

March 22, 2022

McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
March 22, 2022

Presiding Mindy Lundberg, President

Date, Time, Place Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 7:30 PM, Board Room, Administration Building, McKeesport Area School District, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard, McKeesport, PA 15132.

Opening Exercises Ms. Lundberg called the meeting to order at 7:34 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
David Donato
Diane Elias
Dan Goughnour
Steve Kondrosky
Joe Lopretto
Mindy Lundberg
Latoya Wright

Matthew Holtzman - ABSENT

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

Board President's Remarks – I'm going to keep my remarks short this evening, I apologize for the cancellation of Wednesday's open agenda meeting, we did cancel for a good reason, our Girls' Basketball team had the opportunity to play against Moon and won. Unfortunately, they lost in the semifinals but we are all very proud of them. We have also had some outstanding successes in our other winter sports including Winter Guard and our Ladies Bowling team. We are hoping to honor them at an upcoming meeting, we are very proud. A special congratulations to Coach Amy Gumbert in her first year here at McKeesport Area School District as the Head Varsity Coach and was named Coach of the Year so we are all very excited about

March 22, 2022

that. We were out on time tonight so that was an even bigger accomplishment. Hopefully we are going to respect everyone's time and I'll end my report there.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Wanzo explained the video clip that was playing for the audience. Typically, we would have our student come and perform a portion of the their musical to get us excited about it but since our meeting was cancelled they decided to do a small clip. The play is Mamma Mia and it will run from March 31 – April 2. Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30pm and on Saturday there is a matinee at 2:00pm. Please make sure you come out and support our students, they always put on a wonderful show for us. Dr. Holtzman introduced Peter Vancheri from Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood LLP – Certified Public Accountants to explain the Financial Report ending fiscal year June 30, 2021.

Treasurer's Report – Mr. Kondrosky moved to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2022. Seconded by Mrs. Elias.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

Hearing of Citizens –

Ms. Shayla Boyd, 1311 Delaware Avenue, White Oak, PA 15132

Ms. Shayla Boyd addressed the Board about the dress code.

Minutes – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the minutes of the Open Agenda Meeting of February 16, 2022 and the Regular Meeting of February 23, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Goughnour.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

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

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

March 22, 2022

Refunds – Mrs. Elias moved to approve the tax refunds as presented. Seconded by Mr. Goughnour.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

Calendar – Mrs. Wright moved to approve calendar A for the 2022/2023 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Elias.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

Prom – Mrs. Elias moved to approve funding in the amount of \$4,000 for chaperones and security for the 2022 Prom. Seconded by Mr. Goughnour.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

Audit – Mrs. Elias moved to approve the Audit Report for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021. Seconded by Mrs. Wright.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

Bonds – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the refinancing of the Series A&B 2017 Bonds. Seconded by Mrs. Elias.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

March 22, 2022

The Board of Directors of McKeesport Area School District (the" School District) has determined that it is in its best financial interest to consider the issuance of general obligation bonds for the purpose of refunding all or a portion of its currently outstanding General Obligation Bonds, Series A and B of 2017, provided that an acceptable level of savings can be achieved, and does hereby authorize the School District's Administration to work with PNC Capital Markets LLC, as investment Banker, in connection with the structuring, marketing and issuing of the bonds

The Board of Directors of McKeesport Area School District does hereby appoint Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, as Bond Counsel, with respect to the proposed issuance of its General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2022 (the "2022 Bonds") for the purpose of for the purpose of refunding all or portion of its currently outstanding General Obligations Bonds, Series A and B of 2017 and authorize Dinsmore & Shohl LLP to take such actions as may be required to prepare the proceeding for the approving of the 2022 Bonds as required by the Local Government Unit Debt Act (including, specifically, the publishing of required notices).

Discipline – Mrs. Elias moved to approve Resolution #1296, #1297 & #1298 – Student Discipline. Seconded by Mrs. Wright.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

AIU – Mrs. Wright moved to approve the 2022-2023 AIU Program of Services Budget. Seconded by Mr. Goughnour.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

Funds – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the Federal IDEA Pass Through Funds in the amount of \$6,141 for the DART Early Intervention program. Seconded by Mrs. Wright.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

March 22, 2022

Policies –Mrs. Elias moved to accept the second reading of the following Board Policies:

#626 – Finances – Federal Fiscal Compliance

#626.1 – Finances – Travel Reimbursement

#827 – Operations – Conflict of Interest

Seconded by Mr. Goughnour.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky,
Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

Green Sheets – Mrs. Elias moved to approve the personnel recommendations (Green Sheets).

Seconded by Mrs. Wright.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Goughnour, Mr. Kondrosky,
Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mr. Holtzman

**McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
PERSONNEL ITEMS**

March 22, 2022

PROFESSIONAL:

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

1. Hannah Wehr English Teacher, High School, leave of absence effective approximately 05-06-22 to an undetermined date. Unpaid leave will commence at the expiration of sick days.

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST:

ADDITIONS:

- 1.* Mary Brookins Emergency Certification
- 2.* Christopher Montalbano Emergency Certification

DELETIONS:

1. Antoinette DiBattista Elementary
2. Mikalya Sherwin Elementary

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Activities for the 2021-2022 School Year:

- | | | | |
|------|--------------------|---|------------|
| 1. | Sam Ligeros | Assistant Baseball Coach | \$2,304.40 |
| 2.* | Dana Brown, Sr. | Assistant Baseball Coach | \$2,304.40 |
| 3.* | Sydney Martin | Assistant Softball Coach | \$2,304.40 |
| 4.* | David Mackowiak | Assistant Softball Coach | \$2,304.40 |
| 5.* | Chelsea McClung | 7/8 Grade Softball Coach | \$1,912.43 |
| 6. | Vladimir Kovalchuk | Boys Tennis Coach | \$2,805.36 |
| 7. | Matt Miller | Off-Season Conditioning Coach | \$2,758.40 |
| 8. | Dana Brown, Jr. | Off-Season Conditioning Assistant Coach | \$1,986.05 |
| 9. | Nick Lonigro | Off-Season Conditioning Assistant Coach | \$1,986.05 |
| 10. | Troy Blackwell | Off-Season Conditioning Assistant Coach | \$1,986.05 |
| 11.* | Tom Smith | Off-Season Conditioning Assistant Coach | \$1,986.05 |
| 12. | Kevin Johnson | Off-Season Conditioning Assistant Coach | \$1,986.05 |
| 13. | Derek Pavlovic | Off-Season Conditioning Assistant Coach | \$1,986.05 |

PERSONNEL ITEMS

03-22-22

PAGE 2

PROFESSIONAL:

VOLUNTEER: Extra Curricular Activities for the 2021-2022 School Year:

- | | | |
|-----|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.* | Chris Graham | Assistant Baseball Coach |
| 2.* | Joshua Lefcowitz | Assistant Baseball Coach |

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Activities for the 2022-2023 School Year:

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-------------------|------------|
| 1.* | Bryan Hoover | Boys Soccer Coach | \$3,921.49 |
|-----|--------------|-------------------|------------|

CONFERENCE REQUEST:

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Dr. Tia Wanzo
Dr. Jane Coughenour
Ms. Pamela Gordon | 2022 Annual PAFPC Conference and Spring Meeting
Sponsored by the PA Federal Program Coordinators
Association and PDE at Seven Springs, PA
April 4, 2022 through April 6, 2022
(Paid for by Title I)
\$3,840.90 |
| 2. | Dr. Mark Holtzman
Dr. Tia M. Wanzo | Carnegie Summit on Improvement in Education. Sponsored by
Carnegie Foundation for Advancement of Teachers in San Diego, CA
March 27, 2022 through March 29, 2022
\$3,606.65 paid for by DSGF
\$1,990.00 paid for by General Funds |

SUPPORT STAFF:

RESIGNATION:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------|--|
| 1. | Mahealani Gooden | Instructional Assistant, Founders' Hall Middle School, effective 02-25-22. |
| 2. | Edie Barnett | General Worker, Food Service Department, High School, effective immediately. |
| 3. | Dahlasziah Konik | Instructional Assistant, Twin Rivers Elementary School, effective immediately. |
| 4. | Athena Schuster | Instructional Assistant, effective immediately. |
| 5. | Jaymmie Mackowiak | Head Payroll Clerk, effective at the end of the workday 03/25/22. |

PERSONNEL ITEMS

03-22-22

PAGE 3

SUPPORT STAFF:

RESIGNATION: (Continued):

6. Troy Blackwell Community Outreach/Attendance Liaison effective 03-25-22.
7. Staci Jones Food Service/Payroll Category 6 Secretary effective 04-02-22.

TO BE HIRED: Effective immediately:

1. Javaugh Campbell Category 5 Secretary, Founders' Hall Middle School
(N. Wynn/T. Whitney) Step 1 Salary \$25,700.00 (pro-rated)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

1. Anica Jones-Paige Instructional Assistant, High School, unpaid leave of absence effective 02-07-22 through 02-28-22.

CHANGE OF STATUS:

1. John Harper From: Resignation
To: Retirement
Effective: 10-29-21

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

**Step placement pending employer verification.

**McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
PERSONNEL ITEMS**

March 22, 2022

ADDENDUM

Board action to reinstate employee XXX-XX-9228 effective March 4, 2022

March 22, 2022

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Athletic – Jim Brown/Dan Goughnour/Steve Kondrosky – Mr. Brown reported, we didn't meet this month but I would like to say that I am very proud of the Girls Basketball team for making it as far as they made it and I am really looking forward to next season. I would also like to congratulate the Girls Bowling team who finished 7th in the state.

Buildings & Grounds – Steve Kondrosky/Jim Brown – Mr. Kondrosky reported, Mr. Balogh and myself met this afternoon and he gave me a list of things that they accomplished from last month. Maintenance building finally addressed their heat. They were the last ones but they sacrificed. Observation room at Twin Rivers primary wing, padding was hung on the walls for Mr. Sweda. A wall was constructed at the music room at Founders Hall for Mr. Knight. Rooms 104-207 univent repairs were made. White Oak Police Department was provided building map for Francis McClure school and some keys for access. Gymnasium bulbs were changed at Francis McClure. The boiler was out at Founders Hall and repairs were done in house by Don Jackson. South Hall cafeteria have some for repairs that was necessary for pest control. Technology equipment moved from Docutech by Mr. Dumic. South Hall room 119 and Francis McClure main office had some plumbing issues and were completed. Preparing grounds for sporting events. Stadium weight room ceiling drywall repaired. Water lead testing was completed in house by Mr. Balogh. So far so good.

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity – Diane Elias/Latoya Wright – Ms. Wright reported, we met last Tuesday, it was the community, student and Board and administration that met and we talked about the culture of the school district, they gave us different scenarios to think about. It was really engaging and interesting. I really liked to hear the students input and what their thought process was and trying to bridge that gap between the community and the district and understanding that it may not always be easy as it sounds but we are listening to them. I look forward to the many more things we have coming up based on diversity and inclusion with all races and all color. You would be surprised how kids feel and sometimes they have opinions greater than ours. The one thing I will say is that we need to get back to having a village. We have lost our village in the community in helping us with our kids. The kids want that village feeling that inclusion, that group feeling.

Education/Legislation/Policy – Diane Elias/Dan Goughnour/Latoya Wright – Mrs. Wright reported, we met last Tuesday. We met with Dicks, they are doing a lot of great things in our district and community. Again, I want to reiterate that it may appear that Dick's is only doing things at Twin Rivers but its not, great things are happening throughout our whole district. They had a lucky to have you luncheon on March 17th. There is a couple of things that are coming up for student engagement. They are having a groomed to grow event on April 13th, for those of you who don't know its elementary kids going over to our Cosmetology shop to get haircuts, manicures and facials so they can feel good about themselves. We also talked about expanding

March 22, 2022

it over to Founders' Hall students because we have a lot of girls that sometimes don't feel good about themselves, so they will have an opportunity to go to that as well. Dick's Summer Camp is coming up, the registration is April 1, 2022. Pre-K kids can sign up but you must be enrolled in Kindergarten before you sign up. There was a Student Ambassador program, most kids had an opportunity in school to do the application. There is a family night that is coming up on March 24th, it will be at Twin Rivers but it is open to everyone. The district is working on social emotional learning, we got a presentation done by two doctors, One from Penn State and the other from Alabama. They were two nice woman and they talked about what they are working on. That's a conversation that you don't hear often and its important to address that. It is currently at Twin Rivers but it will be done at both Elementary buildings. Men of valor is a mentoring group in our district that took a group of young men to Men's Warehouse to get them shirts and ties so they can dress up for their meetings on Thursday's so they can feel better about themselves.

Finance/Grants/Outside Funding – James Brown/Latoya Wright – Mrs. Wright reported, we didn't meet this month, there is no report. Dr. Holtzman introduced the new Business Manager, R. Scott Domowicz, who is starting his third week. We are excited to have him on our team.

Personnel – Diane Elias/Steve Kondrosky – Mr. Kondrosky reported, we met virtually and tonight's green sheets reflect our discussion.

Safe Schools – Dan Goughnour – Mr. Goughnour reported, we didn't meet this month.

Solicitor's Report – I have no report for public session.

Correspondence – None.

New Business – Mr. Donato: Often throughout the year we are approached by the city of McKeesport and the other five communities in the school district to engage in a situation by which we forgive taxes for abatement purposes on a property that may have a debt with McKeesport Area School District on the face it's a very nice gesture because the city wants to get the property back on the tax rolls but that is bad for the School District, let me tell you why. If a property costs \$100,000 if it's \$100,000 in debt if someone asks us to clean it, the city's share of that money is 20%, the counties share of that money is about 15%, 65% of that money is the school districts. I'm suggesting that when that happens the school district only forgive the percentage that the city forgives because we are losing 45,000 with someone's telling us to forgive that the property we are losing \$65,000, the city is only losing 20,000 and the county is only losing \$15,000 so I would ask you to consider in the future when

March 22, 2022

somebody comes here and wants to blow up a half a million in taxes, that's pretty substantial. We heard from people who talked about in the back room about the kind of debt we have and everything, these things need to be considered a small ticket items that we do every day. When we exonerated a property, we weren't suffering the same losses as the other two taxing bodies are and we can't afford it and I'm asking you to consider when those deals come here they may not always be as good of a deal as you think. I suspect more often than not there a Trojan horse because the city can pee away that 20 K but we are owed \$65,000. I say in the situations let's give up exactly amount of tax money that the city gives up. I believe it's a reasonable position to take on this.

Adjournment – 8:14 PM – Mr. Kondrosky moved for adjournment. Seconded by Mrs. Wright.

ATTEST:



R. Scott Domowicz, Business Manager/Board Secretary