

NORTH HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEGISLATIVE MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.
NORTH HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL – LGI ROOM
www.nhsd.net

Board Members Present

Timothy Burnett, Thomas Kelly, Sandra Kozera, Allison Mathis, Annette Giovengo Nolish, Louis Nudi, Helen Spade and Edward Wielgus. Mrs. Reid was present via telephone.

Board Members Not Present

None

Also Present

Dr. Patrick Mannarino, Dr. Jeff Taylor, David Hall, Jerry Muth, Michael J. Witherel, Esq., Heather Pelat, and Kris Kaufmann.

Persons Signing the Register

Julia Parks, 911 Wellesley Avenue, Ross Township, PA
Shea Sweeney, 95 William Street, Ross Township, PA
Emily Schreffler, 356 Ridgewood Avenue, West View, PA
Kelly Schreffler, 356 Ridgewood Avenue, West View, PA
Cheryl Sweeney, 95 William Street, Ross Township, PA
James Polen, 414 Sunderland Drive, Ross Township, PA
Vicki Helsley, 141 McIntyre Road, Ross Township, PA
Sarah Detar, 104 S. Harleston Drive, Ross Township, PA
Tricia Goetz, 148 Spruce Valley Drive, Ross Township, PA
Leah Haile, 106 Circle Drive, Ross Township, PA
Brad Gray, 127 Thompson Drive Ext., Ross Township, PA
Amanda Gray, 127 Thompson Drive Ext., Ross Township, PA
Amanda Jabbour, 131 Radcliff Drive, Ross Township, PA
Diane Maxwell, 300 Cross Creek Court, Ross Township, PA
Denise Piveronas, 98 Buckhill Road, Ross Township, PA
John & Lauren Eisses, 115 Radcliff Drive, Ross Township, PA
Patty Popadyn, 131 Buckhill Road, Ross Township, PA
Corinne Kunselman, 125 Grove Avenue, West View, PA

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Wielgus opened the meeting with a moment of silence and salute to the flag. Mr. Wielgus noted that an Executive Session had taken place this evening from 5:00 p.m. to 6:50 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal issues. In attendance were Board members Mr. Burnett, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Kozera, Mrs. Mathis, Dr. Nolish, Mr. Nudi, Mrs. Spade, Mr. Wielgus, Michael J. Witherel, Esq., Dr. Jeff Taylor, Chief Dean Lawrence and Dr. Patrick Mannarino.

Board Member Comments

Mrs. Mathis congratulated everyone involved in the opening of the new West View Hub. Ms. Kozera announced that West View Elementary was sponsoring a Safe Summer Fair, on June 8, 2019 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

Ms. Denise Piveronas stated that she was adamantly opposed to the proposed tax increase and requested that the Board maintain the current tax rate.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Wielgus, seconded by Mr. Burnett and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2019 Work Session/Legislative Meeting and the May 9, 2019 Legislative Meeting.

Presentations

Mrs. Amy Scheuneman, Director of Athletics provided the 2018-19 Athletics year in review.

Chief Dean Lawrence, North Hills School Police, provided the 2018-19 Safety and Security year in review.

EDUCATION

A motion was made by Mrs. Mathis, seconded by Mrs. Spade and unanimously passed to approve Education Items, as recommended by the Superintendent, as follows:

1. 2019-2020 Textbook Adoptions – Psychology Textbooks in the amount of \$13,222.
2. Dual Enrollment with Community College of Allegheny County – for the Welding Program at the high school, effective April 1, 2019 through April 1, 2022.
3. Affiliation Agreement with California University of Pennsylvania – for student teachers.
4. Donation from Plymouth Rock Management Company – this is a \$5,000 donation to be used for upgrading the teacher’s lounge at McIntyre Elementary School.
5. Bid Award – Music Curriculum Furniture and Bid Rejection for Music Stands and Choral Risers – to award the bid for 100 Elementary Music Chairs to Delaney & Associations, Inc. in the amount of \$3,159. The Board also rejected all bids for music stands and choral risers.

6. Replacement of Choral Risers at the Middle School and High School – Purchase of replacement choral risers from Wenger Corporation in the amount of \$35,366. This pricing is under a Pennsylvania CoStars contract.
7. Bid Award – Music Instruments – For the Board to award the bid to several vendors to purchase various musical instruments totaling \$151,835.10. The Board also rejected bids for the 4/4 tuba and glockenspiel.
8. Bid Award – Choral Robes – The Board awarded the bid for Choral Robes to Herff Jones in the amount of \$22,856.
9. The Meadows Psychiatric Center Educational Services Agreement – this agreement allows for educational services to be provided to any district student that may be hospitalized at the Meadows Psychiatric Center. The contract is in effect for the 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 school years.
10. Allegheny Intermediate Unit 2019-20 Services Agreement – the AIU provides specialized educational services as needed.

ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIE

A motion was made by Ms. Kozera, seconded by Dr. Nolish and unanimously passed to approve the following Athletics and Activities Items, as recommended by the Superintendent:

1. Resolution 2019-11 Recognizing the North Hills Girls Soccer Boosters as an Official Booster Organization of the North Hills School District.

Ms. Kozera announced the 2019 Inductees to the Sports Hall of Fame:

- Arlene Bander (posthumous) – Community Supporter
- Ken Bollens III – Class of 1994
- Joseph Kush – Class of 2011
- Shannon Rankin – Class of 1998
- Curtis Rice – Class of 1980

A.W. BEATTIE CAREER CENTER

None

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mr. Burnett and unanimously passed to approve the following Personnel Items, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Resignations

Regina Farrell – Student Council Sponsor at McIntyre, effective May 31, 2019
Lacey Murray – Head Varsity Cross Country Coach, effective May 30, 2019
Ed Porter – Computer Technician at McIntyre, effective May 30, 2019
Abby Linn – Summer Literacy Program Teacher, effective June 4, 2019

Appointments

Curriculum Leaders – Effective for the 2019-2020 School Year

Jim Cassandro – 7-12 Technology Education at the rate of \$1,750
Joe Deible – 7-12 World Languages at the rate of \$2,500
Kellee Kanith – K-12 Computer Science and Business, Computers and Information Technology at the rate of \$1,750
Eric Kasperowicz – K-12 Health and Physical Education at the rate of \$2,500
Amy Patsilevas – 7-12 Family and Consumer Science at the rate of \$1,750

Shannon Herb – 3rd grade teacher at McIntyre at the rate of \$47,000 (Step 3 – Bachelor+24), effective August 6, 2019

Jamie Pantone – 1st grade teacher at McIntyre at the rate of \$46,505 (Step 3 – Bachelor’s), effective August 6, 2019

Alyssa Taylor – 1st grade teacher at McIntyre at the rate of \$47,475 (Step 3 – Master’s), effective August 6, 2019

Rebecca Dunham – long-term substitute at the rate of \$35,000, effective for the 2019-20 school year

Danielle Lipsack – long-term substitute at the rate of \$35,000, effective for the 2019-20 school year

Hannah Trocchio – Summer Literacy Program teacher at the rate of \$40/hr., for the summer of 2019

Change of Status

Mary Richardson – from paraprofessional at Highcliff to 12-month secretary at Highcliff, at the rate of \$16.83/hour, effective July 1, 2019

COMMUNITY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

A motion was made by Mrs. Reid, seconded Mr. Burnett and the Board voted unanimously to appoint the following members to serve as Voting Delegates at the PSBA Delegate Assembly on Friday, October 18, 2019: Sandra Kozera, Allison Mathis and Louis Nudi.

LEGISLATIVE

Mr. Nudi provided an update on House Bill 526 and Senate Bill 34

POLICY

None

FINANCE

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Mathis, and unanimously passed to approve Resolution 2019-9 Establishing the Tax Rate at 18.65 mills, effective July 1, 2019, as per document 1, as recommended by the Superintendent.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mr. Burnett, and unanimously passed to approve Resolution 2019-10 Setting the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion, effective July 1, 2019, as per document 3, as recommended by the Superintendent.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mr. Burnett, and unanimously passed to approve the 2019-2020 General Fund Budget, as per document 5, as recommended by the Superintendent. The 2019-20 Final Budget includes estimated revenues of \$82,769,861, and expenditures and other uses of \$83,926,406. It includes an increase in the Real Estate Tax rate of .4 mill, increasing it from 18.25 mills to 18.65 mills.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mr. Burnett, and unanimously passed to approve the following Finance Items, as recommended by the Superintendent:

7. General Fund Bills, including checks numbered: 56150 through 56201; 56204 through 56311; 56313; 56326 through 56390; 56400 through 56442; and 56445 through 56446.
8. Food Service Fund Bills, including checks numbered: 56202 through 56203; and 56314 through 56325.
9. Scholarship Fund Bills, including checks numbered: 56391 through 56399.
10. Budget Transfers

11. Payroll for the month of May 2019 in the amount of \$3,174,993.43
12. General Insurance Approvals – the Board awarded the general insurance renewals as negotiated by our general insurance broker, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. The insurance premiums for 2019-20 total \$187,685.
13. Workers Compensation Insurance Approval – the Board awarded the Workers Compensation Insurance renewals as negotiated by our Workers Compensation insurance broker, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. The proposed premium for 2019-20 is \$246,388.
14. Appointment of W. David Hall as Treasurer for 2019-20.
15. Facilities Use Fee – the Board approved the Facilities Use Fees for 2019-2020.

SUPPORT SERVICES

A motion was made by Mr. Burnett, seconded by Mrs. Spade and unanimously passed to approve Support Services Items as follows, as recommended by the Superintendent:

1. Build Out of Sensory Room/Autistic Support Room at the Middle School – the Board approved the expenditure of \$16,800 for materials to build out this room. Labor will be performed by NHSD maintenance staff.
2. Build Out of Family and Consumer Science Kitchen in the High School Room R-259 – the Board approved the expenditure of \$25,000 for materials to build out this room. Labor will be performed by NHSD maintenance staff.
3. Replacement of Middle School and West View Stage Curtains – the Board approved the purchase of stage curtains at the cost of \$35,075 from Pittsburgh Stage which is a Co-Stars underwritten company.
4. Replacement of Floor VCT and Carpet Finishes at the Middle School and West View – the Board approved the expenditure of \$25,519 from P&P Flooring for these projects.
5. High School Corridor Stabilization – the Board approved the repair of corridor near Cafeteria A at the high school. A-1 Concrete Leveling Company will perform the work at a cost of \$8,240.
6. Bid Award – Asphalt Maintenance to the Elementary Campuses Parking Lots – the bid was awarded to Two Men and a Stripper at the low bid of \$52,910.

7. Reject Bids for Replacement of HVAC Controls at the Administration Center – bids were opened on March 30, 2019. Four bids were received. It was subsequently determined that this project would be deferred to a future time.
8. Lunch, Breakfast and Morning Care Prices were set for the 2019-20 school year. The rates remain unchanged from the previous year.
9. Disposition of Obsolete printing Equipment at the Middle School including 3 high bay collators, 1 low bay collator, 1 binding machine, 2 offset printing machines and 1 fixer bath.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diane Maxwell addressed the Board regarding the concerns of parents whose children attend Eden Christian Academy’s Mt. Nebo campus. Buses are late, they do not have a consistent bus driver which causes delays and problems and they’ve received no help from ABC Transit. They are requesting a dedicated bus for their students.

Shea Sweeney, Julia Parks and Emily Scheffler spoke to the Board requesting that their GATE teacher, Ms. Moorby remain in that position at the high school, instead of being involuntarily transferred to Wet View Elementary. They each spoke of her care and concern for them and of their program, and that she has been an extremely important educator and mentor.

Tricia Goetz, Vicki Helsley and Laura Eisses spoke on behalf of the Eden Christian Academy parents and their frustration with the busing situation for their children. Buses are consistently late, the ride is overly long, especially on snow delay days and they ask for a dedicated bus for their students.

Leah Haile spoke in support of Ms. Moorby to remain as the GATE teacher at the high school.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned 8:49 p.m.

Loretta J. Rieger
School Board Secretary