



MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Homer-Center School Board
Homer City, PA 15748
Central Office Board Room
January 22, 2019

Members Present

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

Members Absent

Mr. James McLoughlin

School Administrators Present

Dr. Charles J. Koren, Superintendent
Mr. Gregory Cessna, Business Manager
Mr. Michael Stofa, Elementary Principal
Mr. Jody Rainey, High School Principal
Mrs. Bethany Genchur, Director of Special Ed.
Mr. Edward Sutter, Facilities Supervisor
Mrs. Rhonda Clifford, Board Secretary

Homer-Center Staff Present

Erin Collins Suzanne Mateer
Tina Bruno Jordan Alsop
Len Black Andrew Kent
Tammy Buffone Greg Hartnett
Heather Lowry Cheryl Turk

Media Present

Chauncy Ross, Indiana Gazette

Visitors

Miranda Federinko and Family
Maria & Katlyn Hippchen and Family
Abby Goldberg and Family

The Board held an executive session from 7:02-7:41 p.m. for personnel matters.

President Michael Bertig called the meeting to order at 7:43 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 Maria Hippchen as the January Wildcat Recognition Award Recipient in Art. Mr. Hartnett presented Maria her certificates and HC lapel pin. Mr. Rainey

introduced Katlyn Hippchen and Abby Goldberg as the January Wildcat Recognition Award Recipients. Mr. Kent presented Katlyn and Abby with their certificates and HC lapel pins. Mr. Fred Hayes introduced Miranda Federinko as the January Kiwanis Senior of the Month. He presented her with her certificate and HC lapel pin.

Dr. Koren made a presentation to all Board Members on behalf of School Board Appreciation Month and read a letter regarding volunteering as a Board Member. This will be placed on the web site and the District Facebook page. Certificates and chocolate HC candy were presented to all Board Members.

V. REPORTS

Homer-Center School Board Committees

Academic Committee – Mr. Michael Bertig reported: (1) Offering Entrepreneur Class- Mr. Rainey will be giving a working document. The Board is still unclear as to how they will proceed, but will offer the class; (2) Mr. Rainey working on a secondary course syllabus and will be listing all the books being used in each class; (3) update on cyber enrollment-19 students with some blended students; (4) looking at a new math series- Pearson and Eureka. Eureka is web based; (5) Mr. Stofa reported that K-2 report cards are completed and that the Board will review next month; (6) Mr. Bertig thanked Mrs. Yurky for the cheesecake she brought to the meeting; (7) First draft of 2019-2020 school calendar was emailed and in packets. They will be surveying the staff, administrators, teachers and community for their input.

Buildings and Grounds Committee- Mr. Jerry Bertig had no report.

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 had no report.

Indiana County Technology Center-Mrs. Smith reported (1) Mr. Sacco from Marion Center is now President of the Board; (2) they will be breaking ground in the spring for WCC and moving forward with the project; (3) Mr. Dale Kirsch is helping and reported on items, donations, Safe2Say; (3) Dr. Spiker has taken over Adult Ed and is doing a great job. She has programs in the works.

Administration

Mr. Stofa reported on the following: (1) Grades 3-6 took CDT test January 8-11; (2) second quarter will end January 15th; (3) the PTA after school movie was held on January

18th. 85 students attended; (4) teacher in-service day is January 21st; (5) report cards will be distributed on January 22nd; (6) February 1 is the Sixth Grade Spelling Bee.

Mr. Rainey reported on the following: (1) Rainbow Room registration is February 22 from 11-12 in the high school LG1. The program will run from March 20-May 8 on Wednesdays and Fridays; (2) FBLA students who qualified to attend States were Vada Walbeck, Evan Ober, Kaleb Kolesar, Cameron Hood and Connor Weaver; (3) Indiana County Band Festival was held on January 18th-30 students participated; (4) 7 students will be participating in PMEA District 3 Band Festival at Franklin High School January 23-25. They are Kristina Andrei, Isabella Morgan, Josh Diecidue, Emily Marshall, Kevin Plowcha, Madison Succheralli and Graceann Bush; (5) January 21 teachers participated in three sessions: Session 1 was regarding Smokeless Saturdays, Session 2 was regarding Google classrooms and Session 3 was regarding development of course syllabus; (6) Safe2Say student training was conducted for all grades for the use of the tip line. Discussion on vaping and the equipment that is used for vaping and becoming familiar with them and educating students and families regarding it.

Mrs. Genchur reported on the following: (1) Parent information night with the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR). One parent attended; (2) early intervention transition meetings have begun for the 2019-2020 incoming Kindergarten students; (3) mid-year assessments were conducted and restructuring support groups based on the new data collected; (4) School Wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (SWPBIS) third quarter ROAR assembly was held January 25th with the focus on the hallways and cafeteria. There were 44 class Paw Parties during the second quarter.

Mr. Sutter reported on the following: (1) Emergency generators were serviced; (2) TEN group coming this week on lighting and boiler in the elementary. Getting hard numbers on how this will go. This can go in the ESCO project; (3) engineer here looking at electrical the interior and exterior; (4) thanked Mr. Len Black for all his help when he first started and all his hard work over the years in the district.

HCEA- Miss Bruno thanked the School Board for their countless hours given. She noted the Smokeless Saturday training was amazing and gave the teachers more of an awareness. She also thanked Mr. Black for his years of service in the district.

HCESP – Mrs. Collins thanked the School Board for their time and commitment and also noted that Mr. Black will be missed and thanked him for his service.

VI. OLD BUSINESS FROM THE JANUARY 8, 2019 PLANNING MEETING-CONSENT ITEMS

On a Fabin/Valyo motion approved the following consent items. Poll vote; motion carried 8-0.

A. Approved of Minutes for December 20, 2018 Regular Meeting– Appendix A

- B. Treasurer's Report and Cafeteria Cash Statements for December 31, 2018 – Appendix B
- C. Approved of Bills – Appendix C
- D. Business Manager's Items
 - 1. Interest earned during December 2018 amounted to \$11,397.38.
 - 2. Approved resolution and agreement for Homer-Center School District's participation in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program through the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the 2019-2020 school year – Appendix D.
 - 3. Approved the resolution that the Homer-Center School District will not increase any school district tax for the 2019-2020 school year at the rate above the Act 1 index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education – Appendix E.
 - 4. Committed \$584,269.79 for future capital projects as "Committed Fund Balance" within the General Fund, Fund Balance as per Homer-Center School District Policy 620.
 - 5. Approved the recommended budgetary transfers for the 2017-2018 fiscal year – Appendix F.
 - 6. Board acceptance and spending approval of the Act 44 Part A \$25,000 Grant.
 - 7. Board acceptance and spending approval of the Safe Schools-Targeted Personnel Grant for \$39,996.
- E. Superintendent's Items
 - 1. Personnel
 - a. Approved the following as substitutes: Elizabeth Heckman. Music; Kayla Deyarmin. Music;
 - b. Employed Mr. Kurt Krejocic as the Assistant Baseball Coach for the 2018-2019 season at the supplemental salary of \$2,439.00.
 - 2. Education-None
 - 3. Student Activities-None
 - 4. Building and Grounds
 - a. Mrs. Turk and Sixth Grade will be using the elementary cafeteria and stage area for the Sixth Grade Spelling Bee on Friday, February 1, 2019 from 1-3 p.m. There are no fees for this event.
 - 5. Cafeteria-No Report
 - 6. Policies
 - a. First reading of the following policy revisions: 100 Programs- #103 Nondiscrimination/Discriminatory Harassment-School and Classroom Practices; #103.1 Nondiscrimination-Qualified Students with Disabilities; #104 Nondiscrimination/Discriminatory Harassment-Employment Practices; 200 Pupils-#222 Tobacco/Nicotine; #251 Homeless Students; #247 Hazing; #249 Bullying/Cyberbullying; 300 Employees-#317.1 Educator Misconduct; #323 Tobacco/Nicotine; 600 Finances-#626 Procurement Procedure Attachment for Policy #626; 700 Property-#707 Use of School Facilities; 900 Community-#904 Public Attendance at School Events

- 7. Transportation
 - a. Approved the following as spare bus drivers for the 2018-2019 school year:
Jolene Kopsic
- 8. Board of Directors
 - a. Approved the Safe2Say Something Procedures as noted in Appendix G.

VII. OLD BUSINESS FROM THE JANUARY 8, 2019 PLANNING MEETING-NON-CONSENT ITEM:

On a Dellafiora/Hayes motion approved the following non-consent item. Voice vote; unanimous. Mr. J. Bertig mentioned that Mr. Black has been a class act and never heard a negative comment about him and is sad to see him go. Mr. Valyo also noted he was sad to see him go but wished him well. Mr. M. Bertig noted that he has been with the district for over 20 years and remembered as a student here that they came to him and treated everyone with respect and always willing to help. Wished him well and thanked him for his service. Mrs. Smith remembered hiring him and our thoughts and prayers are with him. Mr. Black then said thank you to Dr. Koren, Mr. Cessna and the entire Board for their support and prayers over the past year. He noted he enjoyed his time at Homer-Center and fixing things. He won't miss plowing snow or changing light bulbs in the Homer Dome, but he will miss everyone.

Accepted the resignation, with regret, of Mr. Leonard Black, Head Maintenance, due to retirement, effective retroactive to December 28, 2018. Mr. Black will be placed on the substitute list.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

On a Smyers/Fabin motion, approved the following items in new business. Poll vote; motion carried 8-0.

- A. Approved the use of the elementary gym by Mr. Nick Arone and the Homer City Boosters for travel basketball practices on Friday evenings starting January 11-February 15, 2019 from 6:00-9:00 pm. With Board approval, all fees will be waived.
- B. Approved the following as substitute teachers: Joseph Scheiber, Music; Joseph Fuocco, Secondary Mathematics
- C. Mr. David King and the Homer City Area Athletic Booster Club to hold girls softball practices in the elementary gym on Mondays-Thursdays, 7:30-9:00 pm, March 4-April 5, 2019. With Board approval, all fees will be waived.
- D. Mr. Matthew Rodkey to attend the PA Inspired Leadership Workshop at IU 4 in Grove City, PA on January 30-31, 2019. Cost to the District is \$108.74. Using the school van.
- E. Approved Miss Kayla Deyarmin as the Indoor Guard Lead Tech for the 2018-2019 school year at the supplemental salary of \$1,350.00.

On a J. Bertig/Hayes motion approved the following. Voice vote: unanimous. Mr. J. Bertig asked Len to convey to Carol their best wishes and thanks. He commended her dedication and kind and gentle nature, which they both share. She has had 37 years of service to the district. He will pass their gratitude along to her. Dr. Koren noted the 20 years from Len and the 37 years from Carol will truly be missed and he thanked them.

F. Accepted the resignation, with regret, due to retirement, of Mrs. Carol Black, Payroll Secretary, effective February 8, 2019.

X. OPEN DISCUSSION-None

XI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Fabin congratulated Len and Carol Black on their retirement and echoed the warm sentiments. Mr. Dellafiora thanked Len and Carol for their many years of service. They were a good example of "Where Everybody is Somebody". Mrs. Smith echoed the same sentiments and hopes to see them at the football games. She also thanked Carol and noted it was a pleasure working with her. They are valuable employees and will be missed. Mr. Valyo wished Len and Carol the best in their retirement. Mr. Hayes offered to help Mr. Black with any questions he has regarding retirement and wished them both the best. Mr. Smyers noted that Len and Carol would be missed. You both have been working here longer than he has been on the planet. The years of service cannot be replaced. Mr. M. Bertig noted that School Board recognition month is just not nine board members, but a team of ten. He thanked Dr. Koren, who does a masterful job of keeping everyone straight and keeping them informed. Also Mr. Cessna, though not a part of the ten, gives them great financial information and Mrs. Clifford for keeping him straight and getting information quickly when needed and are to be thanked as well for their hard work. He again thanked Mr. and Mrs. Black for their service.

On a Hayes/Valyo motion the meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m. Voice vote: unanimous.

Submitted for board approval,


Rhonda Clifford, Board Secretary

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Michael Bertig, President