

SMETHPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REORGANIZATION MEETING  
DECEMBER 4, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. in the Smethport Area Elementary School.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Wertz.

Members Absent: Tronetti. (There is currently one vacancy on the Board.)

Administrators Present: Benson, Jordan, London, Rounsville, Zona.

Mrs. Woodard and Mrs. Anderson were also present.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Jordan

IV. ELECTION OF TEMPORARY PRESIDENT – Mrs. Jordan requested nominations for Temporary President.

Moved by Learn, seconded by Davis that Dan Wertz be nominated and appointed to the position of Temporary President.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton. No: None. Absent: Tronetti. Abstain: Wertz. (There is one vacancy on the Board.)

V. READING OF CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION

Mrs. Jordan read the Certificates of Election of the Re-elected and Newly-elected Board Members. Mrs. Jordan also provided all Board Members a Board Member Distribution List and asked them to please review it and notify her of any needed corrections.

VI. ADMINISTER THE OATH OF OFFICE (Done by Temporary President, Mr. Wertz.)

To Re-elected and Newly-elected Board Members – Mr. Learn, Mrs. O'Day, and Mr. Okerlund. (Dr. Tronetti and Mr. Dickerson were not present at tonight's meeting.)

VII. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT (The Temporary President asked for nominations for the position of President of the Board.)

Moved by O'Day, seconded by Learn to nominate Dan Wertz as President of the Board. Unanimous.

No other nominations were provided.

Moved by Learn, seconded by Stratton to close nominations. Unanimous.

Moved by Learn, seconded by Davis that Mr. Dan Wertz be appointed President of the Smethport Area School District Board of Education for 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton. No: None. Absent: Tronetti. Abstain: Wertz. (There is one vacancy on the Board.)

VIII. ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT (The Temporary President asked for nominations for the position of Vice-President of the Board.)

Moved by O'Day, seconded by Stratton to nominate Ray Learn as Vice-President of the Board. Unanimous.

No other nominations were provided.

Moved by Davis, seconded by Stratton to close nominations. Unanimous.

Moved by O'Day, seconded by Okerlund that Mr. Ray Learn be appointed Vice-President of the Smethport Area School District Board of Education for 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Wertz. No: None. Absent: Tronetti. Abstain: Learn. (There is one vacancy on the Board.)

IX. 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.

X. MINUTES

Moved by Shonts, seconded by Davis to approve the following minutes:  
Work Session, November 4, 2019  
Regular Meeting, November 11, 2019

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Wertz. No: None. Absent: Tronetti. (There is one vacancy on the Board.)

XI. BILL AND SALARY LIST

Moved by Shonts, seconded by Stratton to approve the December 2019 Bill and Salary List.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Wertz. No: None. Absent: Tronetti. (There is one vacancy on the Board.)

XII. REPORTS

**Mr. Benson** recognized the December Students of the Month: Senior High – Christian Eaton and Junior High – Julianna Cole. He also briefly provided some information on PVAAS scores and will be providing more testing scores in the near future. He informed the Board of a Severe Weather Emergency Drill that was held on November 27<sup>th</sup>. He mentioned that we have gotten a lot of “Likes” on the new School Facebook page and that the Parent Meetings for the One-to-One Chromebook Initiative are coming up in December. He told the Board that the holiday concerts are coming up and that Winter Sports (Basketball) are beginning and the numbers of students participating are pretty decent.

**Ms. Zona** announced that she held practice drills for the weather emergency in phases due to the age of the children to get them ready and prepared for this type of emergency if needed in the future. She spoke of the events mentioned in her Elementary Newsletter. She also reported that 70 students are now attending the YMCA's Afterschool Program. She was very pleased with that participation.

REPORTS (Continued)

**Mrs. Anderson** gave the Board a report of the Special Education enrollment numbers as of 12/1/2019. She reported that four of our staff members have been trained and recently recertified as trainers for the Safety Care Training. They continue to train our current staff as needed. She also thanked the Life Skills classes, the two teachers, and the aides for organizing the Thanksgiving Lunch.

**Mr. Rounsville** reported that our new heating system is working very well. We have had a few small issues that NexGen has addressed. He mentioned that an exhaust fan breaker in the boiler room got shut down by mistake and caused us to lose our heat one morning. NexGen was able to find the problem and correct it within a couple hours. School remained in session during that time.

**Mrs. Woodard** announced that the Foundation's Holiday Vendor Craft Show is scheduled for December 14<sup>th</sup> and she invited everyone to come by. They have 114 vendors signed up for the show.

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS – None.

XIV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

**Mr. David E. London, Superintendent** reported that he is planning for the Data Reports, Future Ready Index, PVAAS, and Achievement by Grade Levels. The Principals are both holding data meetings with their staff. He also reminded everyone of the kickoff of the One-to-One Chromebook program and the parent meetings that are being held leading up to this. He also announced that the Central Office Staff is working diligently toward the "Go Live" date of January 1, 2020 for the new Skyward financial software. The Skyward support has been incredible. The first Skyward pay will occur on January 3, 2020 as planned.

XV. OLD BUSINESS – None.

XVI. 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 Davis, seconded by O'Day to approve the dates for the Work Sessions and Board Meetings for 2020:

**WORK SESSION**

January 6, 2020  
February 3, 2020  
March 9, 2020  
April 6, 2020  
May 4, 2020  
June 8, 2020  
July, 2020 – as needed  
August 3, 2020  
September 8, 2020 (Tuesday)  
October 5, 2020  
November 9, 2020  
December 2, 2020 – Reorganization Meeting (Wednesday)

**BOARD MEETING**

January 13, 2020  
February 10, 2020  
March 17, 2020 (Tuesday)  
April 21, 2020 (Tuesday)  
May 11, 2020  
June 16, 2020 (Tuesday)  
  
August 10, 2020  
September 14, 2020  
October 12, 2020  
November 17, 2020 (Tuesday)

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Wertz. No: None. Absent: Tronetti. (There is one vacancy on the Board.)

2. Moved by Learn, seconded by Stratton to approve a request for a Sabbatical Leave of Absence for restoration of health from Barry Shea from January 13, 2020 to May 29, 2020.

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Wertz. No: None. Absent: Tronetti. (There is one vacancy on the Board.)

3. Moved by Davis, seconded by Stratton to approve the following addition(s) to the Substitute Teacher's list for the 2019-20 school year (pending proper paperwork):  
M. Kristen Tim, Bradford, Emergency

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Wertz. No: None. Absent: Tronetti. (There is one vacancy on the Board.)

4. Moved by Shonts, seconded by Okerlund to appoint the following as Delegate and Alternate to the McKean County Tax Collection Committee (TCC) per Act 32:  
TCC Delegate – Susan Jordan  
TCC Alternate – Mary Jo Kreiner

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Wertz. No: None. Absent: Tronetti. (There is one vacancy on the Board.)

5. Moved by Stratton, seconded by Davis to adopt a resolution indicating the Smethport Area School District will not raise school property taxes above the State's adjusted index for the 2020-21 fiscal year. (Our adjusted index for 2020-21 is 3.9%)

Carried by roll call vote as follows: Yes: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton, Wertz. No: None. Absent: Tronetti. (There is one vacancy on the Board.)

#### **INFORMATION ITEM:**

- The Board President made the following committee appointments:
  - PSBA Liaison – Mrs. Davis
  - Allegheny Forest Alliance Representative – Mr. Shonts
  - I.U. 9 Board Representative – Mr. Learn
  - Employee Relations Contact – Mr. Wertz
  - Negotiating Committee for Teacher Contract (3) – Mr. Okerlund, Mrs. O'Day, Mr. Stratton
  
- The Board of Education has been presented with the following policies and procedures for first reading with possible approval in January:
  - #224 – Care of School Property
  - #237 – Electronic Devices – Students
  - #708 – Lending of Equipment & Books
  - #814 – Copyright Material
  - #815 – Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers, & Network Resources

**INFORMATION ITEM (Continued):**

- Sandra Vossler has been named by Keating Township as the new Tax Collector to replace Jan Knight, who is retiring. She will begin in January. Mrs. Knight is training her on the software.
- A reminder that School Director Training for those newly elected or re-elected will take place at the I.U. 9 on December 12, 2019.
- The Board is going to advertise and hold a Special Meeting on December 11, 2019 to swear in the absent elected Board Members or to declare the positions vacant.

**COMMENDATIONS:**

- Congratulations to the following students who were inducted into the NHS on November 13, 2019: Associate Members – Sophomores: Celeste Baker, August Cox, Ashley Day, and Jenna Gregory; Full Members – Juniors: Logan Christie and Braedon Johnson.
- Congratulations to the following Hubber Football players who were named to the Small School North Team All-Stars: Kameron Rounsville, Defensive Lineman of the Year; Travis Cooney, Offensive Line; Braedon Johnson, Running Back; Richie McDowell, Tight End; Bryent Johnson, Return Specialist; Adenn Stevens, Defensive Line, & Noah Lent, Safety. Braedon Johnson was also named to the Big 30's All-Star Team.
- Congratulations to Parker Jack and Jordan Pavlock who were selected to attend the Rotary World Affairs Institute in Pittsburgh on November 13, 2019. The Institute engaged high school student leaders in a discussion on key issues in international affairs so that they can understand and think critically about their world.
- Congratulations to the Jr-Sr High Students of the Month: Christian Eaton – High School and Julianna Cole – Jr. High.
- Congratulations to Cory Dart who is now an Eagle Scout. Also Ethan Nannen was honored at a rededication ceremony for restoring headstones at Rosehill Cemetery towards his service to become an Eagle Scout.
- Congratulations to the Elementary students who competed and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 12 teams at the Reading Competition held at Fretz Middle School. The Magical Readers were: Faith Benjamin, Calidonia Dart, Julianna Davis, Grace Greenman, Grant Greenman, Jaylin Jividen, Lia Kolivoski, Nick Learn, Ketha Line, Mara Ours, Jack Sherry, & Kendall Yingling.

Mr. Wertz announced that the Board met in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel matters.

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

Mr. Wertz recognized Mr. Larry Dennis and Mr. Bill Funk for their combined School Board Service of almost 35 years. He also thanked them for their Military Service. He then thanked the Re-elected and Newly-elected Board Members for serving on the School Board.

Mr. London will send a note of thanks to both Mr. Dennis and Mr. Funk.

- XVII. 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.
- XVIII. ADJOURNMENT  
Moved by O'Day, seconded by Learn and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan M. Jordan  
Secretary of the Board