

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

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS' WORK SESSION  
Blackhawk High School Library  
June 9, 2011**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

Mr. Richard Oswald, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. Roll call was answered by four members. Those in attendance were:

Mr. Calabria                      Mr. Clendennen                      Mr. May                      Mr. Oswald

Absent were:

Mr. Fitzgerald                      Mr. Fleischman                      Mr. Heckathorn                      Mr. Inman  
Mrs. Pander

Also attending were:

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

Approval of the minutes from the May 12 and May 19, 2011 meetings were tabled pending arrival of a fifth member to complete a quorum.

Mr. Oswald announced that there will not be a Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting prior to the June 16, 2011 voting meeting.

Mr. Oswald announced that there will be a combined Work Session and Voting Session on July 14, 2011 in the Blackhawk High School library. (Later changed to July 21, 2011)

Mr. Oswald announced that the Fitness Center at the Middle School is closed for the summer beginning Friday, May 27, 2011.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Dr. Miller reviewed the agenda item for the June 16, 2011 meeting which showed that Middle School students of the month for May will be recognized then.

Dr. Miller introduced Mr. Dale Moll and Mr. Tim Linkenheimer who recognized TSA students and their many accomplishments during the school year. They also showed two short videos highlighting TSA. Dr. Miller and Mr. Oswald commended the students and their advisors for their accomplishments.

Dr. Miller introduced Mrs. Sue Anne Linnenbom and Mrs. Meredith Oliver who recognized the many gifted students who excelled at Academic Games during the school year. Dr. Miller congratulated the students, as did Mr. Oswald. Dr. Miller also congratulated Mrs. Linnenbom on her upcoming retirement and thanked her for her years of outstanding service to the District's students.

**ASIDE:** Mr. Heckathorn arrived during the TSA presentation, giving the Board a quorum for the meeting.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Wessel stated that the first three items on the agenda for the June 16, 2011 would be sent to the Board for review prior to that meeting. He informed the Board that the single meeting in July would result in a shortened bill lists and that some informational items may need to be carried to the August meeting. He also informed that Board that beginning in July they will see Fund 50 (Cafeteria) re-designated as Fund 51 and Fund 66 (Health/ Dental) divided into Fund 66- Medical and Fund 67- Dental to comply with the State Chart of Accounts.

Mr. Wessel reviewed the proposed resolution 06092011-1 which sets the Homestead/ Farmstead exclusions for the 2011- 2012 fiscal year. He pointed out that the District received \$1,025 less for exclusion money from the State than the previous year and that the exclusion equates to \$171 per Homestead/ Farmstead.

Mr. Wessel reviewed the proposed resolution 06092011-2 which directs preparations for issuing General Obligation Bonds for financing the Middle School project.

Mr. Wessel reviewed items 3.6 through 3.9, which are proposed for approval at the June 16, 2011 meeting.

Finally, Mr. Wessel informed the Board that the District's auditors, Cottrill Arbutina, will complete the audit for 2010- 2011 at the same price s the previous year in recognition of the funding cuts made by the State.

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. May seconded a motion to approve Resolution 06092011-1 regarding Homestead/ Farmstead exclusions for 2011- 2012.

**Verbal Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried**

Mr. Heckathorn moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to approve Resolution 06092011-2 regarding financing of General Obligation Bonds for the Middle School project.

**Verbal Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried**

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Oswald asked if there was any public comment or questions on agenda items.

Mrs. Barbara Brown requested that if agendas were not going to be provided for the public that the agenda be put on line in advance so the public can make their own copies. Dr. Miller said that agendas not being provided was an oversight and that they will be provided in the future.

## **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Dr. Miller reviewed the PERSONNEL COMMITTEE portion of the agenda.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Dr. Miller reviewed the EDUCATION COMMITTEE portion of the agenda. She explained that the October trip to New York City shown was being cancelled and would be removed for the next Board meeting. Mr. Calabria asked if the Band trip to Orlando Florida

involved performance and competition. Dr. Miller replied that it did involve a performance, but was not sure if there was also a competition involved.

#### **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/ REAL ESTATE**

No report

#### **ATHLETICS COMMITTEE**

Dr. Miller reviewed the ATHLETICS COMMITTEE portion of the agenda.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON**

No report

#### **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

No report

#### **FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE**

Mr. May moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to employ the Nutrition Group as the food service management service for the 2011- 2012 fiscal year.

**Verbal Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried**

Mr. May moved and Mr. Clendennen seconded a motion to increase breakfast prices by \$0.25, lunch prices by \$0.35, and ala carte items by 10% for the 2011- 2012 school year.

**Verbal Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried**

#### **NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

No report

#### **POLICY COMMITTEE**

No report

#### **BOARD/ STAFF ENRICHMENT**

Dr. Miller briefed the Board about the STAFF ENRICHMENT item on the agenda for the next meeting.

#### **INTERMEDIATE UNIT**

No report

#### **PSBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Dr. Miller informed the Board that the PSBA report was included in their exhibits. She also informed the Board that the State Auditor General is coming to the Intermediate Unit for a visit and that she will brief the Board concerning his comments at the next meeting.

## **BEAVER COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

No report

### **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Mr. Oswald directed the Board back to the approval of the minutes for May 12 and 19, 2011, which were tabled pending arrival of an additional Board member so that a quorum was present. Mr. Calabria moved and Mr. May seconded a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Clendennen offered several corrections and Mr. May moved and Mr. Calabria seconded a motion to accept the minutes with the changes as noted.

**Verbal Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No- Motion Carried**

Under School Directors comments Mr. Oswald reminded the Board that there would be seating reserved for Board member at tomorrow's graduation ceremony. Mr. Oswald asked if there were any comments from any other School Directors. Mr. Clendennen informed the Board that he read that of 14 districts going to referendum during the recent elections, 13 had their referendum requests denied by the voters. Mr. Heckathorn commented that he was impressed with Expressions who sang at the recognition dinner held the previous Tuesday and that he felt that it was an excellent affair.

Mr. Oswald asked if there were any comments from the administration. Dr. Miller reminded the Board that graduation would be streamed on the District web site for viewing by those that could not attend the ceremony.

Aside- Mr. Fleischman arrived at the meeting at this point.

Mr. Oswald asked if any visitors had comments. Ms. Jane Ann Fucci asked about the Alliance Tubular assessment compromise on the agenda and Mr. Salopek responded that he recommended the compromise and that the assessment was in line with other properties. Ms. Fucci then asked about use of the Middle School field during construction by soccer since the question was raised to her by parents. Dr. Miller replied that the details are still being fleshed out, but that District teams would have priority and then Community groups for field use throughout the District. Community groups have been notified that they should look for alternate sites. Mr. May added that some soccer organizations have spoken with the VFW about using their fields, but arrangements are still in the works. He stated that the issue is safety for the kids and that is paramount.

Ms. Barbara Brown commented that although Mr. Wessel had stated that only one person called him with a budget question, several people had come in and reviewed the budget at the primary schools.

A soccer parent in the audience asked what they could do to help with fields and Mr. May replied that the District will work with them to do the best possible to schedule field use, but the teams need to look also. The parent assured Mr. May that they are looking.

Mr. Oswald announced that the next meeting would be held at the Blackhawk High School in the library at 7:30 PM on June 16, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Submitted by Jerry Wessel  
Board Secretary