

SMETHPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION  
NOVEMBER 9, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dan Wertz, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. in the Smethport Area Elementary School.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Davis (Virtual), Learn, McKean (Virtual), O'Day (Virtual), Stratton (Virtual), Wertz.

Members Absent: Okerlund, Shonts, Tronetti.

Administrators Present: Benson, Jordan, London (Virtual), Rounsville, Zona (Virtual)

Mrs. Woodard, Mrs. Anderson (Virtual), and Mr. Kolivoski (Virtual) were also present.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Wertz

IV. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – None.

Allegations regarding students or employees are to be provided to the Administration. They are not to be discussed in public. Speakers may be held liable for untrue statements.

V. REPORTS

**Mrs. Anderson** provided the Board with an update on the Special Education, 504, and Gifted enrollment numbers. She also discussed some upcoming staff development.

**Ms. Zona** referred the Board to her November Newsletter. She reported that the Elementary Basketball Program is ending and there will not be a family night as in the past due to the COVID Pandemic. She told the Board that the Parent-Teacher conferences were all done by telephone or virtually. She reminded the Board that the Halloween Parade was recorded and put on-line so that parents could view it over the weekend at their leisure since visitors were not invited to it. She also mentioned that her Pre-K Counts enrollment is now at 92% full.

**Mr. Kolivoski** reported that the Tech Department has 100 open Help Desk tickets, but they are coming down. He also told the Board that he has seen an increase in the number of damaged Chromebooks with broken screens being the number one problem. He also mentioned that he has recently received a large amount of technology equipment from a grant run through IU9 and IU10. It includes teleconferencing equipment, video conferencing systems, four HD TVs with carts, and Virtual Reality STEM kits.

**Mr. Benson** reported that Miss Housler applied for and was awarded a grant to purchase a new Sousaphone for the Marching Band. He said that the cost of one runs about \$3,000. Regarding the Keystone Exams he has met with the students affected by the cancelling of those exams last year during the statewide school shutdown. He reported that the Spring PSSA tests are moving forward for the Spring assessment. He announced that several Veterans helped to make a Veteran's Day Ceremony recording for the recognition program which will be viewed at the HS in all classes Wednesday morning. He also discussed the Winter Sports numbers.

**Mr. Rounsville** reported that he is getting ready for winter. He told the Board that he has had one session of snow plowing that was done, but that the weather currently is beautiful.

**Mr. Pavlock**, Student Council President, reported that all of the fall sports programs ended their seasons very successfully and that the HS held a Spirit Week with daily themes. He shared pictures of the winning costumes and winning decorated classroom door as part of Spirit Week.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS – None.

VII. OLD BUSINESS – None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

The following items were discussed:

1. To consider items for the sale / discard list:  
    “My Math Materials” - Elementary K-6 Math books
2. To consider a repository bid from the Tax Claim Bureau.
3. To consider extending the Seamless Summer Option until June 30, 2021.
4. To consider a FMLA Leave of Absence (self) for Colleen McClain for intermittent days throughout the 2020-21 school year effective immediately.
5. To consider approving a Transportation Contract.
6. To consider updating the SASD Health & Safety Plan.
7. To consider updates to the SASD Athletic Health & Safety Plan.
8. To consider a MOU with Smethport Regional Youth Trap Team for the 2020-2021 season.
9. To consider a MOU with McKean County CYS Human Services regarding Foster Care Transportation.
10. To consider creating a Special Education Aide position for HS Emotional Support.
11. To consider appointing a HS Emotional Support Aide.
12. To consider approving the following addition(s) to the Substitute Support Staff list for the 2020-21 school year (pending proper paperwork):  
    Linda Fetter, Smethport, Clerical/Teacher’s Aide
13. To consider approving the following addition(s) to the Substitute Teacher list for the 2020-21 school year (pending proper paperwork):  
    Lori Edgar, Smethport, Emergency  
    Justin Tanner, Smethport, Emergency

**INFORMATION ITEM:**

- American Education Week is observed the first full week before Thanksgiving with that Wednesday being National ESP Day. National ESP Day honors and recognizes the contributions education support professionals make to public education. November 18, 2020, is *NATIONAL EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS DAY* ~ the day set aside to honor all the “other people” that provide invaluable services to our schools: bus drivers, cafeteria workers, classroom aides, paraeducators, secretaries, security services, and technical services.

- The Board of Education was given the following policies for first reading with subsequent approval in December:
  - #113.1 – Discipline of Students with Disabilities
  - #113.2 – Behavior Support
  - #113.4 – Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information
  - #122 – Extracurricular Activities
  - #123 – Interscholastic Athletics
  - #123.2 – Sudden Cardiac Arrest
  - #214 – Class Rank

**COMMENDATIONS:**

- Congratulations to the Jr. High Student of the Month – Brianna Digel and the High School Student of the Month – Cadence Gamet. They will be attending next week’s Board Meeting to be recognized.
- Congratulations to the Varsity Football team for being named Small School North Champs with an undefeated regular season of 5-0. The Hubbers beat Union/AC Valley in the D9 Class A Semifinals and advanced to the Class A Title game on 10/31 against 5-0 Redbank Valley. The Hubbers ended their season with a 20-6 loss to Redbank Valley. Great season to the players, Coach Jack, and all the other coaches that helped guide the team to the D9 Finals.
- Congratulations to both Boys’ and Girls’ Varsity Cross Country teams for going undefeated against NTL teams with 15-0 and 19-4 overall records. Jenna Gregory broke Tracy Woodring’s 5K Smethport Course Record by running a time of 19:52. Districts are scheduled for 10/31. Jenna won first place at Districts and qualified for States. Jenna is only the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hubber to place 1<sup>st</sup> at Districts, behind Brandi Colley, in Cross Country. Good Luck at States Jenna!

**NOTE:** Executive Session may be held between tonight’s meeting and the next board meeting.

IX. **PUBLIC TO BE HEARD** – GENERAL ITEMS

Allegations regarding students or employees are to be provided to the Administration. They are not to be discussed in public. Speakers may be held liable for untrue statements.

Mr. and Mrs. Ours, parents of a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student at SAES, discussed concerns with the class size in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

X. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Learn, seconded by Davis and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan M. Jordan  
Secretary of the Board