

NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes
March 23, 2017

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 Upper Elementary School LGI Room on Thursday March 23, 2017. Mr. Dougherty, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Dougherty introduced the UES Band to lead members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

The Secretary called roll:

Members present: Mr. Capriotti (attended via phone), Mr. Cowell, Mrs. Deussing, Mr. Dougherty, Mrs. Gormley, Mrs. Keyes, Mr. McDonough, Mrs. Povacz, Mrs. Weisbrot

Members absent: None

Administrators present: Dr. Yanni, Mrs. Candido, Dr. Cortellessa, Mr. Hansel, Mr. Lechman, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Marton, Dr. McKenna, Mr. Radaszkiewicz, Mr. Rehr, Mr. Rivera, Mr. Seier

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

- Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deussing, seconded by Mr. Cowell, Personnel Action Item 3c Lydia Kim will be removed from agenda.

Public Comment: None

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

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

V. Acceptance of Minutes

- A. Upon a motion made by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mrs. Deussing, the Board voted to accept the February 23, 2017 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors. *

Mr. Capriotti	Yes
Mr. Cowell	Yes
Mrs. Deussing	Yes
Mrs. Gormley	Yes
Mrs. Keyes	Yes
Mr. McDonough	Yes
Mrs. Povacz	Yes
Mrs. Weisbrot	Abstain – Did not attend February 23, 2017 meeting.
Mr. Dougherty	Yes

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

VI. Student Reports

The following students reported on activities at their schools:

- High School – Anthony Lagana, Kaylee Tao
- Middle School - Grace Hanly and Natasha Bodine
- Upper Elementary School - Isha Mukherjee, Major Richmond

VII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Yanni reported on the following items

- Four retirements will be accepted and Dr. Yanni stated these individuals have dedicated time, talents, and energy to our district. Dr. Yanni commented about each retiree.
 - Mike Finley – High School Special Education Teacher
 - Dave Hansel – Director of Operations
 - Lisa Morrash – Sixth Grade Learning Support Teacher
 - Nancy Rachlin – LES Reading Specialist
- The district received two anonymous donations as follows:
 - Enhance Elementary Art Program - \$10,000
 - Enhance Middle level Programming - \$30,000
- Property Tax Independence Act – Commented that it remains to be seen how this will affect districts. We have information on our website about this topic.
- Updated School Calendar as a result of two more snow days. Dr. Yanni thanked the custodial, maintenance, and grounds crew for their work in getting our grounds and facilities ready for our students and staff.

VIII. Board Committee Reports

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

- A. Finance (Mr. Dougherty, Committee Chair)
- B. Facilities (Mr. Capriotti, Committee Chair)
- C. Policy and Human Resources (Mrs. Deussing, 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)
 - Annual Art Show –NHSD student Jessica Kinker participated.
 - Special Education - Mini report about concussions was presented.
 - Art On The Move – Impressionists and artists in our area.
 - Michener Museum – Celebrating the art collection of local school districts.
- B. Pennsylvania School Board Association (Mr. Dougherty) – No report.
- C. Middle Bucks Institute of Technology (Mr. Capriotti) – No report.

X. Old Business

- A. Presentation and/or Discussion Items
 - Revised 2016-2017 School Calendar
Dr. Yanni discussed that there are 182 student days in calendar with 2 built in snow days. April 17 will be the make-up day for students. Teachers will make up time outside of the calendar. Graduation is scheduled for June 8.

XI. New Business

- A. Presentation and/or Discussion Items
NONE
- B. Board Discussion (Agenda Items Only)
 - Mrs. Weisbrot thanked Mr. Finley for his years of service to district.
 - Mr. Capriotti asked about the number of real estate tax parcels and how many have been transferred from original owners.
 - Mr. Capriotti commented about the Transgender Policy - 255 – Gender Expansive and Transgender Students, stated Section e locker room accessibility is somewhat ambiguous; asked if transgender student can have an overnight stay with a student that is unaware they are sharing a room with a transgender student?
 - Mr. McDonough confirmed that this possibility exists. Dr. Yanni clarified that while the possibility exists, in an actual case we would be able to work with that student/family and others to make sure that concern would be allayed.

- Mrs. Gormley asked if parents wish to not have their non-transgender student share a room with a transgender student, can they send a request to the school to make sure their child will not be sharing a room with a transgender student. Dr. Yanni indicated an accommodation would be made.
- Mrs. Deussing commented about confidentiality of students.
- Mr. McDonough noted the policy assumes that we don't know of the transgender student because we have no right to know. If a transgender student comes to us and says they want accommodations, we will take reasonable steps to accommodate that student
- Mr. Capriotti asked about initiating the transgender form which is in file and policy is to protect transgender identity. He asked if the transgender student wants to room on an overnight trip with the gender they identify, is it possible to room with gender they identify with and fellow students would be unaware. Mr. McDonough said it is possible but the policy doesn't address this scenario.
- Mr. Capriotti stated the policy protects the identity of the transgender. Administration is aware but students may not be aware. Mr. McDonough stated it is a possibility with or without the policy.
- Mrs. Gormley stated students can have birth certificates changed.

C. Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)

- Mrs. Victoria Nichols, 6th grade teacher, commented on Policy 255 – Gender Expansive and Transgender Students and commented on retirement of Lisa Morrash.
- Mrs. Beth Simon commented on the retirement of Mike Finley,
- Mr. Tom Marrone commented on the retirement of Nancy Rachlin.
- The following public commented on Policy 255 – Gender Expansive and Transgender Students:
 - Janet Ecksel
 - Geri Delevich
 - Christine McGinn
 - Hanna Howe
 - Hope Blaythorne
 - Melvin Band
 - Barbara Ginu

D. Board Comment (Agenda Items Only)

- Mr. Cowell congratulated the retirees; commented that Policy 255, Item 4f regarding sports and physical education allows transgender to be part of interscholastic sports teams; stated that Article 16, Section 4 of PIAA regulations, where a student gender is uncertain, it is the principal's decision.
- Mr. Dougherty commented that the state forced this student to wrestle with the girls instead of the boys; Texas had it wrong.
- Mr. Cowell stated that the PIAA does not make the decision, the principal makes the decision; he would like this addressed in the policy.

- Mr. Dougherty thanked anonymous donors for their generous donations; thanked Dr. Yanni, Mrs. Deussing, and Mr. McDonough for their work in bringing forward Policy 255.

E. Action Items (* Indicates attachment)

1. Finance

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

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

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

- a. Approve the Treasurer’s Reports for January and February, 2017. *
- b. Approve and ratify the following list of bills totaling \$2,673,718.23. *

2016-2017 General Fund Checks Between Meetings for Ratification
Check Numbers – 10046051 to 10046071
Totaling - \$97,633.64

2016-2017 Capital Project Checks for Approval
Check Numbers – 30252 to 30257
Totaling - \$860,191.45

2016-2017 General Fund Checks for Approval
Check Numbers – 10046072 to 10046194
Totaling - \$296,861.04

2016-2017 Wire Transfers Between Meetings for Ratification
Totaling - \$1,419,032.10

- c. Approve an Agreement with the Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 for special education services and the Schedule of Contracted Costs in the amount of \$173,473 for the 2017-2018 school year. *

- d. Approve the Bucks County Intermediate Unit No. 22 Programs & Services Budget, which calls for expenditures of \$1,725,687 of which \$20,790 is New Hope-Solebury School District’s contribution for the 2017-2018 school year. (Contribution for 2016-2017 was \$21,460.) *
- e. Approve an Addendum to Extend Agreement with S4Teachers LLC, d/b/a Source4Teachers to provide substitute staffing from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2021. *
- f. Approve the following budgetary transfers for the 2016-2017 school year:

Transfer From	Account	Object	Object Description	Amount	Transfer To	Account	Object	Object Description	Amount	Reason
Payroll	1025140000000000	150	CLER WAGES	\$ 21,900.00	Payroll	1025140000000000	340	Technical Service	\$ 21,900.00	Outsource Payroll Functions
Payroll	1025140000000000	211	Medical Benefits	\$ 6,750.00	Payroll	1025140000000000	340	Technical Service	\$ 6,750.00	Outsource Payroll Functions
Payroll	1025140000000000	212	Dental Benefits	\$ 550.00	Payroll	1025140000000000	340	Technical Service	\$ 550.00	Outsource Payroll Functions
Payroll	1025140000000000	220	Social Security	\$ 1,800.00	Payroll	1025140000000000	340	Technical Service	\$ 1,800.00	Outsource Payroll Functions
Payroll	1025140000000000	230	Retirement	\$ 6,750.00	Payroll	1025140000000000	340	Technical Service	\$ 6,750.00	Outsource Payroll Functions
Purchasing	1025200000000000	150	CLER WAGES	\$ 13,000.00	Payroll	1025140000000000	340	Technical Service	\$ 13,000.00	Outsource Payroll Functions
Purchasing	1025200000000000	220	Social Security	\$ 1,000.00	Payroll	1025140000000000	340	Technical Service	\$ 1,000.00	Outsource Payroll Functions
Purchasing	1025200000000000	230	Retirement	\$ 3,500.00	Payroll	1025140000000000	340	Technical Service	\$ 3,500.00	Outsource Payroll Functions
Other Spec Ed	1012900000000001	569	Tuition-Other	\$ 130,000.00	Other Spec Ed	1012900000000001	322	Professional Serv-I.U.	\$ 130,000.00	K-Eligible Early Intervention

- g. Accept a donation in the amount of \$10,000 for enhancements to the elementary art program from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. Enhancements to the elementary art program will be planned between Mr. Mannion, Dr. McKenna, and other members of the administrative team.
- h. Accept a donation in the amount of \$30,000 for enhancements to middle level programming from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. Enhancements to the middle level programming will be planned by Dr. Cortellessa, the MS staff, and other members of the administrative team.

2. Facilities

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deussing, seconded by Mrs. Gormley, the Board voted as follows on Facilities Item 2a:

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

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

- a. Authorize the Administration and contractors to move forward with including the EIFS (building covering) as presented in the project's bid in the amount of \$199,000.

3. Personnel

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, seconded by Mrs. Gormley, the Board voted as follows on Personnel Items 3a, b, and d (c removed under Section IV):

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

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

- a. Approve the following retirements:

RETIREMENTS	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Finley, Michael <i>Retirement with Incentive and Supermax</i>	Special Education Teacher HS	June 14, 2017
Hansel, David <i>Retirement with Incentive and Supermax</i>	Director of Operations District	June 30, 2017
Morrash, Lisa <i>Retirement with Incentive and Supermax</i>	Special Education Teacher Grade 6 MS	June 14, 2017
Rachlin, Nancy <i>Retirement with Incentive and Supermax</i>	Reading Specialist LES	June 14, 2017

- b. Approve the following leaves:

LEAVES	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Goodwin, Maryann	Elementary Teacher Grade 1 LES	February 7, 2017 - TBD
Sanders, Tara	English, Business Ed Teacher HS	May 1, 2017 - August 29, 2017 <i>approximate dates</i>

- c. Deleted per board motion.
- d. Approve the following Extra Duty Responsibility (EDR) contracts for the 2016-2017 school year:

Name	Extra Duty Responsibility	Stipend
ATHLETICS		
Brian Renfer	Baseball 7th grade	\$1,654.00
Tom Boyd	Baseball 8th grade	\$1,801.00
Len Lehman	Baseball JV	\$2,385.00
Tony Vlahovic	Baseball Varsity	\$3,747.00
Carl Corino	Lacrosse Boys Varsity	\$3,747.00
Rory Yerkes	Lacrosse Girls JV	\$2,385.00
Betsy Dougherty	Lacrosse Girls Varsity	\$3,747.00
Sam Slifer	Soccer MS Girls	\$1,704.00
Rachel Locke	Softball 8th grade	\$1,801.00
Meghan Wilson	Softball JV	\$2,385.00
Chris Marchok	Softball Varsity	\$3,747.00
Mike Dickey	Tennis JV Boys	\$2,192.00
Philip Heft	Tennis Varsity Boys	\$3,308.00
Kaitlin Doyle	Track & Field 8th grade	\$1,801.00
Erin Moss	Track & Field JV	\$2,385.00
Scott Kunkel	Track & Field Varsity	\$3,747.00
	TOTAL:	\$42,536.00
	RUNNING TOTAL:	\$300,108.30

4. Policy

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, seconded by Mrs. Keyes, the Board voted as follows on Policy Item 4a:

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

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

- a. Adopt the revised 2016-2017 School Calendar. *

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deussing, seconded by Mrs. Gormley, the Board voted as follows on Policy Item 4b – adopt Policy 004.1 Code of Ethics:

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

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

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deussing, seconded by Mrs. Gormley, the Board voted as follows on Policy Item 4b – adopt Policy 255 Gender Expansive and Transgender Students:

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

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

b. Adopt the following Board Policies on a second reading: *

004.1 – Code of Ethics
255 – Gender Expansive and Transgender Students

c. Affirm the first reading of the following Board Policies:

201 – Admission of Students
201.1 – Registration/Proof of Residency Requirements
246 – School Wellness

5. Special Education

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deussing, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, the Board voted as follows on Special Education Item 5a:

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

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

- a. Approve the following Settlement and Release Agreements:
 - Student No. 9403385970 in the form presented to the Board.
 - Student No. 6461756876 in the form presented to the Board.

6. Curriculum and Instruction
NONE

7. Athletics and Student Activities
NONE

XII. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items Only)

- Mr. Melvin Band commented on Air Quality Testing – Construction Project
- Mrs. Liz Miles commented on Air Quality Testing – Construction Project
- Dr. Yanni commented on Air Quality Testing; Dr. Yanni indicated that air quality testing results revealed no areas of concern. – Construction Project

XIII. Board Discussion
NONE

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Dougherty at 8:26 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board of School Directors will be held on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Upper Elementary School LGI Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Lechman
Board Secretary

Date