

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

REORGANIZATION MEETING

DECEMBER 6, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in person and virtually on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 for the purpose of effecting a permanent organization of the Board in compliance with Section 404 of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended, and any other business which may come before the Board of Directors.

Mr. Santia, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Prayer and flag salute were led by Ms. McKittrick. Roll call by the secretary followed. Those Directors in attendance were:

Carla Buxton
Daniel Caton
Matthew Erickson
Victoria Gill
Lori McKittrick
Jeanette Miller
Bethany Pistorius
Daniel Santia
Lindsay Zupsic

Also in attendance were: Dr. Jeff Beltz, Superintendent; Dr. Robert Kartychak, former Acting Superintendent; John Salopek, Solicitor; Johannah Robb, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Dr. Joel Roth, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Michael Allison and Edward Katkich, principals; and visitors.

An Executive Session was held prior to the start of 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

MOTION #1

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

For purposes of reorganization, Motion by Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Matt Erickson, to nominate John Salopek as Temporary President. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mr. Salopek called for nominations for President. Motion by Lori McKittrick to nominate Daniel Santia as President of the Board. There being no other nominations for President, Motion by Dan Caton, second by Lindsay Zupsic, nominations for President closed.

Roll Call vote for President of the Board of Directors followed with Daniel Santia receiving unanimous approval. Mr. Santia is President of the Hopewell Area School Board.

Mr. Salopek called for nominations for Vice President. Motion by Daniel Santia to nominate Lori McKittrick as Vice President of the Board. There being no other nominations for Vice President, Motion by Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Caton, nominations for Vice President closed.

Roll call vote for Lori McKittrick as Vice President of the Board of Directors. Motion carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors present.

Officers are seated.

Mr. Santia asked for approval of minutes.

MOTION #2

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the November 22, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mr. Santia asked Dr. Beltz to review the agenda in its entirety.

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 address
- 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.

Deanna Hiltz

Mrs. Hiltz complimented the District and specifically Mr. Toporski and his production team for their inclusion of their daughter in the production of Seussical Jr. Their daughter has special needs and was warmly welcomed and included in all aspects of the play, including using her speaking device for her lines. Mr. and Mrs. Hiltz are asking the District to consider funding future Junior High School musicals.

Vivian Lumbard

Mrs. Lumbard welcomed Dr. Beltz to the District as Superintendent. She noted that Board minutes were not correctly posted to the website.

Mr. Santia began committee recommendations and discussion.

Education/Curriculum/Instruction by Matt Erickson**MOTION #3**

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the request of the Hopewell High School Ski Club to travel to Burlington, Vermont February 23, 2023 through February 26, 2023 for a ski trip. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #4

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the request of Paula Battisti and Michael Gill for 7th and 8th grade Student Council members to attend Education Days at Cedar Point on May 30, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #5

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Victoria Gill, to approve Peter Ritsema, a student a Geneva College, to complete his student teaching at the Junior High School effective January 3, 2023, under the guidance of Rob Mawhinney. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Athletics by Dan Caton, Chair**MOTION #6**

By Dan Caton, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve Michael Sabat parent/coach for representation at WPIAL Rifle Championships for his daughter Rachel Sabat. Mr. Sabat will incur all costs and transportation. MOTION carried by a unanimous vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mr. Caton asked the District to match funds that were given to Mr. Sabat last year. The Motion was amended to include that directive.

Finance and Budget by Lori McKittrick

MOTION #7

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Jeanette Miller, to approve the General Fund List of Bills in the amount of \$129,633.54. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #8

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Victoria Gill, to approve the appointment of Diane Palsa as Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector for Hopewell Township for 2022 school taxes for period December 31, 2022 through April 15, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Matt Erickson, to approve the appointment of Debra Shaffer as Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector for Independence Township for 2022 school taxes for period December 31, 2022 through April 15, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #10

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Lindsay Zupsic, to approve the appointment of Linda McCoy as Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector for Raccoon Township for 2022 school taxes for period December 31, 2022 through April 15, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #11

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the fund balance assignments, restrictions and commitments as of June 30, 2022 as follows: MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Restricted	\$37,130.00
Committed for Budget	\$1,511,250.00
Committed for Health Care	\$750,000.00
Committed for Future Retirement Contribution	\$750,000.00
Committed for Technology	\$750,000.00
Unassigned	\$938,316.00
Total Fund Balance	\$4,736,696.00

MOTION #12

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Victoria Gill, to approve the purchase of a Bobcat Skid Steer Loader from Bobcat of Pittsburgh in the amount of \$45,152.71. This purchase is made through the PA Construction Equipment Contract CoStars #44000191949 and will be paid out of the General Fund. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #13

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Carla Buxton, to approve the contract with BerkOne to process the District's Act 80 records at an approximate cost of \$878.00. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Legislative by Jeanette MillerMOTION #14

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the Hopewell Area School Board Work and Business meeting dates for 2023. MOTION carried by a unanimous vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #15

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the appointment of Carla Buxton as representative to the Beaver County Career & Technology Center's Joint Operating Committee for a three year term beginning January 2023. MOTION carried by a unanimous roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #16

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Matt Erickson, to approve the appointment of Bethany Pistorius as alternate representative to the Beaver County Career & Technology Center's Joint Operating Committee for a three year term beginning January 2023. MOTION carried by a unanimous roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Personnel by Matthew EricksonMOTION #17

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to reaffirm the appointment of Donna Steff, Coordinator of Pupil Personnel Services, as the District's Title VI and Title IX, Section 504 Compliance Officer. MOTION carried by a unanimous vote of all Directors in attendance.

Dr. Erickson asked who the previous Title VI and Title IX coordinator was. Dr. Kartychak told him that it was Dr. Oliver.

MOTION #18

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Victoria Gill, to approve the employment of Peter Ritsema, substitute teacher at Hopewell Memorial Junior High School effective January 3, 2023. MOTION carried by a unanimous vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #19

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the employment of Kim Yaria, bus driver, effective December 5, 2022. MOTION carried by a unanimous vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #20

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the employment of Tyler Ditoro, bus monitor, effective December 5, 2022. MOTION carried by a unanimous vote of all Directors in attendance.

Transportation by Dan CatonMOTION #21

By Dan Caton, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the Agreement with HVMG-Internal Medicine-Specialists and Ashwini Gandhe, M.D. to perform all required bus driver physicals and testing services at a cost of \$85.00 per employee, effective December 1, 2022, pursuant to the receipt of a Certificate of Insurance and a completed Form W-9. MOTION carried by a unanimous vote of all Directors in attendance.

Other Business

Mrs. Pistorius reported that the Holly Jolly Christmas concert this past weekend was phenomenal. She said that her favorite part was when the High School drumline performed on stage with the band.

Superintendents Report

Dr. Beltz agreed with Mrs. Pistorius that the Holly Jolly Christmas concert was outstanding. He also enjoyed the drumline. Dr. Beltz thanked Dr. Kartychak for making the transition process so easy and for his instrumental leadership to the District. Dr. Beltz said to feel free to reach out to him to attend both District and community activities. He wished everyone Happy Holidays and a healthy and safe New Year.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Salopek wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Upcoming School Board Meetings

January 10, 2023, 7:00 p.m. – Board Room and Virtual

January 24, 2023, 7:00 p.m. – Board Room and Virtual

MOTION Dan Caton, 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 7:38 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Daniel Santia, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary