

January 8, 2018

The regular meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order this evening in the library of the High School by the President Chris Branton.

The meeting opened with Silent Meditation and Pledge to the Flag.

Board Members Present: Anthony, Bachman, Miller, Molino, Persun, and Branton.

Board Members Absent: Davenport and Page

Others Present: Dr. Mark Stamm-Superintendent, Kathy Furman-Central Principal, Dwight Woodley-Director of Innovative Learning, Jesse Smith-High School Principal, Michelle Loomis-Assistant High School Principal, Kristin Bastian-Special Education Director/School Psychologist, Jamie Mowery-Assistant Business Manager, Bill Reifsnyder-Maintenance Director, Fred Holland-Solicitor, and Dennis Artley-Business Manager.

Visitors: Pam Reifsnyder, Michele Finn, Susan Bowman, Jen Bowman, Kate Hibbard-Sun Gazette

#### **APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2017 was moved by Anthony, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

#### **APPROVE GENERAL FUND BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$1,107,169.95, as funds become available, was moved by Anthony, seconded by Persun. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

#### **APPROVE CAFETERIA FUND BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the Cafeteria Fund in the amount of \$89,316.43, as funds become available, was moved by Anthony, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

#### **APPROVE MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of December 4, 2017, as written, was moved by Miller seconded by Bachman. All members present voting yes, motion carried.

## **SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **RESIGNATION**

A motion to accept the resignation of Region One Board Member Nicholas Fiorini because he has moved to a different region within the district was moved by Anthony, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

### **CONFERENCES**

A motion to approve the following conferences was moved by Anthony, seconded by Bachman.

- **Lisa Fisher**, to attend the PBIS Coaches State Meeting, sponsored by PDE-PaTTAN on January 25, 2018, in Harrisburg, PA.
- **Adam Rubert**, to attend the National Convention Conference sponsored by National Soccer Coaches Association on January 17-21, 2018, in Philadelphia.

After some discussion by the Board, it was decided to vote on these two conferences separately.

The vote on the first educational conference for Lisa Fisher was as follows. Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

The vote on the second athletic conference for Adam Rubert was as follows: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller-no, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

### **SUBSTITUTES**

A motion to approve the addition of Bryan Stillman to the Certified substitute list and Sara Bauer to the custodial substitute list was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

### **PART-TIME CAFETERIA WORKER**

A motion to approve Toni Hiller as a part-time 3 hour high school general food service employees at the rate of \$11.53 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Educators Support Professional Association Agreement was moved by Bachman, seconded by Persun. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

### **SPRING MUSICAL DIRECTORS**

A motion to approve the employment of the following individuals to assist with the spring 2018 musical as follows was moved by Persun, seconded by Miller. Robyn Rummings, Music Director - \$1,600, Kristin Ivers, Accompanist - \$1,000, Nate Stosius, Assistant Director - \$1,250, and Nigel Barnes, Choreographer - \$800. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

### **EMPLOYMENT COACH AND WORKER**

A motion to approve the following coach and worker was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman. Volunteer Basketball–Patrick West and Game Worker–Natasha Marnon. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST**

A motion to approve the request of Scott Manning, to take the High School Key Club to the Annual Key Club Convention, on March 23-25, 2018 in State College was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

## **FOOD SERVICE UPDATE**

Jamie Mowrey, Assistant Business Manager provided the Board an update on two items happening in the cafeteria. First the district is currently undergoing an Administrative Review for PDE to ensure that we are properly following the National School Lunch Program requirements. An Administrative Review is conducted every three years. It consists of an offsite review and an onsite review. They look at items such as: correct processing of free and reduced lunch applications, meal counting, food safety, menu nutrient analysis, portion sizes, staff training, wellness policy, etc. Our onsite review was completed on January 3. There were no findings. We are now waiting for the offsite review to be completed. The second item is how to encourage more families to apply for free or reduced meals. PDE offers a web-based eligibility system free of charge to school districts, but they only allow a few schools to enroll at a time. We were accepted for the next round of implementation. Parents will be able to log into the system at home and enter their information electronically. The system automatically determines eligibility and generates a letter to the parent. This increases privacy – no need to complete the paper copy. We will save time and funds as we can transfer the results directly into our Point of Sale system instead of manually processing the application and we won't need to print and mail a result letter.

## **2018-2019 BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Mr. Artley, Business Manager began the discussion by showing the Board a history of tax increases since 1989-1990 to the present. From 1989-1990 thru 2005-2006 the Administration completed the budget process from January thru March and then brought the budget to the Board for discussion. Tax rates could be set at whatever the Board felt was right. During 3 years in the 90's, taxes were raised 3.2 mills over 3 years for Day to Day operations. Starting in 1998-1999, the Board, over a five-year period raised taxes 5.75 mills with 5.25 of the designated for the Building Program. In 2006, Act 1 was passed, it is referred to as the Taxpayer Relief Act. Under this act, school district had to limit tax increases to the level set by an inflationary index unless the district would apply for certain exceptions for things such as Special Education, Retirement, etc. Starting in 2007-2008 the district either had to pass an opt-out resolution or complete a preliminary budget including exceptions. For three years starting in 2007-2008, the Board passed opt-out resolutions but no current member was on the Board at that time. What this Board is familiar with is completing the preliminary budget; apply for exceptions and then completing the normal budget process starting in February. The Board has done that for the last eight years but we actually only used the exception process two out of the eight including last year. Last year we had exceptions for Retirement and Special Education but we don't qualify for them this year so a better way for us to go is to pass the attached opt out resolution that says we will keep any tax increase within the index which for us is 3.4% or no more than a .5 mill increase. Mr. Anthony made a motion to pass the opt-out resolution to stay within the index of 3.4% for 2018-2019, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, motion carried.

Dr. Stamm provided the Board an update on Cyber/Charter school costs and enrollment. This year we are expecting costs for cyber charter schools to be \$470,648 which is \$125,000 over budget. The district needs to take steps to curb this cost because it is not sustainable. Dr. Stamm wanted to announce that the district Mounties Online Learning Academy is now online for the second semester that students can enroll in if they so choose. A mailer is going out to every household in the district later this week.

## **BOARD VACANCY**

Because of the resignation of Mr. Fiorini as a board member, a vacancy exists for that region. The position was advertised and Susan Bowman submitted a letter of interest and was present at the meeting to be interviewed. The Board asked Mrs. Bowman a couple of questions and she informed the Board why she was interested in serving. Mr. Miller nominated Mrs. Bowman, seconded by Bachman. The roll call to seat Mrs. Bowman on the Board was as follows. Anthony-yes, Bachman-yes, Miller-yes, Molino-yes, Persun-yes, and Branton-yes, Mrs. Bowman was approved to serve on the Board pending being sworn in before a judge before the next meeting.

## **CANCEL BOARD MEETING**

A motion to cancel the January 22, 2018, Board meeting was moved by Anthony, seconded by Bachman. All members present voting yes, the Board meeting for January 22 was cancelled.

Moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman that the meeting be adjourned. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Attest

Dennis A. Artley  
Secretary