

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR WORK MEETING  
JUNE 13, 2017

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, in the Board Room, Administration Building, 2354 Brodhead Road, Hopewell Township.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by David Bufalini, Board President.

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

John Bowden  
David Bufalini  
Lesia Dobo  
Rob Harmotto  
Lori McKittrick  
Daniel Santia  
Anna Segner

Jeffrey Winkle (participated by telephone conference)

Mr. Bufalini announced that an Executive Session would be held to discuss personnel matters. The meeting recessed at 7:08 p.m. and resumed at 7:41 p.m. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended.

Also in attendance were: Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent; Dr. Jacie Maslyk, Assistant Superintendent; John Salopek, Solicitor; Johannah M. Robb, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Michael Allison, Principal; and citizens.

Dr. Miller said that the following items will be voted on at this meeting, she then reviewed the agenda in its entirety.

**Athletics:** Mr. Patterson, Chair; Mr. Bufalini, Co-Chair

1. Payment of spring coaches beyond the regular season. (**Attachment**)

**Buildings and Grounds:** Mrs. Segner, Chair; Mr. Santia, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Proposal from D'Agostino to install a Cellular Repeater System to extend cellular coverage into the core of Independence Elementary as well as an additional Card Reader Door at the bus ramp at a cost of \$11,490.29. This is at no cost to the district, as it funded by the Safe Schools Grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

**Finance and Budget:** John Bowden, Chair; Jeffrey Winkle, Co-Chair

1. Resolution #5-2017 a Resolution providing for adoption of the Final General Fund budget for the 2017-2018 General Fund budget, which projects revenues of \$38,362,447 and appropriations of \$40,073,975. The difference of \$1,711,528 will come from the Fund Balance.
2. Resolution #6-2017, a Resolution levying a tax during the 2017-2018 School Fiscal Year upon real estate within the territorial limits of the School District and fixing the rate thereof at 73.2 mills.
3. Resolution #7-2017, a Resolution requesting the Chief County Assessor to direct the inspection and reassessment of all taxable property within the territorial limits of the School District to which major improvements were made after September 1, 2016, and not included in the tax duplicate certified to the Treasurer of the School District for the School Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018.
4. Resolution #8-2017, a Resolution authorizing rates of discounts and penalties on real estate taxes for the 2017-2018 School Fiscal Year.
5. Resolution #9-2017, a Resolution providing for the installment payment of real estate taxes during the School Fiscal Year 2017-2018.
6. Resolution #10-2017, a Resolution reenacting for the 2017-2018 School Fiscal Year the tax upon transfers of real estate situated within the territorial limits of the School District, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act.
7. Resolution #11-2017, a Resolution reenacting for the 2018 Calendar Year the tax upon salaries, wages, commissions, compensations, net profits, and other earned income of residents, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act.
8. Resolution #12-2017, a Resolution reenacting for the 2017-2018 School Fiscal Year the tax upon natural persons engaging in an occupation within the territorial limits of the School District, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act.

9. Resolution #13-2017, a Resolution reenacting for the 2017-2018 School Fiscal Year the mercantile tax upon the gross receipts of wholesale and retail business activity performed or rendered within the territorial limits of the School District, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act.
10. Resolution #14-2017, a Resolution authorizing the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion real estate assessment reductions for the Hopewell Area School District's Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2017, under the provisions of the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006).
11. Execution of new signature cards adding Dr. Michelle Miller as a signatory on all district depository accounts while the District utilizes interim Business Administrator services through the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials (PASBO).

**Personnel:** Mr. Harmotto, Chair; Mrs. Segner, Co-Chair

1. Employment of Keary Piezynski as a special education teacher at Independence Elementary School at Step 1 of Bachelor's salary schedule, effective August 21, 2017.
2. Employment of Olivia Klimek as a fourth grade teacher at Independence Elementary School at Step 1 of Bachelor's salary schedule, effective August 21, 2017.
3. Employment of Jennifer L. Conrad as Business Administrator, effective on or about August 14, 2017, at a pro-rated annual salary of \$87,500.
4. Resignation for retirement of Dianne Kanitra, senior high school Social Studies teacher and Social Studies Department Chair, effective June 2, 2017.
5. Payment to Chris Nee and Matt Weiss of \$500 each for coaching Unified Bocce team. This stipend is provided to the district by Special Olympics.
6. Employment of Jamie McCollim as a two-hour Breakfast Cook at the Senior High School, effective May 26, 2017.
7. Additions to the custodial substitute list for summer cleaning (**Attachment**)
8. Employment of Marianne Stalder, transportation nurse monitor, effective June 9, 2017.
9. Employment of Ashley Stowers, summer transportation cleaning person, effective June 12, 2017.

The following items will be voted on at the June 27, 2017 Board meeting.

### **Education/Curriculum/Instruction**

1. Five-year affiliation agreement with Slippery Rock University for placement of student teachers beginning in the 2017-2018 school year.
2. Resignation of Nicole Lash as Co-Sponsor of the Graphica Club, effective June 2, 2017.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

1. Proposal from The Motz Group in the amount of \$2,350 for football field turf cleaning and repair.
2. Request from David Tadich for use of the Junior High Baseball Field on July 22, 2017 (rain date August 5, 2017) from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. for their annual Serbian Softball Tournament.
3. Agreement with Cape Fox Professional Services, LLC (a subcontractor to PennDOT) for use of Margaret Ross parking lot on Saturdays and Sundays from July 8 through October 1, pending availability, for the Beaver County Career and Technology Center to provide motorcycle training and education. The BCCTC is providing the training through a collaborative partnership with Cape Fox Professional Services, LLC.

### **Finance and Budget**

1. Contract with eSchool View to maintain the District website at a cost of \$1,932.00 for the 2017-2018 school year.

### **Legislative**

1. Appointment of Nancy Barber as School Board Secretary for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2021 at an annual salary of \$2,500.
2. Appointment of Dr. Jacie Maslyk as Open Records Officer for the Hopewell Area School District, effective July 1, 2017.

### **Nutrition & Food Services**

1. Agreement between the BVIU and the District to provide students with services authorized by the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. This permits the BVIU to provide services accordingly for District students attending New Horizon School.

**Personnel**

1. Resignation of Dirk Hartman, boys' Varsity Head Golf Coach, effective June 2, 2017.
2. Employment of Sydney Sterner as 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Girls' Tennis Coach, effective June 27, 2017.
3. Employment of Annette Doria and Kelly Pratte as Kindergarten grade level co-chairs beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.
4. Resignations of the following football coaches effective June 2, 2017:
  - a. Lynwood Alford
  - b. Sean Veights
  - c. Paul Mann
  - d. John Lord
  - e. Ron Weaver

**Visitors**

Camille Houy spoke of her concern for class size at Independence Elementary School, especially second grade. She would like the Board to consider adding additional staff.

Joyce Speicher, Becky Adams and Deanna Krotec asked the Board the status of the Head Coach for Girls' Soccer. They are concerned that the District won't find someone in time for the season to start. They also wanted to take the opportunity to support Vincent Kortstam, a current assistant coach, as the new head coach.

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Bufalini returned to Personnel.

**Athletics by George Patterson, Chair****MOTION #1**

By George Patterson, seconded by Anna Segner, to approve the payment of spring coaches beyond the regular season. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Buildings and Grounds by Anna Segner****MOTION #2**

By Anna Segner, seconded by John Bowden, to approve the proposal from D'Agostino to install a Cellular Repeater System to extend cellular coverage into the core of Independence Elementary as well as an additional Card Reader Door at the bus ramp at a cost of \$11,490.29. This is at no cost to the district, as it funded by the Safe Schools Grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Education. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Finance and Budget by John Bowden****MOTION #3**

By John Bowden, seconded by Lesia Dobo, to approve Resolution #5-2017 a Resolution providing for adoption of the Final General Fund budget for the 2017-2018 General Fund budget, which projects revenues of \$38,362,447 and appropriations of \$40,073,975. The difference of \$1,711,528 will come from the Fund Balance. MOTION carried with an affirmative roll call vote of seven Directors. Daniel Santia and Jeff Winkle voted no on the MOTION.

**MOTION #4**

By John Bowden, seconded by Lesia Dobo, to approve Resolution #6-2017, a Resolution levying a tax during the 2017-2018 School Fiscal Year upon real estate within the territorial limits of the School District and fixing the rate thereof at 73.2 mills. MOTION carried with an affirmative roll call vote of seven Directors. Daniel Santia and Jeff Winkle voted no on the MOTION.

**MOTION #5**

By John Bowden, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve Resolution #7-2017, a Resolution requesting the Chief County Assessor to direct the inspection and reassessment of all taxable property within the territorial limits of the School District to which major improvements were made after September 1, 2016, and not included in the tax duplicate certified to the Treasurer of the School District for the School Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #6**

By John Bowden, seconded by Lesia Dobo, to approve Resolution #8-2017, a Resolution authorizing rates of discounts and penalties on real estate taxes for the 2017-2018 School Fiscal Year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #7

By John Bowden, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve Resolution #9-2017, a Resolution providing for the installment payment of real estate taxes during the School Fiscal Year 2017-2018. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #8

By John Bowden, seconded by Anna Segner, to approve Resolution #10-2017, a Resolution reenacting for the 2017-2018 School Fiscal Year the tax upon transfers of real estate situated within the territorial limits of the School District, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By John Bowden, seconded by George Patterson, to approve Resolution #11-2017, a Resolution reenacting for the 2018 Calendar Year the tax upon salaries, wages, commissions, compensations, net profits, and other earned income of residents, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #10

By John Bowden, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve Resolution #12-2017, a Resolution reenacting for the 2017-2018 School Fiscal Year the tax upon natural persons engaging in an occupation within the territorial limits of the School District, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #11

By John Bowden, seconded by Anna Segner, to approve Resolution #13-2017, a Resolution reenacting for the 2017-2018 School Fiscal Year the mercantile tax upon the gross receipts of wholesale and retail business activity performed or rendered within the territorial limits of the School District, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #12

By John Bowden, seconded by Anna Segner, to approve Resolution #14-2017, a Resolution authorizing the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion real estate assessment reductions for the Hopewell Area School District's Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2017, under the provisions of the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006). MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #13

By John Bowden, seconded by Daniel Santia, to table Agenda No. 11, which was to execute new signature cards adding Dr. Michelle Miller as a signatory on all district depository accounts while the District utilizes interim Business Administrator services through the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials (PASBO). MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Personnel by Rob Harmotto**MOTION #14

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Lesia Dobo, to approve the employment of Keary Piezynski as a special education teacher at Independence Elementary School at Step 1 of Bachelor's salary schedule, effective August 21, 2017. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #15

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Lesia Dobo, to approve the employment of Olivia Klimek as a fourth grade teacher at Independence Elementary School at Step 1 of Bachelor's salary schedule, effective August 21, 2017. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #16

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Anna Segner, to approve the employment, under a two year contract, of Jennifer L. Conrad, Business Administrator, effective on or about August 14, 2017, at a pro-rated annual salary of \$87,500. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #17

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by John Bowden, to accept the resignation for retirement of Dianne Kanitra, Senior High School social studies teacher and social studies department chair, effective June 2, 2017. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #18

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Anna Segner, to approve the payment to Chris Nee and Matt Weiss of \$500 each for coaching the Unified Bocce team. This stipend is provided to the district by Special Olympics. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #19

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the employment of Jamie McCollim as a two-hour Breakfast Cook at the Senior High School, effective May 26, 2017. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #20

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Lesia Dobo, to approve the additions to the custodial substitute list for summer cleaning. MOTION carried by an affirmative vote of eight Directors. Mr. Bowden abstained, as a family member is on the list.

MOTION #21

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the employment of Marianne Stalder, transportation nurse monitor, effective June 9, 2017. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #22

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by John Bowden, to approve the employment of Ashley Stowers, summer transportation cleaning person, effective June 12, 2017. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Adjournment**

There being no further discussion or recommendations to come before the Board of Directors, Mr. Bufalini asked for a motion for adjournment.

MOTION by John Bowden, seconded by Rob Harmotto, that the meeting be adjourned. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Bufalini adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

David Bufalini, President

Nancy Barber, Secretary