

NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT
September 21, 2015

A meeting of the New Hope-Solebury School District Board of Directors was held in the District Office Conference Room on Monday, September 21, 2015. Mr. Adar, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and announced the meeting was being audio recorded. Ms. O'Donnell's sixth grade class led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Secretary then called roll.

Members present: Mr. Adar, Mrs. Deussing, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Hayden, Mr. Kearney, Mr. Kelley, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Weisbrot

Members absent: Mr. Harraka

Administrators present: Dr. Boccuti, Dr. Cortellessa, Mr. Hansel, Mr. Lechman, Mr. Malone, Mr. Radaszkiewicz, Ms. Rohn, Mr. Yanni

An Executive Sessions was held prior to this meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

Student Report

Student representatives Tara Cooney and Juliana Toohey presented a report on activities at the Middle School.

Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent Report

Dr. Boccuti and Mr. Yanni presented their report which is attached and made a part of the permanent minute book.

Board Committee and Liaison Reports

Community Engagement Committee: No report. Next meeting October 5, 2015.

Curriculum Advisory Committee: No report. Next meeting September 24, 2015.

Facilities Committees: Mr. Dougherty reported that the architect presented the Campus Revitalization Project update; stated it is likely that bids will be awarded in January; Mr. Hansel presented the update the theater project work is nearing completion; reported a grant was received in the amount of \$800 for lining the tennis courts; reported a donation of a storage container for the football team which will be located on Field 1; reported the theater program needs to rent a storage container; Mr. Radaszkiewicz presented an update on the security cameras around the campus; the next meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2015.

Finance Committee: Mr. Dougherty reported Mr. Bamber of PFM presented the timeline and update of new money for the Campus Revitalization Project; reported a bond sale has been delayed and will be wrapped up in December; stated we are waiting for projected 2014-2015 year-end numbers which will be provided once Mr. Lechman is wraps up the current audit process; discussed timeline for the 2016-2017 budget calendar with items to be considered being the Act 1 Index at 2.4% and exceptions being PSERS and special education and whether we will be in a position to pursue those exceptions; Mr. Kearney recommended that we have a procurement card for buying efficiencies; stated we are looking for a "run rate" projected to see where the budget is and where it is going in coming years; stated the Committee will probably have bi-monthly meetings to be able to stay apprised of the budgeting process; the next meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2015.

Policy Committee: Mr. Kearney reported that a number of policies were reviewed and approved as listed in Section D4 of the agenda; also voted to adopt Roberts Rules of Order to dictate voting order as a Board; Mr. Kearney read the voting procedure.

Special Education Committee: No report. Next meeting October 1, 2015.

Bucks County Intermediate Units: Mrs. Weisbrot reported she attended Dr. Galasso's retirement party; reported on the BCIU Board Meeting; reviewed IU goals; received a grant for Head Start Program; Early Childhood Services Center is named on behalf of Dr. Barry Galasso; received a presentation from Early Childhood Services and Programs and Services; approved the teacher contract; the next meeting is October 20, 2015.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology: No report. The next meeting is October 12, 2015.

Pennsylvania School Boards Association: No report.

New Business

Board Discussion (Agenda Items Only)

Mr. Dougherty asked about Item B5 of an expenditure of \$29,500 for civil engineering costs of \$29,500; stated that his understanding is that this is essential for the permitting process.

Architect Kevin Godshall explained the process.

Mr. Kelley asked if we obtained an attorney to guide us through the process with the New Hope Borough.

Dr. Boccuti stated that our attorney recommended Mr. Ed Murphy.

Mr. Adar asked if the resubmitted plan for \$1.3 million had flexibility.

Mr. Godshall stated that the items could also be scoped as alternates.

Mr. Kearney asked about the total cost of the field and the track.

Mr. Godshall will check and advise.

Mrs. Deussing asked if there were any other advantage to paying the \$30,000 now with respect to ADA and the Campus Revitalization Project.

Mr. Godshall stated that there will be a path to the upper fields and Field 9.

Mr. Hayden asked about the student educational services agreements in Item B6.

Mr. Yanni explained that through the IEP process or a disciplinary process that it becomes apparent the district is not able to meet the needs of the student; at that point, Mr. Lieberman works to find an appropriate placement for the student.

Mr. Kearney asked about taking advantage of services that other districts may be able to provide.

Mr. Yanni explained that rarely there are seats available in another district, but we are building on that now.

Dr. Boccuti explained what has been done in the past.

Mrs. Marguerite Vasconcellos, representative from BCIU, explained the coordination with BCIU services.

Mr. Kearney commented about a payment of \$4,300 for outside services for cleanup at the LES/UES and would like to see better management so as not to use outside resources.

Mr. Adar asked Mr. Bachart, Music Teacher, to explain Item D3 related to the request for an overnight music trip.

Mr. Bachart summarized the advantages to the trip.

Mr. Adar voiced his concerns relative to the cost of the trip for students.

Mr. Bachart mentioned fundraising that has already been started and stated that if students make it known they have a financial issue, they can be helped.

Mr. Adar asked about the cost and the number of students.

Mr. Bachart responded the trip will be \$2000 and expect about 150 out of 200 students are expected to go on the trip.

Mr. Kelley talked about sending out a listserv message to members of the community who may be interested in donating funds for this endeavor.

Mrs. Weisbrot talked about asking for sponsorships.

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)

Mr. Band commented about resurfacing of the track and getting first-hand information from the track coaches; thanked Mr. Adar for his discussion of the music trip; asked if our students need to travel 3,000 miles to learn recording studios and what's wrong with going to NYC and Philadelphia; asked if the music parents have been surveyed to see if there is enough interest; asked about the deposit and when it is due; asked about fundraisers for the music trip; referred to trip Policy 231; stated we have an excess which could save the district \$300,000 per year; stated such trips should be handled by parents outside the school.

Mrs. Deussing asked about how far in advance do you have to commit and what kind of money has to be put down.

Mr. Adar referenced the European trip of last February; stated that parents had to have money a year in advance with a nonrefundable \$350-500.

Mrs. Deussing asked about value added for a European trip.

Mr. Adar stated that the students getting cultural experience, outside of the country or other areas within the United States, is educationally beneficial.

Mr. Adar stated that if a child self identifies that they don't have the means to afford the trip, that the school will find a way; stated that most families won't identify.

Mr. Dougherty asked how many chaperones go on the trip.

Mr. Adar stated it is 1:10 but when they went to Europe they had 30 parents (1:6).

Mrs. Deussing asked about whether 8th graders are notified now about the trip.

Mr. Bachart stated that 8th graders are informed and that early notification gives almost a two-year window to raise the funds.

Mrs. Keyes asked how much money was raised through fundraising for the last trip.

Mr. Bachart stated some students paid for the entire trip with fundraising; some people wrote a check for the entire trip. Mr. Bachart talked about extra expenses being paid for by the Music Boosters.

Mrs. Stanell stated it was a great experience for her two students and discussed that they paid every few months and the fundraisers were very helpful.

Mrs. Weisbrot stated that as a student they did go to NYC a few times but had they had the opportunity to go to Europe or Los Angeles, she would have fundraised to have the opportunity.

Agenda Action Items

A. Review and Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mrs. Deussing, the Board voted to approve the August 17, 2015 Minutes of the Regular Meeting the Board of School Directors.

B. Finance

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, seconded by Mrs. Keyes, the Board voted as follows:

1. Approve the Treasurer's Reports for June, 2015.
2. Approve and ratify the following list of bills totaling \$747,597.28.

2015-2016 General Fund Checks Between Meetings for Ratification
Check Numbers – 10042550 to 10042564
Totaling - \$48,773.14

2015-2016 Capital Projects Checks for Approval
Check Numbers – 301016 to 301020
Totaling - \$98,267.52

2015-2016 Officials Checks for Approval
Check Numbers – 10042565 to 10042597
Totaling – \$2,684.00

2015-2016 General Fund Checks for Approval
Check Numbers – 10042598 to 10042825
Totaling - \$597,872.62

3. Adopt a resolution to allow Middle Bucks Area Vocational-Technical School Authority to advance refund the remaining Series of 2003 and Series of 2006 bonds, provided the savings after all cost exceeds 3%, with a new Series of 2015 bonds.
4. Accept the approval letter from the Pennsylvania Department of Education dated September 11, 2015 regarding PlanCon Part K: Project Refinancing.
5. Approve an expenditure in the amount \$29,500 for the Civil Engineer to acquire a survey of the stadium, design the storm water management system for the stadium, and to make revisions to land development submission as it relates to the Campus Revitalization Plan.
6. Approve the following educational services agreements in the form presented to the Board:
 - Rock Brook School, Inc., Student No. 9403385979, for the 2015-2016 school year, in the amount of \$67,328.10.
 - Tinicum Art and Science High School, Student No. 3986284338, for the 2015-2016 school year, in the amount of \$28,000.00.
 - Park Lake School, Student No. 2088411453, for the 2015-2016 school year, in the amount of \$66,580.80.

C. Personnel

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mrs. Deussing, the Board voted as follows:

1. Ratify/approve the following personnel actions, contingent upon meeting all requirements of law and district policy:

RESCINDED APPOINTMENT	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Allan, Jacquelyn	Special Education Teacher – Grade 3 UES LTS (Abt)	8/26/15

LEAVES	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Abt, Theresa	Special Education Teacher – Grade 3	Revised 6/19/15-1/22/16
McGinniss, Katherine	Guidance Counselor UES	Anticipated 12/15/15-5/2/16
Ryan, Stefanie	Chemistry Teacher HS	Anticipated 1/29/16-3/25/16
McBride, Joyce (unpaid)	Non-Instructional Assistant – 4 hr. MS	9/28/15-11/20/15

TRANSFERS	FROM	TO	EFFECTIVE	SALARY
Dun, Meghan	Part-time (.8) Special Education Teacher LES/MS/HS	Full-time (1.0) Special Education Teacher HS	8/25/15	\$51,480

APPOINTMENTS	POSITION	REASON	EFFECTIVE	SALARY	BENEFITS
Chase, Joanne	Non-Instructional Assistant – 4 hrs./day UES	Resignation – Lopez- Pratesaba	8/31/15	\$14.94/hr. Year 2	No
Cummings, Sharon	Instructional Assistant HS	Resignation- Naldzin, N.	8/25/15	\$14.34/hr. Year 0	Yes
Andris, Matthew	Instructional Assistant HS	Resignation- Penn	8/25/15	\$14.34/hr. Year 0	Yes
Laff, Amy	Special Education Teacher – Grade 3 UES LTS	Leave – Abt	8/31/15- 1/26/16	\$67,042 (prorated) B+24, Step5	Yes
Monaghan, Kristi	Special Education Teacher MS LTS	Leave- Brown- Carracio	9/21/15-3/1/16	\$53,541 (prorated) M+12, Step 01	Yes

2. Approve the following EDR contracts for the 2015-2016 school year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>EDR ACTIVITY</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
<u>Athletics</u>		
Diana Dececco	Cross Country, MS	\$1335.00
Lisa Morrash	Volleyball, MS	\$1687.00
Samantha Slifer	Soccer, 7 th Grade	\$1541.00
Nancy Wisniewski	Volleyball 7 th Grade	\$1526.00

District

Lori Balmer	Curriculum Liaison-MS Social Studies	\$2145.00
Heather Derby	Curriculum Liaison-K-12 Arts	\$2145.00
Jon Gonsiewski	Curriculum Liaison-HS Social Studies	\$2145.00
Andrea Huffman	Curriculum Liaison-World Languages	\$2145.00
Nancy Rachlin	Title I Coordinator	\$2555.00
Lori Balmer	Mentor (Slifer)	\$684.00
Jackie Kalidonis	Mentor (Horn)	\$342.00
Yona Rose	Mentor (Scott)	\$342.00
Kerilyn Walker	Mentor (Goldstein)	\$342.00
Amanda Jones	Mentor (Laff)	\$342.00

Middle School

Dave Bachart	MS Jazz	\$1,637.00
Tom Bateman	MS Musical/Pit	\$2,349.00
Tom Boyd	Peer Tutoring	\$1,445.00
Jordan Brennan	CenterStage/Plays	\$1,780.00
Meka Chuma	Math Counts	\$728.00
Heather Derby	Spirit Club (co-adv)	\$1,205.00
Jeff Dykie	Outdoors Club (A)	\$1,257.00
Dawn Ferber	Art Club	\$974.00
Michele Hamill	TAG	\$1,820.00
Michele Hamill	Talent Show	\$356.00
Mike Kephart	Stage Manager	\$974.00
Dave Kolinchak	Outdoors Club (B)	\$1,257.00
Victoria Nichols	Spirit Club (co-adv)	\$1,205.00
Victoria Nichols	Mentor	\$342.00
Victoria Nichols	Talent Show	\$356.00
Angela Nino	8th Grade Advisor	\$1,283.00
Angela Nino	7th Grade Advisor	\$1,283.00
Angela Nino	Student Council	\$611.00
Colleen O'Donnell	Student Council	\$611.00
Craig Smith	Reading Olympics 6	\$321.00
Craig Smith	ReadingOlympics7/8	\$321.00
Craig Smith	Yearbook	\$2,168.00

3. Approve a one-time, non-precedent setting Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the NHSESP (formerly Local 180) to allow an exception to the tuition reimbursement parameters.
4. Approve a one-time, non-precedent setting Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the NHSESP (formerly Local 180) regarding vacation time carry-over.

5. Approve the posting of the Seniority Lists for the 2015-2016 school year for members of the Teachers Collective Bargaining Unit NHSEA and for members of the New Hope-Solebury NHSESP.
6. Appoint Dr. James Rigney as School Physician for the 2015-2016 school year at annual fee of \$4,000, no per student charge.
7. Appoint Dr. Steven Covino as School Dentist for the 2015-2016 school year at a \$5 per student charge and no annual fee to the school district.

D. Policy & Program

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kelley, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, the Board voted as follows:

1. Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Middle Bucks Institute of Technology concerning procedures for matters of litigation.
2. Accept a donation from an anonymous donor of a Storage Unit for Field #1 valued at approximately \$2000.00.
3. Approve an overnight trip for High School music students to Los Angeles, California, from February 14-20, 2017; this trip will provide educational and performance opportunities for student musicians.
4. Approve the following new/revised policies and procedures:
 - School Board Voting Parameters Procedure
 - Policy 113.3—Screening and Evaluations for Students with Disabilities
 - Policy 116—Tutoring
 - Policy 137—Home Education Programs
 - Policy 138—English as a Second Language
 - Policy 212—Reporting Student Progress
 - Policy 307—Student Teachers/Interns
 - Policy 918—Title I Parent Involvement
 - Policy 609—Investment of District Funds
 - Policy 819—Suicide Awareness and Preventions

E. Appointment of PSBA Officers

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, seconded by Mr. Kelley, the Board voted to approve as follows:

1. Appoint 2015-2016 PSBA Officers and At Large Representative:

- Mark Miller, President Elect
- Michael Faccinetto, Vice President
- Michael Melnyk – Eastern At Large Representative

Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

Mr. Band commented about returning the football team returning to Field 1 for practice and history on safety concerns; comments about injuries on the field and Mr. Harraka's son was injured; comments about the practice he observed and safety concerns and an injury.

Board Discussion

None

Adjournment

Mr. Adar adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Lechman
Board Secretary