

UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
2229 East Buck Road
Pennsburg PA 18073

September 8, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

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

The following Board members attended: Mike W. Elliott, Wilfred E. Pike, Dr. John L. Farris, Joan T. Smith, John L. Gehman, Raeann B. Hofkin, Jonathan A. Warren, Kimberly A. Baccari, and Dr. Kerry A. Drake. Administration in attendance were: Alexis McGloin, EdD, Ashley Kitten and Sandra M. Kassel. Others in attendance were: Mr. Justin O'Donoghue, Dyan Hipszer, Keith McCarrick, Tom Sands, Bill Scott, Mark Mancini, Beth Sheldon, Steve Stracka, Ryan Sloyer, Tim Leach, Judy Maginnis, Chad Moyer, John Membrino, Bob Sheldon, and Phil Detwiler.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. McGloin reported that last week the district welcomed 3,345 students for the start of the school year. She thanked the Custodial, Secretarial and Administrative staff for all their hard work in preparing the schools. The teachers also spent a significant amount of time getting their classrooms ready, upon visiting the schools Dr. McGloin could attest that there was an air of excitement.

Dr. McGloin announced again that Upper Perkiomen High School had the distinction of earning the 2015-2016 Sportsmanship Award voted on by members in the Pac-10. She stated the district would be honored by the PIAA and District One next week. Dr. McGloin thanked the athletes and coaches for making Upper Perk proud.

Dr. McGloin said that on the agenda tonight was the proposed teacher contract. The tentative agreement was reached late August and modified with the teachers the week prior. Some of the highlights of the three year agreement included a total package of 3%, 2% and 2.5% respectively over the life of the contract and changes in the medical coverage. Dr. McGloin thanked the teacher's union for their cooperation and peacefully working on an agreement.

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

A. Policy Revisions/Adoptions – First Reading (Attachment A)

1. No. 011 – Conflict of Interest – Acceptance of Gifts – Board Members
2. No. 137.1 – Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students.

Dr. McGloin announced that both policies are brand new, the second policy was one that was mandated and needed to be in place. There was a second read on the Transportation policy that was on the agenda to be voted on.

B. Clarification on Middle School Project – Facility Committee

Mr. Pike went through how the Facility Committee arrived at the recommendation on the new Middle School. He stated that there was a perception that the building was rushed and not thought through. He explained how the Facility Committee was charged with finding ways to alleviate overcrowding at Marlborough and Middle School. All options were considered.

Mr. Elliott presented a timeline of what has happened since the committee started exploring the overcrowding. There was talk of a new school for some time. An Enrollment Study was completed in March of 2015 and a Feasibility Study was done in January of 2016. At that time it was decided to establish a Facility Committee to make recommendations to the full Board. Meetings began in March and were open to the public.

Dr. McGloin explained the dilemma with PlanCon. The State put a moratorium on PlanCon, which would prevent reimbursement on projects if they were not received by May 15, 2016. An application needed to be put in for a building. The Board voted to pass PlanCon A so there would

be a possibility to get reimbursement. PlanCon B was submitted and a hearing is scheduled with PDE. Dr. McGloin also spoke about the viability of using the current Middle School as a Gr. 4-5 building.

Mr. Pike asked Mr. Warren and Mrs. Kassel to speak about the funding and short term costs and long term costs. Mr. Warren explained that the project was estimated to cost \$56 million. When the project was considered a few different factors were reviewed such as what is right for the district as a vision, what is right for the district educationally, and what is right for the district to be fiscally responsible. He stated that now was the best time to borrow.

Mrs. Kassel explained that a bond was paid off this year. The debt for the district has decreased, the district has been financially stable and interest rates are low. Mr. Pike thanked everyone for their presentations.

The Board had many questions, comments and opinions about moving forward with the project. There were concerns about the impact of taxes on the taxpayers but also about doing what is fiscally responsible for the district and student safety.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. O'Donoghue announced that an Executive Session was held on August 26, 2016. The Executive Session topics discussed included contract negotiations and personnel. There was an Executive Session held prior to the board meeting at 6:00 p.m. regarding negotiations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Keith McCarrick, Pennsburg. Mr. McCarrick stated he was a supporter of education but felt like things were being rushed. Mr. McCarrick felt that there would be a tax increase and staffing would need to increase.

Tom Sands, Marlborough Township, a concern of his was that an architect firm was hired to do the Feasibility Study and an architect would recommend to build. Mr. Sands also felt that there was not enough land at the proposed site.

Bill Scott, Upper Hanover Township, asked if the Board participated in the negotiations of the Professional Agreement. Mr. Scott also talked about many concerns with the age of the current middle school, the size of the property for the new site, and that he felt this process had been rushed.

Mark Mancini, East Greenville, had some questions about understanding the millage and tax increases.

Beth Sheldon, Marlborough Township, felt there was a contradiction among board members and thought the cost for the new middle school was underestimated.

Steve Stracka, Marlborough Township, understood that things need to be done for the kids but encouraged the Board to think about senior citizens on fixed incomes.

Ryan Sloyer, East Greenville, felt that the Feasibility Study done a few years ago said there was no growth.

Tim Leach, Marlborough Township, asked if the Feasibility Study took into account students who attended private schools.

Judy Maginnis, Upper Hanover Township, attended all the meetings and also has students in the Middle School and High School and was happy with the idea of building the new Middle School and said a lot of parents agree with her.

Chad Moyer, Upper Hanover Township, said he heard the number of \$56 million and thought all projects always go over the estimate.

John Membrino, Hereford Township, thought the current Middle School was not eighty years old since it had been renovated.

Bob Sheldon, Marlborough Township, asked how long it will take for the school to be built and if the district had been reimbursed for the Hereford project.

Phil Detwiler, 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher, thanked the Facility Committee for planning the project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Facilities Committee – Will Pike
- B. Special Education Committee – Dr. Kerry Drake
- C. Policy Committee – Joan Smith
- D. Board Communication Line – Mike Elliott
- E. Western Montgomery Career & Technology Center – John Gehman
- F. Montgomery County Intermediate Unit – Dr. Kerry Drake
- G. Legislative Liaison – Kimberly Baccari
- H. Upper Perkiomen Education Foundation – Mike Elliott
Will have something on the Workshop agenda for this month.

MINUTES

A. Motion by Mike W. Elliott, seconded by John L. Farris, to approve the **Regular School Board Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2016**. **VOTE:** Elliott –yes, Pike –yes, Farris – yes, **Smith – abstain**, Gehman –yes, Hofkin- yes, Warren –yes, Baccari – yes, Drake – yes. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Motion by Joan T. Smith, seconded by Wilfred E. Pike, to approve the **Personnel Report as presented:**

A. RESIGNATIONS:

1. SUPPORT STAFF

- a. **Alyssa L. D'Ippolito**, Paraprofessional at the Middle School, effective August 18, 2016.

2. SUPPLEMENTAL

- a. **Amy L. Zdrojesky**, Assistant Lacrosse Coach at the Middle School, effective August 18, 2016.

B. APPOINTMENTS

1. PROFESSIONAL STAFF

- a. **PAIGE A. PYATT**, Long Term Substitute Art Teacher, at Hereford Elementary School, effective August 30, 2016, to be hired subject to required employment history review at Bachelor's, Step 1, \$42,935/year. Paige is replacing Norma Reichenbach-Nichols, who is on a leave.

2. SUPPORT STAFF

- a. **Charleen M. Herrick**, Instructional Paraprofessional at Hereford Elementary School, effective August 23, 2016, at \$11.00/hour, Step 1, per the Part-Time Support Staff agreement. Charleen will be replacing Karen Kratz, who retired.
- b. **Nicole E. Kuestner**, Long Term Substitute Non-Instructional Paraprofessional at Marlborough Elementary School, effective September 6, 2016, at \$10.00/hour, Step 1, per the Part-Time Support Staff agreement. Nicole will be replacing Pat Rogers, who is on leave.
- c. **Amy N. Kahl**, Instructional Paraprofessional at Marlborough Elementary School, effective August 29, 2016, at \$11.00/hour, Step 1, per the Part-Time Support Staff agreement. Amy will be replacing Marsha Chiavaroli, who retired.

- d. **Gina L. Plonski**, Staff Nurse at Marlborough Elementary School, effective September 7, 2016, at \$20.40/hour, Step 1, per the Agreement for Staff Nurses. Gina will be replacing Judy Maginnis, who resigned.
- C. **SATURDAY DETENTION/SUSPENSION PROCTORS** for the 2016-2017 school year (4 hours/day, as needed) at the hourly rate per the professional agreement:
 - 1. Middle School
 - a. **Kimberly Baer-Berrodin**
 - b. **Lisa Bryson**
 - c. **Kelly Cahoon**
 - d. **Christian Fowkes**
 - e. **Michele Fowkes**
 - f. **Jennifer Hart**
 - g. **Nickole Hart**
 - h. **Jamye Keiser**
 - i. **Deborah Macioge**
 - j. **Devin Smalley**
 - k. **Brenda Stephenson**
 - l. **Cheryl Stotsenburg**

2. **SUPPLEMENTAL SALARY POSITIONS** for the 2016-2017 school year:

| <u>Area</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Schedule</u> | <u>Salary</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Music | HS/Band | Kierstin Levan | A | \$10,602.00 |
| Music | Band Asst. | Blake A. Bergey | A | \$1,304.00 |
| Music | Band Asst. | Robin Holman | A | \$1,304.00 |

3. **EXTRAMURAL POSITIONS** for 2016-2017:

| <u>Area</u> | <u>Status</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Salary</u> |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Technology | Appointment | Webmaster, HS | Debra Burns | \$550.00 |
| Technology | Appointment | Webmaster, MS | Luke Verna | \$550.00 |
| Technology | Appointment | Webmaster, HFD | Thomas Guellich | \$550.00 |
| Technology | Appointment | Webmaster, MLB | Matthew Lippincott | \$550.00 |

D. **CHANGE OF STATUS**

- 1. **Allison Stephens**, Technology, Curriculum, and Innovation Specialist at the Education Center, date to be determined, at \$102,143/year (prorated). Allison will be replacing AJ Juliani, who resigned.

E. **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

- 1. **Barbara Harding**, approve a **MEDICAL LEAVE** of absence from September 14, 2016, through approximately October 31, 2016.
- 2. **Norma Reichenbach-Nichols**, approve a **MEDICAL LEAVE** of absence from August 23, 2016, through approximately the end of the first semester.
- 3. **Patricia Rogers**, approve an **UNPAID LEAVE** of absence from August 29, 2016, through approximately February 1, 2017.
- 4. **Melissa Teller**, approve a **MEDICAL LEAVE** of absence from August 23, 2016, through September 25, 2016.

Motion carried; all voted aye.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. Motion by Mike W. Elliott, seconded by Kimberly A. Baccari, to approve **the 2016-2019 Professional Agreement between the Upper Perkiomen Board of School Directors and the Upper Perkiomen Education Association**. VOTE: Elliott –yes, Pike – yes, Farris –yes, Smith – yes, Gehman –yes, **Hofkin – no**, Warren – yes, Baccari – yes, Drake –yes. Motion carried.
- B. Motion by Wilfred E. Pike, seconded by John L. Farris, to approve **the attached Right of Way agreement with PPL Electric Utilities at the Upper Perkiomen High School location** (Attachment C). Motion carried: all voted aye.
- C. Motion by John L. Farris, seconded by Mike W. Elliott, to approve the **attached Resolution authorizing the administration to work with Public Financial Management and Rhoads & Sinon, LLP** to provide for the new money needs of the district in the amount of \$9,995,000 (Attachment D).

Motion by Jonathan A. Warren, seconded by Raeann B. Hofkin **to table the motion** to approve the attached Resolution authorizing the administration to work with Public Financial Management and Rhoads & Sinon, LLP to provide for the new money needs of the district in the amount of \$9,995,000 **until the next Board meeting**. ROLL CALL VOTE: **Elliott – no, Pike – no, Farris – no, Smith – no**, Hofkin – yes, Warren – yes, **Baccari – no**, Drake – yes, Gehman –yes. Motion failed.

Motion by John L. Farris, seconded by Mike W. Elliott, to approve the **attached Resolution authorizing the administration to work with Public Financial Management and Rhoads & Sinon, LLP** to provide for the new money needs of the district in the amount of \$9,995,000 (Attachment D). VOTE: Elliott – yes, Pike –yes, Farris- yes, Smith –yes, **Gehman – no, Hofkin –no**, Warren –yes, Baccari –yes, Drake –yes. Motion carried.

- D. Motion by Mike W. Elliott, seconded by Joan T. Smith, **to enter into the minutes PDE’s approval of PlanCon Part K: Project Refinancing**. This was for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2016 to refund Series of 2011 (Lease number 113305) (Attachment E). Motion carried; all voted aye.
- E. Motion by Wilfred E. Pike, seconded by John L. Farris, to approve **the Agreement with PSI Personnel, LLC for staffing to support business office coverage** (Attachment F). VOTE: Elliott – yes, Pike – yes, Farris –yes, Smith – yes, Gehman – yes, **Hofkin – no**, Warren – yes, Baccari – yes, Drake – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by John L. Farris, seconded by Joan T. Smith, to approve **Action Items F, G and H**:

F. Motion to approve **Michael Faccinetto to serve as President-Elect of PSBA for 2017**.

G. Motion to approve **David Hutchinson to serve as Vice-President of PSBA for 2017**.

H. Motion to approve **the following to the open trustee positions on the PSBA Insurance Trust Board**:

- a. William S. LaCuff, term ends December 31, 2018
- b. Kathy K. Swope, term ends December 31, 2019
- c. Mark B. Miller, term ends December 31, 2019

- d. Marianne L. Neel, term ends December 31, 2017
- e. Michael Faccinnetto, term ends December 31, 2017

VOTE: **Elliott – no**, Pike - yes, Farris – yes, Smith – yes, Gehman – yes, **Hofkin – no**, Warren – yes, Baccari – yes, Drake – yes. Motion carried.

- I. Motion by Raeann B. Hofkin, seconded by Jonathan A. Warren, to approve **the Student Activity & Scholarship List for the 2016-2017 school year** in accordance with Board Policy No. 618 (Attachment G). Motion carried; all voted aye.
- J. Motion by Wilfred E. Pike, seconded by Joan T. Smith, to approve **the following Board Policy Revision (Attachment H)**
 - 1. **No. 810 – Transportation**VOTE: Elliott – yes, Pike – yes, Farris- yes, Smith – yes, Gehman – yes, **Hofkin – no**, Warren – yes, **Baccari – no**, Drake – yes. Motion carried.

BUSINESS REPORTS

Motion by Jonathan A. Warren, seconded by John L. Farris, to approve the **payment of bills, in the amount of \$839,261.82 from the General Fund**. Motion carried; all voted aye.

Motion by Jonathan A. Warren, seconded by Raeann B. Hofkin, to approve **the payment of bills in the amount of \$79,817.04 from the Capital Fund**. Motion carried; all voted aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Scott, Upper Hanover Township, asked about the roof that needed to be replaced in Marlborough. The architect said that the original contractor was not in business. Mr. Scott felt that the new school would need more teachers and staff.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mrs. Hofkin stated that tonight was a School Board reunion with former Board members attending the meeting.

Dr. Farris, asked that since there is not an Academic Committee could they hear from some of the people that are implementing the new programs and how things are going.

Mr. Elliott thanked everyone for coming and felt they had a good discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Raeann B. Hofkin, seconded by Mike W. Elliott, **that the meeting be adjourned at 9:35 p.m.**

Sandra M. Kassel, Board Secretary

