

**UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**2229 East Buck Road**  
**Pennsburg PA 18073**

**January 12, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Upper Perkiomen School District was called to order by President Melanie Cunningham, at 7:00 p.m. at the Upper Perkiomen Education Center.

The following Board members attended: Raeann Hofkin, JP Prego, Dana Hipszer, Melanie Cunningham, Peg Pennepacker, Judith Maginnis, Emily McCormick and Keith McCarrick. Absent member was: Mike Elliott. Administration in attendance were: Andrea Farina, EdD., Daniel Direso, and Georgiann Fisher. Others in attendance were: Kyle Somers, Isabella Lara, Rachel Landis, Ryan Garner, Mark Smith, Stacey Smith and Kaylyn Adair.

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Cunningham said that she hoped everyone enjoyed their holidays and hopes everyone has a good year.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

In the Superintendent's absence a video was shared that Dr. Roche had previously recorded.

Dr. Roche welcomed everyone and hoped that Winter break was enjoyable and wished all a Happy New Year.

Dr. Roche reported on some of the events held at the schools that he was able to attend and shared pictures. Some of the events were Hereford Kindergarten 80<sup>th</sup> day of school, the UPMS first Pep Rally, and the High School Winter concerts.

Dr. Roche shared that tickets for the High School play are currently on sale.

Dr. Roche announced that The Great Kindness Challenge Week will be January 23 – 27, 2023, and Spirit Weeks will be held at the district and building levels with many events planned.

Dr. Roche gave an update on the Girls Wrestling proposal. Dr. Roche said the district was proposing a Girls Wrestling Club. The topic will be an agenda item at the Extra-Curricular Committee meeting on January 23, 2023.

Dr. Roche announced that in honor of the commitment and time that School Board members volunteer on behalf of the Upper Perkiomen schools and community, January is designated School Director recognition month and will be recognized during the Presentation later in the meeting.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD REPORT**

Isabella Lara and Rachel Landis gave updates on high school events. The FBLA will be holding their first winter formal on January 28, 2023 and the Junior Class held a parent's night out in December and raised \$380.00. The Junior Class is sponsoring an online SAT and ACT course.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT/SUNSHINE ACT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Somers announced that the Board met in an Executive Session on December 16, 2022 for the purpose of discussing matters of collective bargaining with the Upper Perkiomen Education Association, the Board also met immediately prior to tonight's meeting for the purpose of discussing matters of collective bargaining between the district and the Upper Perkiomen Education Association.

Mr. Somers announced two corrections to the agenda under New Business, Personnel Report Item A., iv), 3a., Advisors/Coaches:

MS Girls Assistant Coach, should read Schedule -100% and the salary as \$2,499; and the Head Football Coach, should read for the 2023-2024 school year.

Mr. Somers advised the Board to approve the agenda with those corrections.

Mr. Somers reviewed the policy of the Public Comments sections of the Board meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION**

**A. Board Recognition Presentation**

A video from staff members expressing their thanks and appreciation to the School Board members was shown. Student representatives, Isabella Lara and Rachel Landis presented the Board members with tokens of appreciation on behalf of the district.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS**

Ryan Garner, Upper Hanover Township, spoke about the Girls Wrestling program and would like for the Board to continue to pursue the idea.

Mark Smith, Upper Hanover Township, was happy to see the Girls Wrestling topic on Old Business, and would like to continue to move forward with the proposal.

Stacey Smith, Upper Hanover Township, gave a Mother's perspective on Girls Wrestling and would love to see Upper Perkiomen make history.

Kaylyn Adair, student and club coach of Girls Wrestling, had several of the young female athletes present, and hopes that these girls will be able to have a Girls Wrestling program at school.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Keith McCarrick, seconded by Emily McCormick, to approve **the agenda with the announced corrections**. Motion carried; all voted aye.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Keith McCarrick, seconded by JP Prego, to approve the **December 5, 2022 Board Reorganization Meeting Minutes**, (Attachment A) and the **December 5, 2022 School Board Meeting Minutes**, (Attachment B). Motion carried; all voted aye.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Girl's Wrestling**

Dr. Farina announced again that this topic would be an agenda item at the Extra-Curricular Committee meeting on January 23, 2023.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

Motion by Keith McCarrick, seconded by JP Prego, to approve the **Personnel Report as presented**:

i. **Hourly wage adjustments for the following Administrative Support Staff**, effective January 22, 2023:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>New Rate</b>
Francesca Glackin	Admin Assistant- 190 day	\$14.08
Taylor Catarious	HS Admin Assist- 10 Month	\$16.48
Michele Rodenberger	Admin Assistant- 190 day	\$14.77
Karen Snyder	Elem Admin Assistant	\$15.35
Susan Harter	HS Admin Assistant	\$16.01
Cathie Hill	Elem Admin Assistant	\$16.81

Michelle Miller	Athletic Admin Assistant	\$16.33
Amanda Gatto	Administrative Assistant	\$16.94
Susan Mroz	Administrative Assistant	\$17.00

ii. **RETIREMENTS**

1. **Robert Haas**, Middle School Social Studies Teacher, submitted his intent to retire on December 24, 2022, effective January 23, 2023.

iii. **RESIGNATIONS**

1. **Angela Spinozzi**, School Psychologist, resigned her position with the district on December 15, 2022.
2. **Lisa Williams**, Paraprofessional, resigned her position with the district on December 16, 2022.
3. **Denise Reinhard**, Paraprofessional, resigned her position with the district on January 3, 2023.
4. **Keri Summers**, Paraprofessional, resigned her position with the district on December 15, 2023.

iv. **APPOINTMENTS**

1. **PROFESSIONAL STAFF:**

- a. **AnnMarie Borovik**, Guidance Counselor, for the Middle School, to be hired subject to required clearances and employment history review at Master's +30, Step 5, prorated for the 2022-2023 school year.
- b. **Julia Cupitt**, Special Education Teacher for the 4th and 5th Grade Center, to be hired subject to required clearances and employment history review at Bachelor's, Step 1, prorated for the 2022-2023 school year.

2. **SUPPORT STAFF**

- a. **Tanya Hilbert, Full-time Custodian**, to be hired subject to required clearances and employment history review, at \$16.50/hour for the 2022-2023 school year.
- b. **Christine Stewart, Part-time Tech Assistant**, to be hired subject to required clearances and employment history review, at \$19.00/hour for the 2022-2023 school year.
- c. **Lisa Dicesare**, existing employee, appointed to the position of Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent, at the rate of \$25.00/hour, effective January 22, 2023.
- d. **Kristal Bitner**, existing employee, appointed to the position of Administrative Assistant the Business Administrator, at the rate of \$25.00/hour, effective January 22, 2023.
- e. **Amy Hartzell**, existing employee, appointed to the position of PIMS and Child Accounting Specialist, at the rate of \$25.00/hour, effective January 22, 2023.

3. **SUPPLEMENTAL POSITIONS:**

- a. **ADVISORS/ COACHES** for 2022-2023 school year:

Area	Position	Name	Schedule	Salary
Basketball	MS Girls Assistant Coach	Danielle Shilling	B (100%)	\$2,499.00
<b>For the 2023-2024 school year:</b> Football	Head Football Coach	Dan Heinrichs	B	\$8,651.00

4. **EVENT WORKERS** for the 2022-2023 school year:
  - a. Brian Godshall
  - b. Robert Saeger

v. **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

1. **Gloria Hendricks-** approve additional sick leave, December 19, 2022 through January 20, 2023.
2. **Lorie Seimes-** approve Family and Medical Leave beginning on December 9, 2022 through January 3, 2023 and intermittently thereafter. as needed, for a total of up to 12 weeks.
3. **Timothy Herbert-** approve Family and Medical Leave beginning on January 3, 2023 through February 14, 2023, continuously and intermittently thereafter, as needed for a total of 12 weeks.
4. **Mary Slemmer-** approve intermittent Family and Medical Leave, beginning on December 3, 2022 and continuing for up to 12 weeks, as needed.
5. **Theresa Schlatterer-** approve Maternity Leave/FML, expected to commence on May 21, 2022, and continue for 6-8 weeks, Family and Medical Leave to continue until October 24, 2023.
6. **Robert Dowd-** unpaid leave beginning on December 10, 2022 and continuing until January 13, 2023.

Motion carried; all voted aye.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Motion by Emily McCormick, seconded by Keith McCarrick, to approve **to appoint Georgiann Fisher as Director of Human Resources for an additional term commencing on July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2028**, and approve the Employment Agreement with Georgiann Fisher, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Business Administrator.  
 VOTE: **Hofkin – no**, Prego – yes, Hipszer, yes, Elliott – absent, Cunningham – yes, Pennepacker – yes, Maginnis – yes, McCormick – yes, McCarrick – yes. Motion carried.
- B. Motion by Keith McCarrick, seconded JP Prego, to approve **an Educational Services Agreement for a student** whose name is on file in the Office of the Superintendent.  
 Motion carried; all voted aye.
- C. Motion by Judy Maginnis, seconded by Keith McCarrick, **to adopt the attached Accelerated Budget Opt-Out Resolution, as per the recommendation from the Finance Committee**, certifying that the real estate tax rate will not increase by more than the index. (Attachment C)  
 Motion carried; all voted aye.

D. Motion by Keith McCarrick, seconded by JP Prego, to **approve the following Board Policy Revisions/Adoptions/Repeals**

- i. No. 236.1 - Threat Assessment (Adoption)  
Motion carried; all voted aye.

E. Motion by JP Prego, seconded by Keith McCarrick, to approve **the December Contractor Staff Additions for Krise Transportation:**

- ii. Jennifer Robinson  
Motion carried; all voted aye.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Motion by Keith McCarrick, seconded by Emily McCormick, to approve the **attached payment of bills, in the amount of \$1,962,523.50 from the General Fund.** Motion carried; all voted aye.

Motion by JP Prego, seconded by Keith McCarrick, to approve the **attached payment of bills, in the amount of \$753,546.33 from the Capital Projects & Reserve Funds.** Motion carried; all voted aye.

**NEW FOLLOW UP ITEMS**

Transportation Update

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Emily McCormick, thanked the supporters for the wrestling program for coming to the meeting and said the Board is looking forward to working on the proposal.

JP Prego, had a shout-out for Mrs. Swavely from a parent for being so kind and caring to her daughter who has had some anxiety in school.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Keith McCarrick, seconded by JP Prego, that **the meeting be adjourned at 7:50 p.m.** Motion carried; all voted aye.

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Daniel C. Direso, Board Secretary