

**NORTH HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.  
NORTH HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL – LGI ROOM  
[www.nhsd.net](http://www.nhsd.net)**

**Board Members Present**

Timothy Thomas Kelly, Sandra Kozera, Allison Mathis, Annette Giovengo Nolish, Louis Nudi, Helen Spade and Edward Wielgus.

**Board Members Not Present**

Kathy Reid

**Also Present**

Dr. Patrick Mannarino, Dr. Beth Williams, Jerry Muth, Michael J. Witherel, Esq., Heather Pelat, Kris Kaufmann, and student representatives Ellie Fleischer and Hannah Sciulli.

**Persons Signing the Register**

Heather Collins, 171 Ridgewood Road, Ross Township, 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., and Dr. Patrick Mannarino.

**Student Performance**

Mr. Jeff Lucas, Mrs. Jessica Webster and the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Chamber Ensemble performed the Star Spangled Banner and God Bless America.

**Public Recognition**

The Board recognized the Girls Slow Pitch Softball Team and their coaches for winning the Western PA Interscholastic Softball League Championship.

**Student Representatives Reports**

Hannah Sciulli and Ellie Fleischer presented the month's highlights in athletics and activities.

**Board Member Comments**

Ms. Kozera stated that she and 3 other Board Members attended the PSBA School Leadership Conference in Hershey, PA where they had the opportunity to share ideas and information with other board members from across the Commonwealth. Additionally, the PA Joint State Governors Commission released the findings of a study on school start times that Ms. Kozera found interesting and thought might warrant a discussion in the future.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Wielgus, seconded by Mrs. Mathis, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2019 Work Session/Legislative Meeting.

**Superintendent’s Report**

Dr. Mannarino provided his Points of Pride for November. He then thanked the outgoing Board Members for their dedication and service:

*“Tim Burnett served on the Board from 2001 through 2013, and then was appointed to fill a vacancy from March 2015 to December 2015 and then again from September 2018 through today - a total of 14 years. During that time Tim served as Vice President for 3 years and President for 3 years. He was a member of the Finance Committee for many years and was also very active in service to the community through coaching youth and church sports teams.*

*Tom Kelly served on the Board from 2005 through 2019 - a total of 14 years. During those 14 years, Tom served as Vice President for 5 years. In addition, Mr. Kelly served as a member of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Board of Directors for many years, including several terms as its President.*

*Lou Nudi served on the Board from 2007 through 2019 - a total of 12 years. During those 12 years, Lou served as Vice President for 3 years. Mr. Nudi has served as the Legislative Liaison for many years, passionately representing the interests for the North Hills School District in Harrisburg and advocating for public education.*

*Ed Wielgus served on the Board from 1997 – 2001 and then from January 2003 through December 2019 - a total of 21 years. During those 21 years, Ed served as Vice President for 1 year and President for 10 years. Having worked in the Banking and Finance industry for many years, Ed’s experience and knowledge was invaluable with the district’s budgeting, investing and financial decision making.*

*Tim, Tom, Lou and Ed have served as members of this Board throughout my tenure as Superintendent, and I cannot thank them enough for everything they have done for this district and for the support they have given me. I’m extremely grateful to each of you all you have done. North Hills is a better place because of your leadership.”*

**EDUCATION**

A motion was made by Mrs. Mathis, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously passed to approve the Acceptance of the 2019-2020 Safe Schools Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education in the amount of \$13,725, as per document 1, as recommended by the Superintendent.

A motion was made by Mrs. Mathis, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously passed to approve the Field Trip Request for the Wind Ensemble to Participate at the 2020 Music for All National Festival in Indianapolis, Indiana from March 12 through 14, 2020, as per document 2, as recommended by the Superintendent.

Dr. Mannarino provided an update on the status of the district's use of Flexible Instructional Days for inclement weather and emergency situations.

### **ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES**

A motion was made by Ms. Kozera, seconded by Dr. Nolish, and unanimously passed to approve Resolution 2019-14 Recognizing the North Hills Softball Boosters as an Official Booster Organization of the North Hills School District, as per document 1, as recommended by the Superintendent.

A motion was made by Ms. Kozera, seconded by Dr. Nolish, and unanimously passed to approve the Acceptance of the Donation from Allegheny Health Network in the amount of \$7,500, as per document 2, as recommended by the Superintendent. This donation will be used to purchase 72 chairs for the gymnasium.

### **A.W. BEATTIE CAREER CENTER**

Mr. Nudi announced the October Students of the Month: Tyler Rodney for Automotive Technology; Joshua Yeomans for Culinary; Ashleigh McHugh for Culinary; Kasia Bauer for Emergency Response Technology; Hannah Colville for Sports Medicine and Rehab Therapy; and Jenna Campbell for Veterinary Sciences.

### **PERSONNEL**

#### **Resignations**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mr. Burnett, and unanimously passed to **approve Resignations**, as per document 1, as recommended by the Superintendent.

Joe Welch – Team Leader (Team Heinz) at the middle school, effective November 1, 2019

Katelynn Moore – Paraprofessional at West View, effective December 20, 2019

Thomas Hrach – With intent to Retire as a Lead Custodian at West View, effective January 3, 2020.

The following substitute resignations approved effective September 20, 2019:

Emily Culkin  
Geoffrey Friske  
Jaclyn Fulton  
Danielle Harasyn  
Samantha Hooke  
Mark Kline  
Amy Langhorst  
Valerie Sacks  
Kimberly Spencer  
Chloe Stanczak  
Emily Steinmetz  
Nathan Yates  
Amanda Zabinski  
Jennifer Bainbridge  
Heather Craft  
Kathleen McGuire  
Emily Meola  
Joel Pepmeyer  
Syeda Rashid  
William Stebler  
Patricia Urich  
Ericka Yoder  
Tiffany Cibula  
Elizabeth Coleman-Lee  
Carol Barns

Barbara Fonzi – effective October 25, 2019

### **Appointments**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mr. Burnett, and unanimously passed to **approve Appointments**, as per document 2, as recommended by the Superintendent.

Elizabeth Gasior – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Coach, at the rate of \$4,832, effective November 18, 2019

Kaitlin Graf - .5 Student Council Sponsor at Highcliff, at the rate of \$897, effective October 1, 2019

Kaitlin Hoch – Safety Patrol Sponsor at McIntyre, at the rate of \$900, effective October 15, 2019

Adam Ward – Varsity Boys’ Lacrosse Head Coach, at the rate of \$4,460, effective for the 2019-2020 Spring season

Kris Proctor – Team Leader (Team Heinz) at the Middle School, pro-rated at \$1,550 for the 2019-2020 school year, and \$2,250 for the 2020-2021 school year, effective November 7, 2019.

Stephanie Morrison – Paraprofessional at Ross, at the rate of \$12.75/hour, effective November 4, 2019

Jessica Thompson – LPN at McIntyre/Highcliff/Westview, at the rate of \$17.05/hour, effective October 14, 2019

Dana Treser – Paraprofessional at McIntyre, at the rate of \$12.75/hour, effective November 11, 2019

Julie Barnhart - .60 Custodian at West View, at the rate of \$14.64/hour, effective October 22, 2019

Alexis Vukela – School Police Officer, at the rate of \$23.50/hour, effective November 12, 2019

Jennifer O’Kane-Fenk – Non-NHEA Homebound Instructor, at the rate of \$25/hour, effective for the 2019-2020 school year

The following substitute employees were appointed:

Angela Simon – Emergency Certified Sub Teacher at the rate of \$95/day, effective September 27, 2019

Kellie Ussack – Sub Food Service Worker at the rate of \$10/hour, effective October 3, 2019

Carla Cyrus – Emergency Certified Sub Teacher at the rate of \$95/day, effective October 8, 2019

The following volunteers were appointed effective for the 2019-2020 school year:

David Dumas – HS/MS Wrestling

Kristie Gujski – Band

Catherine Hoffman – Band

Joseph Scott – Baseball

George Vlassich – Basketball

### **Changes of Status**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mr. Burnett, and unanimously passed to **approve Changes of Status**, as per document 3, as recommended by the Superintendent.

Anthony Burns – from grade 6 teacher at Ross to Design & Innovations 6<sup>th</sup> grade STEM teacher at the Middle School, effective with the start of the 2020-2021 school year

Ann Trembulak – from lunchroom/playground aide at Highcliff, to paraprofessional at Highcliff, at the rate of \$12.75/hour, effective November 11, 2019

**Other - A**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mr. Burnett, and unanimously passed to approve the Employment Agreement naming Gerard F. Muth Director of Finance and Operations, effective January 3, 2020 through June 30, 2024, as per document 4, as recommended by the Superintendent.

**Other - B**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mr. Burnett, and unanimously passed to approve the Contract with Dr. Charles Stephenson, as per document 5, as recommended by the Superintendent. Dr. Stephenson will work as needed to provide support in the psychology department.

**Leave of Absence – 1**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mr. Burnett, and unanimously passed to approve the request for unpaid leave by Tara Harvey, as per document 6, as recommended by the Superintendent.

**Leave of Absence – 2**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mr. Burnett, and unanimously passed to deny the request for unpaid leave of absence by Susanna Hesch, as per document 7, as recommended by the Superintendent.

**COMMUNITY & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

None

**LEGISLATIVE**

None

**POLICY**

None

## **FINANCE**

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously passed to **ratify General Fund Bills**, as per document 1, as recommended by the Superintendent. These include checks numbered: 57638 through 57653; 57655 through 57658; 57661 through 57692; 57695 through 57712; 57714 through 57776; 57782 through 57847; 57850 through 57970; 58009 through 58032; 58034 through 58089; 58091 through 58112; and 58114 through 58146.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously passed to **ratify Capital Project Fund Bills**, as per document 2, as recommended by the Superintendent. These include checks numbered: 57654; 57693; 57694; 57848; 57849; 58033; 58090; and 58113.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously passed to **ratify Food Service Fund Bills**, as per document 3, as recommended by the Superintendent. These include checks numbered: 57659 through 57660; 57777 through 57781; 57971 through 57987; and 58147 through 58148.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously passed to **approve Budget Transfers**, as per document 4, as recommended by the Superintendent.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously passed to **approve Payroll for the month of October 2019 in the amount of \$3,105,999.47**, as per document 5, as recommended by the Superintendent.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

None

## **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ed Vesely thanked Mr. Burnett, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Nudi and Mr. Wielgus for their service on the Board and for their support of all of the amazing initiatives of the North Hills School District. He specifically thanked Mr. Burnett for his support in helping the girls slow pitch softball.

Heather Collins addressed the Board with her concerns about the Flexible Instructional Day and how it may impact parents and students. She also spoke of her concerns regarding busing. She believes the buses are overcrowded and that students must sit 3 to a seat which she believes is unreasonable.

**ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Burnett, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Nudi and Mr. Wielgus each stated they were very proud and happy to serve the North Hills School District as Board Members. They thanked Dr. Mannarino, the Administrative Team, and Mr. Witherel for everything they do for the students of the North Hills School District.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned 8:12 p.m.

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Loretta J. Rieger  
School Board Secretary