

**January 8, 2018**

**Opening**

The regular meeting of the Slippery Rock Area School Board was held on Monday, January 8, 2018 in the Slippery Rock Area Middle School Library at 7:43p.m. Members present: Mr. Mark Taylor, Mrs. Diana Wolak, Mrs. Sara Whitman, Mrs. Melissa Allen, Mr. Vito Pilosi, Mrs. Diane Double, Mrs. Theresa Pearce, Mr. Matt Pyle and Mrs. Heather Scott.

Members absent: None

Others present: Superintendent Dr. Alfonso Angelucci, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Patricia Kardambikis, Middle School Principal Dr. Jacob Jefferis, Solicitor Mike Hnath, Director of Special Services Dr. Laura Green, High School Principal Cory Hake, High School Assistant Principal Kristen Czubiak and Business Manager Paul Cessar.

**Public To Be Heard**

None

**Minutes Approved**

On a motion by Mr. Taylor, second by Mrs. Double and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Board Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2017.

**Invited Guests**

Christen Dunn, Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV and instructor of Entrepreneurship Academy, along with student participants in the program - Jonah Foster, Logan Long, Chase Gill and Kirra Latoza spoke of their experiences during Entrepreneurship Academy and answered questions by Board members. The students shared their positive experience of the program. The program offers college credits from Butler County Community College. Slippery Rock students have participated for two years.

Meghan Adams, high school librarian and Angela Mastrean, high school social studies teacher explained they were accepted to present at the PA School Librarians Association 2018 Conference. They gave an overview of their presentation entitled "Tag-teaming High School Research through Inquiry-Based Learning". Following the presentation, both Adams and Mastrean answered questions by the Board.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Pyle said prior to this meeting, the Board met in Executive Session for purposes of Personnel and confidential student matters, from 7:00–7:42 p.m.

**Tenure**

On a motion by Mrs. Whitman, second by Mr. Pilosi and unanimously carried, the Board approved tenure for the following professional staff:

**High School**

Jenessa Martin  
Andrea Furka  
Nicole Morrow  
Meghan Adams

**Moraine Elementary School**

Amy Jeffcoat  
Jamie Rylands  
Cheryl Schoeffel

**Middle School**

Kellie Clemens

**Volunteers**

On a motion by Mrs. Double, second by Mrs. Allen and unanimously carried, the board approved the following volunteers:

**Wrestling** – Daniel Spurk

**Softball** – Mark Gresgott

**Re-admit  
“Student A”**

On a motion by Mr. Taylor, second by Mr. Pilosi, the Board approved re-admitting “Student A” to the Slippery Rock Area School District effective at the beginning of the second semester of the 2017-18 school year.

Voting yes: Pilosi, Taylor, Wolak, Pearce, Allen, Pyle, Scott, Double

Voting no: Whitman

**Conferences/  
Workshops/  
Fieldtrips**

On a motion by Mr. Taylor, second by Mrs. Scott and unanimously carried, the Board approved Conferences/Workshops/Field Trips as listed.

| Name   | Date     | Conference   | Cost       |
|--|----------|--|------------|
| Angela Mastrean,<br>Meghan Adams                         | 5/3-4/18 | PSLA 2018 Conference,<br>Hershey, PA<br>(Presenters)   | \$1,164.00 |
| Travis Bashline  | 1/30/18  | Tools for Your<br>Speech/Lang. Toolbox,<br>IU6 Clarion | \$27.00    |
| Name   | Date     | Field Trip   | Cost       |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade<br>LS Students | 1/26/18  | New Castle Schools of<br>Trades                        | \$0        |
| Transition<br>students                                   | 2/9/18   | BC3 – College Fair                                     | District   |

**New Course  
Proposals**

On a motion by Mrs. Wolak, second by Mrs. Scott and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following new course proposals for the high school:

- a. AP Chemistry (Science/Chemistry)
- b. Leadership in Wellness (Physical Education)
- c. Discovering Robotics (Science/Physics)
- d. Introduction to Communication (English)
- e. Children and Young Adult Literature and Film (English)
- f. Art of Film (English)
- g. Drama II

**Preliminary Budget**

On a motion by Mr. Taylor, second by Mr. Pilosi and unanimously carried, the Board approved advertising the 2018-19 proposed preliminary budget is

available for public inspection and is scheduled for adoption at a public meeting on February 12, 2018.

Mr. Cessar reported on the 2018-19 budget under Act 1 of 2006, a school district real estate tax increase is limited to the Act 1 index that is calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The index is the average of the percentage increase in the “Statewide Average Weekly Wage” and the “Employment Cost Index”. For 2018-19, the index for Slippery Rock is 3.1%. This equates to 3.0321 mills or \$418,430.00.

Act 1 provides school district options to increase the millage rate above the index by:

1. Pass a preliminary budget by February 12, 2018. File paperwork for referendum exceptions for special education costs and pension payments. The amount of referendum exception is based on a formula and must be approved by PDE; or,
2. Voter approved referendum. Ballot question on May primary election.

If the referendum exceptions are approved by PDE, the Board is not obligated to use the referendum exception.

If the Board does not want the option to increase taxes above the index, it must pass a resolution at the January 22, 2018 meeting.

Final budget for 2018-19 must be approved by June 30, 2018.

The proposed preliminary budget includes:

Anticipated increases to revenue and expense items:

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Local Revenue -                            | \$255,000 or 1.5% |
| State Revenue -                            | \$299,288 or 2.0% |
| Expenses – Salary & Benefits               | \$280,099 or 3.3% |
| Expenses – Purchased Professional Services | \$171,600 or 9.1% |

In the past the District has made debt service payments of \$1.7 million. In 2018-19 the District has one remaining debt service payment of \$345,000. As a result, the 2018-19 budget has a surplus of \$742,829. If for budget purposes, the District maintains the debt service payment of \$1.7 million for capital projects, 2018-19 would have a deficit of \$611,671 or 4.43 mills.

### **Committee Reports**

Sara Whitman reported on the Educational Programming Committee Meeting. The committee reviewed curriculum, instruction and assessment, high school course proposals, 339 Guidance Plan and heard the Entrepreneurship Academy presentation.

**Adjournment**

On a motion by Mrs. Pearce, second by Mr. Taylor the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Paul O. Cessar, Board Secretary