

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
AUGUST 26, 2019

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Monday, August 26, 2019, in the Board Room, Administration Building, 2354 Brodhead Road, Hopewell Township.

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

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

Daniel Caton (via telephone conference)  
Lesia Dobo  
Rob Harmotto (via FaceTime)  
Lori McKittrick  
Darren Newberry  
Kathryn Oblak  
George Patterson  
Daniel Santia (Arrived at 7:10)  
Jeffrey Winkle

Also in attendance were: Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent; Dr. Jacie Maslyk, Assistant Superintendent; John Salopek, Solicitor; Jennifer Conrad, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Don Short, Athletic Director, and visitors.

Dr. Miller recognized Brad Leccia, an engineer for the Eaton Corporation. Brad has won the Stover Award for his company through his partnership with the Junior High School. Mr. Leccia has participated in Engineers Day, Shark Tank, Career Day and has hosted several field trips. As a recipient of this award, he chose the Junior High School to receive a \$500 donation on behalf of the Eaton Corporation

Mrs. Dobo asked for approval of minutes.

APPROVAL OF GROUPEd ITEMS

MOTION #1

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, 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 unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

1. Recommendation to approve the August 12, 2019 business meeting minutes as presented.
2. Recommendation to approve the July 22, 2019 work meeting minutes as presented.

APPROVAL OF GROUPEd ITEMS

MOTION #2

By Kathryn Oblak, seconded by Darren Newberry, 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 July 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 July 2019, as presented, and make said report a part of these minutes.

Financial Statements

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

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

Beth and Adam Gibboney spoke of how their daughter, Marisa, felt bullied and disparaged by the girls' basketball coaches and how she no longer wants to play the game.

Kendra Gill, President of the Baseball Boosters, asked about the time frame for hiring a new varsity baseball coach.

Rod Hineman and Chris Speicher asked about the replacement and timeline for the girls' basketball coaches. They shared their feelings that if coaches were not approved for the Junior High School team, then they should not coach the varsity team. Mr. Speicher felt that since the athlete numbers were dropping, a coaching change should be made. Dr. Miller stated that since the Jr. High and the Varsity seasons were different, coaches are approved at different times.

Craig Bokor asked how the retention of coaches is made and if a coach could be let go at any time if there were issues.

Lou Santia asked Dr. Miller's opinion of the girls' basketball situation. She stated that she has reviewed all concerns and has spoken to the coaches regarding those issues. She has made her opinions known to the Board, but is not able to announce them publicly. Mr. Lou Santia also asked how the coaches were as teachers. Again, Dr. Miller stated that she could not address personnel issues.

Alexis and Amanda Thompson reported that they felt a coaching change needed to be made due to Alexis reporting that the coaches berated and bullied her and that she no longer wanted to play for them.

Nancy Petrella stated that there is a different perspective of the coaches shared by others. She felt that the basketball coaches were dedicated and cared about their players. They devote much of their free time to the team.

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

**Education/Curriculum/Instruction by Jeff Winkle**

MOTION #3

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the agreement with The Prevention Network to provide services for the Student Assistance Program at no cost to the District. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #4

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit's Blind and Visually Impaired Support Program to provide services for one student attending the Children's Institute during the 2019-2020 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #5

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the Agreement for Educational Services with the Bradley Center, effective the 2019-2020 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #6

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the appointment of the following: MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

- a. Dr. Moka as District Physician - \$10 per exam;
- b. Optometric Care as District Vision Examiner - \$3.25 per exam; and
- c. Dr. Rich Covatto to provide dental exams - \$5 per exam.

MOTION #7

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the list of Junior High Club & Activity Sponsors for the 2019-2020 School Year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #8

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the agreement with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit to provide ESL (English as A Second Language) for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost of \$40.00 per hour. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the contract with Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children Outreach Program to provide vision and/or orientation and mobility services for the 2019-2020 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #10

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the 2019-2020 Department and Grade Level Chairpersons. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #11

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the Service Agreement with the Watson Institute to provide services for students for the 2019-2020 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #12

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the revisions to High School Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) guidelines as they relate to Board Policy 237. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #13

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the agreement with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit to provide Title I services to students at Our Lady of Fatima for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost of \$925.17 per pupil per year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #14

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the agreement with Clearview Federal Credit Union to provide financial literacy classes in special education classrooms one time per month at no cost to the District. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Finance and Budget by Lori McKittrick**

**APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS**

**MOTION #15**

By Kathryn Oblak, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve items (1) through (3) and to ratify items (4) and (5) 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 \$904,664.09
2. Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of \$11,376.25
3. Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of \$21,423.40
4. General Fund payments in the amount of \$2,921,806.09
5. Capital Reserve Fund payment is the amount of \$224,690.00

**Legislative by Kathryn Oblak**

Mrs. Oblak gave a brief update on Governor Wolf's comprehensive charter school reform package.

**Nutrition and Food Services by Jeff Winkle**

**MOTION #16**

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the price list of ala carte items. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Personnel by Rob Harmotto**

**MOTION #17**

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to accept the resignation of Jamie Goodwald, paraprofessional, effective August 30, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #18**

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Darren Newberry, to accept the resignation of Laura Davis, assistant cook at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 27, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #19

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Dan Santia, to accept the resignation of Dionte Henry, assistant football coach, effective August 27, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #20

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the employment of Rance Vaugh, assistant football coach, effective August 27, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #21

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the employment of Jaymee Humbert, long-term substitute for Lauren Opalanko, effective August 22, 2019 until on or about November 18, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #22

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the employment of Lucas Sutton, Junior High assistant football coach, with a stipend of \$2,000.00. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #23

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the change of employment status for Julie Progar from substitute cafeteria worker to 2.25 server at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 22, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #24

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the employment of Jennifer Hull, substitute cafeteria worker, effective August 22, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #25

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the employment of Michelle Shannon, substitute paraprofessional, effective August 27, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Transportation by Jeff Winkle, Chair**

**MOTION #26**

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the agreement with Frye Transportation for the ability to use substitute drivers or aides, when needed and available, at a fee of \$57.50 for AM or PM run. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Miller reported that the first in-service day was used to spread Viking Pride throughout the community. Dr. Miller used the book, *The Energy Bus*, by Jon Gordon, as her inspiration. The book discusses the 10 secrets for approaching life and work with positive energy. Eleven teams of teachers and paraprofessional hopped on buses and visited businesses, communities and old friends to spread Viking Pride. After the bus tour, the teachers joined the marching band and enjoyed their halftime show. In the afternoon, Dr. Joseph Merhaut, Associate Professor at Slippery Rock University, updated staff on new information with respect to special education.

Mr. Harmotto said that even 2,000 miles away, he was pleased to read all of the Twitter and Facebook posts about how wonderful and inspirational the kick-off day was.

**Solicitor's Report**

Nothing to report.

**Unfinished Business**

Nothing to report.

**Upcoming School Board Meetings**

September 9, 2019, Regular Work Meeting, Central Administration  
September 23, 2019, Regular Business Meeting, Central Administration



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 Dan Santia, seconded by Jeff Winkle, that the meeting be adjourned.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Mrs. Dobo adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Lesia Dobo, President

Nancy Barber, Secretary