

Allegheny Valley School District September 11, 2018

The planning session of the Allegheny Valley School Board was held Tuesday evening, September 11, 2018. President Mr. Antonio Pollino presided. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

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

Also in attendance were Mr. Graczyk, Mr. Matthew Hoffman, Ms. Rajgopal, Mr. Heavner, Mr. Slezak, Ms. Vecchio, Dr. Nuzzo, Dr. Welter, Mr. Simpson, Ms. Holler, staff members, and community members.

Mr. Graczyk remembered the events of September 11, 2001, recognized District emergency management personnel, and asked for a moment of silence.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS: None.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Mr. Todd Baldwin, Massaro Corp., provided an update on the Acmetonia Construction project and reviewed the change orders on the agenda. He also gave an updated timeline for the areas of the project. Mr. Graczyk expressed disappointment and frustration with the electrical contractor after hearing the timeline information. Mr. Pollino commented on the issue of multiple primes vs. a singular prime contractor for projects, noting some of the issues the project is experiencing would not exist. Ms. Moretti commented on the part played by Massaro and the frustration of the delay in the project even with a construction manager. Mr. Gaschler also expressed frustration with the delays. Mr. Rocco asked if there are any concerns that the project will extend beyond November. Mr. Baldwin stated that there were none according to the schedule at this time. Mr. Pollick asked what the District should do if the situation continues. Mr. Baldwin stated that there are provisions in the contract to hold the contractor accountable and that's what they are pursuing. Mr. Graczyk stated that some of the options are for an Executive Session discussion.
2. Mr. Graczyk announced good news to Make A Mark, including:
 - STEAM grants awarded from the AIU to the District.
 - Thanks to the Dynamo Education Foundation for the three classroom grants they awarded.
 - Thanks to Mr. Heavner and the elementary staff for a successful Kindergarten Orientation.
 - First meeting of the Innovation Academy
 - Ms. Vecchio and the Colfax staff who made it through the heat wave under difficult circumstance.
 - Math staff and Dr. Nuzzo and Dr. Welter for their work on the math curriculum.
3. Mr. Graczyk thanked the Kondrit family for the donation of a freezer.
4. Mr. Graczyk explained to the Board that a letter reminding parents about attendance procedures had been sent to all families in the District.

The following motions were discussed with no action taken:

MINUTES: Recommend the Board approve the minutes of the August 14 and 20, 2018 Meetings.

BILLS/PAYMENTS: Recommend the Board approve the August 2018 Treasurer's Report, the payment of bills (Disbursement Ledger), and the Accounts Payable List.

OPERATIONS/FINANCE: Mr. Rocco reported on the committee meeting held. He noted discussed items included: Acme Project change orders, special education services, AIU services, and the need for substitute secretaries.

1. Recommend the Board approve the Staffing Service Agreement with Precision HR for Day-to-Day Substitute Secretaries, effective August 27, 2018 through June 30, 2019 at a bill rate of \$14 per hour.
2. Recommend the Board approve the MHY Family Services Agreement for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$110/day for regular education and \$120/day for special education.
3. Recommend the Board approve the Agreement with PLEA for special education services for Student #300064 for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$3,000 per month.
4. Recommend the Board approve the Agreement with New Story for special education services for Student #220173 for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$336 per day.
5. Recommend the Board approve the Agreement with New Story for special education services for Student #230183 for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$336 per day.
6. Recommend the Board approve the Agreement with New Story for special education services for Student #260298 for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$310 per day.
7. Recommend the Board approve the Agreement with Allegheny Intermediate Unit for Transition Services, 1 day a month for 9 months at a rate of \$885.71 per day for the 2018-2019 school year. The total cost is not to exceed \$7,971.39. Mr. Graczyk stated that the total cost has been reduced over the last three years due to teachers taking over some of the responsibilities.
8. Recommend the Board approve the Parent Transportation Contract for Margaret Oleson to transport her child to Shady Side Academy Senior School which is within 10 miles of the District.
9. Recommend the Board accept a monetary donation from Springdale Energy in the amount of \$14,500.
10. Recommend the Board approve Change Order #'s 66, 72, and 78 as it relates to the Acmetonia Construction Project. Final cost for these Change Orders is a credit of \$3,973.00.
 - Change Order #66: Mike Coates Construction
 - Rooms D106 & D107 Ceiling Height Revision
 - Cost: \$765.00
 - Change Order #72: Mike Coates Construction
 - Revised Basketball Goal method of installation in Gymnasium
 - Cost: \$1,262.00
 - Change Order #78: Canfield Development
 - Credit for PCB Removals
 - Credit: \$6,000.00
11. Recommend the Board approve Resolution #2018-9: Eastern Area Special Schools Resolution No. 2018-1. "RESOLVED, that as authorized by Section 1704 of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended, all voting on the affairs of the Joint Board of School Directors of Eastern Area Special Schools shall be conducted by mail ballot."
12. Recommend the Board approve Resolution #2018-10: Eastern Area Special Schools Resolution No. 2018-2. "RESOLVED, that the Budget of the Eastern Area Special Schools for the 2018-2019 school year in the form appended hereto is hereby approved.

Mr. Puskar noted that items 3-6 above were additions to special education services for students and that items such as these are why funding needs to be placed in the annual budget. However, Mr. Puskar also stated that he's not convinced that special education saving money considering he's seeing more services being placed out of District. He reiterated the need for a Social Worker. Mr. Rocco asked when a student is identified for special needs is there any money coming back to the District. Mr. Graczyk stated there is some funding through ACCESS and IDEA.

EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY:

1. Recommend the Board approve complimentary school privileges, under Section 1302 of the PA School Code, for Student #200207 who is under the guardianship of a resident of the District. The proper notarized papers have been submitted to the Business Office.
2. Recommend the Board approve complimentary school privileges, under Section 1302 of the PA School Code, for Student #220034 who is under the guardianship of a resident of the District. The proper notarized papers have been submitted to the Business Office.

PERSONNEL:

1. Recommend the Board approve the employment of the following Classified Personnel:
 - A. Ms. Jamie Fowler, 1:1 Paraprofessional, 1 day per week
Effective: September 14, 2018, Compensation: \$93 per day, no benefits
 - B. Ms. Angie Rudolf, Title I Reading Paraprofessional
Effective: August 28, 2018, Compensation: \$93 per day
 - C. Mr. William Royal, Paraprofessional [**PENDING RECEIPT OF PAPERWORK**]
Effective: September 10, 2018, Compensation: \$93 per day, plus Individual Benefits
2. Recommend the Board approve the employment of Ms. Angie Rudolf as an Extended Day-to-Day Substitute. Effective: October 10, 2018 at the compensation of \$150 per day.
3. Recommend the Board accept, with regret, the retirement of Ms. Jayne A. Sheldon, Music Teacher, effective December 31, 2018.
4. Recommend the Board accept the resignation of the following Classified Personnel:
 - A. Ms. Kim Hails, Cafeteria Worker
Effective August 24, 2018
 - B. Mr. William Emerick, Paraprofessional
Effective: September 7, 2018
5. Recommend the Board accept the resignation of Mr. Michael Zolnierczyk, 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, effective: August 26, 2018.
6. Recommend the Board approve the employment of the Mr. Dean Acheson, 7 & 8 Grade Basketball Coach, effective September 18, 2018 at the compensation of \$3,119. [**PENDING RECEIPT OF UPDATED ACT 34**]
7. Recommend the Board approve the employment of Mr. Nick Etzel, Long-Term Substitute at Acmetonia. Mr. Etzel will be replacing employee #411 (Sick Leave) at the compensation of \$38,636/year plus Benefits (Step 1). The employment is effective August 20, 2018 through January 22, 2019 (1st Semester). (Mr. Etzel was previously approved as an Extended Day-to-Day Substitute for this same position.)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Ms. Moretti reported that the District had received a grant from Lowe's that will replace door handles in the high school's A-wing.

Mr. Graczyk asked for comments on the security firm to possibly be contracted by the District. Mr. Rocco commented that he would like to see an armed individual in all buildings. Mr. Gaschler stated that he is not in favor of two School Police Officers. He would rather see security in all buildings and one SPO that floats among the buildings. Mr. Puskar agreed. Mr. Pollino stated that not all security had to be armed, noting that part of security is managing entry into the buildings. Mr. Rocco asked if the District would be receiving the same person every day. Mr. Graczyk stated that is his understanding. Mr. Puskar asked if the District could begin advertising for an SPO, then administrators would have a pool of candidates if the District received the grant and the Board approves the position. At the consensus of the Board, Mr. Graczyk stated that he would move ahead with the groundwork with the understanding that no grant has been awarded or accepted or a position approved.

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES:

1. Recommend the Board approve the plays below. The final choice will be made by the Fall Play Director after auditions are held. The performance is scheduled for December 14 & 15, 2018.
 - A. Antigone
 - B. Almost, Maine

Mr. Brett Kymer was recognized and presented information on the choices for Ms. Minda. He noted that all Play staff will remain the same. Mr. Puskar questioned two choices. Mrs. Renaldi commented that she does understand that the choice is determined by the students who try out for the play.

Mr. Pollick reports:

AIU – A temporary Executive Director has been appointed. They are looking for a Director of Special Education and Pupil Services.

Forbes Road – The teachers continue to work without a contract. Negotiations are on-going. The Board rejected the Fact Finder's Report. Open House was held tonight.

POLICY REVIEW: None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Ms. Moretti asked about sponsors in supplemental positions, looking at it from a budget perspective. Do they submit any type of plans? Mr. Graczyk stated that he would look into the matter.
2. Mr. Rocco stated that in light of community comments on the forfeit of the varsity football game, is there anything that can be shared as to how the decision was made? Mr. Graczyk stated that he will ask Mr. Davis to provide information at Monday's meeting. Mr. Pollino stated that sometimes it's more appropriate to wait for information before commenting; there can't always be an immediate answer. Mr. Puskar commented that the Athletic Director can't always attend away events, that the coach is a District employee and have to trust his/her decisions in the best interest of the students.
3. Mr. Rocco asked, in light of the Acme Project and retirements, are there any activities not happening this year? Mr. Heavner stated that Acme is moving forward with all activities. Ms. Moretti asked about the elementary Spring Choir Concert. Ms. Vecchio stated they will have a winter choir concert and hoping to do something in the spring.
4. Mr. Rocco asked how the opening of school went in the buildings. Ms. Vecchio reported that Colfax opened as usual. However, staff had to cut back on some activities due to things being packed for the move to Acme. Ms. Moretti asked about the re-alignment of teachers. Ms. Vecchio stated that everyone came in prepared. Mr. Heavner reported that the school year began as the last one ended, very positive. He noted that the new parent pick-up/drop-off procedures are going well. Mr. Rocco asked about gym classes. Mr. Heavner stated that staff and students will be able to use the playground soon and the Syria Mosque are is still available.
5. Mrs. McFarland asked about the meeting on September 24 and if the committee was going to discuss the job descriptions. Mr. Graczyk stated they have been revised and updated for discussion.
6. Mrs. McFarland asked about the 7th & 8th Grade football conditioning and what the school is doing since there is no team. She also asked about the 7th & 8th grade cheerleading coach. Mr. Graczyk stated that he would get information for the next meeting. Mr. Gaschler asked what the District does about a sponsor's salary if no students join an activity/club. Mr. Graczyk stated that the District would have to look at the circumstances.
7. Mr. Pollino reminded the Board Members that they only have power as a group of nine. If individuals have requests, get the request to the correct committee. They need to make sure all members are getting the information needed.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

Ms. Jeannie Haas was recognized and stated that the sound was much better in the auditorium than the room at the high school.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Zastawniak
Public Relations Director