

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District conducted a virtual and in person Board meeting on Tuesday, October 25, 2022. This meeting was recorded.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Daniel Santia, Board 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  
Matthew Erickson (Via Zoom)  
Lori McKittrick  
Jeanette Miller (Via Zoom)  
Bethany Pistorius  
Daniel Santia  
Lindsay Zupsic

Also, in attendance were: Dr. Robert Kartychak, Acting Superintendent, John Salopek, Solicitor; Johannah Robb, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Lou Ceccarelli, Gary Hutsler and Donna Steff, principals; Dr. Joel Roth, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Dr. Lynn Utchell, Director of Special Education; and visitors.

MOTION #1

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Carla Buxton, to approve the agenda as written.

An Executive Session was held on October 17, 2022 and October 20, 2022 to discuss the Superintendent position. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended.

With the resignation of David Bufalini, Director from Region 3, a new school director needs to be appointed. The District had three applicants; Victoria Gill, Keenan Shaffer and Michael Sourwine. Each individual introduced themselves to the Board and spoke as to why they were interested in the appointment.

Mr. Santia asked for approval of minutes.

MOTION #2

By Dan Caton, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the September 25, 2022 and the October 11, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMSMOTION #3

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, 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 September, 2022, 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 September, 2022, as presented, and make said report a part of these minutes.

Financial Statements

3. Recommendation to accept Financial Statements for the month of September, 2022, as presented, and make said statements a part of these minutes.

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
- 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.

No visitors wished to address the Board.

Mr. Santia continued with committee recommendations and discussion.

**Educational/Curriculum/Instruction by Lindsay Zupsic, Chair**

**MOTION #4**

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the Access Authorization Agreement with Dr. Stephen Hagberg at a cost of \$10.00 per document. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #5**

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Hopewell Area School District and Hopewell Education Association in regards to Flexible Instruction Days. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #6**

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the Agreement between the Hopewell Area School District and the Third Party Compensatory Education Trust in regards to the education of S.C. Settlement and release agreement between the Hopewell Area School District and Kidsvoice in regards to the education of SC was board approved on April 26, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #7**

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the request of Esther Aloia for her and eight students to attend the FCCLA State Leadership Conference on March 20, 2023 through March 23, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #8**

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Carla Buxton, to rescind the August 23, 2022 approval regarding the proposal from KeySolutions providing the District Pupil Evaluation Services for a period of on or around September 15, 2022 through July 15, 2023. MOTION carried by a vote of seven to one, with Dr. Erickson abstaining.

**MOTION #9**

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the Agreement with Stepping Stones Group to provide the District Pupil Evaluation Services for the remainder of 2022-23 school year at a rate of \$79.00 per hour. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Buildings and Grounds by Carla Buxton****MOTION #10**

By Carla Buxton, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the request of Beaver County Special Olympics to use the pool every Wednesday from 9:45 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. beginning January 25, 2023 through March 29, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #11**

By Carla Buxton, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the request of David Bufalini to use the Senior High School Auditorium for the Holly Jolly Christmas concert on December 3, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #12**

By Carla Buxton, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the request of Our Lady of Fatima to use the football field at the Senior High School on October 25, 2022 from approximately 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. for soccer games. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #13**

By Carla Buxton, seconded by Dan Caton, to accept the proposal from Renick Brothers for \$15,860.00 to repair a boiler at Margaret Ross Elementary. Monies will come from ESSER funds. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #14**

By Carla Buxton, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the request of Stephany Richards, Transportation Director, to use the Junior High School library on December 3, 10 and 17 for a CDL School Bus Driver Instructor's class. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Finance and Budget by Lori McKittrick****MOTION #15**

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve items (1) and (2) and to ratify item (3) 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 \$905,953.57
2. Cafeteria Fund List of Bills in the amount of \$120,304.54
3. General Fund Payments in the amount of \$4,184,497.74

The Motion to approve the transfer \$2476.44 from defunct Hopewell High School student club activity accounts (Classes of 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2022) to Hopewell High School Student Council was tabled.

MOTION #16

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the purchase of Vikette uniforms from Algy by DeMoulin in the amount of \$5,199.60 with funds to be taken from the Capital Reserve MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Legislative by Bethany Pistorius**

MOTION #17

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the appointment of Mike Sourwine, Board member representing Region 3, effective October 26, 2022. MOTION failed to pass by a roll call vote of three to five, with Ms. McKittrick, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Caton, Dr. Erickson and Mr. Santia voting no.

MOTION #18

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Matt Erickson, to approve the appointment of Victoria Gill, Board member representing Region 3, effective October 26, 2022. MOTION carried by a roll call vote of five to three, with Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Pistorius and Mrs. Zupsic voting no.

MOTION #19

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the Hopewell Board of School Directors Reorganization meeting on December 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Central Administration Board Room. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Personnel by Lindsay Zupsic, Co-Chair**

MOTION #20

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the 2022-2023 winter coaches and salaries. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #21

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to accept the resignation of Lauran Macon, Special Education teacher at the Junior High School, effective on or by December 17, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #22

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Carla Buxton, to approve the elimination of the 12 month, 8 hour courier position from the Buildings and Grounds Department effective December 1, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #23

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the creation of the regular part-time 10 month, 6 hour courier custodian position in the Buildings and Grounds Department effective December 1, 2022. The start date and end date of the approximately 10 month period shall be the same as those of the afternoon/evening cleaning custodian positions. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #24

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Carla Buxton, to approve the Job Description for the regular part-time 10 month, 6 hour courier custodian position in the Buildings and Grounds Department. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #25

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to direct the Superintendent and Director of Buildings and Grounds to post the regular part-time 10 month, 6 hour courier custodian position in the Buildings and Grounds Department to be filled, effective December 1, 2022, pursuant to the bidding procedures set forth in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #26

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to accept the resignation of Marianne Salzman, PIMS/Child Accounting Coordinator, effective November 4, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #27

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the employment of Barb Marnhout, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Swim Coach, effective November 18, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #28

By Lindsay Zupsic, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the election and appointment of Jeffrey R. Beltz, Ed.D. as Superintendent for the term of 4 years, 7.5 months beginning November 15, 2022 through June 30, 2027 and to approve the Employment Agreement, dated as of October 25, 2022, as presented. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Other Business

None

Superintendents Report

Dr. Kartychak reported on the resignations of Lauran Macon, a special education teacher at the Junior High School and Marianne Salzman, the PIMS/Child Accounting secretary in the Business Office. He wished them both well.

Dr. Kartychak announced the Holly Jolly Christmas concert on December 3, 2022. This is a special project of David Bufalini as he continues to support the music program and the B.F. Jones Memorial Library. To date, Mr. Bufalini has raised over \$10,000.00.

Dr. Kartychak congratulated SRO, Jared Rogers, who was nominated for the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Amen Corner Award, for his outstanding and heroic police work on August 22, 2021 by apprehending suspects during an in-progress robbery.

Dr. Kartychak stated that the end of the first quarter is this Thursday, October 27, 2022. He also welcomed Dr. Beltz to the District as the new Superintendent.

Solicitor's Report

None

Upcoming School Board Meetings

November 8, 2022, 7:00 p.m. – Board Room and Virtual  
November 22 2022, 7:00 p.m. – Board Room and Virtual

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

Mr. Santia adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Daniel Santia, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary