

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
JULY 11, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District conducted a virtual and in person Board meeting on Tuesday, July 11, 2023. This meeting was recorded.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Daniel Santia, Board President.

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

Carla Buxton  
Victoria Gill  
Anissa Klesser  
Jeanette Miller  
Bethany Pistorius  
Daniel Santia  
Lindsay Zupsic

Members Absent  
Daniel Caton  
Matthew Erickson

Also in attendance were: Dr. Jeffrey Beltz, Superintendent, John Salopek, Solicitor; Nancy Barber, Secretary; and visitors.

MOTION #1

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Victoria Gill, to approve the agenda as written.

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

Mr. Santia asked for approval of minutes.

MOTION #2

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Carla Buxton, to approve the June 27, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

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.

No visitors wished to address the Board.

**Educational/Curriculum/Instruction by Bethany Pistorius, Co-Chair**

MOTION #3

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Carla Buxton, approved the Educational Services Agreement with the Bradley Center for the 2023-2024 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #4

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Victoria Gill, approved the Senior High School exam schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #5

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Anissa Klessner, approved the Service Agreement with the Watson Institute for the 2023-2024 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #6

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Carla Buxton, approved the Service Agreement with Class Academy for the 2023-2024 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION 7

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Victoria Gill, approved the Outreach Services Contract Agreement with the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children for the 2023-2024 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #8

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Carla Buxton, approved Mary Clow, a student at Liberty University, to complete her practicum observation hours during the first semester at the Junior High School under the guidance of Ms. Aleva. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Anissa Klessner, approved Veronica Derickson, a student at Duquesne University, to do her Advanced Doctoral Practicum in school psychology under the supervision of Dr. Lynn Utchell for the 2023-2024 School Year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Athletics by Bethany Pistorius**MOTION #10

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Carla Buxton, approved the pay scale for officials for the 2023-2024 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Buildings and Grounds by Victoria Gill, Co-Chair**MOTION #11

By Victoria Gill, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, approved the request of Hopewell Area Aqua Club to use the pool Monday through Thursday from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. beginning September 2023 through March 2024. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #12

By Victoria Gill, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, approved the request of Little Lady Vikings Youth Basketball to use Gym B at the Junior High School on Mondays, Wednesdays, and

Fridays beginning October 2, 2023 through February 28, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #13

By Victoria Gill, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, approved the request of Little Lady Vikings Youth Basketball to use the main and auxiliary gyms at the Senior High School on Saturdays beginning October 7, 2023 through November 18, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #14

By Victoria Gill, seconded by Carla Buxton, approved the request of Little Lady Vikings Youth Basketball to use Gym B at the Junior High School on Saturdays beginning December 2, 2023 through February 24, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Finance and Budget by Lindsay Zupsic, Co-Chair**

MOTION #15

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, approved the request of Bryan Beighley to purchase parcel 65-019-0206-000 located in Hopewell Township out of the Beaver County Repository. All delinquent taxes from 2020-2021 tax year and prior years are exonerated. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Personnel by Lindsay Zupsic, Chair**

MOTION #16

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, accepted the resignation of Kelsey Steele, Assistant Band Director, effective June 30, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #17

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Jeanette Miller, approved the employment of Jennifer Sutton, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Band Director, effective July 1, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #18

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Jeanette Miller, approved the employment of Carol Morse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Band Director, effective July 1, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #19

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, approved the employment of Carly Belich, 3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Band Director, effective July 1, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #20

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, approved the employment of Danny Sonsini, special education teacher at the Junior/Senior High Schools, at step 1 of the masters scale, effective August 21, 2023, pending receipt of all necessary clearances and documentation. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #21

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, accepted the resignation of Kelly Points, bus driver, effective July 13, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #22

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Carla Buxton, accepted the resignation of Delysia Jackson, lifeguard, effective June 30, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #23

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Victoria Gill, accepted the resignation for retirement of Marisa Palmer, paraprofessional at the Junior High School, effective June 3, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Beltz thanked Mrs. Palmer for her many years of service to the District as a paraprofessional. He also welcomed Danny Sonsini as a new special education teacher and the Junior and Senior High Schools. Dr. Beltz announced that the District is looking to hire bus drivers, paraprofessionals and custodians.

Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

Upcoming Board Meetings

August 8, 2023, 7:00 p.m. – Board Room and Virtual  
August 22, 2023, 7:00 p.m. – Board Room and Virtual

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

Mr. Santia adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Daniel Santia, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary