

**NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board Minutes**  
**May 16, 2016**

*Per Policy 006.2 all Board of School Directors meetings are audio recorded.*

**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, May 16, 2016. Mr. Cowell, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

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

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

High School students 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. Keyes, Mr. McDonough, Mrs. Povacz, Mrs. Weisbrot

Members absent: Mrs. Gormley

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

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

NONE

**V. Acceptance of Minutes**

- A. Upon a motion made by Mr. McDonough, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, the Board voted accept the attached April 18, 2016 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

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

Mr. Cowell                      Yes

Motion passed 8 – 0 with 1 absent and 0 abstentions.

- B. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, seconded by Mrs. Povacz, the Board voted to accept the attached May 9, 2016 Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

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

Motion passed 8 – 0 with 1 absent and 0 abstentions.

## **VI. Student Reports**

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

- A. High School - Hannah Singer, Briana McGarry
- B. Middle School – Tara Cooney, Valentina Waschbusch
- C. Upper Elementary School – Mia Chuma, -Jacob Stein

## **VII. Superintendent’s Report**

Dr. Yanni reported on the following items:

- Introduced Ernest “Ernie” Rehr as the new Middle and High School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director.
- Stated the High School ranked #2 by U.S. News and World Report.
- Discussed the guidance from the Federal Department of Education about transgender issues specifically around private facilities. As a district, we are ahead of the curve and will be using the guidance to make further accommodations.
- This was the first day for the High School Seniors’ APEX project, an opportunity to do real world internships outside the classroom in a field they might want to pursue.
- Thanked attendees to Special Board Meeting where we discussed the proposed final budget that is a structurally sound budget and confident that it is educationally sound.

**VIII. Board Committee Reports**

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

**Mr. McDonough left the meeting at 7:12 PM and did not return to the meeting.**

- A. Finance (Mrs. Povacz, Committee Chair)
- B. Facilities (Mr. Capriotti, Committee Chair)

**Mr. Dougherty left the meeting at 7:27 PM.**

- C. Policy and Human Resources (Mr. McDonough, Committee Chair)
- D. Special Education (Mrs. Gormley, Committee Chair)

**Mr. Dougherty returned to the meeting at 7:30 PM.**

- E. Curriculum Advisory (Mrs. Keyes, Committee Chair)
- F. Athletics/Student Activities (Mrs. Weisbrot, Committee Chair)

**Mrs. Deussing left the meeting at 7:38PM and returned at 7:40 PM.**

**IX. Liaison Reports**

- A. Bucks County Intermediate Unit (Mrs. Weisbrot)
  - Special Ed Mini report on Early Childhood services.
  - June 7 is graduation.
- B. Pennsylvania School Board Association (Mr. Cowell)
  - No report.
- C. Middle Bucks Institute of Technology (Mr. Capriotti)
  - Executive Board meeting May 10. The highlight was an award ceremony for students.

**X. Old Business**

- A. Presentation and/or Discussion Items  
NONE

**XI. New Business**

- A. Presentation and/or Discussion Items
  - Debt Refunding Parameters Resolution (Finance Item 1b)
    - Mr. Tim Anderson, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP – Bond Counsel
    - Mr. Chris Bamber, Public Financial Management, Inc. – Financial Advisor
    - Mr. Les Bear, Robert W. Baird & Co. – Underwriter

- Parameters Resolution discussion
  - Mr. Bamber, PFM - Refunding opportunity is the Series of 2011 bonds. Bonds are callable in September and net local savings are estimated to be \$183,000 generated from historically low interest rates. Majority of savings will be realized in the 2016-17 budget year. Proceed as long as certain parameters are met and the minimum savings need to be \$150,000. Moody's affirmed an Aa1 rating based on a ratings call that we had last week. Next steps is to price bonds on Wednesday to lock in interest rates and settle on June 22.
  - Mr. Les Bear, Baird – Discussed the role of an underwriter. Work with local community to market our bonds. Also to market bonds nationally. Start the premarket process tomorrow with POS. Officially price the issue on Wednesday morning by going live in the market. Maturity dates will range from 2016 to 2024 and interest rates will increase the longer the maturity date.
  - Mr. Tim Anderson, Dinsmore & Shohl – Bond Counsel – Summarized the resolution that authorizes the issuance of bonds which have parameters. Minimum savings of \$150,000 and interest rate not to exceed 6%.

#### B. Board Discussion (Agenda Items Only)

- Mrs. Keyes – Thanked Dr. Yanni and Mr. Lechman for work on Bond Refunding and associated savings.
- Mr. Dougherty – Asked if we are looking at average yield of 1.7% from 3.14%.
- Mrs. Povacz – Questions about the loans with Michener.

#### C. Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)

- Mrs. Elser – Commented on teachers changing positions and average class sizes as stated by another member of the public at a prior meeting.
- Mr. Tasduk – Commented on the importance of learning second language.

#### D. Action Items (\* Indicates attachment)

##### 1. Finance

- a. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, seconded by Mrs. Povacz, the Board voted to adopt the Proposed Final Budget and make it public for at least 20 days prior to the adoption of the Final Budget; further, notice of intent to adopt the Final Budget for the fiscal year of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 will be published at least 10 days prior to adoption at the regularly scheduled Board meeting on June 20, 2016 at 6:30 PM in the District Conference Room. \*

Mr. Capriotti      Yes

Mrs. Deussing      Yes

Mr. Dougherty      Yes

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

Motion passed 7 – 0 with 2 absent and 0 abstentions.

- b. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Keyes, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, the Board voted to approve a resolution authorizing the incurring of nonelectoral debt for the purpose of refunding prior debt and paying the costs of issuance, by the issuance of general obligation bonds, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$4,500,000, as presented by bond counsel. \*

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

Motion passed 7 – 0 with 2 absent and 0 abstentions.

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

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

Motion passed 7 – 0 with 2 absent and 0 abstentions.

- c. Approve the attached Treasurer's Report for March, 2016. \*
- d. Approve and ratify the following list of bills totaling \$1,816,457.60. \*

2015-2016 General Fund Checks Between Meetings for Ratification  
Check Numbers – 10044155 to 10044169

Totaling - \$829,937.81

2015-2016 Capital Projects Checks for Approval  
Check Numbers – 301049 to 301053  
Totaling - \$96,630.41

2015-2016 Officials Checks for Approval  
Check Numbers – 10044170 to 10044211  
Totaling – \$4,288.00

2015-2016 General Fund Checks for Approval  
Check Numbers – 10044212 to 10044309  
Totaling - \$394,062.70

2015-2016 Wire Transfers Between Meetings for Ratification  
Totaling - \$491,538.68

- e. 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
ALTERNATIVE ED	1014420000000001	569	TUITION- OTHER	\$ 18,310.00	OTH SPEC ED	1012900000000001	569	Tuition-Other	\$ 18,310.00	Special Ed Placement not Alternative Ed
DEBT SERVICE	1051000000000007	831	INTEREST-LOANS	\$ 14,823.55	VO TECH	1013903000000000	564	TUITIONS TO VO TECH	\$ 14,823.55	Reclass of Lease Payments
DEBT SERVICE	1051000000000007	910	PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	\$ 95,226.57	VO TECH	1013903000000000	564	TUITIONS TO VO TECH	\$ 95,226.57	Reclass of Lease Payments
OTH SPEC ED	1012900000000001	322	PROFESSIONAL SERV-IU	\$ 3,002.00	IDEA FUNDING	1012900000001111	322	PROFESSIONAL SERV-IU	\$ 3,002.00	Increased IDEA Allocation
SUPERINTENDENT	1023600000000006	610	GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 100.00	SUPERINTENDENT	1023600000000006	630	FOOD	\$ 100.00	Comprehensive Planning Meeting

- f. Appoint John F. Cook as School Board Treasurer for the 2016-2017 school year at an annual cost of \$8,200.
- g. Approve the list of Act 153 Properties for the 2016-2017 school year. \*
- h. Designate Andrew Lechman to act on behalf of the District by executing required forms and documents to obtain reimbursement from FEMA for Snowstorm Jonas.
- i. Approve the Agreement with AMCA Systems, LLC for Retiree Billing Services at a cost of \$3.00 per retiree per month, with an approximate annual cost of \$750. \*
- j. Approve the Agreement with Bayada Home Health Care, Inc. for Emergency Nursing Services provided during the dates of April 11, 2016 to April 13, 2016. \*
- k. Approve an Agreement with the Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 for special education services and the Schedule of Contracted Costs in the amount of \$408,429 for the 2016-2017 school year. \*
- l. Approve the Food Services Budget for the 2016-2017 School Year. \*
- m. Approve the following lunch prices for the 2016-2017 school year:
- Type A Lunch – Elementary Schools \$2.90 (.05 Increase)
  - Type A Lunch – Middle/High Schools \$3.25 (.15 increase)

- Half Pint of Milk \$0.75 (no increase)

## 2. Facilities

- a. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Povacz, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, the Board voted to approve an Agreement for Incoming Loans with the James A. Mitchener Art Museum for loan/storage of the district art collection, pending final review/approval of the solicitor. \*

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

Motion passed 7 – 0 with 2 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-i:

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

Motion passed 7 – 0 with 2 absent and 0 abstentions.

- a. Approve the curtailment of the Teacher Leader positions for English/Language Arts, Math, and Science effective beginning the 2016-2017 school year.
- b. Approve the curtailment of the Elementary Spanish (FLES) Program effective beginning the 2016-2017 school year.
- c. Approve the elimination of the HS/MS Dean of Students position effective beginning the 2016-2017 school year.
- d. Approve the following non-renewal/resignation:

NON-RENEWAL OF CONTRACT	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Slifer, Samantha	Teacher-Spanish MS (.4)	6/30/16

RESIGNATION	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Ohanian, Betty	Teacher-Business Education HS	4/25/16

- e. It is recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the following leaves:

LEAVES	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Thran, Thomas	Custodian Operations	<b>Extended</b> 2/10/16-5/27/16
Huffman, Andrea	Teacher-French HS	<b>Tentative</b> 4/26/16-5/16/16

- f. Approve the following reassignments/transfers:

REASSIGNMENTS/ TRANSFERS	FROM	TO	REASON	EFFECTIVE	SALARY BENEFITS
Riggs, Melissa	Teacher – 4 <sup>th</sup> grade UES	Teacher – 1 <sup>st</sup> grade LES	Retirement- Snyder	8/23/16	No change
Whyte, Jennifer	Teacher – 6 <sup>th</sup> grade MS	Teacher – 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade UES	Retirement- Werkheiser	8/23/16	No change
DiTulio, Beth	Teacher – 5 <sup>th</sup> grade UES	Teacher – 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade UES	Retirement- Hart	8/23/16	No change
Redfield, Suzanne	Teacher – 5 <sup>th</sup> grade .5/ Teacher Leader .5	Teacher – 5 <sup>th</sup> grade 1.0 UES	Return to 5 <sup>th</sup> grade full time/ transfer Haferl	8/23/16	No change
Rose, Yona	Teacher – 6 <sup>th</sup> grade MS	Teacher – 5 <sup>th</sup> grade UES	Transfer- DiTulio to 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	8/23/16	No change
Halsey, Claudia	Teacher – 6 <sup>th</sup> grade MS	Teacher – English 7 <sup>th</sup> grade MS	Retirement- Smith, K.	8/23/16	No change
Cook, Chris	Dean of Students MS/HS	Teacher – Science HS	Transfer- Lever	8/23/16	No change
Serafin, Sandy	Teacher – Science 7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> grades MS	Teacher – Science 6 <sup>th</sup> grade MS	Transfer- Rose to 5 <sup>th</sup> grade	8/23/16	No change
Lever, Carey	Teacher – Science HS	Teacher – Science MS/HS	Transfer- Serafin to 6 <sup>th</sup> grade	8/23/16	No change
Jaeger, Denise	Teacher – English 8 <sup>th</sup> grade MS	Teacher – English HS	Retirement – Gomez	8/23/16	No change
Loving, Brian	Teacher Math .5/ Teacher Leader .5 HS	Teacher – Math 1.0 HS	Return to HS Math full time - Marchok	8/23/16	No change
Lynch, Amanda	K-12 Cyber Education and Technology Specialist/ Teacher Leader	K-12 Cyber Education and Technology Specialist	Expansion of Role	8/23/16	No change



- g. 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	<b>Revised Start Date</b> 6/20/16	\$138,000	Yes
Rehr, Ernest III *	Assistant Principal/ Director of Athletics Act 93 Administrator	New position/ Reduction in staff	7/1/16	\$113,900	Yes
Dun, Meghan	Homebound Instructor	Student need		\$40.94/hr.	No
Faeder, Jeff	Homebound Instructor	Student need		\$40.94/hr.	No
Slifer, Samantha	Teacher – Spanish MS/HS (full time) – LTS	Leave-Huffman	<b>Approx.</b> 5/2/16- 5/16/16	Additional \$169.40 per day	No
Bethman, Kevin	Groundskeeper Operations LTS	Leave-Thran	<b>Extended</b> 3/30/16- 5/27/16	No change	No
Haferl, Stacy	Teacher - 4 <sup>th</sup> grade (full time) UES	Transfer -Redfield 5 <sup>th</sup> grade UES	8/23/16	\$89,216 M, Step 9	Yes
Hesney, Joshua	Teacher – English 8 <sup>th</sup> grade (1.0) MS	Transfer-Jaeger to HS	8/23/16	\$55,616 M, Step 0	Yes
Hess, Mara	Teacher – Health & PE 1.0 HS	Retirement-Ortiz	8/23/16	\$104,955 M+36, Step 11	Yes
Gonzalez, Tania	Teacher – Secondary Spanish .5 (part time) MS	Non-Renewal- Slifer	8/23/16	\$80,877 (prorated) M+36, Step 5	Yes (prorated)
Marchok, Chris	Teacher – Math .5 (part time) HS	Transfer-Loving	8/23/16	\$57,289 (prorated) B+12, Step 2	Yes (prorated)
Mercatanti, Carolyn	Food Service Worker Substitute	As needed	5/6/16	\$11.04/hr.	No
Donovan, Michael	Teacher - Business Education .5 (part time) HS – LTS	Resignation – Ohanian	5/9/16- 6/15/16	\$47,662 (prorated) B, Step 01	No

- h. Appoint Andrew G. Lechman as Board Secretary and Charles M. Malone as Assistant Board Secretary for a term of four years, effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2020.
- i. Approve the following EDR contracts for the 2015-2016 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Extra Duty Responsibility</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Valerie Maugle	Track & Field 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	\$1638.00
Patrick Wheeler	Lacrosse Boys JV (prorated)	\$1416.60

## 4. Policy

a(1). Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deussing, seconded by Mrs. Keyes, the Board voted to adopt revised Policy 903 Public Participation in Board Meetings on a second reading. \*

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

Motion passed 6 – 1 with 2 absent and 0 abstentions.

a(2). Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, seconded by Mrs. Keyes, the Board voted to adopt revised Policy 217.4 Cyber Education on a second reading. \*

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

Motion passed 7 - 0 with 2 absent and 0 abstentions.

b. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Povacz, seconded by Mrs. Keyes, the Board voted to approve the attached new Mission Statement for the Finance Committee. \*

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

Motion passed 7 - 0 with 2 absent and 0 abstentions.

5. Special Education  
NONE

6. Curriculum and Instruction

- a. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Keyes, seconded by Mrs. Deussing, the Board voted to adopt the following new textbooks:

- *Algebra II/Trigonometry Texts* (Sullivan) at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.
- *Discovering French for Levels I-IV* (McDougal Littell) at a cost not to exceed \$33,500.
- *Avancemos for Spanish Levels I-IV* at a cost not to exceed \$43,500.00
- *The American Pageant* (Cengage) at a cost not to exceed \$13,000.00

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

Motion passed 7 – 0 with 2 absent and 0 abstentions.

7. Athletics and Student Activities  
NONE

**XII. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items Only)**

- Mr. Tasduk – Commented on clubs.

**XIII. Board Discussion**

- Mrs. Dougherty – Commented on length of public comment for Policy 903
- Mr. Capriotti – Commented on length of public comment for Policy 903
- Mrs. Deussing – Stated that the discussion of public comment for Policy 903 was vetted at the Policy Committee.

**XIV. Adjournment**

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, and seconded by Mrs. Deussing, which was unanimously approved the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next Board of School Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, June 20, 2016 at 6:30 PM in the District Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Andrew Lechman  
Board Secretary

---

Date