

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR WORK MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2019

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Monday, January 14, 2019, in the Board Room, Administration Building, 2354 Brodhead Road, Hopewell Township.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Lesia Dobo, Board President.

Dr. Miller led prayer, flag salute, and a moment of silence was held in memory of John Bowden, who passed away on December 19, 2018. Roll call by the secretary followed. Those Directors in attendance were:

Daniel Caton
Lesia Dobo
Rob Harmotto
Darren Newberry
Kathryn Oblak
Daniel Santia (via telephone conference)
Jeffrey Winkle

Members absent:
Lori McKittrick

Also in attendance were: Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent; Dr. Jacie Maslyk, Assistant Superintendent; John Salopek, Solicitor; Jennifer Conrad, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; and Michael Allison and Korri Kane, Principals.

January is School Board Appreciation Month. Dr. Miller thanked the Board and recognized the challenging and vital work they do on behalf of the students and community of Hopewell.

Andy Robertson, George Medich and John Schafer presented a proposal for the District to recognize the Hopewell High School Sports Hall of Fame. The initial group of ten inductees will be selected by the committee in June and recognized in the fall of 2019. The solicitor asked for time to review the organization's bylaws and asked that the motion be tabled until January 28, 2019.

Dr. Miller announced that the following items would be voted on later in the meeting. She and Mrs. Conrad then reviewed the agenda in its entirety.

Education/Curriculum/Instruction: Mr. Winkle, Chair; Mr. Harmotto, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Request Andy Robertson for the creation of the Hopewell High School Sports Hall of Fame. Funding will be solely by donation to the Committee. There is no cost to the District. The first class of inductees will be recognized in August 2019.

This item was tabled until January 28, 2019 so that the solicitor and Board could review the organization's bylaws.

Legislative: Mrs. Oblak, Chair; Mr. Caton, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Appointment of _____ to fill the unexpired remaining term of Mr. John Bowden, Region II.

Personnel: Mr. Harmotto, Chair; Ms. McKittrick, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Employment of Carrie Palmieri, part-time library aide, effective January 21, 2019.
2. Employment of Nichole Miller, substitute bus driver, effective January 3, 2019.
3. Change of employment status for Nichole Miller, permanent bus driver, effective January 7, 2019
4. Request of Dina Opsatnic, bus driver, for a 30 leave of absence without pay, effective January 1, 2019.

The following items are for review this evening and will be voted on at the January 28, 2019 Board meeting.

Education/Curriculum/Instruction

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Senior High School Course Curriculum Guide for the 2019-2020 school year.
2. Junior High School Course Curriculum Guide for the 2019-2020 school year.

Dr. Maslyk reviewed the curriculum changes for both the Junior and Senior High Schools for the 2019-2020 school year.

3. Informational:
 - a. 2018-2019 enrollment figures as of January 1, 2019.
 - b. January 2019 Calendar of Events for all schools.

Buildings and Grounds

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Sale of New Alexandria Trailer (VIN 198T20223N121004) in “as is” condition by sealed bids advertised appropriately to employees of the School District or such other bidding parties but without the cost of further public advertising. The sealed bids shall be received by 3:00 p.m. in the Business Office on Thursday, February 21, 2019. The sealed bids shall be opened and tabulated by the Business Administrator for presentation to the Board at the meeting on February 25, 2019, with final approval of the sale at the meeting.
2. Master Natural Gas Sales Agreement with UGI Energy Services, for the purchase of natural gas, effective September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2022.

Finance and Budget

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Resolution #1-2019, a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District, certifying that the District will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of the public schools for the following fiscal year by more than its index, which for the 2019-2020 school year is 3.0%.

Mrs. Conrad stated that a 3.0% increase equates to approximately 2.2 mills.

Personnel

1. Resignation for retirement of Marina Rosatelli, accountant, assistant to the Business Administrator, and PIMS Administrator, effective April 1, 2019.
2. Request of Brittany Covalt, high school science teacher, for an eight-week unpaid leave of absence, effective on or about March 1, 2019.
3. Resignation of Brittany Story-Stelzner as co-sponsor of the Gay Straight Alliance Club at the Senior High School, effective September 1, 2018.
4. Appointment of Rich Collins as co-sponsor of the Ski Club at the Senior High School, effective September 1, 2018.

Transportation:

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Participation in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit's joint purchasing program for the purchase of gasoline and diesel fuel for the 2019-2020 school year.

At this time Dr. Miller asked the Board to vote on the following Motions:

Legislative by Mrs. Oblak, Chair

Mrs. Oblak asked for recommendations to fill the vacant Board seat in Region 2.

MOTION #1

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Dan Caton, to appoint George M. Patterson, II to fill the remaining term of John Bowden. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Personnel by Mr. Harmotto, Chair

MOTION #2

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the employment of Carrie Palmieri, part-time library aide, effective January 21, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #3

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the employment of Nichole Miller, substitute bus driver, effective January 3, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #4

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the change of employment status for Nichole Miller, permanent bus driver, effective January 7, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #5

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Darren Newberry, to approve the request of Dina Opsatnic for a 30-day leave of absence without pay, effective January 3, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Visitors

No visitors wished to address the Board.

Executive Session

An Executive Session was held following 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.

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 Kathryn Oblak that the meeting be adjourned. MOTION CARRIED.

Mrs. Dobo adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Lesia Dobo, President

Nancy Barber, Secretary