

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR WORK MEETING
MAY 10, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, in the Central Administration Board Room as well as virtually, via Zoom. This meeting was recorded.

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

MOTION #1

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION carried by a unanimous vote of all Directors in attendance.

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

David Bufalini
Carla Buxton
Daniel Caton
Matthew Erickson
Lori McKittrick
Jeanette Miller
Bethany Pistorius
Daniel Santia (Arrived at 7:15)
Lindsay Zupsic

Also present were: Dr. Robert Kartychak, Acting Superintendent; John Salopek, Solicitor; Brooke Baker, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Michael Allison and Edward Katkich, Principals; Joel Roth, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; and visitors.

An Executive Session was held on April 26, 2022 for personnel matters regarding the superintendent search. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended

Mrs. Baker gave a brief budget update, including proposed revenue and expenditures. She stated that she will continue to review and make changes where needed. Changes can be made until the final budget is adopted on June 14, 2022. She will also discuss with the Board a proposed tax increase.

At this time, Dr. Kartychak reviewed items that would be voted on later in the meeting.

Finance and Budget: Ms. McKittrick, Chair; Mrs. Zupsic, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Adoption of the Hopewell Area School District proposed 2022-2023 General Fund budget, which projects revenues of \$42,199,038.00 and appropriations of \$44,594,009.66. The difference of \$2,394,971.66 will come from the Fund Balance.
2. Purchase the replacement of turf at Tony Dorsett Stadium from Shaw Sports Turf in the amount of \$424,221.00 with \$19,820.56 coming from the Wesbanco Stadium Restricted Account and the remaining \$404,400.44 coming from the Capital Reserve. The purchase is through COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program.

Mr. Bufalini stated that he was on the Board in 2009 when the Tony Dorsett Stadium project was undertaken. The Board was told at that time that the maximum length of time for the turf would be ten years. He also stated that the rubber currently being used for the field will be reused. He indicated that there would likely be a 10-12% increase if we wait another year.

3. Purchase the replacement of track at Tony Dorsett Stadium from ATT Sports, Inc. in the amount of \$293,770.00 through COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program with the funds to be taken from the Capital Reserve.
4. Grant Award Agreement dated April 7, 2022 between the Hopewell Area School District and Dick's Sporting Goods Foundation regarding the \$10,000.00 grant for the replacement of turf at Hopewell High School, to be executed by Business Administrator, Brooke Baker, as required by the Dick's Sporting Goods Foundation.
5. Purchase of band uniforms from DeMoulin Brothers & Company in the amount of \$77,046.55 through COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program with the funds to be taken from the Capital Reserve.

Mrs. Pistorius asked if the District required deposits when a student is given a uniform to cover any damages that may occur.

Lori Watters, Band Boosters President, was upset by the question. She stated that the students take great pride in the band and their appearance while performing. Parents have taken it upon themselves to have uniforms cleaned, altered and repaired when needed.

Mrs. Pistorius stated that she was only doing her due diligence so that she could have the information needed to cast her vote for the purchase of new uniforms.

6. Additional freight charge of \$650.00 for the Margaret Ross Booster Pump to Rennick Brothers. Additional cost to be paid from Capital Reserve.

Personnel: Dr. Erickson, Chair; Mrs. Zupsic, Co-Chair

1. Elimination of the following positions due to enrollment, effective the 2022-2023 school year:
 - a. Grade 2 at Independence Elementary School
 - b. Grade 6 at Hopewell Junior High School
2. Create the following new positions due to enrollment, effective for the 2022-2023 school year:
 - a. Grade 4 at Independence Elementary School
 - b. Grade 5 at Hopewell Junior High School
 - c. Special Education Teacher at Junior High School/Senior High School

Dr. Erickson asked if a special education teacher had ever been required to split buildings. Dr. Kartychak informed him that we have a split teacher this year.

3. Employment of additional temporary summer cleaning staff from approximately June 6, 2022 through August 19, 2022, at a rate of \$11.00 per hour.
4. Rate of pay for summer custodial workers who are District employees during the school year to \$13.00 per hour.
5. Resignation of Robert Lepak, bus driver, effective April 25, 2022.
6. Employment of Mark D'Alessandris, Varsity Boys Head Basketball Coach, at a salary of \$7,061.00.
7. Resignation of James Malesky, transportation aide, effective May 28, 2022.

At this time, Dr. Kartychak began his review of those items that would be voted on at the May 24, 2022 Business meeting.

Education/Curriculum/Instruction: Dr. Erickson, Chair; Mrs. Miller, Co-Chair

1. Agreement for Private Industry Council of Westmoreland/Fayette, Inc. to conduct one Head Start Classroom at Hopewell Elementary School for the 2022-2023 school year, subject to PIC receiving appropriate funding.
2. Continuation of the Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Hopewell Area School District and the Hopewell Education Association with respect to Online Education for the 2022-2023 School Year.

3. Continuation of Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Hopewell Area School District and the Hopewell Education Association with respect to Family Behavioral Resources.
4. Letter of Intent with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit to participate in the Technology Pool Counsel Consortium for the 2022-2023 school year.
5. Agreement with Adelphoi Education Services to provide emotional supports services to students on an as needed basis for the 2022-2023 school year.
6. Contract renewal for the 2022-2023 school year with AOT, Inc., providers of the District's occupational and physical therapy services, as well as speech therapy services on an as needed basis.
7. Madison Martin, a student at Geneva College, to complete student teaching during the spring semester of 2023, under the guidance of Mrs. Daltorio at the Senior High School.
8. Aiko Rivera-Nakazawa, a student at Geneva College, to complete student teaching during the spring semester of 2023, under the guidance of Mr. Keiper at the Senior High School.
9. Elizabeth Petro, a student at Robert Morris University, to complete pre-student teaching during the fall semester of 2022, under the guidance of Mr. Winters at the Senior High School.

Buildings and Grounds: Mr. Santia, Chair

1. Request from Hopewell Township to use the parking lots at Hopewell and Margaret Ross Elementary Schools for parking during Park Fest, July 9, 2022.
2. Request of Craig Biller to use Gym B at the Junior High School from June 28, 2022 through June 30, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. for a youth basketball camp.
3. Request of the varsity girls soccer team to use Tony Dorsett Stadium August 8, 2022 through August 11, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. to host a youth soccer camp.
4. Request of Hopewell Youth Football to use the field at the Junior High School, Monday through Thursday from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. beginning July 5, 2022 through November, for practice.
5. Request of Hopewell Youth Football to use Tony Dorsett Stadium on Saturday or Sunday beginning August 20, 2022 through October 2, 2022 for games.

6. Request from Hopewell Township to use the parking lots at Hopewell Elementary School and Margaret Ross Elementary school during the BBQ & Blues event on Saturday, September 10, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.

Finance and Budget: Ms. McKittrick, Chair; Mrs. Zupsic, Co-Chair

1. Agreement with Medic Rescue to provide emergency medical transport for the 2022-2023 school year, at a cost of \$3,400.
1. Supply bids for the 2022-2023 school year for the following departments:
 - a. Athletics
 - b. Art
 - c. Custodial
 - d. Industrial Arts
 - e. Physical Education
 - f. Science

Personnel: Dr. Erickson, Chair; Mrs. Zupsic, Co-Chair

1. Reappointment of John F. Salopek, Esquire, Solicitor, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
2. Appointment of Brooke Baker, Board Treasurer, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023
3. Reaffirm the District's Non-Discrimination Policy as required by Title VI and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975. Further, said policy to be advertised in the Beaver County Times.
4. Employment of the following K-6 Summer School teachers at the extended rate, per the collective Bargaining Agreement: (Staff to be determined)
5. Staff for Extended School Year and Compensatory Education Services provided to identified students from June 20, 2022 through July 28, 2022. Final staff assignments and needs will be finalized by the end of the school year.
6. Employment of the following grade 7-12 teacher for credit recovery to be compensated at a rate of pay of \$150.00 per student. (Staff to be determined)
7. Buildings and Grounds Director job description.
8. Resignation for retirement of Kristine Steuer, bus driver, effective May 27, 2022.

Transportation: Dan Caton, Chair; Dan Santia, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Request of Hopewell Township to use District buses and drivers for Park Fest, July 9, 2022.

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 and township
- 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.

Lori Watters

Mrs. Watters reiterated her plea that band uniforms are so important. She understands that the District is operating with a deficit, but stated that it is beyond time to replace band uniforms. She invited the Board to take a look at the uniforms so that they understand what shape they are in. She stated that the band works very hard to represent the school and that they deserve new uniforms.

Kris McCafferty

Ms. McCafferty asked what the plan was to remediate learning loss for students in grades 7 through 12, and why it is taking so long for a plan to be developed.

Dr. Kartychak reported that he and Mr. Allison are currently working on a plan, but that there are many factors to consider, when is the best time to initiate the program, are teachers willing to participate, and how instruction should be delivered.

Mr. Santia said that, unfortunately, students may never catch up. However, we will work with parents and staff to help students succeed.

At this time, Mr. Bufalini returned to Finance and Budget

Finance and Budget by Mrs. Zupsic, Co-Chair

MOTION #2

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the adoption of the Hopewell Area School District proposed 2022-2023 General Fund budget, which projects revenues of \$42,199,038.00 and appropriations of \$44,594,009.66. The difference of \$2,394,971.66 will come from the Fund Balance. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #3

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the purchase the replacement of turf at Tony Dorsett Stadium from Shaw Sports Turf in the amount of \$424,221.00 with \$19,820.56 coming from the Wesbanco Stadium Restricted Account and the remaining \$404,400.44 coming from the Capital Reserve. The purchase is through COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program. MOTION carried by a vote of seven to two, with Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Zupsic voting No.

MOTION #4

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the purchase the replacement of track at Tony Dorsett Stadium from ATT Sports, Inc. in the amount of \$293,770.00 through COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program with the funds to be taken from the Capital Reserve. MOTION carried by a vote of eight to one, with Mrs. Zupsic, voting No.

MOTION #5

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the Grant Award Agreement dated April 7, 2022 between the Hopewell Area School District and Dick's Sporting Goods Foundation regarding the \$10,000.00 grant for the replacement of turf at Hopewell High School, to be executed by Business Administrator, Brooke Baker, as required by the Dick's Sporting Goods Foundation. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #6

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Matt Erickson, to approve the purchase of band uniforms from DeMoulin Brothers & Company in the amount of \$77,046.55 through COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program with the funds to be taken from the Capital Reserve. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #7

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the additional freight charge of \$650.00 for the Margaret Ross Booster Pump to Rennick Brothers. Additional cost to be paid from Capital Reserve. MOTION carried by a vote of eight to one, with Mr. Caton voting No.

Personnel by Matthew Erickson, ChairMOTION #8

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the elimination of the following positions due to enrollment, effective the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried by a vote of eight to zero. Mr. Santia had briefly step out of the meeting.

- a. Grade 2 at Independence Elementary School
- b. Grade 6 at Hopewell Junior High School

MOTION #9

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to create the following new positions due to enrollment, effective for the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried by a vote of eight to zero. Mr. Santia had briefly step out of the meeting.

- a. Grade 4 at Independence Elementary School
- b. Grade 5 at Hopewell Junior High School
- c. Special Education Teacher at Junior High School/High School

MOTION #10

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of additional temporary summer cleaning staff from approximately June 6, 2022 through August 19, 2022, at a rate of \$11.00 per hour. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #11

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the rate of pay for summer custodial workers who are District employees during the school year to \$13.00 per hour. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #12

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Santia, to accept the resignation of Robert Lepak, bus driver, effective April 25, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #13

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of Mark D'Alessandris, Varsity Boys Head Basketball Coach, at a salary of \$7,061.00. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #14

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to accept the resignation of James Malesky, transportation aide, effective May 28, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Other Business

None

Upcoming School Board Meetings

May 24, 2022, Regular Business Meeting in the Central Administration Board Room and held virtually.

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

Mr. Bufalini adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

David Bufalini, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary