$777,809.67
2. Cafeteria Fund List of Bills in the amount of \$134,501.82
3. General Fund Payments in the amount of \$3,907,379.25
4. Capital Reserve Payments in the amount of \$18,700.00

#### MOTION #14

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the Beaver County Career & Technology Center budget for the 2022-2023 school year in the amount of \$6,445,645.00. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #15

By Lori McKittrick to table the Grant Award Agreement dated April 7, 2022 between the Hopewell Area School District and The DICK's Sporting Goods Foundation regarding the \$10,000 Grant for the replacement of the turf and track at Hopewell High School.

**Legislative by Jeanette Miller**MOTION #16

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the appointment of Carla Buxton as Board member representing Region 1, effective April 27, 2022. MOTION carried by a vote of six to one, with Mr. Caton voting No.

**Personnel by Matt Erickson, Chair**MOTION #17

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of Lauren Macon, 1<sup>st</sup> assistant girls volleyball coach, effective the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #18

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the employment of Craig Bokor, Junior High School football coach, effective the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #19

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the change of employment status for Frank Coulter from substitute to permanent driver effective June 18, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #20

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the employment of Holly MacBeth, long-term 3<sup>rd</sup> grade substitute teacher at Independence Elementary School, effective April 21, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Policy/Planning by Lori McKittrick, Chair**

MOTION #21

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Jeanette Miller, to approve the revised Board Policy 204 – Attendance. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Other Business

None

Superintendents Report

Dr. Kartychak reported that Ryan Vukovcan placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the national Academic Games. He also congratulated Mr. Pelino on his retirement after 17 years of service. Dr. Kartychak said that he had attended the Empty Bowls fundraiser that evening, which benefits Meals on Wheels. He also reported that students in grades 3 through 8 were taking the PSSAs this week.

Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

Upcoming School Board Meetings

May 10, 2022, Regular Work Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Board Room and Virtual  
May 24, 2022, Regular Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Board Room and Virtual.

MOTION by Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, that the meeting be adjourned. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mr. Bufalini adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

David Bufalini, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary