

NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes
April 18, 2016

I. Call to Order and Announcement of Executive Session

A meeting of the New Hope-Solebury School District Board of Directors was held in the District Office Conference Room on Monday, April 18, 2016. Mr. Cowell, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

An Executive Session was held prior to the Board meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Sasala's class led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

The Secretary called roll:

Members present: Mr. Cowell, Mr. Capriotti, Mrs. Deussing, Mr. Dougherty, Mrs. Gormley, Mrs. Keyes, Mr. McDonough, Mrs. Povacz, Mrs. Weisbrot

Members absent: None

Administrators present: Dr. Yanni, Dr. Cortellessa, Mr. Hansel, Dr. McKenna, Mr. Lechman, Mr. Lieberman, Mr. Malone, Mr. Radaszkiewicz, Mr. Rivera, Ms. Rohn, Mr. Seier, Mr. Silver

IV. Additions, Deletions, and/or Modifications to the Agenda

Mr. Yanni modified Facilities Item b by removing the words "as an alternate bid."

The Public Budget Session scheduled for May 9 will be rescheduled as a Special Board Meeting and the Budget Gap Closure Subcommittee is canceled.

V. Acceptance of Minutes

- A. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Keyes, seconded by Mr. Dougherty, the Board voted to accept the attached March 14, 2016 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

Mr. Capriotti	Yes
Mrs. Deussing	Yes
Mr. Dougherty	Yes
Mrs. Gormley	Yes
Mrs. Keyes	Yes

Mr. McDonough Yes
Mrs. Povacz Yes
Mrs. Weisbrot Abstain (Absent March 14)
Mr. Cowell Yes

Motion passed 8 – 0 with 0 absent and 1 abstentions (Mrs. Weisbrot abstained from voting as she was not in attendance at the last meeting).

VI. Student Reports

The following students reported on activities at each of the schools:

- A. High School - Hannah Singer, Briana McGarry
- B. Middle School – Paige Buenaga, Sara Deussing
- C. Upper Elementary School – Payton Taylor

VII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Yanni reported on the following items:

- Reading Olympics competition
- David Tuck, a Holocaust survivor, presented to middle school students
- Positive Student Choices and Interactions Program, in collaboration with NHS Cares provided a girls night out
- Artists in Residence is currently in process
- Staff congratulation: Yona Rose successfully defended his dissertation and becomes a doctor.
- Seniors are beginning the APEX (Active Personal Educational Experience) Project, where students go out into field and do real life experiences
- Mary Schwander was named Librarian of the year by the PA State Library Association
- PSSA testing is in its second week; HS and MS Keystone coming up in a few weeks
- May 2 several staff going to Harrisburg to fight for fair and equitable funding formula
- Introduced Alyssa Martin, Council Rock Special Ed Supervisor, as the recommendation for the position of Director of Special Education.

VIII. Board Committee Reports

Committee chairs reported on meetings; minutes are posted to the district website.

- A. Finance (Mrs. Povacz, Committee Chair)
- B. Facilities (Mr. Capriotti, Committee Chair)
- C. Policy and Human Resources (Mr. McDonough, Committee Chair)
- D. Special Education (Mrs. Gormley, Committee Chair)
- E. Curriculum Advisory (Mrs. Keyes, Committee Chair)
- F. Athletics/Student Activities (Mrs. Weisbrot, Committee Chair)

IX. Liaison Reports

- A. Bucks County Intermediate Unit (Mrs. Weisbrot)
 - At the March meeting the student art collection was exhibited; also received an Autistic Support Program presentation.
- B. Pennsylvania School Board Association (Mr. Cowell)
 - 2015-2016 state budget – distribution of new BEF funds and PlanCon were voted on by House and Senate. Waiting for Governor to approve/veto. Veto of bill would likely be overridden.
 - Ready to Learn Block Grant gives schools the same funding as 2014-2015.
- C. Middle Bucks Institute of Technology (Mr. Capriotti)
 - April 11 was a brief meeting at which they received a presentation by culinary group which received \$7,000 grant.

X. Old Business

A. Presentation and/or Discussion Items

Comprehensive Plan Update – Dr. Yanni

- Goal is to take the district from current state to desired state and to get better every year.
- Plan is dynamic and changed as needed.
- Three main components:
 1. Curriculum and Instruction
 - a. Establish District Wide Assessment System
 - b. Establish a culture of Professional Learning Communities
 - a. Define goals and continue to expand with focus.
 2. Technology Integration
 - a. Develop technology literate students – 1:1
 - b. Sustain professional development for technology
 - c. Increase student access to technology
 3. Facility Improvements
 - a. Ensure ADA
 - b. Initiate a Campus Revitalization Plan
 - c. Increase Safety and Security

Middle School Office Plan Modifications – Dr. Yanni, Mr. Hansel

- Original plans MS and HS office were going to be combined.
- Since then the HS office was moved to the back of the building and secured, but this left gap for MS office
 1. Only way to secure was to move to front or move around back.
 2. Option 1 – move entrance to back and create chair lift
 3. Current Plan – Move offices next to entrance to a secured vestibule
 - All staff housed in office now
 4. Option 2 – Same as current plan with a smaller footprint.
 - Allows for secure entrance.
- A vote of yes would be for the current plan with a smaller footprint.

Access Road Alternate Bid Discussion – Dr. Yanni, Mr. Hansel

- Administrative team of the district recommended the access road for site circulation.
- Concern is safety for students with cars using the road during the school day when students may be in proximity to road.
 1. Will build gates that will allow the district to maintain traffic times on this road.
 2. Presented to borough council tomorrow night for approval.
 - a. If voted to remove this is how it would be presented to borough.
 - b. The challenge is this is related to land development.
- Vote will be to leave the road in (Yes vote) or to remove the road (No vote)

Questions:

- Mr. Dougherty asked for clarification on the gates and flow of traffic due to UES and the cost of the road.
- Mrs. Deussing asked for clarification around location of pick-up, drop-off for high school, including buses.
- Mr. McDonough commented that the critical issue is safety of students.
- Mr. Capriotti commented on safety and impervious surfaces.
- Mrs. Povacz commented on letter from traffic engineer stating that installation of this road will have minimal impact on traffic network.

XI. New Business

A. Presentation and/or Discussion Items

NONE

B. Board Discussion (Agenda Items Only)

- Mr. Dougherty commended Mr. Lechman and Dr. Yanni on budget development for 2016-2017
- Mr. McDonough stated that PSBA is agreeing to review all policies with the exception of the 000 policies.
- At the next Policy Committee Meeting, Policy 004.2 - Student Representatives will be reviewed. Current policy allows High School students but we want to add Middle School and Elementary School students.

C. Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)

- Mr. Band – Solebury – Commented regarding the Assistant Principal-Athletic Director job description
- Mrs. Steifel – Solebury – Commented about the security issues related to current structures at the Elementary Schools.

D. Action Items (* Indicates attachment)

1. Finance

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, seconded by Mrs. Povacz, the Board voted as follows on Finance Items 1a-h:

Mr. Capriotti	Yes
Mrs. Deussing	Yes
Mr. Dougherty	Yes
Mrs. Gormley	Yes
Mrs. Keyes	Yes
Mr. McDonough	Yes
Mrs. Povacz	Yes
Mrs. Weisbrot	Yes
Mr. Cowell	Yes

Motion passed 9-0 with 0 absent and 0 abstentions.

- a. Approve the attached Treasurer’s Report for February, 2016.
- b. Approve and ratify the following list of bills totaling \$2,734,320.71.

2015-2016 General Fund Checks Between Meetings for Ratification
Check Numbers – 10043994 to 100439997
Totaling - \$25,798.41

2015-2016 Capital Projects Checks for Approval
Check Numbers – 301046 to 301048
Totaling - \$106,531.21

2015-2016 Officials Checks for Approval
Check Numbers – 10043999 to 10044024
Totaling – \$2,366.00

2015-2016 General Fund Checks for Approval
 Check Numbers – 10044025 to 10044154
 Totaling - \$506,653.71

2015-2016 Wire Transfers Between Meetings for Ratification
 Totaling - \$2,092,971.38

- c. Approve the following list of budgetary transfers for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

Transfer From	Account	Object	Object Description	Amount	Transfer To	Account	Object	Object Description	Amount	Reason
HS Gifted	1012433000000001	610	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 2,000.00	HS Gifted	1012433000000001	569	Tuition-Other	\$ 2,000.00	Tuition Costs actuals exceeded budget
										More IDEA funds received than budgeted - no overall budgetary impact as additional revenue received.
OTH SPEC ED	1012900000000001	322	PROFESSIONAL SERV.-I.U.	\$ 24,000.00	IDEA FUNDING	1012900000001111	322	PROFESSIONAL SERV.-I.U.	\$ 24,000.00	
INF MGMT	1022400000000002	757	NONCAPITAL TECHNOLOG	\$ 9,700.00	INF MGMT	1022400000000002	648	ED SOFTWARE	\$ 9,700.00	ID Badges and MS 1:1 Device Cases
BUSINESS OFF	1025000000000007	640	BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$ 1,000.00	COPY CTR	1025400000000007	610	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 1,000.00	Copy Paper
BUSINESS OFF	1025000000000007	340	TECHNICAL SERVICE	\$ 300.00	COPY CTR	1025400000000007	610	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 300.00	Copy Paper
VEHICLES	1026500000000003	610	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 1,500.00	VEHICLES	1026500000000003	430	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	\$ 1,500.00	Replace Vehicle Transmission

- d. Approve the proposed MBIT General Fund Budget for the 2016-2017 school year.
- e. Authorize the Administration to enter into an Agreement with the Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 for participation in the Technology Pool Counsel Consortium at a cost of \$780.00 for the 2016-2017 school year.
- f. Authorize the Administration to enter into a Legal Services Consultation Agreement with Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams LLP for the Special Education Pool Counsel at a cost of \$6,000.00 for the 2016-2017 school year.
- g. Authorize the Administration to work with Public Financial Management, as Financial Advisor, Robert W. Baird & Co. as Senior Managing Underwriter, Janney Montgomery Scott LLC as Co-Managing Underwriter, and Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, as Bond Counsel in conjunction with the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2016 for the purpose of current refunding the School District's General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2011 with a minimum net savings of \$100,000.
- h. Approve the submission of PlanCon Part F, Construction Documents, for the New Hope-Solebury High School/Middle School Project (PDE #3833) to the Pennsylvania Department of Education; and further, the Board resolves to the best of its knowledge and belief, the Board of School Directors certifies to the following:
- (1) The Board will not enter into construction contracts until it has received written approval for PlanCon Part F, Construction Documents, from the Department of Education.
 - (2) The Board of School Directors has obtained, or will obtain, all necessary approvals from local, regional, and state agencies relating to health, safety, design, planning highway access, and freedom from flooding and subsidence, prior to entering into construction contracts.
 - (3) The Board acknowledges that failure to obtain the requisite approvals prior to entering into construction contracts may be sufficient cause for the

Department of Education to revoke its approval for this project. If approval is revoked, the project will not be reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

2. Facilities

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deussing, seconded by Mrs. Gormley, the Board voted as follows on Facilities Item 2a to approve modifications to the Middle School Office known as Modification 2-Reduced Middle School Addition, includes reducing the square footage and reducing the cost of the addition.

- Mr. Capriotti Yes
- Mrs. Deussing Yes
- Mr. Dougherty Yes
- Mrs. Gormley Yes
- Mrs. Keyes Yes
- Mr. McDonough Yes
- Mrs. Povacz Yes
- Mrs. Weisbrot Yes
- Mr. Cowell Yes

Motion passed 9-0 with 0 absent and 0 abstentions.

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Povacz, seconded by Mrs. Deussing, the Board voted as follows on Facilities Item 2b to approve the inclusion of the Access Road in the Campus Revitalization Plan; the Access Road would connect the UES driveway to the High School athletic fields and run parallel to the Upper Elementary School playground.

- Mr. Capriotti No
- Mrs. Deussing No
- Mr. Dougherty No
- Mrs. Gormley No
- Mrs. Keyes No
- Mr. McDonough No
- Mrs. Povacz No
- Mrs. Weisbrot No
- Mr. Cowell No

Motion **does not carry** with a vote of 0-9 with 0 absent and 0 abstentions.

3. Personnel

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deussing, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, the Board voted as follows on Personnel Items 3a-e:

Discussion: Mr. Dougherty asked about the JV lacrosse coach and it was confirmed as an assistant coach not a JV coach.

Mr. McDonough – Policy 915 – titled Parent Club and Booster Clubs does not create any concerns related to the new Assistant Principal/Director of Athletics position.

Mrs. Deussing – Acknowledged that the district is very lucky to have Alyssa Martin accepting the position of Special Education Director.

Mr. Capriotti Yes
 Mrs. Deussing Yes
 Mr. Dougherty Yes
 Mrs. Gormley Yes
 Mrs. Keyes Yes
 Mr. McDonough Yes
 Mrs. Povacz Yes
 Mrs. Weisbrot Yes
 Mr. Cowell Yes

Motion passed 9-0 with 0 absent and 0 abstentions.

a. Approve the following termination:

Termination	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Harrington, Theodore	Director of Athletics/Student Activities – Position eliminated.	6/30/16

b. Approve the following leaves:

LEAVES	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Elrath, Jessica	Special Education Teacher UES	4/8/2016 – 6/15/2016 (Changed effective date)
Gutter, Alexa	English Teacher HS	6/15/16- first day of 2017-2018 school year

c. Ratify/approve the following appointments, contingent upon satisfying all requirements of law and district policy:

APPOINTMENTS	POSITION	REASON	EFFECTIVE	SALARY	BENEFITS
Marton Alyssa *	Director of Special Education Act 93 Administrator	Retirement- Lieberman	7/1/16	\$138,000	Yes
Miller, Jacqueline	Special Education Teacher UES LTS	Leave-Elrath	Approximately: 4/11/16 – 6/15/16	\$49,943 (prorate) B +12 Step 01	Yes
Bethman, Kevin	Groundskeeper Operations LTS	Leave-Thran	3/30/16-5/15/16	\$19.65/hr. Year 3	No
Horn, Jennifer	Elementary Teacher LES LTS	Leave – Given	8/25/15-4/12/16 (extended from 4/11/16)	No Change	No change
Parker-Kramli, Kathryn	Instructional Assistant UES LTS	Transfer- Miller, J	4/13/16-6/15/16	\$14.34/hr. Step 0	Yes

- d. Approve the new position and job description of Assistant Principal/Director of Athletics (Act 93 Administrator) and eliminate the position of Director of Athletics/Student Activities, effective July 1, 2016.
- e. Approve the following EDR contracts for the 2015-2016 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Extra Duty Responsibility</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Matt Andris	Lacrosse Boys JV	\$944.40
Tom Boyd	Baseball 8th grade	\$1,783.00
Kaitlin Doyle	Track & Field 8th grade	\$1,783.00
David Kazakevich	Tennis JV Boys	\$1,953.00
Dave Kolinchak	Soccer MS girls	\$1,687.00
Sandy Serafin	Softball 8th grade	\$1,783.00
Samantha Slifer	Soccer 7th grade	\$1,541.00

4. Policy

Upon a motion made by Mrs. McDonough, seconded by Mrs. Deussing, the Board voted as follows on Policy Items 4a-c:

Mr. Capriotti	Yes
Mrs. Deussing	Yes
Mr. Dougherty	Yes
Mrs. Gormley	Yes
Mrs. Keyes	Yes
Mr. McDonough	Yes
Mrs. Povacz	Yes
Mrs. Weisbrot	Yes
Mr. Cowell	Yes

Motion passed 9-0 with 0 absent and 0 abstentions.

- a. Affirm the second reading of the Cyber Education Policy.
- b. Affirm the first reading of Policy 903-Public Participation in Board Meetings.
- c. Approve the attached new Mission Statement for the Policy and Human Resources Committee.

5. Special Education

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Gormley, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, the Board voted as follows on Policy Items 5a:

Mr. Capriotti	Yes
Mrs. Deussing	Yes
Mr. Dougherty	Yes
Mrs. Gormley	Yes

Mrs. Keyes Yes
Mr. McDonough Yes
Mrs. Povacz Yes
Mrs. Weisbrot Yes
Mr. Cowell Yes

Motion passed 9-0 with 0 absent and 0 abstentions.

- a. Approve the Special Education Report effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019 for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

6. Curriculum and Instruction
NONE

7. Athletics and Student Activities
NONE

XII. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items Only)

- Mr. Band – Solebury – Commented he attended the Finance Committee and that the district is in dire need of a forensic audit.
- Mr. Cowell addressed Mr. Band’s comments.
- Mr. Dougherty commended Mr. Lechman on improving the labeling in the budget.

XIII. Board Discussion

- Mrs. Weisbrot asked a question related to possible security concern at the UES – can we add another buzzer to access building?
- Mr. Dougherty addressed the public comment related to a forensic audit and stated that we are addressing a budget deficit and there would potentially be substantial costs to complete this type of audit.
- Mrs. Keyes commented that we are audited by the state which is a comprehensive audit.
- Mr. Capriotti addressed the public comment related to a forensic audit and stated that in the past there was a poorly constructed financial budget but checks and balances exist to assure there is no fraud occurring.

XIV. Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot which was unanimously approved the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

The next Board of School Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 6:30 PM in the District Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Lechman
Board Secretary

Date