

**NORTH HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020 – 7:15 P.M.  
VIDEO BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM  
[www.nhsd.net](http://www.nhsd.net)**

**Call to Order**

The meeting, which was held via Zoom Webinar, was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Mrs. Mathis opened the meeting with a moment of silence and salute to the flag. Mrs. Mathis took attendance via roll call.

**Board Members Present**

Sandra Kozera, Phil Little, Allison Mathis, Annette Giovengo Nolish, Deanna Philpott, Katie Poniatowski, Kathy Reid, Rachael Rennebeck, and Helen Spade.

**Board Members Not Present**

None

**Also Present**

Dr. Patrick J. Mannarino, Dr. Beth Williams, Amy Mathieu, Jerry Muth, Heather Pelat, and Kris Kaufmann.

**Board Member Comments**

Mrs. Mathis announced that the Board met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues. She also thanked the teachers for their hard work and creativity as the district began virtual teaching and learning.

Mrs. Mathis recognized School Board Student Representative, Hannah Sciulli for being selected as the 2020 Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Pennsylvania Scout of the Year.

Mrs. Spade thanked the custodial and maintenance staff for their hard work during the summer months to get the buildings ready for the start of the school year as they went above and beyond to clean and sanitize the schools. She also thanked the secretarial staff for their hard work throughout the summer as they prepared for the students and staff's return for the 2020-21 school year.

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Mannarino provided information on the first week of school, information about moving forward during the COVID pandemic, and information about current enrollment. He also explained that under PA School Code, the district will approve an Emergency Instructional Time Resolution to provide the district flexibility in meeting the 180-day requirement by using virtual, hybrid, and blended learning models. As part of this requirement, the district must have a system for tracking attendance for all 180 school days.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items**

Scott Zeeger, 118 Scotdale Drive, Pittsburgh, PA

Mr. Zeeger represents a taxpayer who requested relief from the School Board. He offered to answer any questions the Board might have regarding this request.

**EDUCATION**

A motion was made by Mrs. Mathis, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and **unanimously passed to approve the Emergency Instructional Time Requirements Report and Resolution 2020-14 – Emergency Instructional Time – COVID as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, which includes the proposed weekly schedule of instruction for the 2020-2021 school year**, as per document 1, as recommended by the Superintendent. During the vote, Mrs. Rennebeck was experiencing technical difficulties and was unavailable to cast her vote. The unanimous vote was 8 yea and 0 nay.

**ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES**

Mrs. Poniatowski thanked Mr. Weber, Ms. Zimmerman, the coaches and staff in the Athletic Department for their hard work in providing athletic opportunities for our students.

**A.W. BEATTIE CAREER CENTER**

None

**PERSONNEL**

**Resignations**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mrs. Poniatowski, and unanimously **passed to approve Resignations**, as per document 1, as recommended by the Superintendent. Due to technical difficulties, Mrs. Rennebeck was unavailable to cast her vote. The unanimous vote was 8 yea and 0 nay.

Martin Richter – Gate Teacher at West View, retirement effective August 11, 2020

Donna Perry – English Teacher at the High School, retirement effective August 14, 2020

Debra Wells – LPN at West View, resignation effective August 21, 2020

Benjamin Waltz – Paraprofessional at Ross, resignation effective August 8, 2020

Debra Conley – Paraprofessional at the High School, resignation effective August 12, 2020

Douglas Boyd – Teaching Assistant at the Middle School, resignation effective September 1, 2020

The following substitute employees have resigned:

Rosemary Kay  
Lori Cole  
Margaret Stout  
Catherine Regan  
Shelly Wild  
Kellie Ussack  
Shirley Grant  
Michele Pepmeyer  
Ellen Huffmyer  
Sherry Dugan  
Nicole Ridgeway

### **Appointments**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mrs. Poniatowski, and unanimously **passed to approve Appointments**, as per document 2, as recommended by the Superintendent. Due to technical difficulties, Mrs. Rennebeck was unavailable to cast her vote. The unanimous vote was 8 yea and 0 nay.

Cassidy Rossi – Middle School Girls’ Assistant Volleyball Coach, at the rate of \$1,858, effective for the 2020-2021 school year.

Kassie Vuono – Long-Term Substitute Kindergarten Teacher at Highcliff, at the rate of \$35,000, effective for the 2020-2021 school year.

Elizabeth Lahm – Long-Term Substitute Music Teacher at McIntyre, at the rate of \$35,000, effective for the 2020-2021 school year.

Samantha Jenkins – Long-Term Substitute English Teacher at the High School, at the rate of \$35,000, effective for the 2020-2021 school year.

Janel Moriarty – Long-Term Substitute Speech Therapist at Ross, at the rate of \$35,000, effective for the 2020-2021 school year.

The following substitute employees were hired effective August 25, 2020:

Meredith Clark – sub lunchroom/playground aide  
Dolores Massucci - sub lunchroom/playground aide  
Paula Misutka - sub lunchroom/playground aide  
Kathryn Sutton - sub lunchroom/playground aide -  
Patty Quinton – sub secretary  
Marissa Hintemeyer – sub paraprofessional  
Amy Dady – sub teacher

Nancy D’Angelo – sub teacher  
Stephanie Ivanusic – sub teacher  
Sarah Jobe – sub teacher  
Erin Lankes – sub teacher  
Erin Traynor – sub teacher  
Kathleen Kocan – Emergency certified sub teacher  
William Trushel II – Emergency certified sub teacher  
Lois Lazzaro – sub paraprofessional

The following volunteers were approved effective for the 2020-2021 school year:

Julia Arlia – Girls Volleyball  
Hank Bryant – Ice Hockey  
Sam Hocklin – Girls Soccer  
Aaron Pepmeyer – Boys Soccer

The Board authorized ABC Transit Employees as bus drivers for the 2020-2021 school year, noting that they have the appropriate clearances which has been confirmed by North Hills School District human resources personnel.

### **Changes of Status**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mrs. Poniatowski, and unanimously **passed to approve Changes of Status**, as per document 3, as recommended by the Superintendent. Due to technical difficulties, Mrs. Rennebeck was unavailable to cast her vote. The unanimous vote was 8 yea and 0 nay.

Lindsay Burnett – from Teaching Assistant at West View, to Long-Term Substitute Teacher at McIntyre, at the rate of \$35,000, effective August 10, 2020 through the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

Leigh Ann Naughton – from Paraprofessional at Ross, to Long-Term Substitute Teacher at the High School, at the rate of \$35,000 (pro-rated), effective August 13, 2020 through November 6, 2020.

Leigh Ann Naughton – from Long-Term Substitute Teacher at the High School, to Paraprofessional at Ross, at the rate of \$13.10/hour, effective November 9, 2020 through the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

Geraldine McCarthy – from Paraprofessional at Ross to Paraprofessional at the Middle School, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. No change in pay rate.

**Leave of Absence**

A motion was made by Mrs. Spade, seconded by Mrs. Poniatowski, and unanimously **passed to approve Leave of Absence**, as per document 4, as recommended by the Superintendent. Due to technical difficulties, Mrs. Rennebeck was unavailable to cast her vote. The unanimous vote was 8 yea and 0 nay.

Melissa Daurora – Paraprofessional at Ross, unpaid leave of absence, effective August 28, 2020 through January 1, 2021.

**COMMUNITY & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

**Informational Item:**

Mr. Little provided information that Ross Township Commissioners officially engaged Suburban Whitetail Management LLC to design and manage a controlled archery hunt of deer on Township property and private property. Ross Township Commissioner Dan DeMarco confirmed that no school district property is involved and this discussion was for informational purposes only.

**Action Item:**

A motion was made by Mrs. Mathis, seconded by Mr. Little, and unanimously passed to cast the Board's Collective Ballot for the following PSBA Officer candidates: David Hein, Daniel O'Keefe, Michael Gossert, Marsha Pleta, Michael Faccinetto and Marianne Neel. (Mrs. Rennebeck was able to rejoin the meeting, so this unanimous vote was 9-0.)

**POLICIES**

None

**LEGISLATIVE**

None

**FINANCE**

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously **passed to deny the request from taxpayer Northland Heights, LLC**, as per document 1, as recommended by the Superintendent. The taxpayer requested to pay property taxes lower than what was due without penalty while they await an assessment appeal hearing with Allegheny County.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously **passed to ratify General Fund Bills**, as per document 2, as recommended by the Superintendent. These include checks numbered: 61137 through 61152; 61155 through 61175; 61177 through 61225; 61235 through 61246; 61248 through 61264; 61266 through 61274; 61296 through 61319; 61321 through 61222; 61329 through 61335; and 61337 through 61366.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and **unanimously passed to ratify Capital Project Fund Bills**, as per document 3, as recommended by the Superintendent. These include checks numbered: 61153; 61154; 61176; 61247; 61320; 61323; and 61324.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously **passed to ratify Food Service Fund Bills**, as per document 4, as recommended by the Superintendent. These include checks numbered: 61226 through 61234; and 61327 through 61328.

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously **passed to ratify Scholarship Fund Bills**, as per document 5, as recommended by the Superintendent. These include checks numbered: 61265

A motion was made by Dr. Nolish, seconded by Mrs. Spade, and unanimously **passed to approve Payroll for the Month of August 2020 in the amount of \$2,857,804.92**, as per document 6, as recommended by the Superintendent.

#### **SUPPORT SERVICES**

None

#### **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ed Vesely, 116 Lingay Drive, Ross Township – Mr. Vesely had questions and comments related to COVID testing and restrictions as they relate to sports.

Rhonda Campenella, 400 Sylvania Drive, Ross Township – Ms. Campenella asked about the transition from the virtual model to the hybrid model, which will be voted upon by the Board, at the September 17, 2020 Legislative Meeting.

Dr. Emily Chambers, 133 Adele Road, Ross Township – Dr. Chambers had questions regarding the services to be provided to special education students. She asked if the district will provide occupational therapy and physical therapy services.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Mathis adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

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Loretta J. Rieger  
School Board Secretary