

June 23, 2021

McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
June 23, 2021

Presiding Joe Lopretto, President

Date, Time, Place Wednesday, June 23, 2021, 7:30 PM, Board Room, Administration Building, McKeesport Area School District, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard, McKeesport, PA 15132.

Opening Exercises Mr. Lopretto called the meeting to order at 9:00 PM followed by the Pledge to the Flag. We met in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel and potential litigation items and issues.

Present James Brown - Phone
David Donato
Diane Elias
Ivan Hampton
Steve Kondrosky
Joe Lopretto
James Poston
Mindy Sturgess

Excused. Thomas Filotei

Others Present Dr. Mark Holtzman, Superintendent
Dr. Tia Wanzo, Assistant Superintendent
Joan Wehner, Business Manager/Board Secretary
Charles Kiss, Treasurer
Krisha DiMascio, Solicitor

Board President's Remarks I just want to say we made it through the school year. I don't know if it was luck or a strategy but we made it. I want to thank the administration team, the superintendent and his whole team. I want to thank the custodians. I want to thank every employee in the district because they did everything in their power to make sure that our schools stayed open. I want to thank the parents and students. We tried to apply everything we could and I know there is more work that needs to be done but in the same sense it was a trying time that I hope nobody has to go through again. I hope everybody has a good safe summer.

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Superintendent's Report – Good Evening, I will be very brief, our partnership with Dick's Sporting Goods foundation is kicked off with our summer program which has been outstanding there was a family event this evening that was rumored to be almost 300 people attending. We are very proud of all the work I want to thank Dick's Sporting Goods foundation as well as outside angle but also our staff our staff has made sacrifices to be here this summer full days with about 350 children, the local school districts are struggling to get staff to run summer programming so our staff was quick to utilize this opportunity to work on learning loss and provide experiences for children that they otherwise wouldn't have gotten. We are very proud of that and are fortunate to have that partnership and will continue our preparation for the upcoming school year which are really excited about.

Treasurer's Report – Mr. Poston moved to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2021. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Hearing of Citizens – None

Minutes – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the minutes of the Open Agenda Meeting of April 21, 2021 and Regular Meeting of April 28, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Hampton

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Bills – Mr. Poston moved to approve the list of bills. Seconded by Mrs. Elias.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Budget – Mr. Poston moved to authorize the Business Manager to Make necessary year-end budgetary transfers per the auditor's recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Hampton

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Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Budgetary Transfer – Mrs. Elias moved to approve the budgetary transfer as presented. Seconded by Mr. Poston.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Resolution – Mr. Poston moved to approve Resolution #1264 – 2021/2022 Budget in the amount of \$81,135, 386 with a millage rate of 20.96 Mills. Seconded by Mr. Hampton
Discussion followed.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Resolution – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve Resolution #1265 – Homestead/Farmstead and small business properties exclusion. Seconded by Mrs. Elias.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Resolution – Mrs. Elias moved to approve Resolution #1266 and #1267 – student discipline. Seconded by Mr. Poston.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

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Agreement – Mr. Poston moved to approve the Allegheny Intermediate 2021/2022 Program of Services Agreement. Seconded by Mr. Hampton.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mr. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Agreement – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve participation in the AIU joint purchasing paper program. Seconded by Mrs. Sturgess.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Plans – Mr. Poston moved to approve the following plans: MAHS A-TSI Plan, Founders Hall CSI/School-wide Plan, Twin Rivers School-wide Plan and Francis McClure School-wide Plan. Seconded by Mrs. Sturgess.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Contract – Mr. Poston moved to approve a three-year contract with McKeesport Educational Support Professionals Association effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. Seconded by Mrs. Elias.

Voting aye. Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston

Voting no. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

Plan – Mr. Hampton moved to approve the compensation plan for the Confidential secretaries. Seconded by Mrs. Elias.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

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Excused. Mr. Filotei

Policies – First reading of the following Board Policies:
#221-Pupils-Dress and Grooming

Green Sheets – Mrs. Elias moved to approve the personnel recommendations. Seconded by Mr. Poston.

ACT 93:
TO BE HIRED: Effective 07-01-21:

1. Brianne Lion Assistant Coordinator of Special Education. Salary per Act 93 Agreement.

PROFESSIONAL:

RESIGNATION: Effective 08-18-21:

1. Jayme Tomco Special Education Teacher, Twin Rivers Elementary School.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

1. Courtney Reese Speech Teacher, unpaid leave of absence for the 2021-2022 school year.

TO BE HIRED: Effective 08-06-21: 206-Day Employees:

- 1.*** Paige Flore School Social Worker
(New Position) Step 1M \$45,947.00
- 2.*** Savannah Van Kirk School Social Worker
(New Position) Step 1M \$45,947.00
- 3.*** Abby Hagan School Social Worker
(New Position) Step 1M \$45,947.00
- 4.*** Gina Trunzo School Social Worker
(New Position) Step 1M \$45,947.00

TO BE HIRED: Effective 08-18-21:

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1.** Dillon Maddigan (Haselhoff/Durham)	Special Education Teacher, East End Academy Step 1M	\$42,378.00
2.** Hayley Maksin determined (New Position)	Instructional Technology Teacher, placement to be Step 1B	\$41,778.00

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PROFESSIONAL:

TO BE HIRED: Effective 08-18-21: (continued):

3.** Gianna Sigado (H. Allen)	Math Teacher, placement to be determined Step 1B	\$41,778.00
4.** Mindy Pechersky (new position)	Reading Specialist, Itinerant Step 1M	\$42,378.00
5.** Hannah Wehr (L. Pochiba)	English Teacher, High School Step 1B	\$41,778.00
6.** Jesse Johns (New Position/Hegedus)	English Language Arts Teacher, Founder's Hall Step 1M	\$42,378.00
7.** Weston Phillips (Lewandowski/Lea)	STEMology Teacher, Founder's Hall Step 1M	\$42,378.00

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Athletics for the 2021-2022 school year:

1.	Troy Blackwell	Assistant Football Coach	\$3,606.89
2.*	Jared Miller	Assistant Football Coach	\$3,606.89
3.	John Harper	Assistant Football Coach	\$3,606.89
4.*	Tom Smith	Assistant Football Coach	\$3,606.89
5.	Kevin Johnson	Assistant Football Coach	\$3,606.89
6.	Derek Pavlovic	Assistant Football Coach	\$3,606.89
7.*	John Moninger	9th Grade Football Coach	\$2,781.73
8.*	Troy Brown	9th Grade Football Coach	\$2,781.73
9.*	Ryan Smith	7/8 Grade Football Coach	\$2,781.73

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10.	Tim Sweeney	7/8 Grade Football Coach	\$2,781.73
11.*	John Grabowsky	7/8 Grade Football Coach	\$2,781.73
12.*	Bobby Boyd	7/8 Grade Football Coach	\$2,781.73
13.*	Elizabeth Dansak	Assistant Volleyball Coach	\$2,003.83
15.*	Trevor DePaul	Boys Assistant Soccer Coach	\$2,003.83
16.*	Kyle Rozycki	Boys 7/8 Grade Soccer Coach	\$1,912.43
17.	Molly Peddicord	Girls Assistant Soccer Coach	\$2,003.83
18.	Carly Tanney	Girls 8th Grade Basketball Coach	\$2,086.29
19.	Monica Poupakis	Girls 7th Grade Basketball Coach	\$2,086.29

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PROFESSIONAL:

VOLUNTEERS: Extra Curricular Athletics 2021-2022 school year:

1.*	Ed Mantich	Assistant Football Coach
2.	Habeeb Abdul-Raab	Assistant Football Coach
3.*	Josh Reist	Assistant Football Coach
4.	Nick LoNigro	Assistant Football Coach
5.*	Joe Smith	Assistant Football Coach
6.*	Sam Bostic	Assistant Football Coach
7.	Alex Jenkins	Cross Country Assistant Coach
8.	Jackie Gobbel	Cross Country Assistant Coach
9.	Mike Kisan	Cross Country Assistant Coach
10.	Theresa Lea	Cross Country Assistant Coach
11.	Gerald McGrew	Cross Country Assistant Coach

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST:

DELETIONS:

1.	Jaycee Revo	English
2.	Brandy Stalter	Elementary
3.	Zachery DiBeradin	Emergency Certification

SUPPORT STAFF:

TO BE HIRED: Effective 07-01-21:

1.*	Tracy Whitney	Category 5 Secretary, Founders' Hall Middle School.
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- (J. Boyd) Rate of pay pending MESPA contract approval.
- 2.* Jaymmie Mackowiak Category 6 Secretary, Food Service/Payroll.
(Morris/Stokes/Petrosky) Rate of pay pending MESPA contract approval.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

1. Ashley Kitta Instructional Assistant, High School. Unpaid leave of
Absence effective 08-18-21 through 10-11-21.

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SUPPORT STAFF:

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE LISTS:

DELETIONS:

1. Joshua Woods Custodians

TO BE HIRED: Summer laborers in the maintenance department effective 06-01-21. Hourly rate of pay will be \$8.25/hour:

- 1.* Aemond Knight
2.* Ahmir Culmer
3.* Logan Shiffler
4. Marty Allen

* Pending receipt of Act 24, 34, 114 and 151 clearances, Act 168 Disclosure Release, T.B. Time and Drug Test results.

**Step placement pending employer verification

***Pending PA Teaching Certifications

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Poston, Mrs. Sturgess

Excused. Mr. Filotei

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Athletic – James Brown/David Donato/Ivan Hampton – Mr. Hampton reported. We didn't have a meeting this month. Charley went over personnel for football and fall sports.

Buildings & Grounds – Steve Kondrosky/Mindy Sturgess – Mr. Kondrosky reported. We met this afternoon, Mr. Balogh and myself and he give me a list of things that they concluded. 11th ward school, they were having a weed problem and they took care of that. They took care of promenade and graduation, New band platform construction in the stadium lot, D.A.R.E Graduation, George Washington School barriers were put in place and signs were posted, doors were hung inside the bathrooms near the cafeteria, Warranty roof inspection and Founders Hall and the High School were completed. The High School main office was snaked, there was a problem there, a pretty substantial one too. At the Administration building a cast iron pipe leaked some product in the ceiling and A1 and Haughey was out to take care of that. They assisted Dick's Sporting Goods with tables, signs, hung tents and moved equipment. They did a tremendous job working for them while preparing for that event. New ice machine was set up in the Training Room. The roof was drained at Twin Rivers because of that disaster we had a few Monday's ago. Roof leaks at Founders and Twin Rivers were repaired and ceiling tiles were replaced. The batteries in the emergency generator at Twin Rivers had to be replaced because they were fried from the storm. Currently they are in the summer cleaning mode.

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity – Mindy Sturgess/Ivan Hampton/David Donato – Mrs. Sturgess reported. We met as a committee as a whole. I didn't have time to take detailed notes, Dr. Wanzo agreed to provide those updates. Dr. Wanzo reported. The diversity equity inclusion team of teachers met with the voices of change students and we continued to meet via zoom, we will be meeting to discuss articles or current events and a formal meeting in August to continue to form our vision and mission statement and we continue to collaborate with Penn State.

Education/Legislation/Policy – Diane Elias/Mindy Sturgess – Mrs. Sturgess reported. We met as a committee of the whole this evening and we did receive updates which again I'm going to ask Dr. Wanzo to present because I did not have time to prepare. Dr. Wanzo reported. We are in the middle of our summer PD, our literacy coaches have been working with a group of teachers. First and second grade teachers are working on curriculum mapping middle school teachers are working on ELA blocking and elementary school teachers are working on her math curriculum. Our summer camps are in full effect, today was the last day for camp invention which ended with an obstacle course. Our AM program is about halfway finished tomorrow at Francis McClure and Twin Rivers. Our PM program with Dick's Sporting Goods is thriving as well some of the things they have done, speed painting, tie-dye, outdoor exploration day, fishing with Brett Kiesel, field trips at the farm, zoo, science center, tonight as Dr. Holtzman mentioned there was a family night with over 300 people and tomorrow the Pittsburgh marathon volunteers will be in for a field day and that concludes my report. Mrs. Sturgess concluded. I

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want to thank our staff for everyone coming out and working after a stressful year I know as Dr. Holtzman mentioned earlier a lot of districts are struggling and a lot of business are struggling to get folks fully staffed in a lot of different areas across the country so I'm really pleased that our teachers made a commitment and were able to offer full-day programming to many of our students and thanks to Dick's Sporting Goods for their contribution.

Finance/Grants/Outside Funding – Diane Elias/James Poston/Steve Kondrosky – Mr. Poston reported. We did meet this evening upstairs and reflected on the budget we voted on tonight and went through some of the support staff contracted that we voted on tonight. We got information back from Keystone for the amnesty program that we did for the taxes and we still have one more month to go and right now we have collected a little over \$345,000 through May.

Personnel – Mindy Sturgess/Steve Kondrosky/Jim Poston – Mrs. Sturgess reported. The committee met as a whole this evening to discuss the personnel recommendations approved on this evening green sheet.

Safe Schools – James Poston/David Donato – Mr. Poston reported. Dr. Holtzman met with the with the school staff throughout the week and we just had a small fire in the PA system at the high school but the no damage to the building or anything else we just need to replace some of the PA system anyway so and that's of the report.

Solicitor's Report – Report was given in Executive Session but I would like to thank the union for especially Joe Whitney and his team for working with us on this and to Dr. Wanzo and Joan for doing some very heavy lifting here to get this across the finish line.

Correspondence – None.

New Business – None.

Adjournment – 9:21 PM – Mr. Kondrosky moved for adjournment. Seconded by Mr. Poston.

ATTEST:


Joan Wehner, Business Manager/Board Secretary