

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR WORK MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2019

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Monday, August 12, 2019, in the Board Room, Administration Building, 2354 Brodhead Road, Hopewell Township.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Lesia Dobo, Board President.

An Executive Session was held prior to 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.

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

Dan Caton
Lesia Dobo
Rob Harmotto
Lori McKittrick
Kathryn Oblak
Daniel Santia
Jeffrey Winkle

Members absent:
Darren Newberry
George Patterson

Also in attendance were: Dr. Michelle Miller, Superintendent; Dr. Jacie Maslyk, Assistant Superintendent; Frank Paganie, in the absence of John Salopek, Solicitor; Jennifer Conrad, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Lynn Utchell, Director of Special Education; Donald Short, Athletic Director and citizens.

Dr. Miller announced that the following items would be voted on later in the meeting. She then proceeded to review the agenda in its entirety.

Education/Curriculum/Instruction: Mr. Winkle, Chair; Mr. Harmotto, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Contract with Cumberland Therapy Services, LLC to provide School Psychologist services for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost of \$74.00 per hour.
2. Free school privileges for Daviana Anzur to attend Hopewell Elementary School for the 2019-2020 school year.

3. Free school privileges for Kyleigh Herman to attend Hopewell High School for the 2019-2020 school year.

Athletics: Mr. Caton, Chair; Mr. Santia, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Agreement with Greater Pittsburgh Physical Therapy to provide assistant athletic trainer services supporting the District's Athletic Director/Trainer, Mr. Don Short, in the amount of \$30,500.00.

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

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Request of Our Lady of Fatima to use the Senior High School practice soccer field from August 20, 2019 through November 2019 on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. for practice.
2. Request of Hopewell Soccer Club to use the High School practice field on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6:00 until 8:00 beginning August 15, 2019 through November 1, 2019.
3. Request of Hopewell Youth Cheer to use Gym A at the Junior High School from August through October from 6:00 to 8:30 for practice.

Personnel: Mr. Harmotto, Chair; Ms. McKittrick, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Resignation of Kylee Babish, 5th grade teacher at the Junior High School. Mrs. Babish has accepted the position of Assistant Principal at the Junior High School.
2. Employment of Autumn Wobrak, long-term substitute, for Erin Caputo at the Senior High School, effective August 22, 2019.
3. Elimination of 4th grade paraprofessional at Independence Elementary School, effective August 13, 2019.
4. Employment of Abbey Kennedy, life skills teacher at Independence Elementary school, at step 1 of the master's scale, effective August 22, 2019.
5. Employment of Danielle D'Amico, 4th grade teacher at Independence Elementary school, at step 1 of the bachelor's scale, effective August 22, 2019.

6. Employment of Melinda Cleary, kindergarten teacher at Independence Elementary school, at step 1 of the bachelor's scale, effective August 22, 2019.
7. Employment of Leslie Dennis, individual paraprofessional, at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 22, 2019.
8. Employment of Stephanie Keebler, individual paraprofessional, at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 22, 2019.
9. Employment of Nicole Gruber, individual paraprofessional, at Independence Elementary School, effective August 22, 2019.
10. Employment of Felicia Boris, individual paraprofessional, at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 22, 2019.

Dr. Miller said that the following items would be voted on during the August 26, 2019 Business Meeting.

Education/Curriculum/Instruction

1. Agreement with The Prevention Network to provide services for the Student Assistance Program.
2. Agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit's Blind and Visually Impaired Support Program to provide services for one student attending the Children's Institute during the 2019-2020 school year.
3. Agreement for Educational Services with the Bradley Center, effective the 2019-2020 school year.
4. Appointment of the following:
 - a. Dr. Moka as District Physician - \$10 per exam;
 - b. Optometric Care as District Vision Examiner - \$3.25 per exam; and
 - c. Dr. Rich Covatto to provide dental exams - \$5 per exam.
5. List of Junior High Club & Activity Sponsors for the 2019-2020 School Year.
6. Agreement with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit to provide ESL (English as A Second Language) for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost of \$40.00 per hour.
7. Contract with Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children Outreach Program to provide vision and/or orientation and mobility services for the 2019-2020 school year.
8. 2019-2020 Department and Grade Level Chairpersons.

9. Service Agreement with the Watson Institute to provide services for students for the 2019-2020 school year.
10. Revisions to the High School's Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) guidelines as they relate to Board Policy 237.

Nutrition and Food Services:

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Price list for ala carte items. (Attachment)
2. Informational:
 - a. There will be no increase in lunch prices from the previous school year.
 - i. \$2.65 for secondary students; and
 - ii. \$2.40 for elementary students.
 - b. Rosann Russell, Food Service Director, has been awarded Food Service Director of the Year by The Nutrition Group.

Personnel

1. Memorandum of understanding with Hopewell Education Association with respect to long-term substitutes.

Transportation:

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. The ability to use Frye Transportation for substitute drivers, aides or nurses, when needed.
2. Settlement agreement with the EEOC with respect to an employee application in the Transportation Department.
3. Agreement with Frye Transportation to provide the District with Transportation Director services.

Visitors

Kelly Hindman stated, for the record, that her husband, Rod Hineman, had no intention of applying for the Junior High girl's basketball coaching position, should one be available.

Kris Steuer spoke in support of coaches Homziak and Sundy, of the girl's basketball program. She stated that her daughter played for coaches Homziak and Sundy and found it a rewarding experience. She believed them to be excellent coaches who fostered an attitude of excellence, hard work and family. She asked that the District keep the current coaching staff.

Nancy Hessler asked to be reconsidered for a bus driver position rather than a transportation aide.

Kari Steuer stated that she played for coaches Homziak and Sundy and that she is now an assistant coach for them and believes them to be good coaches in a program that encourages a unified attitude.

Chris Speicher opined that very few students wanted to play girls basketball at the JV/Varsity level due to the coaching staff. He also shared concerns about the number of athletes on the team and the record of the varsity team.

Desiree Ritmiller spoke of how coaches Homziak and Sundy fostered in her strength and maturity that she believes should would lack if not for them.

At this point in the meeting, Mrs. Dobo returned to Education, Curriculum and Instruction.

Education/Curriculum/Instruction by Mr. Winkle, Chair

MOTION #1

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the Contract with Cumberland Therapy Services, LLC to provide School Psychologist services for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost of \$74.00 per hour. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMS

MOTION #2

By Jeff Winkle, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, 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 Daviana Anzur to attend Hopewell Elementary School for the 2019-2020 school year.
2. Free school privileges for Kyleigh Herman to attend Hopewell High School for the 2019-2020 school year.

Athletics by Mr. Caton, Chair**MOTION #3**

By Dan Caton, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the Agreement with Greater Pittsburgh Physical Therapy to provide assistant athletic trainer services supporting the District's Athletic Director/Trainer, Mr. Don Short, in the amount of \$30,500.00. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Buildings and Grounds by Mr. Santia, Chair**MOTION #4**

By Dan Santia, seconded by Jeff Winkle, to approve the request of Our Lady of Fatima to use the Senior High School practice soccer field from August 20, 2019 through November 2019 on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. for practice. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #5

By Dan Santia, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the request of Hopewell Soccer Club to use the High School practice field on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6:00 until 8:00 beginning August 15, 2019 through November 1, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #6

By Dan Santia, seconded by Jeff Winkle, to approve the request of Hopewell Youth Cheer to use Gym A at the Junior High School from August through October from 6:00 to 8:30 for practice. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Personnel by Mr. Harmotto, Chair**MOTION #7**

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to accept the resignation of Kylee Babish, 5th grade teacher at the Junior High School. Mrs. Babish has accepted the position of Assistant Principal at the Junior High School. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #8

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the employment of Autumn Wobrak, long-term substitute, for Erin Caputo at the Senior High School, effective August 22, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the elimination of a 4th grade paraprofessional at Independence Elementary School, effective August 13, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #10

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the employment of Abbey Kennedy, life skills teacher at Independence Elementary School, at step 1 of the Masters scale, effective August 22, 2019, pending receipt of all necessary clearances and documentation. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #11

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the employment of Danielle D'Amico, 4th grade teacher at Independence Elementary School, at step 1 of the Bachelors scale, effective August 22, 2019, pending receipt of all necessary clearances and documentation. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #12

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the employment of Melinda Cleary, kindergarten teacher at Independence Elementary School, at step 1 of the Bachelors scale, effective August 22, 2019, pending receipt of all necessary clearances and documentation. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #13

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the employment of Leslie Dennis, individual paraprofessional at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 22, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #14

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Kathryn Oblak, to approve the employment of Stephanie Keebler, individual paraprofessional at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 22, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #15

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the employment of Nicole Gruber, individual paraprofessional at Independence Elementary School, effective August 22, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #16

By Rob Harmotto, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the employment of Felicia Boris, individual paraprofessional at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 22, 2019. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the Board.

Executive Session

An Executive Session was held following 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.

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 Dan Santia, seconded by Lori McKittrick, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Dobo adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

Lesia Dobo, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary