

WEST BRANCH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR SESSION

APRIL 27, 2015

Members Present: Joseph M. Kovalcin, Melvin Smeal, Gerald Coble, Chad Diviney, Paul Carr, Larry Allen, Robert Seprish

Members Absent: Don Yontosh, Christina Brown

Student Representatives: Skylar Krise

Media Present: Tyler Kolesar, The Progress News

Administration Present: Jason McMillen, Michelle Dutrow, Joseph Holenchik, Mark Mitchell, Dave Nelson, David Williamson

Others Present: David Consiglio, Solicitor; Ron Mollura, Greg Modzel, Pat Shive, Shari Buck, Holly Petriskey, Karen Bosak, Erling Anderson, Tom Veres, Len Coval

OPENING EXERCISES

President Joseph Kovalcin called the meeting to order at 7:49 p.m. All present were asked to stand and pledge allegiance to the American Flag.

STUDENT REPORTS

Skylar Krise discussed that the Senior Class is having a hoagie sale to raise money for the Senior BBQ. They have ordered their shirts and need to finalize payments for Cedar Point.

The drama performance Beauty and the Beast was a huge success.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

There were no visitors signed up to speak to the Board.

MINUTES

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the minutes from March 23, 2015 and April 6, 2015. Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Joseph Holenchik, Secondary Principal—

- Discussion and preparation continues regarding the 2015-2016 class schedule. Addition of electives is currently under discussion as well as the implementation of the ELO (Extended Learning Opportunity) classes and the PBA (Project Based Assessment). Students have begun making preliminary selections for classes.
- PSSA testing for grades 7 and 8 is nearly completed. Science testing is tomorrow and it will leave just make-up testing to accomplish.
- Keystone Exam testing begins in mid-May. Extended Learning Opportunity classes are continuing as a part of our preparation efforts.
- Feedback on the computers that have been distributed to the 9th graders has been favorable.
- The project fair was held on April 22, 2015. It will be the last for this type of graduation project.

- Junior – Senior High Band Concert – May 11, 2015 @ 7 PM.
- Jazz Band Concert – May 14, 2015 @ 7 PM.
- Junior – Senior High Chorus Concert – May 18, 2015 @ 7 PM.

Mark Mitchell, Elementary Principal—

- PSSA testing has begun, there are 4 sections of ELA, 3 sections of Math and 2 sections of Science. A kick-off assembly was held along with activities and spirit days.
- 2015—2016 Master Schedule is starting to be compiled.
- There will be a BMX assembly on April 29th for grades 3-8 to promote bullying prevention and awareness.
- Will attend the 46th Annual Federal Programs conference from May 4-6.
- Scott McClelland & Michell Guerra - The 2015 Lauretta Woodson Award from the Clearfield County Chapter of Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees. This award has been established in memory of a former public school English teacher, Lauretta Woodson. Our chapter gives this award to a deserving teacher and support professional from one of our Clearfield County school districts each year. This award is given in recognition of unselfish dedication and exemplary service by an educator and a support professional.
- Mrs. McGonigal's class will hold Muscle Day.
- Many upcoming field trips.

Jason McMillen, Business Manager—

- Budget presentation and informational binders are completed.
- Attended Mid-State PASBO meeting in Altoona on April 9.
- Have had bi-weekly meetings with McClure since the March 20 "kick off" meeting.
- Safety Committee meetings are held each month and are well attended by the six members. This committee will have our annual training on May of this year. Having a certified safety committee reduces the cost of the District's Workman's Compensation Insurance and has helped in increasing a safer work environment.

David Williamson, Athletic Director—

- Kody Trude has been selected to play on the AA All State Basketball Team.
- Reviewed Attendance Reports to the board.

Dave Nelson, Maintenance Supervisor—

- McClure project (working on detailed drawings).
- Working on spring field maintenance for Athletics.

Nik Bisko, Technology Administrator—

- 1-to-1 student laptop pilot going well with positive feedback.
- Attended South Hills Internship Fair, have three applicants and will begin interviews next week.

CIU #10—No report.

CCCTC—403 students are signed up for 2015-2016 school year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

The May Regular Board Meeting will be held one week earlier due to the Memorial Day holiday. The date will be Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library.

Representatives from The Nutrition Group to present proposed contract options for the 2015—2016 school year.

Jason McMillen, Business Manager, to present the proposed budget for the 2015—2016 school year.

BOARD

No voting items.

PERSONNEL

- Volunteers Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Tracey Turik and Charles McAllister to the volunteer list, all paperwork has been received. Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.
- Extended School Year Mr. Robert Seprish, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following motions:
- Approve the resignation of Susan Betts as Extended School Year Teacher.
- Approve Cheri Cantolina as Extended School Year Teacher at the contracted rate of \$24/hr., for the 2014—2015 school year.
- Approve Angie Lucas as Extended School Year substitute, as needed, at the contracted rate of \$24/hr., for the 2014—2015 school year.
- Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.
- GSA Advisors Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Carrie Peterson, Deb Moriarity and Holly Walker as the Gay / Straight Alliance Advisors (volunteer position). Mr. Gerald Coble seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 6-1-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Carr—yes; Mr. Smeal—no; Mr. Diviney—yes; Mr. Allen—yes; Mr. Coble—yes; Mr. Seprish—yes; Mr. Kovalcin—yes. Yes—6; No—1.
- Mr. Smeal requested the address to the headquarters for the GSA.
- A. Lute Resignation Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the resignation of Amanda Lute, School Psychologist, effective August 14, 2015. Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.
- Summer Hours Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following motions:
- Approve District Summer Hours of Operation using a four (4) day work week, June 19, 2015 to August 7, 2015. Staff will increase daily hours to accommodate a shortened work week.
- Approve the Summer Staff:
- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Nurse | 5 days – (Briskar - \$1,254.05) |
| Guidance | 20 days each (Graboski - \$5,000; Porter - \$5,421.60; Hubler - \$7,286.40) |
| Librarian / Clerk | 5 days each (Walker - \$1,848.65; Folmar - \$490) |
- Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

EDUCATION

- Field Trips Mr. Mel Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following motions:

Teen Court field trip to the Clearfield County Courthouse on May 12, 2015. Cost to the District is for two full day substitute teachers and there is no cost to the student. (Information Only: Approximately 25 students will be attending the trip. Chaperones are Joe Matson and Andrew Chimenti).

Secondary Life Skills field trip to Lock Haven University, Clearfield Campus, on May 20, 2015. Cost to the District is gas for the school vans, there is no cost to the student. (Information Only: 8 students will be attending the trip. Chaperones are Nicole Petriskey, Karen Williams, Tina Kolesar and Jeanie Scott).

6th Grade Learning Support field trip to Belleview and Farm in Port Matilda on June 3, 2015. Cost to the District is gas for the school van. Cost to the student is money for the flea market. (Information Only: 11 students will be attending the trip. Chaperones are Barbara Spencer and Michelle Guerra).

Secondary Life Skills field trip to Curwensville High School on May 18, 2015 for the Life Skills Prom. Cost to the District is gas for vans and there is no cost to the student. (Information Only: 9 students will be attending the trip. Chaperones are Nicole Petriskey, Karen Williams, Tina Kolesar, Jeannie Scott, Danielle Gregory and Amanda Harris).

Honors Physics field trip to Hershey Park on May 8, 2015. Cost to the District is for two teacher substitutes. Cost to the student is for food. (Information Only: 13 students will be attending the trip. Chaperones are Andrew Chimenti and Dan Socash or Joe Matson).

Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

Prom
Promise
Breakfast

Mr. Mel Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the SAP sponsored Prom Promise breakfast to be held May 15, 2015 at the Gethsemane Church. (Paid for by SAP). Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

Couse
Selection
Book

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the High School Course Selection Book for the 2015—2016 School Year. Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

Graduation
Project

Mr. Chad Diviney, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the revised (locally required) Graduation Project as proposed effective with the 2015—2016 school year. Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

Graduation
List

Mr. Mel Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the 2014—2015 graduation list, pending all requirements are met. Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

Elem. Library
Book Order

Mr. Mel Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Elementary library book list for 2015—2016 in the amount of \$3,630.61. Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

2 ACT 80
Days

Mr. Chad Diviney, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve two (2) Act 80 days at the end of the school year, June 8 and 9, 2015, for all contracted staff, due to inclement weather days. Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

TRANSPORTATION & ATHLETICS

- Winter Coaching Staff Mr. Robert Seprish, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the administrative recommendation to retain the winter athletic coaching staff. (Sports include Wrestling, Girls Basketball and Boys Basketball)
Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.
- Boys Jr. High Soccer Co-Op Mr. Chad Diviney, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the co-operative agreement for Boy's Jr. High soccer with the Philipsburg-Osceola school district beginning in the 2015-16 school year. (Program cost included in Preliminary 2015—2016 Budget). Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.
- G. Hubler Football Vol. Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Gary Hubler as a volunteer to the football program. Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

No voting items.

POLICY

- 1st Reading Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the 1st reading of the following policies:
- i. 113—Special Education
 - ii. 113.2—Behavior Support
 - iii. 113.4—Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information
 - iv. 119—Field Trips
 - v. 204—Attendance
 - vi. 218.2—Threat Assessment
 - vii. 333—Professional Development, Administrative Employees
 - viii. 433—Professional Development, Professional Employees
 - ix. 609—Investment of District Funds
- Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.
- 2nd Reading Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the 2nd reading of the following policies:
- i. 000—Board Policy / Procedure / Administrative Regulations
 - ii. 002—Authority and Powers
 - iii. 100—Comprehensive Planning
 - iv. 101—Mission Statement / Vision Statement / Shared Value
 - v. 112—Guidance Counseling
 - vi. 114—Gifted Education
 - vii. 146—Student Services
 - viii. 232—Student Involvement in Decision Making
 - ix. 235—Student Rights and Responsibilities
 - x. 305—Employment of Substitutes
 - xi. 701—Facilities Planning
 - xii. 804—School Day

Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

Retire Policy #919 Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve to retire Policy # 919—District/School Report Cards. Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

FINANCE & PURCHASE

Nutrition Group (Option #1) Mr. Mel Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the food service management contract with The Nutrition Group (Option #1) for the 2015—2016 school year. Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 5-2-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Carr—no; Mr. Smeal—yes; Mr. Diviney—yes; Mr. Allen—yes; Mr. Coble—no; Mr. Seprish—yes; Mr. Kovalcin—yes. Yes—5; No—2.

Mr. Carr directed several questions to The Nutrition Group, including milk prices, meal prices, 2nd meal prices, and chicken sandwiches.

Mr. Coble asked if they could have a committee to explore the numbers and look more into the contract before voting on it. He requested Mr. Carr be put in charge of the committee. Jason McMillen said it would be hard to put off another month due to the requirement to have the RFP back from the state by July 1.

Disbursements Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Disbursements from March/April:

\$ 55,809.88	Cafeteria Account	checks 3971 through 3972
\$ 716,669.02	General Account	checks 45024 through 45152
\$ 772,478.90	GRAND TOTAL	

Mr. Mel Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

Treasurer's Report / Activity Account Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Treasurer's Report for January and the Activity Account for March. Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Mollura brought up many concerns regarding the Gay Straight Alliance. He asked if letters were going to be sent home to parents, if the club would be posted online like the other clubs, if the advisors would be sent to Harrisburg for training even though the position is a volunteer position, and if the teachers were told not to talk about the club or they would be punished. He also stated that the topic was not listed in the paper last month, suggesting it was because Administration tells The Progress what to write in the paper?

Mrs. Dutrow replied that there will be a statement in the handbook that parents can opt out in writing if they do not want their child to participate in any club. The club will be listed online along with the rest of the clubs, and training will be provided to the advisors. The teachers were cautioned to refrain from inappropriate communications on the topic or they could be disciplined accordingly.

Tyler Kolesar from The Progress replied to Mr. Mollura regarding the GSA topic not being in the newspaper last month. The paper is shorthanded and it was an oversight on his part. No one tells him what to write in his articles, he decides what he writes in the paper.

CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Robert Seprish, in the form of a motion, recommended to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. Mr. Larry Allen seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 9-0-0.

Respectively Submitted,

Kasi Woodring
Secretary to the Board of Education