

August 19, 2024

The regular meeting of the South Williamsport Area School Board was called to order at 6:00 PM in the High School Library by the President, Todd Engel.

The meeting opened with a Moment of Silence and Pledge to the Flag.

Board Members Present: Bachman, Brigandi, Bukeavich, Engel – via Zoom, Hitesman, Miller, and Rupert.

Others Present: Jesse Smith, High School Principal, Dwight Woodley – Director of Innovative Learning/IT, Bill Reifsnyder – Director of Buildings and Ground, Eric Briggs – Superintendent, Jamie Mowrey – Business Manager, and Fred Holland – Solicitor.

Visitors: Melissa Daily, Elyse Schopfer, Chelsea Eck, Jimmy Eck, Dustin Isenberg, Miranda Redka, Elena Wiesner, and Mike Reuther – Williamsport SunGazette.

#### **SCHOOL DIRECTOR RESIGNATION**

A motion to approve Erin Armond's resignation from her school director position effective August 19, 2024 was moved by Miller, seconded by Bukeavich.

#### **APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion to approve the treasurer's report from July 2024 was moved by Hitesman, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

#### **APPROVE BILLS**

A motion to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$2,010,716.90, Food Service Fund in the amount of \$80,230.58, Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$269,620.40 and GO Note 2022 in the amount of \$279,484.53 as funds become available was moved by Rupert, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

#### **APPROVE MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of July 15, 2024 as written was moved by Bachman, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS**

##### **LOT CONSOLIDATION DEED**

A motion to approve the Lot Consolidation Deed for school district property was moved by Bachman, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

##### **TAX EXONERATION FOR LERTA**

A motion to exonerate Dorothy White Mertz, Tax Collector, from collecting \$3,546.34 for Parcel #51-0020-0512 and \$22,729.38 for Parcel #51-001-214 in accordance with the LERTA was moved by Rupert, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

##### **2024-25 CENTRAL ELEMENTARY TSI TITLE I SCHOOL PLAN**

A motion to approve the 2024-25 Central Elementary TSI Title I School Plan was moved by Miller, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

**2024-25 JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL TSI NON-TITLE SCHOOL PLAN**

A motion to approve the 2024-25 Jr/Sr High School TSI Non-Title School Plan was moved by Bachman, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

**AMENDED AGREEMENT WITH COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

A motion to approve the Amended Affiliation Agreement with Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania dated August 22, 2022 effective as of the date of the last signature on agreement was moved by Miller, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

**LYCOMING-CLINTON JOINDER SAP AGREEMENT**

A motion to approve the Letter of Agreement for the Student Assistance Program (SAP) with the Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board (LCJB) for the LCJB to appoint a SAP mental health liaison to the District at no cost was moved by Bachman, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

**SUSQUEHANNA COMMUNITY HEALTH & DENTAL LETTER OF AGREEMENT**

A motion to approve the Letter of Agreement with Susquehanna Community Health & Dental Clinic, Inc for the 2024-2025 school year was moved by Brigandi, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

**LYCOMING-CLINTON JOINDER LETTER OF AGREEMENT**

A motion to approve the Letter of Agreement with the Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board for a full-time caseworker at a cost of \$15,000 for the 2024-2025 school year was moved by Miller, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

**REDKA BEHAVIOR SERVICES**

A motion to approve the Redka Behavior Consultation Services Proposal to provide consultation and training services to school district staff on topics such as Autism Treatment, Behavioral Health Services, Behavioral Consultations, and Trainings and Education at a cost of \$18,000 for the 2024-2025 school year with funding from ESSER SEL funds was moved by Miller, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

**LACKAWANNA COLLEGE DUAL ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT**

A motion to approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement with Lackawanna College for the 2024-2025 school year which permits students to earn credits through Lackawanna College at a cost of \$100 per credit was moved by Rupert, seconded by Brigandi. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

**MOU FOR UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS**

A motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) for the 2024-2025 school year for the development of a Unified Champion Schools (UCS) program was moved by Rupert, seconded by Miller. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

**HUMMER TURFGRASS SYSTEMS**

A motion to approve the Hummer Turfgrass Systems Proposal for football stadium maintenance at a cost of \$14,970 per year for the 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027 school years with additional services for topdressing the stadium will cost \$6,890 was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bachman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **CAREY FOREST PLANNING AGREEMENT**

A motion to approve the Carey Forest Planning Agreement for timbering the wooded area behind the high school was moved by Miller, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **SAFR HELMET COVERS**

A motion to approve the purchase of 60 SAFR Sports Helmet Covers for a total cost of \$9,000 was moved by Miller, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **APPROVE POLICIES – FIRST READING**

A motion to approve the first reading of Policy No. 104 – Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Staff, Policy No. 218 – Student Discipline, Policy No. 218.1 – Weapons, Policy No. 218.2 – Terroristic Threats, Policy No. 801 – Public Records, Policy No. 803 – School Calendar, Policy No. 805 – Emergency Preparedness and Response, Policy No. 805.1 – Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies, Policy No. 806 – Child Abuse, Policy No. 807 – Opening Exercise/Moment of Silence/Flag Displays, Policy No. 904 – Public Attendance at School Events, and Policy No. 909 – Municipal Government Relations was moved by Bachman, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **APPROVE POLICIES – FIRST AND FINAL READING**

A motion to approve the first and final reading of Policy No. 103 – Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Students, Policy No. 103.1 – Nondiscrimination – Qualified Students with Disabilities, Policy No. 234 Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students, Policy No. 247 – Hazing, Policy No. 249 – Bullying/Cyberbullying, Policy No. 252 – Dating Violence, Policy No. 317.1 – Educator Misconduct, and Policy No. 824 – Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries was moved by Rupert, seconded by Hitesman. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **EMPLOYEE CODE OF CONDUCT**

A motion to approve the Employee Code of Conduct was moved by Bachman, seconded by Rupert. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK**

A motion to approve the Employee Handbook was moved by Rupert, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **CHILD BEARING/REARING LEAVE REQUEST**

A motion to approve EE #1311 child-bearing/child-rearing leave request. Employee is requesting leave from October 29, 2024 through June 11, 2025 was moved by Miller, seconded by Bukeavich. Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **EMPLOYMENT – INFORMATIONAL**

Dr. Briggs accepted the following letters of resignation:

- Ambreelinne Birth from her Health/Physical Education position effective July 16, 2024
- Madelyn Matthews from her 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher position effective August 8, 2024
- Rebecca Baker from her Personal Care Paraprofessional position at the Jr/Sr High School effective July 26, 2024
- Matthew Masters from his Building Based Substitute position at Central Elementary effective August 6, 2024
- Casey Waller from his Head Baseball Coach position effective June 30, 2024

## EMPLOYMENT

A motion to approve the following employment was moved by Bukeavich, seconded by Rupert.

- **K-12 Itinerant Emotional Support Teacher** – Tracy Wright with a start date of September 16, 2024 at salary step M+30-15 with a salary of \$80,839 in accordance with the South Williamsport Area Education Association Agreement.
- **High School Physical Education Teacher** – Chelsea Eck effective at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, or when released from her current employer, at salary step M+10-15 at a salary of \$79,339 in accordance with the South Williamsport Area Education Association Agreement
- **Paraprofessional** – Isaiah Reed at the Jr/Sr High School effective at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, for 6 hours per day at a rate of \$15.74 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association.
- **Paraprofessional** - Karen Savits at Central Elementary School effective at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, for 6.5 hours per day at a rate of \$15.74 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association.
- **Paraprofessional** – Sophia Bragalone at Central Elementary School effective at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, for 6.5 hours per day at a rate of \$15.74 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association.
- **General Support Assistant** – Megan Apker assigned to Lunch Monitor at Central Elementary School effective at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, for 3 hours per day at a rate of \$15.00 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association.
- **Building-Based Substitute** – Emily Kline as a Building-Based Substitute at Central Elementary School effective at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year at a rate of \$200 per day with benefits.
- **Mentors** for the 2024-2025 school year at a stipend of \$500 each.
  - Dan Williamson for Chelsea Eck
  - Agnes Coder for Halle Sharp
  - Rachel Knipe for Tracy Wright
  - Alyson Reed for Johnna Harper
- **Maintenance and Custodial Positions**
  - Transfer Scott Robbins from his full-time 2<sup>nd</sup> shift custodial position to full-time 1st shift head custodian effective September 2, 2024 at a rate of \$14.50 per hour in accordance with the AFSCME agreement.
  - Dennis Lowell as 2<sup>nd</sup> shift full-time position at the high school effective August 20, 2024 at a base rate of \$12.00 per hour in accordance with the AFSCME agreement.
  - Sharon Brownsberger as 2<sup>nd</sup> shift 5-hour position at the high school effective September 3, 2024 at a rate of \$12.00 per hour in accordance with the AFSCME agreement.
- **Food Service Worker** – Samantha Zellers at Central Elementary for 6.5 hours per day at \$15.18 per hour in accordance with the South Williamsport Education Support Professionals Association Agreement.
- **Certified Substitutes** – Louise Ann Campana, Yvonne Lentz, Phyllis McKernan, Sharon O'Malley, Ann Schopfer, and Marjorie Wonderlich.
- **Classified Substitutes** – Mae Allvord (Secretary), Chris Gottschall (Custodial), Roger Mann (Custodial), Heather Miller (Nurse), James Moser (Cafeteria), Ken Mundorff (Custodial), Auburn Segraves (Cafeteria), and Crystal Smith (Nurse).
- **Guest Teachers** – Robin Bernstein and Pat McCormick
- **Guest Teacher Program through Blast IU** – It is recommended that the board add Suzanne Bastian, Robin Borick, David Bouffard, Lisa Bower, Barth Carson, Loretta Day, Thomas Gargiulo, Kayla Gephart, Elizabeth Haldeman, Randy Holmes, Wendy Hunter, Christopher Kuriga, David Malkin, Melissa Mitteer-Bradley, Heidi Mnkandhla, Francis Pagana, Annette Pennella (Spadaro), Brenna Segraves (Baysore), Kaylee Wade, and Dayton Wentzel to the list of Guest Teachers as submitted by BLaST IU 17 for the 2024-2025 school year.
- **Event Security Staff** – Thomas Waldman for the 2024-2025 school year.

- **Athletic Coaches/Band Volunteer for the 2024-2025 season**
  - Randall Boone as 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant for football with a stipend of \$3,034
  - Halle Sharp as JV Volleyball Coach with a stipend of \$2,674
  - Madalyn Fortin as a Band Volunteer
- **Game Workers for 2024-2025** – Karen Geise, Jaimee Kopp, Terry Kopp, Christy Pinkerton, Susan Albert, Eric Briggs, Rob Hine, Craig Kropp, Dwight Woodley, Gary Guerrisky, Aaron Guerrisky, Donald Larson, Rob Shaw, Jack Johnson, Scott Lowery, Eric Ranck, and Emily Wagner
- **Game Managers for 2024-2025** – Karen Geise, Matt Bradley, and Jaiden Bradley

Roll call: Bachman-yes, Brigandi-yes, Bukeavich-yes, Engel-yes, Hitesman-yes, Miller-yes, and Rupert-yes; motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Briggs, Superintendent, provided a building update on the various projects throughout the District.

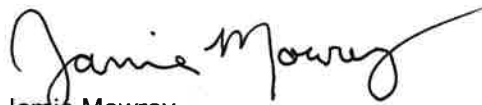
### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Briggs, Superintendent, provided a certificate from the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) for Cathy Bachman's service as school director.

School board members spoke about a cell phone policy for students.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Miller, seconded by Rupert. All members present voting yes, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Attest



Jamie Mowrey  
Board Secretary