

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR WORK MEETING
MAY 9, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, in the Central Administration Board Room as well as virtually, via Zoom. This meeting was recorded.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Daniel Santia, Board President.

MOTION #1

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

An Executive Session was held prior to the start of the meeting to discuss personnel matters. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Santia. Roll call by the secretary followed. Those Directors in attendance were:

Carla Buxton
Daniel Caton
Matthew Erickson
Victoria Gill
Jeanette Miller
Bethany Pistorius
Daniel Santia

Members Absent
Lori McKittrick (resigned as of April 26, 2023)
Lindsay Zupsic

Also present were: Dr. Jeffrey Beltz, Superintendent; John Salopek, Solicitor, participated by telephone; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Korri Kane and Edward Katkich, Principals; and visitors.

At this time, Dr. Beltz reviewed items that would be voted on later in the meeting.

Finance and Budget: Mrs. Zupsic, Chair; Mrs. Miller, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Adoption of the Hopewell Area School District Preliminary final 2023-2024 General Fund budget, which projects revenues of \$45,249,236.00 and

appropriations of \$46,589,587.00. The difference of \$1,340,351.00 will come from the Fund Balance.

Mrs. Miller stated that she had questions regarding the proposed budget and that she would reach out to Mrs. Robb for clarification.

2. Approve school resource officer interagency agreement with Hopewell Township for the purpose of the COPS grant application through the U.S. Department of Justice.

Dr. Beltz explained that this is a highly competitive federal grant, and if awarded to the District, it would add an additional school resource officer.

Legislative: Mrs. Miller, Chair; Mrs. Buxton, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Accept the resignation of Lori McKittrick, Board member representing Region 1, effective April 26, 2023.
2. Election of _____ as Vice President of the Hopewell Area School Board of Directors.

Personnel: Mrs. Zupsic, Chair; Dr. Erickson, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Employment of Sherrisa Johnson, bus driver, effective May 3, 2023.

Policy /Planning: Mrs. Buxton, Chair; Mrs. Gill, Co-Chair

1. Board Policy 249 – Bullying/Cyberbullying (Second Reading/Approval)

At this time, Dr. Beltz began his review of those items that would be voted on at the May 23, 2023 Business meeting.

Education/Curriculum/Instruction: Dr. Erickson, Chair; Mrs. Pistorius, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Continuation of the Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Hopewell Area School District and the Hopewell Education Association with respect to Online Education for the 2023-2024 School Year.

2. Continuation of Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Hopewell Area School District and the Hopewell Education Association with respect to Family Behavioral Resources.
3. Levi Plassmeyer a student at Geneva College to complete his student teaching under the guidance of Chad Toporski and Kit Keiper during the 2023 fall semester.
4. Ethan Smith a student at Geneva College to complete his student teaching under the guidance of Rosetta Dufalla at Hopewell High School during the 2024 spring semester.
5. CJ Zeigler a student at Geneva College to complete their student teaching under the guidance of Katie Snyder and Abbey Testa during the 2024 spring semester.

Buildings and Grounds: Daniel Caton, Chair; Vicki Gill, Co-Chair

1. Request of Hopewell Area Aqua Club to use the pool beginning mid-June through August 18, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.
2. Request of Hopewell Youth Football to use Tony Dorsett Stadium on Friday, June 9th from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 10th from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. for a skills and development camp.
3. Request of Hopewell Youth Cheer to use Gym A at the Junior High School beginning August 28, 2023 through October 11, 2023 for practice.
4. Request of the Hopewell Band Boosters to use the Senior High School cafeteria July 24 through July 28 and July 31 through August 4, 2023, to serve lunch during band camp.
5. Request of the Hopewell Band Boosters to conduct 50/50 raffles at each home football game, band and chorus concerts and other events throughout the year.

Dr. Beltz added that the football boosters would have the right to conduct 50/50 at football games, rather than the band. The band would have other opportunities for the raffle.
6. Request of Hopewell Girls Soccer Boosters to use Tony Dorsett Stadium August 7, 2023 through August 10, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. for soccer camp.
7. Request of the Hopewell Viking Football Boosters to host a pep rally on Thursday, October 12, 2023, immediately following the homecoming parade at Tony Dorsett Stadium. All fall sports would be recognized during the pep rally.

The Boosters request for fireworks at the pep rally has been put on hold. The group needs to get insurance, and are working on if that is feasible or not. Mr. Caton stated that they would also need approval from the fire marshal.

Finance and Budget: Ms. McKittrick, Chair; Mrs. Zupsic, Co-Chair; Mrs. Miller, Co-Chair

1. Supply bids for the 2023-2024 school year for the following departments:
 - a. Athletics
 - b. Art
 - c. Custodial
 - d. Industrial Arts
 - e. Physical Education
 - f. Science

Dr. Beltz explained that the amounts would be provided at the May 23rd meeting, as the Business Office is still going through bid packets.

2. Agreement with Medic Rescue to provide emergency medical transport for the 2023-2024 school year, at a cost of \$3,500.

Dr. Beltz explained that this is a slight increase over last year.

Personnel: Mrs. Zupsic, Chair; Dr. Erickson, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Resignation for retirement of Mark Skiba, custodian at the Senior High School, effective September 8, 2023.
2. Resignation of Greg Gozur, head bowling coach, effective May 24, 2023.
3. Employment of Mackenzie Cuneo, long-term substitute special education teacher at Margaret Ross Elementary School, effective May 3, 2023.
4. Employment of Brittany Wilfong, substitute custodian, effective June 12, 2023.
5. Elimination of one third grade teaching position at Independence Elementary School effective the 2023-2024 school year.

Transportation: Mrs. Pistorius, Chair; Mr. Caton, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Sell for scrap bus #48, a 2011 Chevrolet 30 passenger Collins bus, VIN 1GB6G5BG1B1162962.

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.

At this time, Mr. Santia returned to Finance and Budget

Finance and Budget by Jeanette Miller, Co-Chair

MOTION #2

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the adoption of the Hopewell Area School District Preliminary final 2023-2024 General Fund budget, which projects revenues of \$45,249,236.00 and appropriations of \$46,589,587.00. The difference of \$1,340,351.00 will come from the Fund Balance. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #3

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the school resource officer interagency agreement with Hopewell Township for the purpose of the COPS grant application through the U.S. Department of Justice. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Legislative by Jeanette Miller, Chair

MOTION #4

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Matt Erickson, to accept the resignation of Lori McKittrick, Board member representing Region 1, effective April 26, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #5

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Matt Erickson, to approve the election of Dan Caton as Vice President of the Hopewell Area School Board of Directors. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Personnel by Carla Buxton

MOTION #6

By Carla Buxton, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of Sherrisa Johnson, bus driver, effective May 3, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Policy/Planning by Carla Buxton, Chair

MOTION #7

By Carla Buxton, seconded by Victoria Gill, to approve Board Policy 249 – Bullying/Cyberbullying. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Dr. Beltz took a moment to congratulate all spring sports teams, as all had qualified for the playoffs.

Upcoming School Board Meetings

May 23, 2023, Regular Business Meeting will be in the Central Administration Board Room and virtually.

MOTION by 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 7:27 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Daniel Santia, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary