

## **NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **Board Minutes**

**April 27, 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 April 27, 2017. Mr. Dougherty, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:36 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 Middle School Tinker Academy to lead members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **III. Roll Call**

The Secretary called roll:

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

Members absent: Mr. Capriotti, Mrs. Weisbrot

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

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

- Personnel Action Item b - add resignation of Meghan Dun
- Policy Items should read a and b instead of a and c

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deussing, seconded by Mrs. Povacz, the Board voted unanimously to add Resignation of Meghan Dun to Personnel Action Item b and to correct Policy to read Items a and b on the agenda.

#### **V. Acceptance of Minutes**

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

## VI. Student Reports

The following students reported on activities at their schools:

- High School – Anthony Lagana and Kaylee Tao
- Middle School – Natasha Bodine and Jonah Silberman
- Upper Elementary School – Maya Rosenberg and Hanna Schmukler

## VII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Yanni reported on the following items:

- Acknowledged retirements of Lisa Naldzin, AnnaMarie Riggi, and Mark Dennis.
- PSSA testing finished for reading and math earlier this week; commented on the following proposed legislation:
  - Push to move back administration of PSSA grades 3-8 closer to Memorial Day
  - Push for limiting the use of PSSA and Keystone Exams for academic growth calculations and federal accountability purposes
  - Push for permission and allowance for districts, not the state, to decide graduation requirements.
- No Place for Hate Initiative – Dr. Yanni stated the committee identified an actionable item:
  - K-12 – Rachel's Challenge – A foundation that is a motivational speaking organization, bullying intervention, harassment intervention, bias intervention program that works across the country to promote inclusion and acceptance; first step is to have organization assess what we are doing, keep doing good things, and move away things that aren't working – being smarter about how we move forward with certain initiatives.
- Congratulations to students and staff - HS ranked #2 in PA by U.S. News and World Report.

## VIII. Board Committee Reports

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

- A. Finance (Mr. Dougherty, Committee Chair) – Mr. Cowell reported.
- B. Facilities (Mr. Capriotti, Committee Chair) – Mr. Hansel reported.
- 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) – Dr. Yanni reported.

## IX. Liaison Reports

- A. Bucks County Intermediate Unit (Mrs. Weisbrot) – No report.
- 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  
NONE

**XI. New Business**

A. Presentation and/or Discussion Items  
NONE

B. Board Discussion (Agenda Items Only)

- Mrs. Deussing asked about the construction schedule impact due to phasing delay; Mr. Hansel commented that the Phase II delivery date and end date of the project have not changed.

C. Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)

- Mr. Band commented on agenda Item Policy 4a 255 – Transgender Athletes.

D. Board Comment (Agenda Items Only)

- Mrs. Deussing commented that for the last 10 years she has done nothing but to support the children of this district; stated that comments made to add specific language to Policy 255 were deemed unnecessary by the Policy Committee.
- Mrs. Gormley commented that the property terminology is a child with autism not an autistic child.

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-1f:

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

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

- a. Approve and ratify the following list of bills totaling \$3,357,678.73 \*

2016-2017 General Fund Checks Between Meetings for Ratification  
 Check Numbers – 147001 to 147016  
 Totaling - \$81,329.80

2016-2017 General Fund Checks Between Meetings for Ratification  
 Check Numbers – 10046195 to 10046195  
 Totaling - \$1,910.00

2016-2017 Capital Project Checks for Approval  
 Check Numbers – 30258 to 30266  
 Totaling - \$1,831,219.75

2016-2017 General Fund Checks for Approval  
 Check Numbers – 147017 to 147196  
 Totaling - \$611,287.38

2016-2017 Wire Transfers Between Meetings for Ratification  
 Totaling - \$831,931.80

- b. 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 2017-2018 school year. \*
- c. 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 2017-2018 school year. \*
- d. Authorize the renewal of a countywide Agreement with the Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 whereas the county school districts and career technology centers are interconnected via a fiber wide area network service and receive Internet access service via this network. The cost is \$2,744.68 per month for a period of 7 years for 1500 MB of bandwidth. \*
- e. Approve the proposed MBIT General Fund Budget for the 2017-2018 school year. \*

- 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
UES Phys Ed	1011001000140009	752	Equipment	\$ 1,000.00	UES Phys Ed	1011001000140009	430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 1,000.00	Annual maintenance for 30 UES bicycles budgeted in wrong account
Operations	1026200000000003	610	Supplies	\$ 30,000.00	Operations	1026200000000003	430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 30,000.00	Buildings maintenance trending above budget

2. Facilities  
 NONE

## 3. Personnel

Dr. Yanni introduced Charles Miles as the candidate for the Director of Operations.

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

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

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

## a. Accept the following retirements:

RETIREMENTS	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Naldzin, Lisa <i>Retirement with Supermax</i>	Instructional Assistant	6/12/17
Riggi, Anna Marie <i>Retirement with Supermax</i>	Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent	6/30/17
Dennis, Mark <i>Retirement with Supermax</i>	Custodian LES	6/30/17

## b. Accept the following resignations:

RESIGNATIONS	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Kuklinski, Brianne	Substitute Cafeteria Aide	4/5/17
Reilly, Gretchen	Substitute Cafeteria Aide	4/5/17
Lewis, Jan	Substitute Cafeteria Aide	4/17/17
Pepitone Jr., William	Substitute Security Officer	4/17/17
Mervine, Michael	Part-Time Custodian	6/9/17
Buckman, Patricia	Part-time Food Services Worker	6/9/17
Dun, Meghan	Special Education Teacher HS	6/14/17

## c. Approve the following leaves:

LEAVES	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Kalidonis, Jaclyn	Kindergarten Teacher LES	4/17/17-6/14/17
Sanders, Tara	English/Business Ed Teacher HS	<b>Extended</b> <b>Approx. Dates</b> 5/1/17-1/26/18

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

APPOINTMENTS	POSITION	REASON	EFFECTIVE	SALARY	BENEFITS
Pierce, Amanda	Elementary Teacher - Grade 1 LES LTS	Leave - Goodwin	4/3/17 - 6/14/17	\$48,455 (prorated) B, Step 01	No
Donovan, Michael	English Teacher HS LTS	Leave - Sanders	Approx. Dates 4/27/17- 6/14/17	\$48,455 (prorated) B, Step 01	No
Miles, Charles	Director of Operations (Combined position - Director of Operations and Director of Custodial Services)	Retirement - Hansel and Position Elimination - Rivera	6/12/17	\$93,500 (prorated)	Yes

- e. Approve the elimination of the Director of Custodial Services position effective June 30, 2017.
- f. Approve the following Extra Duty Responsibility (EDR) contracts for the 2016-2017 school year:

Name	Extra Duty Responsibility	Stipend
<b>ATHLETICS</b>		
Matt Andris	Lacrosse Boys JV	\$2,385.00
Maria Bennett	Soccer 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	\$1,556.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>		\$3,941.00
<b>RUNNING TOTAL:</b>		\$304,049.30

#### 4. Policy

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

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

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

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

255 – Gender Expansive and Transgender Students: PIAA Section Only  
 201.1 – Registration/Proof of Residency Requirements  
 246 – School Wellness

- b. Affirm the first reading of the following Board Policies:

253 – Suicide and Self-Harming Behavior  
 324 – Personnel Files  
 808 – Food Services

5. Special Education

Upon a motion made by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mrs. Gormley, the Board voted as follows on Special Education Item 5a-5b:

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

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

- a. Approve a Settlement and Release Agreements for Student No. 2088411453 in the form presented to the Board.
- b. Approve a tuition contract for special education services for Student No. 2088411453 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. Band commented on the following topics:
  - Minutes – Level of detail included
  - Intelligencer Article regarding Transgender

- Incident report from Fire Department visit on February 23 to High School related to dust
- Air quality tests
- Dr. Yanni addressed air quality:
  - Agreed to air quality tests at the beginning and end of each phase
  - There was one day that the senior hallway was dusty
  - Company came in to test air quality levels.
  - Proactively put carbon monoxide detectors throughout construction site and gave individual contractors individual carbon monoxide detectors that they wear on their badges
- Mr. Marcus commented on the Intelligencer April 9 2017 article the subject was Transgender policies and how various school districts address that issue.
- Mr. Patel commented on speakers at school and continuing learning process at home.
- Mrs. Strauss, MBIT Executive Director, commented that June 5<sup>th</sup> is their graduation ceremony and the student singing the national anthem is Florencia Minniti and the senior speaker Cameron Wallace, both from NHS.

**XIII. Board Discussion**

- Mrs. Deussing commented that Mr. Dennis will be missed by staff and students.
- Mr. McDonough commented about board procedure and summary in the minutes; BOG states public comments will only list name and subject matter.

**XIV. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Dougherty at 7:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board of School Directors will be held on Thursday, May 25, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Upper Elementary School LGI Room.

Respectfully submitted,

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Andrew Lechman  
Board Secretary

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Date