

**NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board Minutes**  
**May 25, 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 May 25, 2017. Mr. Dougherty, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:39 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. Capriotti, 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. Lechman, Mrs. Marton, Dr. McKenna, Mr. Seier

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

NONE

**V. Acceptance of Minutes**

- A. Upon a motion made by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mrs. Deussing, the Board voted as follows to accept the April 27, 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 – not present at last meeting
Mr. Dougherty	Yes

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

## VI. Student Reports

The following students reported on activities at their schools:

- High School – Anthony Lagana and Kaylee Tao
- Middle School – Jonah Silberman, Jack Masino
- Upper Elementary School – Ryan Keyes, Michael Deussing

## VII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Yanni reported on the following items:

- Recognized Kaylee Tao and Anthony Lagana for their service this year.
- Acknowledged Karen Rosenberg, High School Art Teacher, was selected to speak at a statewide conference regarding the effects of using therapy dogs in the art classroom.
- Last year two teachers, Drew Giorgi and Tara Sanders, were selected to present at NCTE Conference last year and have again been selected to represent us on the national level. They have also been selected to present at the PA Council of Teachers of English at the annual conference.
- Acknowledged Ken Silver in his retirement from the district and wished him success and happiness as he retires at the end of June.
- Acknowledged and thanked our music teachers for end of year concerts.
- Thanked the librarians and technology teachers for their work with Makerspace and Tinker Academy.
- Commented about the elementary Ninja Warrior Field Day to take place the next day.
- Wished everyone a good end of the school year.
- Thanked the NHSEA executive team for working collaboratively with us to work through the process for staffing changes; staffing changes are purely enrollment driven.

## 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) – Report provided by Mr. McDonough who will be chairing the committee moving forward.
- 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) – 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
  - 2017-2018 Proposed Final Budget – Dr. Yanni and Mr. Lechman provided a presentation of the 2017-2018 proposed final budget. The budget documents are included in the board packet posted online along with a copy of the presentation provided. The key highlights are:
    - Expenditures: \$40,322,697
    - Revenues: \$40,105,610
    - Use of Fund Balance: \$217,088
    - Millage Rate: 97.6962 or 4% increase
- B. Board Discussion (Agenda Items Only)
  - Mrs. Gormley commented on Policy 253 – Suicide and Self-Harming Behavior.
  - Mrs. Deussing asked about Facilities – New Entry Way for High School still in Phase 1.
- C. Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)
  - Mrs. Simon commented on the retirement of Ken Silver.
  - Mr. Band commented on the following:
    - Peter Rivera resignation
    - Ernie Rehr resignation
    - Budget for 2017-2018
  - Mr. Marrone commented on the retirement of Ken Silver.
  - Mr. Patel commented on the budget for 2017-2018.
- D. Board Comment (Agenda Items Only)
  - Mrs. Deussing commented on the retirement of Ken Silver.
  - Mrs. Gormley seconded that comment.

## 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-1n:

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 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, 2017 through June 30, 2018 will be published at least 10 days prior to adoption at the regularly scheduled Board meeting on June 26, 2017 at 6:30 PM in the Upper Elementary School LGI. \*
- b. Approve the Treasurer's Reports for March and April, 2017. \*
- c. Approve and ratify the following list of bills totaling \$3,347,233.25. \*

2016-2017 Capital Project Checks Between Meetings for Ratification  
Check Numbers – Series 15A 30267 to 30277  
Totaling - \$556,598.27

And

Check Numbers – Series 16A 30450 to 30451  
Totaling - 1,221,830.86

2016-2017 General Fund Checks Between Meetings for Ratification  
Check Numbers – 147197 to 147217  
Totaling - \$615,788.65

2016-2017 General Fund Checks for Approval  
Check Numbers – 147218 to 147391  
Totaling - \$489,531.93

2016-2017 Wire Transfers Between Meetings for Ratification  
Totaling - \$463,483.54

- d. Approve Andrew Lechman to serve as the Bucks IU Management Trustee to the Bucks and Montgomery County Schools Health Care Consortium for the time period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019.
- e. Authorize the Administration to work with PFM Financial Advisors LLC, as Financial Advisor, Robert W. Baird Co. as Senior Managing Underwriter, Janney Montgomery Scott LLC as Co-Managing Underwriter, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, as Bond Counsel, and the District's Solicitor in conjunction with the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2017 for the purpose of funding a portion of the Campus Revitalization Plan in the estimated principal amount of \$6,580,000.
- f. Appoint John F. Cook as School Board Treasurer for the 2017-2018 school year at an annual cost of \$8,200.
- g. Approve the Food Services Budget for the 2017-2018 School Year. \*
- h. Approve the following lunch prices for the 2017-2018 school year:
  - o Type A Lunch – Elementary Schools \$2.90 (No Increase)
  - o Type A Lunch – Middle/High Schools \$3.35 (.10 Increase)
  - o Half Pint of Milk \$0.75 (No Increase)
- i. Approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 to offer a life-skills career and employment training transition program to students ages 18 to 21 for the 2017-2018 school year. The cost of this program is \$39,387 for a student attending this program which will be offset by approximately \$35,000 in revenue for NHSD supervision of the program and fair share room rental for use of a classroom space on the NHSD campus. \*
- j. Approve a one-year extension of the First Student contract per the rates in the current agreement for the year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.
- k. Authorize the Administration to execute an Agreement with ABA Connect, LLC for applied behavior analysis and curriculum, at a cost of \$475.00 per day (\$63.33 per hour for 7.5 hours per day) with a maximum of 30 hours per week that school is in session, effective September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. \*
- l. Authorize the Administration to execute a Letter of Agreement with The Council of Southeast Pennsylvania, Inc. to provide services and support of the Student Assistance Program for the 2017-2018 school year, in the amount of \$5,200. \*
- m. Authorize the Administration to execute a contract with Interquest Detection Canines of Eastern Pennsylvania for the 2017-2018 school year at a cost of \$260 per 3 hour visit or \$520 per six hour visit. \*

- n. Accept the list of Act 153 properties as certified by the Solebury Township Board of Supervisors for the 2017-2018 school year. \*

2. Facilities

NONE

3. Personnel

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

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. Accept the following retirements/resignations/terminations:

RETIREMENTS	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Silver, Kenneth <i>Pursuant to the terms of Agreement presented to the Board</i>	Principal LES	6/30/2017

RESIGNATIONS	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Rivera, Peter	Director of Custodial Services	5/5/2017
Rehr, Ernest	Assistant Principal/ Director of Athletics	6/30/2017

TERMINATIONS	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Rosenthal, Tanya	Cafeteria Worker – Food Services Part time – 2.25 hrs./day	4/27/2017

b. Ratify/approve the following leaves:

LEAVES	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Kolinchak, David	Math Teacher MS	5/15/2017 – 5/30/2017 <i>anticipated dates</i>
Nealis, Cheryl	Administrative Assistant HS	7/19/2017 – 9/19/2017 <i>anticipated dates</i>

## c. Approve the following reassignments/transfers:

REASSIGNMENTS/ TRANSFERS	FROM	TO	EFFECTIVE	SALARY	BENEFITS
McNabb, Joanne	Cafeteria Worker Food Service Substitute	Cafeteria Worker – Food Services Part time – 5 hrs./day (Resignation -Buckman)	8/29/2017	\$11.54/hourly Year 0	No
Marchok, Christopher	Math/Business Education Teacher HS	Business Education Teacher HS	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Hamill, Michele	Humanities/Science Teacher - Grade 6 MS	RELA Teacher - Grade 6 MS	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Nichols, Victoria	Humanities/Math Teacher - Grade 6 MS	Special Education Teacher - Grade 6 MS	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Dykie, Jeffrey	Science Teacher – Grade 7 MS	Science Teacher – Grade 6 MS	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Gonzalez, Tania	Part-time (.5) World Languages Teacher MS	Full-time English Teacher Grade 8 MS	8/29/2017	Full-time	Full-time
Brown, Nicole	Elementary Teacher – Grade 3 UES	Reading Specialist UES	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Serafin, Sandra	Full-time Science Teacher – Grade 6 MS	Part-time (.5) Science Teacher HS	8/29/2017	Part-time (.5)	Part-time (.5)
Keiper, Caitlin	Social Studies Teacher HS/MS	Social Studies Teacher Grade 6 MS	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Hesney, Joshua	English Teacher Grade 8 MS	English Teacher HS	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Hess, Mara	Health/Physical Education Teacher HS	Elementary Teacher – Grade 3 UES	8/29/2017	No change	No change
James, Eileen	Health/Physical Education Teacher MS	Health/Physical Education Teacher MS/HS	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Lever, Carey	Science Teacher HS/MS	Science Teacher – Grade 7 MS	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Riva, Mary C.	Psychologist HS/MS	Psychologist LES/HS	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Wind, Jennifer	Psychologist LES/UES	Psychologist UES/MS	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Reynolds, Michelle	Learning Support Co-Teacher – Grade 5 UES	Learning Support Teacher LES	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Nelson, Peter	Learning Support Teacher LES	Learning Support Co-Teacher - Grade 5 UES	8/29/2017	No change	No change
Iannacone, Leanne	Reading Specialist UES	Reading Specialist LES	8/29/2017	No change	No change

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

APPOINTMENTS	POSITION	REASON	EFFECTIVE	SALARY	BENEFITS
Allen, Kirstin	Kindergarten Teacher LES LTS	Leave - Kalidonis	5/12/2017 - 6/14/2017	\$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	<b>Revised</b> <del>6/12/2017</del> 5/8/2017	\$93,500 (prorated)	Yes
Ruggiero, Michele	Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent	Retirement - Riggi	6/12/2017	\$57,000 (prorated)	Yes
Cajeira, Marcia	Administrative Assistant for Payroll and Record-Keeping Part time - 5 hrs./day	New Position	5/30/2017	\$26.00/hourly	No
Nelson, Peter	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	ESY Program	7/3/2017 - 8/3/2017	\$73.82/hourly	No
Miller, Jacqueline	Elementary Teacher Academic Support	ESY Program	7/3/2017 - 8/3/2017	\$73.82/hourly	No
Korn, Andrea	Secondary Teacher Academic Support	ESY Program	7/3/2017 - 8/3/2017	\$73.82/hourly	No
Reynolds, Michelle	K - 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Intensive Learning Support	ESY Program	7/3/2017 - 8/3/2017	\$73.82/hourly	No
Larson, Megan	5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Intensive Learning Support	ESY Program	7/3/2017 - 8/3/2017	\$73.82/hourly	No
Yerkes, Rory	9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Intensive Learning Support	ESY Program	7/3/2017 - 8/3/2017	\$73.82/hourly	No
Cummings, Sharon	K - 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Instructional Assistant Intensive Learning Support	ESY Program	7/3/2017 - 8/3/2017	\$16.08/hourly	No
Companiononi, Emilio	5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Instructional Assistant Intensive Learning Support	ESY Program	7/3/2017 - 8/3/2017	\$16.08/hourly	No
Simon, Elizabeth	Certified School Nurse	ESY Program	7/3/2017 - 8/3/2017	\$73.82/hourly	No

#### 4. Policy

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDonough, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, 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 following Board Policies on a second reading: \*

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

- 5. Special Education  
NONE

- 6. Curriculum and Instruction

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Deussing, seconded by Mr. Cowell, the Board voted as follows on Curriculum and Instruction Item 6a:

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 adoption of Living in the Environment AP Edition, Miller, 18<sup>th</sup>+edition with Exam Prep and eBook Instant Access for the Advanced Placement Environmental Science course at a cost not to exceed \$6,000.

- 7. Athletics and Student Activities  
NONE

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

- Mr. Marcus stated the next Board meeting Monday, June 26.
- Mr. Marrone commented on district finances and teacher retirements.
- Mr. Band commented on the professional staff contract negotiation process.

**XIII. Board Discussion**

- Mr. Capriotti commented on the budget process and the impact of the reduction of EDRs.

**XIV. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Dougherty at 8:27 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board of School Directors will be held on Monday, June 26, 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