

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2017

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, in the Board Room, Administration Building, 2354 Brodhead Road, Hopewell Township.

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by Lesia Dobo, Board President.

Prayer and flag salute was led by Dr. Miller. Roll call by the secretary followed. Those Directors in attendance were:

Lesia Dobo  
Rob Harmotto  
Lori McKittrick  
Darren Newberry  
Daniel Santia  
Jeffrey Winkle

Members Absent  
John Bowden  
Daniel Caton  
Kathryn Oblak

Also in attendance were: Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent; Dr. Jacie Maslyk, Assistant Superintendent; Frank Paganie, Solicitor; Jennifer Conrad, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Douglass Rowe, Principal; and citizens.

“Good News” was presented by Mr. Rowe from the Senior High School. A copy of his report and one from the elementary schools is attached to these minutes.

Mrs. Dobo asked for approval of minutes.

MOTION #1

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the November 14, 2017 Business Meeting minutes and the December 5, 2017 Reorganization Meeting minutes. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMSMOTION #2

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Lori McKittrick, 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 November 2017, 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 November 2017, as presented, and make said report a part of these minutes.

Financial Statements

3. Recommendation to accept Financial Statements for the month of November 2017, as presented, and make said statements a part of these minutes.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

There were no visitors wishing to address the Board.

**Education/Curriculum/Instruction by Jeff Winkle, Chair**MOTION #3

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement by and between the Hopewell Area School District and Robert Morris University. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMSMOTION #4

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve items (1) and (2) 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.

1. Free school privileges for Bryce Nickols to attend Hopewell Elementary School for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.

2. Free school privileges for Gary Crawford to attend Independence Elementary School for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.

#### MOTION #5

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Hopewell Area School District and the Hopewell Education Association pertaining to the District's use of Family Behavior Resources. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

#### MOTION #6

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the Agreement with Family Behavioral Resources to provide school based mental health services at the Junior and Senior High Schools, as presented. There would be no cost to the District. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

### **Buildings and Grounds by Daniel Santia, Chair**

#### MOTION #7

By Daniel Santia, seconded by Rob Harmotto, to approve the request of Kylee Babish to host Ed Camp Pittsburgh on Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Junior High School for educators from various districts to participate in personalized professional development. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

#### MOTION #8

By Daniel Santia, seconded by Rob Harmotto, to approve the request of Mike Shuleski to use the Main and Auxiliary gyms at the Senior High School from February 26, 2018 through March 3, 2018 to host a youth baseball instructional camp. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

At this time the Board discussed the request by Hopewell Youth Baseball Association to install lights at the baseball fields at Hopewell Elementary School. Dave Gill, President of Hopewell Youth Baseball and Jamie Yurcina of Hopewell Township answered questions asked by the Board.

**Finance and Budget by Lori McKittrick, Chair****APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS****MOTION #9**

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Jeff Winkle, 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 roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

1. General Fund List of Bills in the amount of \$454,577.68.
2. Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of \$98,167.76.
3. Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of \$9,428.00.

**APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS****MOTION #10**

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Rob Harmotto, to ratify items (1) and (2) 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. Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of \$101,262.00.
2. General Fund payments in the amount of \$2,177,096.65.

**APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS****MOTION #11**

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Daniel Santia, 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.

1. Appointment of Diane Palsa as Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector for Hopewell Township for 2017 school taxes for period December 31, 2017 through April 15, 2018.
2. Appointment of Mary Ellen Oros as Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector for Independence Township for 2017 school taxes for period December 31, 2017 through April 15, 2018.
3. Appointment of Pam Petrella as Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector for Raccoon Township for 2017 school taxes for period December 31, 2017 through April 15, 2018.

MOTION #12

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Rob Harmotto, to approve the proposal of BerkOne to process the District's Act 80 records at an approximate cost of \$732.00. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #13

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Jeff Winkle, to approve the Agreement with Questeq for E-Rate Category 1 and 2 Strategy and Application Processes for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$7,476.00. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #14

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Rob Harmotto, to approve the request of Walter Gray to purchase tax parcel #65-001-0903.000 located at 644 Monaca Road out of repository. The 2015-2016 and prior years taxes shall be exonerated. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #15

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Daniel Santia, to approve the revised workers compensation physician panel, effective December 19, 2017. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Legislative by Lori McKittrick**MOTION #16

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Daniel Santia, to approve the Work and Business meeting dates for discussion and conducting any other general business that may come before the Board of Directors, as presented. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #17

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Rob Harmotto, to approve the appointment of Daniel Santia to the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit Board of Directors. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Personnel by Mr. Harmotto, Chair**

**APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS**

**MOTION #18**

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Lori McKittrick to approve items (1) through (4) 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.

1. Employment of Ashley Stowers as a substitute transportation aide, effective December 5, 2017.
2. Employment of Kenneth DeLisio as a substitute transportation driver and aide, effective December 5, 2017.
3. Employment of Daniel Bubien as a substitute transportation driver and aide, effective December 5, 2017.
4. Employment of Rosemary George as a substitute transportation driver and aide, effective December 5, 2017.

**MOTION #19**

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the request of Dina Opsatnic, transportation employee, for a 30 day leave without pay, effective January 3, 2018. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #20**

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Darren Newberry, to accept the resignation for retirement of Ezra Lowe, substitute bus driver, effective December 8, 2017. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Miller told Board members that Board policies can be viewed online through the Hopewell website. She also reported that several students and families faced tragedies this past week. She commended administration and staff on how they handled these very difficult situations. Dr. Miller wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thanked the Board for their hard work and dedication to the students and Hopewell community throughout the year.

Mrs. Conrad reported that it is time to consider passing a resolution 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 2018-2019 school year is 3.1% or 2.3 mills. She also provided the Board with a timeline for passing the budget.

Dr. Maslyk displayed for the Board the newest brochure from the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children which featured one of our students from Margaret Ross Elementary School. She also announced that she was developing a Newsletter to share with the community.

Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business

Mrs. Dobo reported that she still needed to fill two committees of the Board and asked for volunteers to participate in future negotiations with teachers and transportation.

Upcoming School Board Meetings

January 8, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. Work Meeting, Central Administration  
January 15, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. Business Meeting, Central Administration

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 Daniel Santia, seconded by Jeff Winkle, that the meeting be adjourned.

Mrs. Dobo adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Lesia Dobo, Vice President

Nancy Barber, Secretary