

**Allegheny Valley School District
Planning Meeting (Tuesday, May 14, 2019)**

Members present

Larry Pollick, Elizabeth Moretti, Glenna Renaldi, Joelle McFarland, Nino Pollino, Shawn Whelan, James Gaschler

Also in attendance: Dr. Patrick Graczyk, Ms. Hamsini Rajgopal Mr. Fred Wolfe (solicitor), Mr. Heavner, Ms. Vecchio, Mr. Davis, Dr. Welter, Dr. Nuzzo, Ms. Holler, Mr. Simpson, students, staff, and community members.

Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM by President Larry Pollick.

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discussion, Information: 1.1 Executive Session - 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Polick commented that the Board had been in Executive Session prior to the meeting for Personnel matters.

2. MEETING OPENING

Procedural: 2.1 Flag Salute

Procedural: 2.2 Roll Call

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Procedural: 3.1 Audience Comments on Agenda Items

None.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Information: 4.1 Acmetonia Construction Update (Massaro Corp.)

No Report.

Dr. Graczyk presented the following information:

- Safety and Security Update will be provided to the Board as a requirement of Act 44. The report must be presented in Executive Session due to the confidential nature of the subject. Dr. Graczyk noted that he had appointed Mr. Gregory Heavner as the School Safety and Security Coordinator. The Safety and Security Update is to be provided by June 30 and submitted to the state.

- A Letter from PSBA concerning Pennsylvania State Senator Lindsey Williams' visit to the District was read. In addition, Dr. Graczyk provided the following details on the meeting: in attendance were Administrators K-12 and School Board Members; the group talked at length about the District's educational concerns; members of the group elaborated on the District's incredible students, top-notch programs, and stellar staff; the tour visited a number of Acmetonia classrooms; the conversation focused on the depth of student learning and the importance of connections with students.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action, Minutes: 5.1 Approval of Planning Session Minutes - Recommend the Board approve the April 9, 2019 Planning Session Minutes.

Action, Minutes: 5.2 Approval of Voting Meeting Minutes - Recommend the Board approve the April 15, 2019 Voting Meeting Minutes.

Dr. Graczyk noted that the District will now have to approve meeting minutes separately and asked the Board to please notify Ms. Zastawniak if changes to the minutes need to be made.

6. BILLS/PAYMENTS - Mr. Puskar

Action: 6.1 Bills/Payments - Recommend the Board approve the February 2019 Treasurer's Report, the payment of bills (Disbursement Ledger) and the Accounts Payable List.

7. OPERATIONS/FINANCE - Mr. Gaschler, Mr. Pollick, Mrs. Renaldi

Action: 7.1 ROLL CALL VOTE AT VOTING MEETING - Proposed Final Budget - Recommend the Board approve

the Proposed Final General Fund Operating Budget for the 2019-2020 school year in the amount of \$23,002,666.13. The Budget represents an increase of 1% or \$228,066.95 more than the 2018-2019 Budget of \$22,774,599.18. 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.

Ms. Rajgopal commented on the proposed budget, noting it contains a conservative 1% increase. Packets were distributed at the seats of the Board Members. Information will be placed on the web site after approval at the voting meeting. She noted of the expenditures that PSERS was the biggest driver. Ms. Rajgopal asked for questions to be emailed to her or Dr. Graczyk prior to the meeting on Monday. The Proposed Final Budget will be available in the Business Office after voting.

Action: 7.2 ROLL CALL VOTE AT VOTING MEETING - Forbes Road CTC Operating and Administrative Budgets

- Recommend the Board approve Resolution #2019-5 - The 2019-2020 Operating and Administrative Budgets for the Forbes Road Career & Technology Center in the amounts of: Operating Budget - \$6,505,203 and Administrative Budget - \$191,560 (Projected Allegheny Valley School District share of Administrative Budget - \$12,670.02)

Ms. Rajgopal stated that the District has projected 25-26 students to attend Forbes Road CTC for the 2019-2020 school year.

Action: 7.3 Paper, Athletic, General Supplies and Custodial Bid Awards - Recommend the Board award the paper, athletic, general supplies, and custodial supplies bids.

The bids come through the intermediate Unit and provide good rates because of the number of school districts that are part of this award.

Action: 7.4 Appoint Board Treasurer - Recommend the Board appoint _____ as Board Treasurer, effective July 1, 2019.

Ms. Rajgopal noted that the District will need nominations from the Board. Ms. Moretti asked if the individuals nominated are ones who are not up for election. After discussion, Ms. Moretti and Mr. Whelan nominated Mr. Pollino.

Action: 7.5 Acmetonia Elementary School As-Built Survey - Recommend the Board approve the agreement with Gateway Engineers in the amount of \$8,700 to conduct a survey in order to document the Stormwater Management System for final closeout of the Erosion & Sedimentation NPDES Permit with the County.

Ms. Rajgopal stated that this survey is a requirement of Allegheny County for the close out of the renovation. Cost can come from the construction project.

Action: 7.6 Purchase of MacBooks for Staff - Recommend the board approve the purchase of 100 MacBooks for staff from vendor Apple, Inc., 4 year lease commencing with 2019-2020 payment of \$33,119.

Ms. Rajgopal commented that the current MAC Books are old and need to be replaced. Current models were older when they were purchased. Ms. Moretti asked why the District is purchasing MAC Books for teachers and Crome books for the students. Dr. Graczyk stated that the suggestion came from the Technology Panel made up of students.

The students wanted a full keyboard, and teachers use Google apps. Administrators believe the Crome books are better for the students needs. However, the MAC Books offer more for the teachers' needs. Mr. Slezak commented that currently grades 9-12 have the iPads. The idea is to phase out the iPads over time and move them to k-2, then, over time, phase 9-12 to Crome books. Ms. Moretti asked if the 1:1 program not going as the District thought? Mr. Slezak stated that he wouldn't say that. Apple has lost its hold on the education market; very costly to maintain. Ms. Moretti asked then, realistically, Boards can expect to change again in the future, because of the speed of change of technology? Mr. Slezak stated that would be fair to say. He commented that the program shouldn't be brand-focused/device-focused, but access-focused. Ms. Moretti asked how much input did the administration get from the staff? Mr. Slezak stated that some of the students interviewed teachers on the topic. Ms. Moretti asked what percentage of the teachers would you say use the 1:1 devices on a daily basis? Mr. Slezak stated that he would have to look into that. Mrs. McFarland asked if the teachers are comfortable with the MAC Books? Mr. Slezak stated yes.

Action: 7.7 Purchase of Chrome books for Students in Grades 3-9 - Recommend the Board approve the purchase of 550 Chrome books with 1:1 initiative for students in grades 3-9 from Costars vendor Dell Financial Services with a four-year lease commencing with Year 1 (2019-2020) payment of \$47,127.07.

Action: 7.8 Resolution Declaring Support for Cyber Charter School Funding Reform Recommend the Board approve Resolution #2019-4 Declaring Support for Cyber Charter School Funding Reform.

Dr. Graczyk stated that this reform would help bring money back to schools, so if District's have their own cyber school, they wouldn't have to pay other cyber schools for students using their services.

Action: 7.9 Resolution to Amend the Right to Know Law - Recommend the Board approve Resolution #2019-6 to amend the Right to Know law and provide relief from vexatious requesters.

Ms. Rajgopal commented that the resolution pertains to vendors, etc. individualizing on behalf of companies, the amount of information requested that a District provide in a timely manner puts a burden on the District. The District

can then charge the company for extensive requests. Mr. Gaschler asked if that meant that a vexatious requester is an individual acting on behalf of corporations? Ms. Rajgopal responded and explained, noting it is not the intent of the law to oversee individual requests. Ms. Rajgopal will get the congressional bill number for Mr. Gaschler to reference.

Action: 7.10 CCL Agreement - 2 year renewal - Recommend the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CCL Technologies for the outsourcing of technology staff, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021.

Ms. Rajgopal stated that there is a 2% increase over the agreement. Ms. Moretti commented that when the Board discussed adding another technology position, that some of the CCL duties would move to District personnel. Dr. Graczyk stated that the District could do that, but then would lose professional development and other items. Board members questioned items on the agreement that dealt with management. Mr. Pollino commented that the District would still need the contractor to take care of some matters and would need comments from individuals/experts in the business to provide recommendations on various items.

Action: 7.11 Updated Bus Driver List - Recommend the Board approve the updated 2018-2019 Bus Drivers list as presented.

Ms. Rajgopal stated that five new drivers have been added since the list was approved in the fall. The District will update this list periodically when Roenigk hires new drivers.

Action: 7.12 CARES Transition Agreement - Recommend the Board approve the Transition Services Agreement with CARES of Western Pennsylvania for a Springdale Jr-Sr High School Student.

Action: 7.13 Creation of a Pre-K Program - Recommend the Board approve the creation of a Pre-K program at Acmetonia Elementary School effective the 2019-2020 school year.

Ms. Rajgopal stated that this motion is required per PDE. Dr. Graczyk commented that the District has 29 interested families for the program. He believes the District can offer am and pm programs. However, if that number would decrease, he would like the option to move to a full-day program. In addition, there are some questions on square footage of the classroom space to meet requirements. In order to do the reconfiguration, the District needs to have this motion approved. Mrs. McFarland asked how the program will be staffed? Dr. Graczyk responded with one teacher and one aide. Mr. Pollino asked how the District is going to determine the need? Dr. Graczyk commented that there are guidelines that the District has to have in place. Mr. Pollino stated that with this being an educational institution, not a needs-based, the Board should continue with that in mind. Dr. Graczyk stated that historically, those who don't have the opportunity to attend otherwise, should have priority. He is certain that there is a criteria for the Pre-K Counts grant. Mrs. McFarland asked if there would be no additional staff members needed? Dr. Graczyk stated that both individuals are on staff currently. The District may need another para-professional down the road. Mrs. McFarland asked about transportation. Dr. Graczyk stated that bussing costs are included. Ms. Moretti asked why bussing is included? Dr. Graczyk explained that it is a way to have equity; the District doesn't have to include it. Mrs. McFarland asked how long it would be until the District has the criteria? Dr. Graczyk stated that the District has a criteria that we are working with, but he doesn't want to make that information public at this time. Mrs. McFarland asked if educational testing part of the criteria? Dr. Graczyk stated that Pre-K Counts criteria is a bit different. If the District gets the grant, the Board will have to have a different conversation.

Action: 7.14 Reconfiguration of Acmetonia Elementary School - Recommend the Board approve the reconfiguration of the Acmetonia Elementary School. Effective the 2019-2020 school year, all students in pre-k through sixth grade shall be assigned to attend the Acmetonia Elementary School.

Action: 7.15 Agreement with The Children's Institute for ESY Services - Recommend the Board approve the Agreement with The Children's Institute of Pittsburgh for ESY Services for a Springdale Jr-Sr High School student. The program runs from June 19, 2019 through July 17, 2019, at a cost of \$3,900.

Action: 7.16 ESY Agreement with Riverview School District - Recommend the Board approve the Agreement to provide Extended School Year (ESY) services to Riverview School District students. Ms. Rajgopal stated that the Agreement is to provide services for three students from Riverview. Mrs. McFarland asked if this agreement was new. Ms. Rajgopal responded yes.

Action: 7.17 Certified Audit of Final Construction as per PlanCon J - Recommend the Board approve the Agreement with Hosack, Specht, Muetzel, & Wood LLP to complete a certified audit of PlanCon J - Acmetonia Primary School Project #3874.

Ms. Rajgopal stated that once the District gets final costs, we have to submit PlanCon J, and it needs to be audited. She is hoping the District can submit this report over the summer .

Action: 7.18 Budget Transfers related to Audit - Recommend the Board authorize the Business Manager to make appropriate budget transfers related to the above audit.

Ms. Rajgopal stated that this item is related to final construction costs.

Action: 7.19 Landscaping Bid Awards - Recommend the Board award the landscaping bid to Jeff Brooks Landscaping, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023.

Ms. Rajgopal stated that the District put this item out for bid and received one bid. The Recommendation is to award the bid to Jeff Brooks Landscaping. Mrs. McFarland questions that only one bid was received. Ms. Rajgopal commented that the pre-bid meeting had five organizations attend, but only one bid put in a bid. Ms. Moretti commented that part of what she had asked prior is what would it cost to bring the service back in-house. Signing a five-year agreement with a group that the District wasn't happy with the service doesn't seem like a good idea, and she would like to know about other options. Can we re-bid? If people are unhappy with the company. Mr. Pollick asked the Board if they are authorizing the administration to re-bid? Ms. Moretti asked if the District had advertised locally? Dr. Graczyk stated that the District will look into where the bid was advertised. Dr. Graczyk asked what the benefit of bringing the service back in-house would be? Ms. Moretti commented that it would provide more control over the quality. Mr. Gaschler asked to meet in Executive Session concerning this matter and personnel. Mr. Pollino asked if the Board has to reject the bid? Can they put the item off until June? Mr. Wolfe asked if there was a deadline in the specs? Do you have 60 days? Dr. Graczyk stated that he would look into the matter of a deadline for a response and leave motion as it is with the additional information.

8. EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY - Mr. Puskar, Mr. Pollino, Mr. Whelan

Building Reports:

Dr. Welter reported that at Springdale Jr-Sr High School, PSSA tests, the semi-formal, May Day, prom were held. The students are currently in the middle of AP testing and Keystone testing, then it's on to finals.

Mr. Heavner reported for Acmetonia Elementary, 37 families participated in the pre-school visitation, which is an annual event; this attendance is one of the highest of pre-school visits in many years. The students toured the building and went to the kindergarten rooms, parents were in the forum to receive some information (separation anxiety, school procedures, PTA info, etc.). It's important to have these touch points with parents and incoming kindergarten students, so they know the school and faces. In the evening, the District held its Remake Learning event. In conjunction with AIU 3 and STEAM grant, the event showcased important work with STEAM and STEM education. Over 200 parents, students, and families attend.

Dr. Nuzzo commented that the first round of interviews for the social worker position would be held next week. The District received 15 applications.

Action: 8.1 2018-2019 Graduate List - Recommend the Board approve the list of graduating seniors, Class of 2019, and further approve those who meet the requirements for graduation to be granted an official diploma on June 7, 2019 or shortly thereafter.

Dr. Nuzzo commented that the names on the list are of students who are eligible for graduation.

Action: 8.2 Overnight Conference - Recommend the Board approve the request of Chris Allman to attend the PSSA Rangelinding Science Grades 4 & 8 Committee Meetings in Lancaster on June 4 & 5, 2019. DRC will cover the cost of overnight accommodations plus \$26.00 per day for travel expenses and dinner. The District will pick up remaining cost for travel and dinners.

Action: 8.3 Change in Student Placement Agreements - Recommend the Board approve agreement 18-19-01 and 18-19-02 for change in student placement.

Action, Procedural: 8.4 2019-2020 Springdale Jr-Sr High School Handbook - Recommend the Board approve the changes to the Springdale Jr-Sr High School Student Handbook for the 2019-2020 school year.

Action: 8.5 2019-2020 Elementary Student Handbook - Recommend the Board approve the changes to the Acmetonia Elementary School Student Handbook for the 2019-2020 school year.

9. PERSONNEL - Mrs. McFarland, Mrs. Renaldi, Mr. Rocco

Action: 9.1 Resignation - Asst. Boys Basketball Coach - Recommend the Board accept, with regret, the resignation of Mr. Clinton Kollister, Assistant Coach for Boys Basketball, effective April 24, 2019.

Action: 9.2 Resignation - Junior Class Sponsor - Recommend the Board accept, with regret, the resignation of Ms. Courtney Yaksich as Junior Class Sponsor, effective June 18, 2019.

Action: 9.3 Leave of Absence -

Recommend the Board approve the following leave of absence requests:

Employee #	Leave Type	Effective Date
192	FMLA	April 10, 2019, not to exceed 60 work days
263	FMLA	April 15, 2019, not to exceed 60 work days

Action: 9.4 Unpaid Leave of Absence - Recommend the Board accept a one-year unpaid leave of absence for Ms. Aileen T. McDermott effective January 30, 2019 - January 30, 2020.

Action: 9.5 Extended School Year Staff - Recommend the Board approve the employment of the following Extended School Year staff:

NAME	POSITION	COMPENSATION
Bob Ochsenhirt	Teacher	\$36 per hour
Curt Poremski	Teacher	\$36 per hour
Kellee Kovach	Speech Therapist	\$26 per hour
Kandi Conner	Nurse	\$36 per hour
Maura Allen	Paraprofessional	\$14.15 per hour
Kaitlin Hoy	Paraprofessional	\$12.40 per hour
Nick Etzel	Paraprofessional	\$13.07 per hour
Ian Moorhead	Paraprofessional	\$12.40 per hour
Michael Dudjak	Paraprofessional	\$12.40 per hour

Action: 9.6 Employment of Summer Custodian

Recommend the Board approve the employment of the Mr. Michael Dudjak for custodial summer help, at the rate of \$9.25 per hour, effective June 17, 2019.

Action: 9.7 Employment of Classified Staff

Recommend the Board approve the employment of the Ms Angie Rudolf, paraprofessional, at the rate of \$93.00 per day, effective May 2, 2019.

10. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - Ms. Moretti, Mr. Pollino, Mr. Rocco

Mr. Heavner reported that the District would recommend the Safe2Say Something Guidelines and the Use of Force Policy in June.

11. ATHLETICS & STUDENT ACTIVITIES - Mr. Rocco, Mrs. McFarland, Mr. Whelan

Mr. Davis commented that Michael Zolnierczyk was the recognized as a WPIAL Scholar Athlete and was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship; the NADA Tri-Athlete representatives were Jacob Garmong and Breanne Hurley; and that softball playoffs were moved to Thursday at Shaler due to rain. Mr. Davis also noted that the high school is looking at May 29 for the Athlete Reception.

12. POLICY/LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS - Ms. Moretti, Mr. Gaschler, Mr. Puskar

No Report.

13. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Mrs. Renaldi commented that Mrs. Denise Korzon, former School Board Member's, mother passed away recently.
- Mrs. McFarland asked for an update on the Colfax Sale. Dr. Graczyk stated that cleaning was finished and the District would work on setting a date.
- Mrs. McFarland asked if there was an end date for the security firm. Dr. Graczyk stated that they had ended their service in April.
- Mr. Pollick stated that he had some questions about security. Dr. Graczyk commented that security would be part of the report provided at the next meeting. Ms. Moretti stated that there was a plan and it would be shared at the Executive Session. She stated that the Board would need to look at the budget.

14. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mr. Ed Williams, President of the AVYFA was recognized and commented that they are looking to re-connect the youth and high school football programs. The AVYFA is looking to create a Chuck Wagner Football and Cheer Camp in conjunction with the high school coaches. Additional information will be provided once details had been set.

15. ADJOURN

Action: 15.1 Adjourn - Recommend the Board adjourn the meeting, 8:49 pm to Executive Session

Motion by Elizabeth Moretti, second by Shawn Whelan.

Final Resolution: Voice vote carried the motion

Yes: Larry Pollick, Elizabeth Moretti, Glenna Renaldi, Joelle McFarland, Nino Pollino, Shawn Whelan, James Gaschler

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Zastawniak
Public Relations Director