

SMETHPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dan Wertz, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. in the Smethport Area Elementary School.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Davis, Learn, O'Day, Okerlund, Stratton, Wertz. Mr. Wertz attended in-person and the other present Board Members attended the meeting virtually. After the Oath of Office was administered to Ms. Simms she joined the Board (after Item #2 under New Business).

Members Absent: McKean, Shonts, Tronetti.

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

Mrs. Anderson (Virtual), Mr. Kolivoski (Virtual), and Mrs. Zeigler (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.

Mr. Benson introduced the Students of the Month at the high school, provided some information on each, and presented them with certificates. The Junior High student this month is Mara Ours (Grade 7) and the Senior High student is Logan Christie (Grade 12). Congratulations to both of them!

V. MINUTES

Moved by Davis, seconded by Okerlund and carried unanimously to approve the following minutes:

Work Session, January 4, 2021

Regular Board Meeting, January 11, 2021

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

Moved by Stratton, seconded by O'Day and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2021.

VII. BILL AND SALARY LIST

Moved by Davis, seconded by Okerlund and carried unanimously to approve the February 2021 Bill and Salary List.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS – None.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. David E. London, Superintendent, reported on the Governor's State Budget proposal which was very kind to education. It is an ambitious budget with modest increases for Smethport and rural Western PA in Basic Education Subsidy and Special Education Subsidy. However, it may not fare well in the General Assembly as it includes some tax increases. He announced that the SASD budget is still under development and will be presented in March. He told the Board that the new CDC regulations state that quarantines are not required for vaccinated employees. However, travel restrictions are still in effect.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

COVID numbers seem to be improving locally. Mr. London is hopeful that McKean County will soon be moving from substantial to moderate. He mentioned that we have been working on the \$1.6 ESSER II grant to help fund some items in the 2021-22 and 2022-23 budgets as we recover from the Pandemic. He has also been busy preparing with the administrators for the end of year In-Service programs

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 Davis, seconded by Learn and carried unanimously to approve a Letter of Resignation from Donnie Shonts, Board Member, effective immediately. Mr. London, Mr. Wertz, and Mrs. Davis all thanked Mr. Shonts for his positive support of the school district while serving on the Board during the last 8 years.
2. Moved by Okerlund, seconded by O'Day and carried unanimously to appoint Marklyn Simms, as Region II Board Member, to finish out Mr. Shonts' term which ends in December 2021.

Judge William Todd attended the Board Meeting per our request and administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Marklyn Simms. She took her seat at the Board table for the rest of the meeting.

3. Moved by Davis, seconded by Learn and carried unanimously to approve the 2021-22 School Calendar Resolution regarding Public School Code 1502 – District Approved Local Holidays designating five (5) additional Smethport Area School District local holidays.
4. Moved by Learn, seconded by Stratton and carried unanimously to approve the Smethport Area School District 2021-22 school calendar, which incorporates the “official local school district holidays” as previously designated by the Board’s Resolution dated February 17, 2021.
5. Moved by Davis, seconded by O'Day and carried unanimously to table an agreement with Sarah Colson, CRNP, effective February 1, 2021 – January 31, 2022 for review and approval of paperwork for Special Education Students eligible for the ACCESS program.
6. Moved by O'Day, seconded by Davis and carried unanimously to approve an Extended School Year (ESY) for Special Education to run July 12th – 29th, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and a Summer School Session for Special Education to run June 14th – 24th (no Fridays) from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
7. Moved by Okerlund, seconded by Stratton and carried unanimously to approve the following policies:
 - Policy #103 – Title IX
 - Policy #218.3 – Discipline of Student Convicted of Sexual Assault
 - Policy #252 – Dating Violence
 - Act 84 – Compliance Update – Publication of School Director Email Addresses

- Policy #626 – Procurement Updates – Pricing Thresholds for Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
 - ❖ The amounts reported in the most recent Bulletin on December 12th have increased for the new calendar year: the amount for purchases subject to public bid is \$21,300, and the amount for purchases subject to written or telephonic price quotation is \$11,500; effective January 1, 2021.

8. Moved by Learn, seconded by Okerlund and carried unanimously to approve the following Fall Coaching Supplement Position(s) for the 2021-22 school year: *The following stipulations shall apply to all supplemental positions and hires for the summer of 2021 and the 2020-2021 and the 2021-2022 School Year. If the temporary work position, extra hours, season or activity is not completed, these positions will be paid on a pro-rated basis from the first date of student-involved activities/work until the end of the activity/work. SASD will consider any future guidance on supplemental pay that clarifies an appropriate direction related to paying supplemental positions for activities not completed.*

Head Cheerleading Coach (Fall).....Amber Berlin
Head Cross Country CoachBill Stephen
Head Football CoachAdam Jack
Head Golf Coach.....Tom Alfieri
Head Volleyball Coach..... TBD
Volunteer Assistant Track & Field Coach (2020-21 School Year).....Corey Cochran

9. Moved by O'Day, seconded by Davis and carried unanimously to approve Douglas Dickerson as Secondary Principal effective April 19, 2021, or upon release from his current employer at \$ 85,000 pro-rated for the 2020-21 school year.

10. Moved by Okerlund, seconded by Learn and carried 6-0 with Davis abstaining to name Jeff Wagner as the District's Alternate Member on the Seneca Highlands I.U. 9 Cooperative Purchasing Board.

11. Moved by Davis, seconded by O'Day and carried unanimously to approve the Audit Report for the Smethport Area School District, as presented by BWB, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020.

12. Moved by O'Day, seconded by Davis and carried unanimously to approve a FMLA Leave of Absence for Victoria Vito to begin January 22, 2021 until approximately February 4, 2021 and possibly intermittent days for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year.

13. Moved by Stratton, seconded by O'Day and carried unanimously to approve the following addition(s) to the Substitute Teacher's list for the 2020-21 school year (pending proper paperwork):

Mark Clark, Emporium, Emergency Certification
Steven Kloss, Lewis Run, Social Studies 7-12

14. Moved by O'Day, seconded by Davis and carried 6-0 with Okerlund abstaining to approve the following addition(s) to the C.L McKeirman Substitute Bus/Van driver list for the 2020-21 school year (pending proper paperwork):
 - Colleen McClain, Smethport, Van
 - Barb Sherman, Crosby, Van
15. Moved by Okerlund, seconded by Davis and carried unanimously to approve the following addition(s) to the Aveanna Substitute Nurse list for the 2020-21 school year (pending proper paperwork):
 - Abigail Price, Smethport, RN
16. Moved by Learn, seconded by Davis and carried unanimously to approve a Letter of Resignation from Harold Davis, for retirement purposes, effective June 8, 2021.
17. Moved by O'Day, seconded by Stratton and carried unanimously to approve a Letter of Resignation from Christian T. Mattie, III, as School Solicitor for retirement purposes, effective June 30, 2021. Mr. London and the Board Members thanked Mr. Mattie for his many years of service to the School District.
18. Moved by Okerlund, seconded by Learn and carried unanimously to approve the changes to the Athletic Health & Safety Plan for Spring Sports.
19. Moved by Davis, seconded by Okerlund and carried unanimously to approve a Discard / Bid list of items as presented. The ad will be placed on our website for those that wish to bid on the item(s).

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- 19/20 Audit Report presented by BWB
- Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program 2021-2022
- Budget 2021-2022 Governor Wolf
- Having met all contractual requirements, the following changes will be made effective the 2nd semester of the 2020-21 school year:
 - Jacqueline Byron, Category IV to Category V (Masters +30)
 - Katie Freer, Category III to Category IV (Masters +15)

COMMENDATIONS:

- Congratulations to the following Students of the Month: Logan Christie – High School and Mara Ours – Jr. High.
- Congratulations to August Cox and Jordan Pavlock for being selected for Regional Band. They will be auditioning virtually for All State Band in February.
- Congratulations to Kassidy DiDomizio, Cadence Gamet, Parker Jack, and Matthew Nolte for participating in District Choir. All participants have qualified for Regional Choir.

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 meeting to discuss a proposed collective bargaining agreement and safety issues.

- 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 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan M. Jordan
Secretary of the Board