

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR WORK MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Tuesday, August 9, 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 Daniel Santia, Board Vice President.

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

Carla Buxton
Daniel Caton
Lori McKittrick
Jeanette Miller
Bethany Pistorius
Daniel Santia
Lindsay Zupsic

Members Absent
David Bufalini
Matthew Erickson

Also present were: Dr. Robert Kartychak, Acting Superintendent; John Salopek, Solicitor; Nancy Barber, Secretary; and visitors.

MOTION #1

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

An Executive Session was held on July 19, 2022 to discuss personnel. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended

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. Disposal of unusable and unwanted technology devices and equipment including broken printers, mice, monitors, keyboards, tube televisions, Chromebooks, and PC towers. This is at no cost to the district.

Mr. Salopek asked if the equipment would be thrown away or given to someone. Dr. Kartychak reported that the Technology Department had taken all usable parts from the equipment and the rest would be thrown away.

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

1. Resignation for retirement of Karen Gartley, kindergarten teacher at Hopewell Elementary School, effective June 30, 2022.
2. Resignation of Brittany Story, English teacher at the Junior High School, effective August 15, 2022.
3. Resignation of Carrie Palmieri, library aide at Margaret Ross and Independence Elementary Schools, Effective August 1, 2022.
4. Employment of Richelle Montgomery, High School Special Education Teacher, effective August 22, 2022 on step one of the masters salary scale.
5. Employment of Donna Steff, Student Services Coordinator/Assistant Elementary Principal at a rate of pay of \$75,000.00 per year, effective August 10, 2022, pending receipt of all certifications.
6. Continue the appointment of Robert J. Kartychak, Ed.D., as Acting Superintendent, effective August 14, 2022, with an additional stipend of \$750 per week in addition to his 2022-2023 salary, as well as benefits as provided in the District's Act 93 Plan and to grant Dr. Kartychak a leave of absence from his current position as Assistant High School Principal while serving as the Acting Superintendent.
7. Employment of Nadia Engel, Acting Assistant Principal at Hopewell High School, beginning August 15, 2022 at a stipend of \$350.00 per day without benefits. Ms. Engel will continue in the Assistant Principal roll while the position is vacant.
8. Employment of Dominic Treemarchi, bus driver, effective August 9, 2022.
9. Abigail Blumling as a volunteer assistant girls soccer coach.

At this time, Dr. Kartychak began his review of those items that would be voted on at the August 23, 2022 Business meeting.

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

1. Renewal of PA-Educator, the District's clearinghouse for professional applications, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

2. Staffing Agreement with Stat Staffing to provide nursing services on an as needed basis for the 2022-2023 School Year at the following hourly rates:

a.	License Practical Nurse	\$52.88
b.	Registered Nurse	\$60.88
c.	Specialty Nurse or Assignment (RN or LPN)	\$67.88
d.	Certified School Nurse	\$67.88

3. Request of Mr. Allison for the Senior High School band and choir to go to Orlando, Florida February 15, 2023 through February 20, 2023.

4. High School Academy and Dual Enrollment Programming Agreement with the Community College of Beaver County.

5. Review of the District’s Health and Safety Plan.

Dr. Kartychak said that this is the six month review of the plan and that it remains the same. In essence, masks would be optional and the Department of Health still requires the District to report positive cases.

6. Department chairs for the 2022-2023 school year.

7. Grade level chairs for kindergarten through sixth grade for the 2022-2023 school year.

8. Club sponsors for the Senior High School for the 2022-2023 school year.

9. Club sponsors for the Junior High School for the 2022-2023 school year.

10. Agreement with Southwood Psychiatric Hospital to provide services to students on an as needed basis for the 2022-2023 school year.

11. Agreement with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit to provide Title One Services to students at Our Lady of Fatima for the 2022-2023 school year at a per pupil allocation of \$961.17.

Athletics: Daniel Caton, Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Varsity volleyball to attend camp at Indiana High School August 2-4, 2022. There will be no cost to the District.

2. Junior High School football volunteer coaches:

- a. Nick Hoth
- b. Creadel Kimbrough
- c. Tony Amidaio
- d. Jessop Fattore
- e. Pat Drudy
- f. Doug Beiga
- g. Brad Robinson

Buildings and Grounds: Daniel Santia, Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

- 1. Request of Boys Golf to hang a 3x9 sign on the front tennis courts.

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

- 1. Request of Aliquippa Bucktails to purchase parcels 65-011-1214-000 and 65-011-1223-000 located in Hopewell Township out of the Beaver County Repository. All delinquent taxes from 2021-2022 tax year and prior years are exonerated.

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

- 1. Continuation of current SRO/Inter-agency agreement for the 2022-2023 school year. Discontinuation of this agreement can occur at any time by either party with 30 days' notice.

Dr. Kartychak reported that the District received a two year grant with the funds to be used towards the SRO's salary. The District received \$60,000.00 in 2021-2022 and \$30,000.00 for 2022-2023.

- 2. Employment of ____, High School math teacher, effective August 22, 2022 on step ____ of the ____ salary scale.
- 3. Employment of ____, Hopewell Elementary special education teacher, effective August 22, 2022 on step ____ of the ____ salary scale.

Dr. Kartychak stated that interviews are ongoing and they are hopeful to have selected the candidates by August 23rd.

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.

Kris McCafferty

Mrs. McCafferty asked how many students attend cyber/charter schools. Mrs. Barber stated that the Business Office would have that data and that she would contact her in the morning with that information.

Tommy Armour

Mr. Armour took time from his coaching duties to express his appreciation for Nick Mohrbacher, the varsity head soccer coach. He said that 14 of Hopewell's soccer players attended a soccer camp at Robert Morris University over the past weekend. He said that even though he wasn't required to be there, Nick attended each session, sometimes with his 3 kids. He also reported that Adam Cosnek and Matt Fetch, assistant coaches, also attended. He said that our players worked very hard and played well, controlling the ball for most of each game. He said that over the summer he has seen the soccer team and the football team working very hard and were putting in the effort to excel this season.

Shawna Selinsky

Mrs. Selinsky asked when the track would be open to the public. Dr. Kartychak said that as soon as the field was completed, the track would be open to the public. The District is waiting for the remainder of the turf to arrive for the football field. He advised her that the track is closed during school hours for PE classes.

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

Finance and Budget by Lori McKittrick, Chair

MOTION #2

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the disposal of unusable and unwanted technology devices and equipment including broken printers, mice, monitors, keyboards, tube televisions, Chromebooks, and PC towers. This is at no cost to the district. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Personnel by Lindsay Zupsic, Co-Chair

MOTION #3

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Dan Caton, to accept the resignation for retirement of Karen Gartley, kindergarten teacher at Hopewell Elementary School, effective June 30, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #4

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to accept the resignation of Brittany Story, English teacher at the Junior High School, effective August 15, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #5

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to accept the resignation of Carrie Palmieri, library aide at Margaret Ross and Independence Elementary Schools, Effective August 1, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #6

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the employment of Richelle Montgomery, High School Special Education Teacher, effective August 22, 2022 on step one of the masters salary scale. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mr. Santia welcomed Ms. Montgomery to the District.

MOTION #7

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of Donna Steff, Student Services Coordinator/Assistant Elementary Principal at a rate of pay of \$75,000.00 per year, effective August 10, 2022, pending receipt of all certifications. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #8

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to continue the appointment of Robert J. Kartychak, Ed.D., as Acting Superintendent, effective August 14, 2022, with an additional stipend of \$750 per week in addition to his 2022-2023 salary, as well as benefits as provided in the District's Act 93 Plan and to grant Dr. Kartychak a leave of absence from his current position as Assistant High School Principal while serving as the Acting Superintendent. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Carla Buxton, to approve the employment of Nadia Engel, Acting Assistant Principal at Hopewell High School, beginning August 15, 2022 at a stipend of \$350.00 per day without benefits. Ms. Engel will continue in the Assistant Principal roll while the position is vacant. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #10

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of Dominic Treemarchi, bus driver, effective August 9, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #11

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve Abigail Blumling as a volunteer assistant girls soccer coach. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Other Business

Mrs. Pistorius said that the Township Commissioners asked her to announce that the Township was looking for two school crossing guards.

Upcoming School Board Meetings

August 23, 2022, Regular Business Meeting in the Central Administration Board Room and held virtually.

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

Mr. Santia adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Daniel Santia, Board Vice President

Nancy Barber, Secretary