

Allegheny Valley School District

May 14, 2018

The regular meeting of the Allegheny Valley School Board was held Monday evening, May 14, 2018. President Mr. Antonio Pollino presided. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Roll Call:	Mr. Gaschler	Mrs. Renaldi
	Mrs. McFarland	Mr. Rocco
	Ms. Moretti - absent	Mr. Whelan
	Mr. Pollick	Mr. Pollino
	Mr. Puskar	

Also in attendance were Mr. Graczyk, Mr. Fred Wolfe (solicitor), Ms. Rajgopal, Mr. Sanchez, Ms. Kaczor, students, staff members, and community members.

Mr. Pollino announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss Personnel matters.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS:

Ms. Jeannie Haas was recognized and asked about the budget. She noted that there was not a motion on the planning session to approve a budget, but now one appears on the agenda with a tax increase. Mr. Graczyk explained that the budget is a proposed budget and I change prior to the final budget. All options remain on the table.

Ms. Tammy Campus was recognized and stated that she is not against a tax increase if the District is improving education, but if a tax increase is used just to balance the budget she doesn't believe in the increase.

Ms. Jean Marie Gent was recognized and asked if an increase would take away the need to furlough teachers. Mr. Graczyk stated that all options are still on the table.

Mr. Puskar commented that this time is for public comment, not a debate. Mrs. McFarland asked if how the Audience Concern time is used is defined in policy or procedure. Mr. Pollino stated that he didn't want to stop questions from residents.

Mr. David Buchman was recognized and stated that the perception by many who saw the agenda for the first time is that the tax increase is a done deal. It doesn't appear to be a transparent process. He asked if merits of a tax increase will be discussed by the Board. He also asked how can the public give comments to the Board about the budget? Mr. Pollino stated that discussion can be held tonight, at the next planning session or regular meeting. Comments can be given tonight or to other Board members. Mr. Buchman further stated that he would be opposed to a tax increase at this point until he sees additional information including projected deficits.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Mr. Massaro provided an update on the Acmetonia Construction Project. He stated that the project is under cover and this weather is not interfering with progress. He commented that the project is at a point where they may need to get the District solicitor involved to get a recovery schedule.
2. Mr. Graczyk recognized Canzian/Johnson & Associates who donated a printer to the technology lab (Mr. McDermott) for their use. Appreciation was extended to Canzian/Johnson by all members of the Board.

MINUTES: Mrs. Renaldi made a motion seconded by Mr. Puskar to approve the minutes of the April 10 and 16, 2018 meetings. Voice vote carried the motion.

BILLS/PAYMENTS: Mr. Puskar made a motion seconded by Mr. Pollick to approve the April 2018 Treasurer's Report, the payment of bills (Disbursement Ledger), and the Accounts Payable List. Voice vote carried the motion.

OPERATIONS/FINANCE:

Mr. Rocco made a motion seconded by Mr. Gaschler to approve Resolution #2018-7 - The 2018-2019 Operating and Administrative Budgets for the Forbes Road Career & Technology Center in the amounts of: Operating Budget - \$6,362,057 and Administrative Budget - \$1,481,039 (Projected Allegheny Valley School District share of Administrative Budget - \$22,069.44). Mr. Puskar asked if the District received any funds back from Forbes Road. Ms. Rajgopal stated not to date. On roll call vote, all members voted yes.

Mr. Rocco made a motion seconded by Mr. Puskar to approve the following motions:

1. The appointment of Voting Delegates for the PSBA Delegate Assembly as indicated.
 - A. Mr. Larry Pollick
 - B. Mr. James Gaschler
2. The Agreement with The Children's Institute of Pittsburgh for ESY Services for student #170018. The program runs from June 27, 2018 through July 26, 2018, at a cost of \$3,700.
3. The Agreement with UPMC's Merck Summer Clinic for ESY Services for Student #200221 in the amount of \$8,892 plus transportation to and from the program.
4. The Adelphoi Education Services Agreement for the 2018-2019 school year.
5. Change Order #'s 32, 14, 14, and 35 as they relate to the Acmetonia Construction Project. Final cost for these Change Orders is \$3,350.75.

- Change Order #32: Vern's Electric
 - Repair unforeseen conduits in existing plank (elevator cuts)
 - Cost: \$355.96
- Change Order #14: Vern's Electric
 - Temporary power for kitchen during demolition
 - Cost: \$2,092.43
- Change Order #14: Vern's Electric
 - Repaired existing emergency lighting that did not have power
 - Cost: \$324.85
- Change Order #35: Vern's Electric
 - Locate existing conduit and circuit in the kitchen floor
 - Cost: \$577.51

Voice vote carried the motion.

Mr. Rocco made a motion seconded by Mrs. Renaldi to approve the Proposed Final General Fund Operating Budget for the 2018-2019 school year in the amount of \$23,143,635. The Budget represents an increase of 4.8% or \$1,060,158 more than the 2017-2018 Budget of \$22,083,477. Local revenue for this Proposed Final Budget will be provided by a real estate tax of 20.8377 mills, one half of 1% earned income tax, one-half of 1% real estate transfer tax and one-half of \$10 occupation privilege tax. Mr.

Puskar questioned the wording of the motion. Mr. Graczyk stated that this language is the same as in past years. Mr. Wolfe stated that this motion is a proposed version of the final budget; that the Board adopts a final budget. Mr. Puskar asked if then in June, the Board would vote on two items – a budget and a millage increase. Mr. Wolfe stated yes. Mr. Puskar asked for a clarification of the increased millage. Would it be to the index? Ms. Rajgopal stated yes. Mr. Rocco asked for a context for cost/student and what that cost is for other schools in the area or in the state. Ms. Rajgopal stated that for the District the number is the total budget/total number of students. Discussion was held about a 3-year projection without a tax increase and the option of staff reductions. Mr. Rocco asked about a no vote, with Mr. Wolfe explaining the law. Mr. Pollino restated that this motion is for a proposed budget; the budget can change before the Board votes on the final budget. Mr. Puskar asked for the District to schedule a public budget meeting in the very near future. The Board agreed to hold that meeting on Monday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rachel Carson Conference Room. Mr. Graczyk stated that they will look into staff reductions prior to the meeting. Mr. Pollino directed the administration to continue to explore other options for the budget so the Board can select from them. On roll call vote, all members voted yes.

EDUCATION: Mr. Puskar made a motion seconded by Mr. Whelan to approve the following motions:

1. The request of Mr. Andrew Tsangaris and two (2) FBLA students to attend the 2018 National Leadership Conference in Baltimore, MD on June 26, 2018 – July 2, 2018. The District will cover the total cost of the advisor (\$2,064.00) plus 50 percent of the cost to students (\$720/each) for a final district cost of \$3,504.00.
2. The list of graduating seniors, Class of 2018, and further approves those who meet the requirements for graduation to be granted an official diploma on June 1, 2018 or shortly thereafter.
3. Ms. Alexis Redman to attend the Eureka Math Summer Institute at the Crowne Plaza Times Square, New York, NY on August 2, 2018 – August 3, 2018. Cost to District is approximately \$1,683.76 (\$500 for registration, \$645.01 for lodging, \$130 for meals, \$408.75 for transportation); payable with Title II Funds.
4. Complimentary school privileges, under Section 1302 of the PA School Code for a student who is under the guardianship of a resident of the District. The proper notarized papers have been submitted to the Business Office.
5. The changes to the Springdale Jr-Sr High School Student Handbook for the 2018-2019 school year. Voice vote carried the motion, with Mr. Puskar voting on item #3, Ms. Redman attending the Eureka Math Summer Institute.

TECHNOLOGY: No Report

PERSONNEL: Mrs. Renaldi made a motion seconded by Mr. Puskar to approve the following motions:

1. The Early Retirement Incentive Agreement for Allegheny Valley Education Association members.
2. The employment of Mr. Nicholas Etzel as an Extended Day-to-Day Substitute Teacher, effective May 4, 2018, lasting for 2 – 4 weeks. Compensation will be at a rate of \$150 per day plus individual benefits. Mr. Etzel is replacing an Employee who is on medical leave.
3. The employment of the following Custodial Summer Help at a rate of \$9.25/hour. Effective date for all will be June 11, 2018.
 - A. Linda Welsh
 - B. Linda Krason
 - C. Marian Olczak
 - D. Lisa Gray
4. The employment of Classified Employee Mr. Mark Hospodar, Paraprofessional, effective May 15, 2018 at the compensation rate of \$93.00 per day plus Individual Benefits.
5. Accept, with regret, the resignation of Athletic Personnel Mr. Seth Thompson, Head Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, effective April 30, 2018.

6. Approve the unpaid medical leave for the employee #848, effective May 4, 2018 through June 6, 2018.
 7. Accept, with regret, the resignation of Ms. Lisa Milan as physics teacher, effective June 11, 2018.
- Voice vote carried the motion.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: No report.

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES:

Mr. Pollick made a motion seconded by Mrs. Renaldi to adopt Resolution 2018-6 to Amend PIAA Classifications to Level the Competitive Arena. BE IT RESOLVED that the Allegheny Valley School District Board of Education joins school districts around the state in calling for PIAA classification reform including: regular season competition may be a blend of PUBLIC and non-boundary schools, postseason competition should be exclusive. PUBLIC schools should compete against other PUBLIC schools. Non-boundary schools should compete against non-boundary schools. The state can divide the non-boundary schools in half. The largest non-boundary schools play 6A. The smaller non-boundary schools play 5A. The state can divide PUBLIC schools by 4. The largest schools will play 4A. The next largest 3A, then 2A, and the smallest schools 1A. A transfer rule will also be in effect. If a student-athlete transfers after their ninth grade year, they forfeit the following year of varsity athletic eligibility. The student-athlete may play at the junior varsity level. The PIAA could develop criteria to account for mitigating circumstances. Mr. Puskar noted that he would be voting no because he doesn't like the transfer language. He doesn't believe in anything that limits students' abilities to transfer. Mr. Rocco stated that he will be voting no because he disagrees with the entire item. He doesn't think it will change much. On roll call vote, all members voted yes, with Mr. Puskar and Mr. Rocco voting no. Motion carried, 6-2.

POLICY REVIEW: None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Mr. Puskar asked at what point will the Board decide on a District calendar? Mr. Graczyk stated that a recommendation will be made in June. Mr. Whelan asked if the solicitor was going to get involved with the construction project delays at this point? Mr. Graczyk stated that the Board can discuss the matter in Executive Session.
2. Mr. Gaschler asked if Senate Engineering will provide an update on the Veterans' Field Wall. Mr. Sanchez stated that they are waiting for things to settle due to the weather, but an update will be coming for the Board.
3. Mrs. McFarland asked about the lawn care and the days the grass is being cut. Can adjustments be made for big events? Mr. Sanchez stated that the District does make adjustments depending on the calendar of events.
4. Mrs. McFarland stated that there may be a parent coach with the junior high football team with year. Mr. Graczyk stated that the District will accept all applicants and go from there.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

Ms. Tammy Camus asked for an update on the plans for the Colfax building after the merge of the schools. Mr. Pollino stated that there is a committee working on options. There is a process to go through. The committee will provide an update as soon as they have gathered all the necessary information.

Mr. Stanley Malak commented on the naming of the Acmetonia building. He would like to see a change to Allegheny Valley Elementary.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Renaldi made a motion seconded by Mr. Puskar to adjourn the meeting, 9:27 p.m. Voice vote carried the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Zastawniak
Public Relations Director