

SMETHPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
APRIL 21, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dan Wertz, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. in the Smethport Area Elementary School. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and social distancing regulations, all of the Board Members attended the meeting virtually.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. None of the Board Members were physically present but were all participating in the meeting on-line.

Members Absent: None.

Administrators Present: Jordan, London, Rounsville. These 3 Administrators were physically in attendance and following social distancing requirements.

Others present from the public: Jerry McKeirnan of C. L. McKeirnan, Inc.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Wertz

IV. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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. McKeirnan thanked the Board for their support and made a few comments about the services his company was providing in helping to deliver meals during the closure to drop-off locations for the students. He also explained to the Board that during the closure his staff has been busy doing maintenance on the vans, getting all of the busses ready for the State Police annual inspections, and cleaning and sanitizing the vehicles. He also told them that he has lost revenue due to the spring sports runs, field trips, and the extra runs for special education, non-public transportation, and CTC not occurring after March 13, 2020.

V. MINUTES

Moved by Davis, seconded by Stratton to approve the following minutes:

Work Session, March 9, 2020

Regular Meeting, March 17, 2020

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

Moved by Shonts, seconded by Okerlund to approve the Treasurer's Report for March 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

VII. BILL AND SALARY LIST

Moved by Stratton, seconded by Davis to approve the April 2020 Bill and Salary List with the exception of the asterisk items.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

Moved by Learn, seconded by Davis to approve the asterisk items on the April 2020 Bill and Salary List (Aveanna Check #43030).

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None. Abstain: Tronetti.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS – None.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. David E. London, Superintendent, reported on behalf of Ms. Zona that all but two Elementary students have been reached by teachers and are working on the materials provided by the teachers to continue their education during the closure. The high school participation rates were higher than expected. Mr. London also announced that Mr. Benson has sent letters home to the Seniors about the possibility of a virtual Awards Ceremony and some type of virtual Graduation Ceremony to recognize the graduating seniors of the Class of 2020. The school district is covering the cost of all of the caps and gowns for the seniors this year. Mr. Benson is planning a way to get a picture of each student on Graduation day in front of the High School being awarded their diploma. The pictures will then be provided to the student and their family. Mr. London also told the Board that the teachers have cleaned out their rooms and that the custodial staff has been cleaning and sanitizing the classrooms as they become available. Lastly, he informed the Board that McKean County Emergency Management told him that it is less likely that Smethport schools will be needed as an evacuation site for the nursing home, but we are still on the list.

X. OLD BUSINESS – None.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

(Any new hires under New Business are hired subject to the restriction that the hire will not be finalized unless all of the ACT 168 requirements relative to provisional employment have been met. He/She shall not be permitted to work with or have direct contact with children until all of the mandates of ACT 168 of 2014 have been compiled and the results are determined to be satisfactory to the District).

1. Moved by Stratton, seconded by Davis to waive the SASD Policy 006.1 requirement that a majority of Board members be physically present for other Board members to participate in a Board meeting via electronic format and permit all Board members to participate by digital conferencing or telephone and also waive the requirement to notify the Board President at least three days prior to the meeting. These waivers are being made in light of guidelines for gatherings of people during the pandemic situation of 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

2. Moved by Okerlund, seconded by Learn to approve the Smethport Area Jr/Sr. High School Activities Account for the period ending March 31, 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

3. Moved by Stratton, seconded by Shonts to approve the Seneca Highlands I.U.9 General Operating Budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year in the amount of \$ 1,065,042. (Our share is estimated to be approximately \$30,991).

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz.
No: None. Absent: None. Abstain: Davis.

4. Moved by Shonts, seconded by Davis to approve the following addition(s) to the Substitute Teacher's list for the 2019-20 school year (pending proper paperwork):
Andrea Yingling, Erie, Reading Spec., Sp. Ed. PK-12, and Secondary English

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

5. Moved by Stratton, seconded by Shonts to approve the following policies as presented:

- #222 – Tobacco and Vaping Products – Pupils
- #323 – Tobacco and Vaping Products – Employees
- #701 – Facilities Planning
- #702 – Gifts, Grants, Donations
- #702.1 – Crowdfunding
- #704 – Maintenance
- #705 – Facilities and Workplace Safety
- #707 – Use of School Facilities
- #709 – Building Security
- #804 – School Day
- #805 – Emergency Preparedness and Response
- #805.1 – Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies
- #805.2 – School Security Personnel
- #810.1 – School Bus Drivers and School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers
- #811 – Bonding
- #904 – Public Attendance at School Events
- #917 – Parental / Family Involvement

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

6. Moved by Tronetti, seconded by Shonts to renegotiate an Addendum to the Current Transportation Contract with C.L. McKeirnan, Inc. as follows:

The **Smethport Area School District** agrees to provide C.L. McKeirnan, Inc. the final two Base Contract payments for the 2019-20 school year, as if the "School Closure" did not occur. In exchange for this, C.L. McKeirnan, Inc. will provide van service for the Smethport Area School District "School Closure" Breakfast/Lunch Meal Delivery Runs for the period of March 14, 2020 – June 5, 2020 at no additional cost to the School District.

C.L. McKeirnan agrees to provide the School District with Certified Payroll Reports as specified by Smethport Area School District. These Certified Payroll Reports will begin with the last payroll that includes March 13,

2020, and each payroll after that during the State-mandated School Closure due to the COVID-19 Pandemic through the end of the school year, which concludes on June 5, 2020. These Certified Payroll Reports are as designated and consistent with the Federal CARES Act and Pennsylvania's Act 13. The Reports must certify that C.L. McKeirnan maintained their full complement of employees as of March 13, 2020 and paid the employees through the School Closure ending June 5, 2020, as if the School Closure had not occurred. The Smethport Area School District and C.L. McKeirnan, Inc. will sign the Addendum and payment will commence as soon as possible.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None. Abstain: Okerlund.

7. Moved by Okerlund, seconded by McKean to approve the SASD Continuity of Education Plan as designed and presented by the administration.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

8. Moved by Stratton, seconded by Shonts to rescind Mrs. Acker's medical leave scheduled for April and May of 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

9. Moved by Shonts, seconded by Okerlund to rescind Ms. Cheatle's medical leave scheduled for April and May of 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

10. Moved by Learn, seconded by Shonts to approve Mr. Stratton and Mr. Okerlund to represent the Board during Act 93 Meet and Discuss procedures.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Shonts, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None. Abstain: Okerlund, Stratton.

11. Moved by Tronetti, seconded by Davis to cancel the SASD Music Department Trip to Walt Disney World.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

12. Moved by Stratton, seconded by Shonts to adjust the resignation date for Jen Mack, for retirement purposes, to June 10, 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

13. Moved by Tronetti, seconded by Okerlund to adjust the resignation date for Patricia Shick, for retirement purposes, to September 30, 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

14. Moved by Davis, seconded by Shonts to accept a Letter of Resignation from Elizabeth Confair, Special Education Teacher, for retirement purposes, effective June 20, 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

15. Moved by Tronetti, seconded by Learn to approve a contract for "Tech Pool" services with Sweet, Stevens, Katz, & Williams, LLP, via Seneca Highlands I.U. 9 for the 2020-2021 school year.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

16. Moved by Okerlund, seconded by Shonts to approve the following Resolution regarding Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2020 due to the pandemic situation:

Whereas Smethport Area High School has used discretion in determining that sufficient course detail/content has been accumulated over three academic marking periods of the 2019-2020 academic year to satisfy Smethport Area School Districts established policies for course completion, credit, and academic proficiency, Class of 2020 members who have met the requirements for course credit have been certified as such by the Principal of Smethport Area High School and the Superintendent of Schools of the Smethport Area School District.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti, Wertz. No: None. Absent: None.

INFORMATION ITEM:

- April 19th – 25th is Administrative Professional's Week with April 22nd being Administrative Professional's Day.

COMMENDATIONS:

- Congratulations to Layne Shall who was named to the NTL Boys' Basketball All-Stars.
- Congratulations to the Port Allegany / Smethport Wrestling team who again won the AMWL League Championship. Also congratulations to Braedon and Bryant Johnson who participated at the PIAA State Wrestling Tournament.

COMMENDATIONS (Continued):

- Congratulations to Boys' Basketball Head Coach, Jay Acker, who was named NTL Coach of the Year and to Girls' Basketball Head Coach, Chad Goodman, who was named NTL Co-Coach of the year.

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

Mr. Wertz announced that the Board met in Executive Session prior to the tonight's meeting to discuss personnel matters. The Executive Session, like the Regular Meeting, was held virtually. All of the Board Members participated in the Executive Session on-line or by phone.

- XII. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD – GENERAL ITEMS – 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.
- XIII. ADJOURNMENT
Moved by Learn, seconded by Davis and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan M. Jordan
Secretary of the Board