

**BLACKHAWK SCHOOL DISTRICT
500 BLACKHAWK ROAD
BEAVER FALLS, PA 15010**

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' VOTING MEETING
Blackhawk High School Library
June 14, 2012**

MEETING MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Mr. Richard Oswald, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:35PM. and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was answered by seven members. Those in attendance were:

Mr. Calabria	Mr. Clendennen	Mr. Fleischman	Mr. Heckathorn
Mr. Inman	Mr. May	Mr. Oswald	

Absent were: Mr. Fitzgerald Dr. Rose

Also attending were:

Dr. Miller- Superintendent Mr. Salopek- Solicitor Mr. Wessel- Board Secretary

Mr. Oswald announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting for Personnel matters.

Mr. Oswald announced that there was a Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting prior to the meeting.

Mr. Inman moved and Mr. Clendennen seconded a motion to correct the May 10 minutes to add the following:

Mr. Clendennen moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to approve a change order for the Northwestern Stadium Bleacher Seating project in the amount of -\$9,586 (deduct) to GT Grandstands to eliminate the widened aisles as presented.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Fleischman extended commendations on behalf of the Board to those employees retiring at the end of this school year. Presentations of service plaques were made by the building principals for those retirees in attendance. The retiree list is as follows:

- a. Ruth Carothers
- b. Ron Snyder
- c. Joan Reda
- d. Kathleen Crawford
- e. MaryAnn DeMonaco

- f. Peggy Graham
- g. Michelle Rekrut
- h. Rhonda Androlia
- i. Pam Adiutori
- j. Cindy Nardone
- k. Mike DeChellis
- l. Jay Blizman
- m. Bob Barthen
- n. Howard Leslie
- o. Tom Marsilio
- p. Lorraine Hember
- q. MaryJane Binder
- r. Sharon Glass
- p. Constant Baker
- q. Sue Conners

Mr. Oswald declared a short break to allow retirees to leave. The break ran from 7:50 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Oswald asked if there were any public comments on agenda items or other matters and asked that speakers limit their comments to two minutes and try not to be repetitive.

Mr. Ron Stidmon asked if answers would be provided to the written questions he submitted at the previous meeting. Dr. Miller replied that the answers were emailed to Mr. Stidmon that morning, but she reviewed the answers given. As a follow-up on to those answers, Mr. Stidmon asked about ACCESS funding and how long it would last. Dr. Miller replied that it was a grant that was renewable and that the start up costs which ACCESS would pay were still being determined for all day Kindergarten start up. Mr. Stidmon asked if the lottery for half day Kindergarten was unnecessary because of low demand, how that was communicated to parents and how many were pushed into all day by default? Dr. Miller replied that originally 12 parents wanted half day and that dropped to 9, one of whom only wanted it if it were offered at Patterson Primary School. Total enrollment is 170 and none have returned letters saying they changed their mind from all day to half day. Mr. Stidmon asked if it was two additional teachers or three to provide all day Kindergarten and Dr. Miller replied that it is two teachers for Kindergarten and one for Pre- K. Mr. Stidmon then posed three more sets of questions that he had in writing. Question 1. "There are numerous instances of board members voting on issues that directly impact close family members. What is the board's current definition of a family member regarding conflicts of interest and is this policy official of casually (sic) applied?" Mr. Oswald replied that each member decides for himself if a family relationship would impact the member's ability to make an impartial decision concerning an issue. Mr. Stidmon said there should be a policy. Mr. Fleischman said he has raised this issue in the past and other Board members felt that there was no need for a policy. Mr. Heckathorn asked if there has been any negative impact and no one named any. Mr. Oswald said the Board can discuss the need for a policy in executive session if Board members so desire. Question set 2. "How does the board define a change order on a construction project? If the architect fails to include a necessary component such as roof gutters, why should the district be responsible for the cost of purchasing and installing such an

obviously necessary item? Shouldn't this be considered a mistake by the architect? Similar costly change orders for electrical and paving seem to not fit the typical definition of a change order."

Mr. Tom Durkin from VEBH replied that "change order" is a contractual term and is used for any change to a contract, whether the item was missed, undetected, or unforeseen by the contractual documents. Question set 3. "Given the well-known increases in PERSERS (sic) funding we will be facing over the next few decades, has the board any idea where the money will come from? Have (sic) the board begun re-opening teacher contract negotiations as so many other districts have? If not, why not?" Given the complexity and uncertainty of the PSERS issue, Mr. Oswald moved on in order to give other audience members a chance to speak.

Mr. Dale Stubbie asked how many computer teacher positions will be reduced. Dr. Miller replied that currently one and a half positions are planned for elimination. Mr. Stubbie asked how that will affect class sizes. Dr. Miller replied that the principal is still looking at class tallies and that a set number is not established for each class to be offered. Mr. Stubbie asked if a position might be reinstated and Dr. Miller replied that at the current time there does not appear to be a need to do so.

Mr. Perry Pander questioned the appointment of Mr. Fitzgerald to the Board. An exchange followed in which Mr. Inman stated his position and motivation to move for appointment; Mr. Fleischman was declared out of order twice; and, Mr. Clendennen was refused the floor because it was the public's turn to speak, not Board members.

Mrs. Jodi Weister asked why the Board is considering 13 parking spots for handicapped people at the Northwestern stadium and how those people would be directed to those spots. Mr. Clendennen replied that the number is based on the capacity of the stadium, as were the accessible spots being created in the bleachers and that the athletic director will establish a system to get those needed to parking to and from that location. Mr. Fleischman asked the solicitor if there was a legal requirement to provide spots for every handicapped person that shows up for a game and if there was any liability if someone was unable to park because all handicapped spots were full. Mr. Salopek replied that a procedure needs to be established. Mr. Fleischman continued to express his views and wants a policy in place by July. Mr. Calabria said he would speak with the athletic director to set up a procedure to handle handicapped parking. Mrs. Weister also asked why no one recognized the last four retirees on the list, who are support personnel. Mr. Oswald replied that they were not planning to attend the meeting and their immediate supervisor was therefore not present to speak about them.

Mrs. Wendy Rakus stated that she had surgery in the past and found a need for a designated drop-off and pick-up area for games held at Northwestern. Mr. Oswald said the Mr. Calabria would discuss that with the athletic director.

Mrs. Weister asked the price per day in the proposed contract for Gary Koch to provide psychological services and Dr. Miller replied \$300 per day.

Mrs. Goering provided information about two students selected to attend the Hank Haney Golf Academy, which included a \$1,000 scholarship award. She also asked about Mr. Leslie continuing to do Future Farmers of America (FFA) and if he would have use of the greenhouse and space for the FFA club. Dr. Miller stated that the principal is working with Mr. Leslie to determine the space needed and there is no plan to dismantle the green house. Mr. May stated that Mr. Leslie has approached the state FFA organization to determine their requirements. Mr. Fleischman stated that he would like to attend any meetings with Mr. Leslie.

Mr. John Dudo and Mr. Steve Dillon from the BCCI Athletic Association addressed the Board concerning their request to hold footballs games on Sunday August 12, 2012.

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Mr. Calabria moved and Mr. Heckathorn seconded a motion to approve the 2012 fall sports schedules as presented.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No – Motion Carried

Mr. Calabria offered the following congratulations:

Congratulations to Coach Bob Amalia, the coaching staff and the boy's baseball team who were Section 1-AAA Champs.

Congratulations to Coach Bob Amalia, the coaching staff and the boy's baseball team for winning the WPIAL AAA Championship.

Congratulations to Brendan McKay who was named Gold Athlete of the Week by the Beaver County Times for the week of May 14, 2012.

Congratulations to Adam Rousseau and Molly Morris who were named Bronze Athletes of the Week by the Beaver County Times for the week of May 21, 2012.

Congratulations to Brendan McKay who was named the High School Athlete of the week by the Pittsburgh Post Gazette for May 28, 2012.

Congratulations to Molly Morris of the Blackhawk's women's lacrosse team on being selected to the WPIAL Division 2 Section 2 All Star Team.

Congratulations to Aleena Milinski who was named Bronze Athlete of the Week by the Beaver County Times for the week of May 14, 2012.

Congratulations to Danielle Levato who was named Bronze Athlete of the Week by the Beaver County Times for the week of May 14, 2012.

Mr. Calabria moved and Mr. Heckathorn seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Bruce VanHorne as the Track and Field Coordinator but will remain on the coaching staff as an assistant coach.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Calabria moved and Mr. Clendennen seconded a motion to permit BCCI, Chippewa Indians, and Lil' Cougars use of Northwestern Stadium on Sunday, August 12, 2012. The co-presidents of BCCI (John Dudo and Steve Dillon) presented the reasons for their request to the Board during the Public Comments portion of the agenda.

Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No; - Motion Carried

Mr. Fleischman requested that Patterson Township be asked to report on the project at the Patterson Primary School which the Board agreed to fund in part at a previous meeting. Mr. Calabria said he would ask.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/ REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Mr. Clendennen moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to approve a Change Order for the Highland Middle School Project to Yarborough Development to provide stabilization of soft sub-grade in the South Driveway adjacent to the Gymnasium Addition, in manner described by the Owner's Geotechnical Engineer, for the additional cost of \$14,874.75. Mr. Fleischman asked why this was not seen earlier. Architect, Mr. Tom Durkin replied that four test borings were taken in the area in question, but the readings could not predict how the sub soil would proof roll. The independent engineers hired by the District to conduct testing found that the soil did not compact to a sufficient strength and there was no way to know that in advance. The cost was determined by unit cost numbers established by the contract with the General Contractor.
Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Clendennen moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to approve a Change Order for the Highland Middle School Project to Yarborough Development to provide stabilization of soft sub-grade in the East Driveway adjacent to Areas D and F, in manner described by the Owner's Geotechnical Engineer, for the additional cost of \$7,555.50.
Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Clendennen moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to award a contract to McElroy Paving in the amount of \$81,200 for handicapped parking adjacent to the District's Stadium located on the Northwestern Primary School campus plus eighty feet of curbing at a cost of \$2,100. Mr. Durkin discussed the need for the curbing to keep cars in the new parking area from damaging the building. Mr. Fleischman asked what else McElory has done for the District and he was told that they paved the Intermediate School roads and parking area, the High School roads and parking areas, and did the Dillon Street work in the last year.
Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Inman moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to accept the Financial Report for the month of May as submitted.
Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Inman moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to approve bills for May from the various Funds as submitted.
Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

The Board was directed by Mr. Inman to the exhibits within their packets for the May Monthly Insurance Reports.

Mr. Inman moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to approve the award of the contract for audit services to Cottrill Arbutina for the District audits of fiscal years ending in 2012, 2013, and 2014.
Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Inman moved and Mr. Clendennen seconded a motion to contract for commercial property, automobile, general liability, school leaders liability, workers compensation and

umbrella insurances as recommended by the District's broker, First National Insurance, at a total cost of \$207,421 for the 2012- 2013 fiscal year.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to employ Erin Krut as Primary teacher at Patterson Primary School for the 2013- 2013 school year at a salary of \$45,910, Step 19 Bachelors level.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to employ Lara Grogan as Elementary teacher at Blackhawk Intermediate School for the 2012- 2013 school year at a salary of \$46, 690, Step 19 Masters level.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Clendennen seconded a motion to employ Amy Taylor Grogan as Elementary teacher at Blackhawk Intermediate School for the 2012- 2013 school year at a salary of \$46, 690, Step 19 Masters level.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to employ Jake Anderson as Elementary teacher at Blackhawk Intermediate School for the 2012- 2013 school year at a salary of \$45,910, Step 19 Bachelors level.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to employ David Zaccari as Music teacher at the Blackhawk High School for the 2012-2013 school year at a salary of \$45,910, Step 19, Bachelors level.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Clendennen seconded a motion to employ Melissa Crawford as a food service worker at the Blackhawk High School at a rate of \$7.25 per hour effective upon receipt of clearances.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Clendennen seconded a motion to approve a leave of absence for Katie Phelps for the birth of her child beginning on August 29, 2012 and returning on or about October 1, 2012.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to contract with Gary Koch, school psychologist, for the 2012- 2013 school for a maximum of 60 days, to provide student evaluations as required for the Gifted and Special Education programs.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Clendennen seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Anne Glinsky, High School German teacher, effective June 31, 2012.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Clendennen seconded a motion to accept a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the PSEA and Blackhawk Teachers' Association in regards to the terms of retirement for teacher Eugene Montgomery. Mr. Fleischman asked why the MOU was needed. Dr. Miller replied that the terms requested by Mr. Montgomery deviated from the language in the current bargaining agreement. He asked when the process began and Dr. Miller replied that the work on an agreement began at the end of May. Mr. Fleischman stated that the Board should have been briefed sooner and a discussion followed.

Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No (With Mr. Calabria, Mr. Fleischman and Mr. Inman expressing reservations) – Motion Carried

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to accept the settlement agreement with Eugene Montgomery as negotiated and presented to the Board.

Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No – Motion Carried

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mr. May moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to approve the following field trips:

a. Concert Choir (60), Maura Underwood, Ashley Biega, Nicole Holiday, New York Theatre Trip, New York, October 17-18, 2012 (student funded).

b. Junior Students (50), Jamie Planitzer, Joe Verbosky, Bryan Vitali, Venture Outdoors, Pittsburgh, September 20, 2012 (student and grant funded).

c. Primary Summer School, Jodi Borroni, Pittsburgh Zoo, June 28, 2012 (Foundation funded).

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

Mr. May moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to reserve one seat with CLASS Academy for the 2012- 2013 school year.

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE

No report.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No Report.

FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE

No report.

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

No report.

POLICY COMMITTEE

No report.

BOARD/ STAFF ENRICHMENT

Mr. Calabria moved and Mr. Inman seconded a motion to approve the following conferences:

a. Korin McMillen, Special Ed Leadership Academy conference, Bedford Springs, July 23-26, 2012 (budgeted).

b. Gina Gordon, PA School Counselor Association Leadership Development, Exton, PA, July 25, 2012

Verbal Vote: 7 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried

INTERMEDIATE UNIT

No report.

VOCATIONAL- TECHNICAL SCHOOL

No report.

PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

No report.

BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

No report.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

School Directors: Mr. Fleischman asked Mr. Inman why he nominated Mr. Fitzgerald the previous month to fill the seat vacated by Mrs. Pander's resignation. Mr. Inman replied that he could make any motion he desired when recognized and the Board could vote on it if it was seconded. An exchange followed and both Mr. Fleischman and Mr. Inman were declared out of order. Mr. Perry Pander commented from the audience but was not recognized.

Mr. May asked if the German teacher was being replaced and Dr. Miller replied that the position would be filled and that two candidates have been asked to apply and the District will also post and advertise for the position.

Administration: Dr. Miller told the members that the District won a seventh place award at the Western Pennsylvania Wellness meeting and that the awards luncheon was a nice affair attended by several of the District's wellness committee members. Mr. Fleischman asked the cost and Dr. Miller replied that it was \$600 for a table, paid from the Heath Fund.

Visitors: Mrs. Barb Brown asked for the Health and Dental Fund balances and was given them by Mr. Wessel.

Mrs. Jodi Weister asked why a curb was selected at the new parking area at Northwestern Primary School instead of wheel stops which might be cheaper. Mr. Clendennen replied that stops were considered, but caused snow removal problems and have higher maintenance costs for a lower level of protection. The curb was recommended as the best solution.

Next Meeting: Mr. Oswald announced that the next scheduled meeting is July 19, 2012 in the Blackhawk High School Library and will be a combined Work and Voting Session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 PM.

Submitted by Jerry Wessel
Board Secretary