

**Bloomsburg Area School District
Board of School Directors
Special Meeting
Monday, 3 February 2014
7:00 p.m.
District Office Board Room**

MINUTES

Attendance

A special meeting of the Bloomsburg Area School District Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, 3 February 2014, in the district office board room, followed by the pledge to the flag. Directors in attendance were: Mr. David Cantore, Mr. Brent Hock, Mrs. Tina Howell, Mr. Joshua Klingerman, Mr. Terry Kramarz, Ms. Marianne Kreisher, Mrs. Sandra Rupp, and Mr. Thomas Tobin. Mr. Justin Hummel was absent from the meeting.

Bloomsburg Area School District administrators in attendance were: Mr. Dan Bonomo, Mr. Steve Bressi, Dr. Cosmas Curry, Mr. Marc Freeman, Mr. Gary Honabach (left at 8:29 p.m.), Mr. Ryan Moran (left at 8:15 p.m.), Mr. Trevor Palmatier (left at 8:15 p.m.), and Mr. Nick Wozniak (left at 7:55 p.m.).

Others present included: Mr. Shane Cotner (left at 7:30 p.m.), Mr. Tim Cotner (left at 7:30 p.m.), Ms. Emily DuBartell (left at 7:30 p.m.), Mr. Bill Forsythe (left at 7:20 p.m.), Ms. Stephanie Kessler (left at 9:00 p.m.), Ms. Deb Krupp, Mr. Steven Roth (left at 7:32 p.m.), and Mr. Max Taylor (left at 7:30 p.m.).

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK

Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School Executive Director Bill Forsythe addressed the board, giving a summary of what was taking place at the school. He said that currently, there were 611 students enrolled in the grades 9-12 comprehensive career and technical school, 74 of which were from Bloomsburg Area School District. He reported that this school year, the school had phased out the Travel, Lodging, and Marketing program and that it had added a second healthcare program in its place. He said that the 2013-2014 budget was \$7.3 million, and that administrators had created a five-year budget at the suggestion of Ms. Kreisher and Mr. Tobin, Bloomsburg Area School District's two board members sitting on the Vo-Tech's Joint Operating Committee. Over the next five years, Mr. Forsythe reported the school was looking at a two percent increase to its budget. Also, he said that the possibility of changing the delivery of the ninth-grade career exploration program was being examined.

Bloomsburg High School students Emily DuBartell and Max Taylor, both officers of the Interact Club, then addressed the board regarding their shelter box program. They said that this school year, they were raising money to fund one shelter box. A shelter box, they explained, was a box of items to be provided to families across the world that had been made homeless by natural disasters. A shelter box contains such items as water purifying equipment, a tent, blankets, a stove and cooking equipment, and a toolkit. The students said they had so far collected \$700 of the \$1,000 cost to fund one shelter box. They asked that anyone interested in donating to the shelter box program give their donation (with checks being made out to "BHS Interact Club") to Dr. Curry.

Lastly, Bloomsburg High School student Shane Cotner addressed the board to let them know of his interest in starting a Future Farmers of America (FFA) club at the high school. He reported that for this year, he would like to start the program as a club, but that eventually it could become a national organization. He also reported that Mr. Furman had agreed to be the first FFA advisor, at no charge to

the district. Dr. Curry suggested that Shane talk to Mr. Mauk, the Horticulture/Floriculture teacher at Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School, as he is the school's FFA advisor.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the board at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trip Requests

Mr. Tobin made the motion, which Ms. Kreisher seconded, to approve the following out-of-state/overnight field trip requests:

- Bloomsburg High School Band students to Kennard-Dale High School in Fawn Grove, Pennsylvania from 27 February 2014 – 1 March 2014, at an approximate cost to the district of \$750.00; and
- Bloomsburg High School French 4 students to Montreal and Quebec, Canada from 13 March 2014 – 18 March 2014, at no cost to the district.

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL

Approval/Acceptance of Personnel Items

Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Klingerman seconded, to approve/accept the following personnel items:

- Approve Darlene Zumerling as a W.W. Evans Elementary School Paraprofessional at \$8.50 per hour and with benefits as per the negotiated contract, effective 5 February 2014;
- Approve Barry Longenberger as a substitute bus driver for Wagner's Fruit Farms for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year, Joselle Pascoe as a substitute bus driver for FishingCreek Transportation for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year, and Deborah Hemsarth as the new driver for Bus #31 for FishingCreek Transportation for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year;
- Approve the following individuals as athletic coaches for the Spring 2014 season:
 - Richard Klingerman as an Assistant Baseball Coach at Step 6 and a salary of \$1,768;
 - Josh Stewart as an Assistant Baseball Coach at Step 3 at a salary of \$1,468;
 - Angela Brown as a Volunteer Junior High Girls' Soccer Coach; and
 - David Van Horn as a Volunteer Junior High Girls' Soccer Coach; and
- Approve Daniel Prosseda as a Half-Time Bloomsburg High School Spanish Teacher at half of Step 1 Masters and an annual pro-rated salary of \$18,926.50 and with benefits as per the negotiated contract, effective 4 February 2014;
- Approve Steven Roth as a Long-Term Eighth-Grade Science Substitute Teacher at a rate of \$100 per day, effective from approximately 9 March 2014 through the last day of the 2013-2014 school year, pending receipt of his PA Teaching Certificate; and
- Approve Memorial Elementary School Secretary Suzanne Adamchick as a classified substitute, effective 4 February 2014.

Mr. Tobin then made the motion to change the part of the motion pertaining to Steven Roth's employment to read: Approve Steven Roth as a professional day-to-day substitute and as a Long-Term Eighth-Grade Science Substitute Teacher at a rate of \$100 per day, effective from approximately 9 March 2014 through the last day of the 2013-2014 school year, pending receipt of his PA Teaching Certificate. Ms. Kreisher seconded this motion, which then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

The amended original motion then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:32 p.m., Ms. Kreisher made the motion to adjourn the special meeting and move into the work session. Mrs. Rupp seconded the motion, which then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Board Recording Secretary

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Work Session
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Buildings, Grounds, & Maintenance Report

Mr. Wozniak reported that the district was looking at purchasing a water wheel, which would cost approximately \$13,000 - \$14,000, to be used to water all athletic fields. He said that the water wheel would be purchased in lieu of hiring a new maintenance staff member. Mr. Tobin said he would check with Jerry Zeisloft from Jerseytown to see if he had a water wheel for sale. Mr. Tobin also said he would like three competitive quotes for a water wheel. The board was in agreement that it wanted administrators to move forward with this project. Dr. Curry said that the purchase of a water wheel should appear on the next board meeting agenda for approval.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Moran reported that about a year ago, the district transitioned to the balanced literacy model. He said that administrators had been conducting walk-throughs during this school year to view progress on this initiative, and that they had seen K-5 students using higher vocabulary, applying skills more, and being actively engaged and participating in their lessons.

Mr. Freeman reported that the first sixth-grade Science Fair would be held on 15 May 2014. He said that the fair would occur during the school day and again that evening, when the judging would take place. He said that four Bloomsburg University professors had been working students on their proposals and experiments. Mr. Freeman also reported that there were three Odyssey of the Mind teams at the middle school, each team being comprised of seven students, that student Matt Lee had won the school's Geography Bee in January, and that four middle school students would be competing in a regional National History Bee in Philadelphia in April.

Mr. Palmatier reported that so far this year, Memorial Elementary School students had earned 2,200 PAWS through the PAWS-itive behavior program. He said that this is approximately 1,000 more PAWS than last year at this time. He also said that discipline referrals were down considerably from the previous year.

At this point in the meeting, Dr. Curry reported that two of the athletic banners to be hung in the pool area had already arrived and that the rest should be arriving later that month.

Appalachia Update

Dr. Curry reported that in Fall 2013, the district underwent an evaluation, which cost \$9,800, of its server and other security issues. He said that Mr. Honabach and Technology Technician Cole Stevens had already made some improvements as a result of this evaluation. He said that Appalachia recommends having a new evaluation done every three years.

Golf at The Links

Mr. Bressi, the high school golf coach, began the discussion on whether the high school golf team should continue to use Frosty Valley Country Club as its home course or switch to The Links by stating that it was his recommendation the golf team stay at Frosty Valley. He backed up his recommendation by stating that the facilities were outstanding, the course was challenging, and that there would be no savings to the district by switching to The Links. Mr. Cantore said the district should patronize The Links, as it is a business located within the Bloomsburg Area School District, and also because students would have the opportunity for a free membership. Mr. Tobin said that because Matt Gilbert, the owner of The Links, was a personal friend, he would be supporting the golf team playing at The Links instead of at Frosty Valley. After discussion, it was decided Dr. Curry and Mr. Bressi would meet with Matt Gilbert about the possibility of using The Links as the golf team's home course.

MOU with Bloomsburg PD et al.

Dr. Curry distributed to board members a draft of the 2014-2015/2015-/2016 Memorandum of Understanding between the Bloomsburg Area School District and the local police departments. He said this MOU needed to be approved every other school year. There were some minor changes Dr. Curry was recommending since the last MOU, which he pointed out to school directors.

Dr. Curry reported that he would be recommending a change to Policy 218.1: Weapons so that the definition of a weapon would be congruent in the MOU, policy, and student handbooks. He said that he would be recommending this change to Policy 218.1 at the next board meeting.

Bloomsburg Middle and High School Handbooks

Mr. Bonomo, Mr. Bressi, and Mr. Freeman pointed out the changes to their respective student handbooks for 2014-2015. The board of directors was satisfied with the changes.

2014-2015 Draft Calendar

The board voiced support of the 2014-2015 district calendar, with the suggestion of moving the Parent-Teacher Conference Day in November from Tuesday, November 18 to Monday, November 17.

The board gave voice support to amend the 2013-2014 calendar to use March 14 as a snow make-up day.

Dr. Curry said that both calendar items would be voted on at the next board meeting.

Summer 2014 Student Programs

Dr. Curry explained that the 2014 summer student programs were the same as the previous year. There were no questions from the board.

Tenure Report

Dr. Curry reported that the following professional staff members were being granted tenure: Kelli Alexander, Lindsay Maturo, and Jillette Smith. Mr. Hock said congratulations to these teachers on attaining tenure, on behalf of the board.

Budget

Mr. Upton reported that the governor's 2014-2015 budget was released, with more money going into an accountability block grant, and said that more detail would follow.

Policies 220 and 913

Dr. Curry reported that he would be recommending these two policies for approval as written at the next board meeting.

Flood Wall Project

Dr. Curry reported that the district was willing to support SEDA-Cog in using the overflow parking area north of the soccer field as a staging area for the town's flood wall project. Additionally, he said the district was willing to support an access road off of 11th Street for the same purpose. Dr. Curry said that the district would work with SEDA-Cog to develop an MOU/contract in reference to these two items.

CMAVTS Report

Ms. Kreisher and Mr. Tobin gave a brief summary of the last Joint Operating Committee meeting at Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School, highlighting the admissions policy.

CSIU Report

As Mr. Hummel was absent from the meeting, no CSIU report was given.

Executive Session

At 9:54 p.m., Mr. Hock asked for a motion to go into an executive session to discuss personnel and professional/support staff negotiations. Ms. Kreisher made the motion, which Mr. Cantore seconded, to move into an executive session, and the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

At 10:24 p.m., Ms. Kreisher moved to adjourn the executive session and Mrs. Howell seconded this motion. The motion then passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Kessler
Recording Secretary

(compiled with use of notes
From Dr. Curry)