

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
AUGUST 23, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District conducted a virtual and in person Board meeting on Tuesday, August 23, 2022. This meeting was recorded.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by David Bufalini, Board President.

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

David Bufalini
Carla Buxton
Daniel Caton
Matthew Erickson
Jeanette Miller
Bethany Pistorius
Daniel Santia
Lindsay Zupsic (via Zoom)

Members Absent
Lori McKittrick

Also, in attendance were: Dr. Robert Kartychak, Acting Superintendent, John Salopek, Solicitor; Johannah Robb, Business Administrator; Nancy Barber, Secretary; and visitors.

MOTION #1

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Matt Erickson, to approve the agenda as written.

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

Mr. Bufalini asked for approval of minutes.

MOTION #2

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the July 19, 2022 and the August 9, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

APPROVAL OF GROUPED ITEMSMOTION #3

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Caton, 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 July, 2022, 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 July, 2022, as presented, and make said report a part of these minutes.

Financial Statements

3. Recommendation to accept Financial Statements for the months of June and July, 2022, as presented, and make said statements a part of these minutes.

Dr. Kartychak introduced Bill King, Regional Manager, and Jeff McKenzie, Director of Buildings and Grounds, from the Nutrition Group, Inc. to give an update on the status of all buildings prior to the start of school.

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.

Joe Hartle

Mr. Hartle has a daughter attending the Junior High School this year. He received her bus information and was concerned that his daughter was going to be picked up at 6:20 a.m. and be on the bus for 90 minutes. As a concerned parent he has decided to drive his daughter to school and asked what the plan was for the increased traffic for student drop-off.

Dr. Kartychak said that he understood and shared his concern. He said the District is continually working to recruit new drivers. He said that with more drivers in place, bus routes would be reworked to reduce times. He also reported that principals are working hard to find solutions to the increase in the amount of traffic during drop off and pick up and will continually monitor that situation.

Angela Adam

Ms. Adam also expressed concern for her child’s bus ride. She lives in the same neighborhood as Mr. Hartle and her child spends the same amount of time on the bus. She stated that her child’s pick up is one hour earlier than last year.

Again, Dr. Kartychak stated that if we are successful getting more drivers, bus routes will definitely be revised.

Mr. Bufalini continued with committee recommendations and discussion.

Educational/Curriculum/Instruction by Matthew Erickson, Chair

MOTION #4

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the renewal of PA-Educator, the District’s clearinghouse for professional applications, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #5

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the Staffing Agreement with Stat Staffing to provide nursing services on an as needed basis for the 2022-2023 School Year at the following hourly rates. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

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|----|---|---------|
| a. | License Practical Nurse | \$52.88 |
| b. | Registered Nurse | \$60.88 |
| c. | Specialty Nurse or Assignment (RN or LPN) | \$67.88 |
| d. | Certified School Nurse | \$67.88 |

MOTION #6

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the request of Mr. Allison for the Senior High School band and choir to go to Orlando, Florida February 15, 2023 through February 20, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #7

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the High School Academy and Dual Enrollment Programming Agreement with the Community College of Beaver County. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #8

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the review of the District's Health and Safety Plan. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the department chairs for the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #10

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the grade level chairs for kindergarten through sixth grade for the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #11

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the club sponsors for the Senior High School for the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #12

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the club sponsors for the Junior High School for the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #13

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the appointment of Nicole Rodgers as co-sponsor of the National Junior Honor Society, effective the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #14

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Jeanette Miller, to approve the appointment of Diana Giroski as sponsor of the Junior High Yearbook, effective the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #15

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Jeanette Miller, to approve the agreement with Southwood Psychiatric Hospital to provide services to students on an as needed basis for the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #16

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Carla Buxton, to approve the agreement with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit to provide Title One Services to students at Our Lady of Fatima for the 2022-2023 school year at a per pupil allocation of \$961.17. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #17

By Matt Erickson, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the Site-Based Academic Service Agreement with Wesley Schools. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Athletics by Dan Caton, Chair

MOTION #18

By Dan Caton, seconded by Jeanette Miller, to approve the varsity volleyball to attend camp at Indiana High School August 2-4, 2022. There will be no cost to the District. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #19

By Dan Caton, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the Junior High School football volunteer coaches. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

- a. Nick Hoth
- b. Creadel Kimbrough
- c. Tony Amadio
- d. Jessop Fattore
- e. Pat Drudy
- f. Doug Beiga
- g. Brad Robinson

Buildings and Grounds by Dan Santia**MOTION #20**

By Dan Santia, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the request of Boys Golf to hang a 3x9 sign on the front tennis courts. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #21

By Dan Santia, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the request of youth cheerleading to use Gym A at the Junior High School from September through October, for practice. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #22

By Dan Santia, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the request of the Hopewell Area Aqua Club to use the pool from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., September 6-8, 2022 for tryouts. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #23

By Dan Santia, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the request of the Hopewell Area Aqua Club to use the pool from 5:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning September 26, 2022 through April 28, 2023. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Finance and Budget by Dan Caton**MOTION #24**

By Dan Caton, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve items (1) and (2) and to ratify item (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 \$654,035.90
2. Cafeteria Fund List of Bills in the amount of \$19,140.89
3. General Fund Payments in the amount of \$1,938,402.32

MOTION #25

By Dan Caton, seconded by Matt Erickson, to approve request of Aliquippa Bucktails to purchase parcels 65-011-1214-000 and 65-011-1223-000 located in Hopewell Township out of the Beaver County Repository. All delinquent taxes from 2021-2022 tax year and prior years are exonerated. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Personnel by Jeanette Miller, Chair

MOTION #26

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Matt Erickson, to approve the continuation of current SRO/Inter-agency agreement for the 2022-2023 school year. Discontinuation of this agreement can occur at any time by either party with 30 days notice. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #27

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of Dana Maurer, High School math teacher, effective August 22, 2022 on step 2 of the Masters salary scale. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #28

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of Alison Colangelo, Hopewell Elementary special education teacher, effective August 22, 2022 on step 1 of the Bachelors salary scale. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #29

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Dan Caton, to accept the resignation of Valerie Alexander, cafeteria at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 15, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #30

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of Kenneth Lavelle, substitute custodian, effective August 16, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #31

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Dan Caton, to accept the proposal from Keysolution Educational Staffing, LLC to provide the District Pupil Evaluation Services from a period of on or around September 15, 2022 through July 15, 2023 at a cost of \$9,000.00 per month. MOTION carried by a vote of 7 to 1, with Dr. Erickson abstaining due to his partial ownership in the company.

The legal opinion from District solicitor, John Salopek, is attached to these minutes.

MOTION #32

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of Alyssa Myers, part-time elementary library aide, effective August 22, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #33

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Dan Santia, to approve the employment of Pamela Loaskie, substitute secretary, effective August 24, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #34

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the change of employment status for Holly Hobbs from substitute cafeteria person to Junior High School cook, effective August 25, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #35

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the employment of Brenna Wandel, English teacher at Hopewell Junior High School, effective August 22, 2022, on step 1 of the Masters scale. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #36

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Matt Erickson, to approve the employment of Carly Belich, 5th grade teacher at Hopewell Junior High School, effective August 22, 2022, on step 1 of the Bachelors scale. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative roll call vote of all Directors in attendance.

Other Business

Mr. Bufalini welcomed the new teachers to the District.

Superintendents Report

Dr. Kartychak welcomed the new teachers to the District and said goodbye and best wishes to Karen Gartley who is retiring after 28 years of service. She has touched so many of the lives of Hopewell residents and will truly be missed.

Dr. Kartychak was pleased to announced that through the hard work of Mrs. Korri Kane, Mrs. Amy Kelly, Mrs. Jeanette Miller, Mrs. June Wulff, Mrs. Nicole Ormsby and Mrs. Nicole Ozimok the elementary schools received a \$4,000.00 award to use towards their Parent & Family Engagement plan.

Dr. Kartychak said that it was good to have staff back in the buildings and that in-service was going well. Everyone is looking forward to have students return to school. He also said that all buildings look great. The custodial and maintenance staff did an outstanding job over the summer.

Solicitor's Report

None

Upcoming School Board Meetings

September 13, 2022, 7:00 p.m. – Board Room and Virtual
September 27, 2022, 7:00 p.m. – Board Room and Virtual

MOTION Dan Santia, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, that the meeting be adjourned.
MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mr. Bufalini adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

David Bufalini, Board President

Nancy Barber, Secretary