



MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Homer-Center School Board
Homer City, PA 15748
High School LGI Room
December 20, 2018

Members Present

Mr. Gerald Bertig
Mr. Michael Bertig
Mr. Logan Dellafiora
Mr. Fred Hayes
Mr. James McLoughlin
Mrs. Vicki Smith
Mr. Justin Smyers
Mr. Robert Valyo

Members Absent

Mr. Daniel Fabin

School Administrators Present

Dr. Charles J. Koren, Superintendent
Mr. Michael Stofa, Elementary Principal
Mr. Jody Rainey, High School Principal
Mr. Edward Sutter, Facilities Supervisor
Mrs. Rhonda Clifford, Board Secretary

Homer-Center Staff Present

Erin Collins
Tina Bruno
Jon Stolarz
Wendy Gallo

Media Present

Josh Widdowson, 1160 WCCS
Garrett Clark, 1160 WCCS, Intern
Chauncy Ross, Indiana Gazette

Visitors

Joanna Howard and Family
Jackson Strong and Family
Isabella Morgan and Family
Seth Pribesh and Family
Megan Bozzer and Family

The Board held an executive session from 7:02-7:40 p.m. for personnel matters.

President Michael Bertig called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Homer-Center Mission Statement opened the meeting. Eight members were present at roll call to comprise a quorum.

III. Visitor Comments-None

IV. STUDENT RECOGNITION

Mr. Stofa introduced Joanna Howard as the November Wildcat Recognition Award Recipient. Mrs. Gallo presented Joanna her certificates and HC lapel pin. Mr. Stofa introduced

Jackson Strong as the December Wildcat Recognition Award Recipient. He presented Jackson with his certificates and HC lapel pin. Mr. Rainey introduced Isabella Morgan as the November Wildcat Recognition Award Recipient. Mr. Stolarz presented Isabella with her certificates and HC lapel pin. Mr. Rainey introduced Seth Pribesh as the December Wildcat Recognition Award Recipient. He presented Seth with his certificates and HC lapel pin. Mrs. Vicki Smith introduced Megan Bozzer as the November Kiwanis Senior of the Month. She presented her with her certificate and HC lapel pin.

V. Mr. James Summerville, PSBA, made a presentation to Mr. Fred Hayes for his eight years of service on the School Board and presented him with his eight year honor roll certificate from PSBA.

VI. REPORTS

Homer-Center School Board Committees

Academic Committee – Mr. Michael Bertig reported; (1) a secondary teacher will be taking a course in Entrepreneurship this summer. It is not yet recommended if this teacher will be half or full time to date; (2) report card discussions continue for K-2 to bring them to a Standards Based report card; (3) district received the Act 44 Part A grant for \$25,000. The Safe Schools Targeted-Personnel grant of \$39,996 will be used for salaries. The Act 44 Part B grant is unknown at this time; (4) Rachel's Challenge-Mr. Kurt Krejocic was present at the meeting and presented information to the committee regarding the program.

Buildings and Grounds Committee- Mr. J. Bertig reported there was no meeting due to a conflict of schedules. He did note the ESCO Project continues to take shape. The Business Manager gave the committee a summary on the Capital Projects funds. They will follow procedures on how to spend the funds with a list of priorities. Dr. Koren noted TEN is conducting a preliminary audit to determine industrial grade audit to evaluate the hot water heater and lighting and the quick turn around on those.

Homer-Center School Board Representatives to Outside Boards

Armstrong-Indiana Intermediate Unit #28-Mr. Hayes had no report.

Homer-Center Parks and Recreation-Mr. Smyers reported discussions have begun regarding the \$100,000 grant funds they received. They are determining what the parks needs the most. Looking at a possible ADA compliant park, depending on feasibility.

Indiana County Technology Center-Mrs. Smith reported (1) the land lease was approved with some amendments; (2) discussion continues on the WCC Project. Currently on hold; (3) reviewed contracts for the new executive director, business manager and administrative assistant; (4) noted See World Satellite and Sling are allowing ICTC student to use their video equipment

to do live broadcasts. They recently did a live stream of the Homer-Center boys' basketball game.

Administration

Mr. Stofa reported on the following; (1) the Elementary School participated in an Active Shooter Drill on December 20th. Letters were sent home to parents regarding the drill. Mr. Dan Sacco conducted a faculty meeting to advise them of the scenario that would play out. The school evacuated the building to the high school gym. Mr. Stofa noted that the teachers and students did an exceptional job with the drill; (2) Santa's Workshop was conducted the week of December 10-14. \$5,000 was raised; (3) elementary students went to the high school for the chorus-band concert preview on December 12th; (4) the annual carnival was held for the primary grades on December 19th; (5) classroom parties took place on December 21st. Mr. Stofa wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Rainey reported on the following; (1) the Active Shooter Drill at the elementary school went very smoothly. Teachers reported back to administration with their student head count in 45 seconds. He thanked his staff for their help and support of the drill; (2) noted Kristin Curci has been nominated for the National Life Group: Life Changer of the Year Award; (3) Sarah Cook, math teacher, has been nominated for Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year; (4) the high school musical had 66 students involved in the cast and crew. He commended the cast and crew for their outstanding performance; (5) Heritage Conference will add a Robotics Competition next year with the receipt of a \$2,000 grant. Mr. Brad Adams will take the lead on this project; (6) Heritage Conference Basketball Championships will be played February 8, 2019 at the KCAC. It will also host an Art Exhibit featuring exhibits from our member schools. They will also present the Heritage Conference Scholarships to a male and female from each member school. Homer-Center recipients will be Faith Buggery and Tyler Dunn. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr. Sutter reported on the following; (1) the maintenance staff was involved with the active shooter drill. Everything seemed to go very smoothly; (2) his staff has been very busy with all the activities being conducted at both buildings. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked them for the trust they place in him and the opportunity he has been given to work here.

HCEA- Ms. Bruno reported that the Wildcat Tale had been emailed and is now on the web site. She also commended Lisa and Brad Adams on the first annual Homer Christmas After School Activities. The monies they collected this year for dress down days, etc. were used to help 18 students and their families this holiday season. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

HCESP – Mrs. Collins wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

VII. OLD BUSINESS FROM THE DECEMBER 6, 2018 PLANNING MEETING-CONSENT ITEMS

On a McLoughlin/Smyers motion approved the following consent items. Poll vote: motion carried 8-0.

- A. Approval of Minutes for November 15, 2018 and December 6, 2018 Reorganization Meeting – Appendix A
- B. Treasurer’s Report and Cafeteria Cash Statement for November 30, 2018 – Appendix B
- C. Approval of Bills – Appendix C
- D. Business Manager’s Items
 1. Interest earned during November 2018 amounted to \$10,215.28.
- E. Superintendent’s Items
 1. Personnel
 - a. Approved the following as a substitute: Edward Dunlap, Guest Teacher
 2. Education

Approved the following teacher conferences:

 - a. Mrs. Bethany Genchur to attend the PDE Conference – Making a Difference: Educational Practices that Work in Hershey, PA on March 11-13, 2018. Cost is \$538, to be reimbursed by Project Max funds.
 - b. Mr. Charles Kirkland to attend the REAL Entrepreneurship Educator Certification in Blowing Rock, NC on June 23-27, 2018. Cost to the district is \$2,000. Using the school van.
 3. Student Activities

Approved the following student field trip:

 - a. Mr. William Tonkin, Mr. Greg Hartnett and Hunting Club students to attend a field trip at Penn State Main Campus on April 26, 2019 regarding career fields relating to ecosystem science and management and various degrees related to conservation and wildlife sciences. Cost to the district is two substitutes for one day. Hunting Club will pay for transportation.
 4. Building and Grounds-No Report
 5. Cafeteria-No Report
 6. Policies
 - a. Second reading and adoption of Policy 806, 800 Operations, Child Abuse. Adopted August 22, 2013; revised December 20, 2018– Appendix D.
 7. Transportation
 - a. Approved the following as spare bus drivers for the 2018-2019 school year: Tammy Bowman, Robert Thompson
 8. Board of Directors
 - a. Approved a three year equipment maintenance agreement with Cummings Sales and Service for the Elementary School. Cost to the district is \$565.42 year 1; \$565.42 year two; and \$586.35 year three as noted in Appendix E.
 - b. Approved the revision of October, 2018 to the National Honor Society By-Laws for the Homer-Center High School as noted in Appendix F.

VIII. PULLED AGENDA ITEM FROM OLD BUSINESS FROM THE DECEMBER 6, 2018 PLANNING MEETING-NON-CONSENT ITEM: None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

On a J. Bertig/Valyo motion, approved items all new business. Poll vote: motion carried 8-0.

- A. Approved three (3) unpaid days for Mrs. Heather Lowry, high school teacher, on March 12, 13 and 14, 2019.
- B. Approved three to five unpaid days on April 15, 16, 17, 2019 (and possibly April 18 and April 23 if necessary snow make up days) for Mrs. Emily Gates, elementary teacher, for a trip.
- C. Approved Mrs. Lisa Weaver to attend Microsoft Excel Training in Indiana, PA on February 4-5, 2019. Cost to the district is \$128 and one substitute for two days.
- D. Accepted the resignation of Mr. Marty Maschak as the Assistant Baseball Coach effective retroactive to December 10, 2018. Approved him as a volunteer baseball coach. (Mr. McLoughlin noted that Mr. Maschak was a great coach and mentor to the student athletes over his many years as a coach).
- E. Approved the following as spare bus drivers for the 2017-18 school year: April Brochetti, Dominique Corso
- F. Approved the following trips for the marching band and indoor percussion:
 - 1. BE Taylor Tribute Concert – Drumline Performance at the KCAC Arena retroactive to December 16, 2018. No cost to the district.
 - 2. IUP Basketball Performance – Marching Band at the KCAC Arena January 5, 2019. Cost to the district is transportation.
- G. Approved the correction to the Academic Committee Meeting in January 2019. It should be January 10 (second Thursday) instead of January 11. Revised calendar as noted in Appendix G.
- H. Accepted the bid from John Hall, Inc. to replace the heating pump; modify pipe connections and modify concrete pad as needed. Cost to the district is \$14,370.
- I. Adjusted the hourly credit for the Senior Tax Exemption Program (STEP Program) to \$7.25/hour up to a maximum of \$870.00/year.
- J. Information-Discussion will take place at the January Planning Meeting on the new PSBA Safe2Say Procedures that will go into effect on January 14, 2019. Will go before the Board for approval on January 22, 2019.

(Mrs. Smith noted her congratulations to Mr. Stolarz and the drum line on their great performance recently at the Teddy Bear Fund Drive at the KCAC.)

X. OPEN DISCUSSION-None

XI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Dellafiora said Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Mrs. Smith wished everyone a Merry Christmas, be safe and enjoy your family time. Mr. McLoughlin noted all the great reports coming from the schools and wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Mr. Valyo thanked

Mr. Michael Bertig and the Board for making his first year a good one. It is a pleasure working with them and looking forward to 2019. He also wished everyone a safe and happy holiday. Mr. Hayes thanked everyone for the award. He noted it is an honor to serve. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Mr. J. Bertig echoed everyone's sentiments. He also noted how much he enjoys the Wildcat Tale. He finds it uplifting and enlightening. It is very well done. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Mr. Smyers had nothing to add. Mr. M. Bertig thanked the Board for their support and belief in him this past year as President. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas Season and a Happy New Year.

On a Hayes/Dellaflora motion the meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m. Voice vote: unanimous.

President Michael Bertig noted that the Board would be going back into Executive Session for personnel matters. No action votes were taken. Executive Session lasted from 8:29-9:08 p.m.

Submitted for board approval.



Rhonda Clifford, Board Secretary

Seal

Michael Bertig, President