

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR WORK MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, in the Central Administration Board Room as well as virtually, via Zoom. This meeting was recorded.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Daniel Santia, Board Vice President.

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

Carla Buxton
Daniel Caton
Lori McKittrick
Jeanette Miller
Bethany Pistorius
Daniel Santia

Members Absent
David Bufalini
Matthew Erickson
Lindsay Zupsic

Also present were: Dr. Robert Kartychak, Acting Superintendent; Johannah Robb, Business Administrator; John Salopek, Solicitor; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Korri Kane and Ed Katkich, principals; Joel Roth, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; and visitors.

MOTION #1

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

An Executive Session was held on August 23, 2022 to discuss legal issues and August 30, 2022 for interviews for the Superintendent position. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended

Dr. Roth, Director of Curriculum and Instruction updated the Board on curriculum. He reported that the English Language Arts focus in grades kindergarten through second is on phonics. Teachers will use Heggerty and Foundations to focus on phonemic awareness and phonics. He said that in grades three through five teachers are piloting Savvas Learning. Math in grades kindergarten through 8, consistency will remain the focus. Dr. Roth said that with consistency comes accurate data and enables the District to do better analysis. Math curriculum in grades nine through twelve focuses on algebra and curriculum alignment. He said that a renewed emphasis will be placed on social and emotional learning, as both teachers and students struggled during the

pandemic. The District plans to offer fall learning opportunities for students in grades K through 12, who may have fallen behind during remote learning due to Covid-19.

Mrs. Pistorius asked Dr. Roth how long was the free trial for Savvas. Dr. Roth told her that the pilot would last for the entire school year.

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

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

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Carrie Cunningham, a student at Slippery Rock University, to complete her practicum under the supervision of Mrs. Diehl.
2. Updated list of club sponsors at the Senior High School for the 2022-2023 school year.

Dr. Kartychak said that the only club that changed since previous approval was adding Richelle Montgomery and Dana Maurer as the sponsors for the Class of 2026.

3. Free school privileges for A. H. to attend the Watson Institute for the 2022-2023 school year.

Buildings and Grounds: Dan Caton

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Proposal from Martin Lawn Service to construct protective fencing in front of the dugouts at the Senior High School baseball field at an approximate cost of \$4,500.00, which is required by the PIAA. Remaining balance for additional fencing and backstop work to be paid for by Hopewell Baseball Boosters.

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

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Proposal from Reschini Group to assist with employer reporting requirements under the Affordable Care Act in the amount of \$6.25 per required filing.

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

1. Employment of Anthony DelRusso, substitute custodian, effective August 22, 2022.

2. Resignation of Anthony DelRusso, substitute custodian, effective September 1, 2022.
3. Employment of Katherine Bokor, substitute nurse, effective September 14, 2022.
4. Change of employment status for Jennifer Hull, cafeteria substitute, to 2.25 hour cafeteria person at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 25, 2022.
5. Change of employment status for Sarah Gigliotti, server at the Junior High School, to 2nd cook and breakfast monitor at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 25, 2022.
6. Employment of Lauren Mazzant, paraprofessional at Independence Elementary School, effective September 6, 2022.
7. Employment of Rita Foley, Health Suite Assistant, as part of the Secretary and Paraprofessional Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending receipt of all clearances, on or around September 14, 2022.

At this time, Dr. Kartychak began his review of those items that would be voted on at the September 27, 2022 Business meeting.

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

1. Request of Mr. Katkich for Michael Gilmore to co-sponsor the Digital Media club.
2. Appointment of the following:
 - a. Dr. Moka as District Physician - \$10 per exam;
 - b. Optometric Care as District Vision Examiner - \$3.40 per exam; and
 - c. Dr. Rich Covatto to provide dental exams - \$5 per exam.
3. Isabelle Sparr, a student at Geneva College, to complete her secondary social studies field experience under the direction of Janet Meyers.
4. Rebekah Cox, a student at Geneva College, to complete her field experience in music under the direction of Kit Keiper.
5. Update the Special Education Individual Paraprofessional Job Description.
6. Update the Special Education Classroom Paraprofessional Job Description.
7. Renewal Agreement with Precision HR to provide substitute paraprofessionals and substitute nurses on an as needed basis for the 2022-2023 school year.

Buildings and Grounds: Daniel Santia, Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. Little Lady Vikings Youth Basketball to use Gym B at the Junior High School on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. beginning October 3, 2022 through February 27, 2023, for practice and games.
2. Little Lady Vikings Youth Basketball to use the Main and Auxiliary gyms at the Senior High School on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. beginning October 8, 2022 through February 25, 2023 for inhouse games.
3. Little Lady Vikings Youth Basketball to use Gym B at the Junior High School on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. beginning December 3, 2022 through February 25, 2023.
4. Request of the girls varsity basketball boosters to use the Main and Auxiliary gyms at the Senior High School during the months of January and February for a Junior High School basketball winter league.

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

1. Request of Rebecca Naman & Scott Smith to purchase parcel 65-193-0280.954 located in Hopewell Township out of the Beaver County Repository. All delinquent taxes from 2021-2022 tax year and prior years are exonerated. (**Roll Call**)

Mr. Santia asked if we can look into taxes for the 2021-2022 school year.

Mr. Salopek said yes. He said that he had done research on the judicial sale, which occurred in 2020, which extinguished all liens and taxes from 2020 backwards. Once it goes into the repository, the tax lien starts over. He suggested that the Board exonerate the 2021 and prior years taxes, provided they pay the 2021-2022 taxes, which is about \$300.00 and all taxes moving forward.

2. Transfer the following amounts from defunct Hopewell High School student club activity accounts to current Hopewell High School student club activity accounts (Defunct clubs: French, Latin, and Thespian):
 - a. German Club: \$549.90
 - b. Italian Club: \$549.90
 - c. Spanish Club: \$549.90
 - d. Student Council: \$7322.12

Legislative: Jeanette Miller, Chair; Bethany Pistorius, Co-Chair

Recommendation to approve the following:

1. PSBA Election of Officers.
 - a. Michael Gossert President
 - b. Allison Mathis Vice President

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

1. The following regular education teachers, as “teachers of record” for the Beaver County Jail for the 2022-2023 school year:
 - a. Rosetta Dufalla, English
 - b. Elizabeth Lehman, Science
 - c. Raymon Smith, Math
 - d. Mark Witterman, Social Studies

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 and township
- 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.

Vivian Lombard

Mrs. Lombard asked who updates the website with positive cases of Covid.

Dr. Kartychak said that he receives the information from the school nurses and that he updates the website.

At this time, Mr. Santia returned to Education/Curriculum/Instruction

Education/Curriculum/Instruction by Jeanette Miller

MOTION #2

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve Carrie Cunningham, a student at Slippery Rock University, to complete her practicum under the supervision of Mrs. Diehl. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #3

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

MOTION #4

By Jeanette Miller, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve free school privileges for A. H. to attend the Watson Institute for the 2022-2023 school year. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Buildings and Grounds by Dan Caton

MOTION #5

By Dan Caton, seconded by Bethany Pistorius, to approve the proposal from Martin Lawn Service to construct protective fencing in front of the dugouts at the Senior High School baseball field at an approximate cost of \$4,500.00, which is required by the PIAA. Remaining balance for additional fencing and backstop work to be paid for by Hopewell Baseball Boosters. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Mr. Santia thanked the Baseball Boosters for their support and financial assistance with this project.

Finance and Budget by Lori McKittrick, Chair

MOTION #6

By Lori McKittrick, seconded by Bethany Pistorius to approve the proposal from Reschini Group to assist with employer reporting requirements under the Affordable Care Act in the amount of \$6.25 per required filing. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Dr. Kartychak said that there are about 300 filings per year and that the cost of \$6.25 had remained the same since 2018.

Personnel by Bethany Pistorius

MOTION #7

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Carla Buxton, to approve the employment of Anthony DelRusso, substitute custodian, effective August 22, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #8

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to accept the resignation of Anthony DelRusso, substitute custodian, effective September 1, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #9

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Dan Caton, to approve the employment of Katherine Bokor, substitute nurse, effective September 14, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #10

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the change of employment status for Jennifer Hull, cafeteria substitute, to 2.25 hour cafeteria person at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 25, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #11

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Carla Buxton, to approve the change of employment status for Sarah Gigliotti, server at the Junior High School, to 2nd cook and breakfast monitor at Hopewell Elementary School, effective August 25, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #12

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Jeanette Miller, to approve the employment of Lauren Mazzant, paraprofessional at Independence Elementary School, effective September 6, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

MOTION #13

By Bethany Pistorius, seconded by Lori McKittrick, to approve the Employment of Rita Foley, Health Suite Assistant, as part of the Secretary and Paraprofessional Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending receipt of all clearances, on or around September 14, 2022. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Other Business

None

Upcoming School Board Meetings

September 27, 2022, Regular Business Meeting in the Central Administration Board Room and held 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 Vice President

Nancy Barber, Secretary