

A Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Saucon Valley School District was held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 in the High School Audion. Present were Directors Susan Baxter, Cedric Dettmar, Bryan Eichfeld, Michael Karabin, Sandra Miller, Dr. Shamim Pakzad and Mark Sivak. Tracy Magnotta & Edward Andres were absent. Also present were Dr. Craig B. Butler, Superintendent, David Bonenberger, Board Secretary, and Mark Fitzgerald, District Solicitor.

- I. **Call to the Order** – at 7:07pm – *Susan Baxter, President, presiding*
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Recording of Attendance** – *David Bonenberger, Secretary*
7-present, 2 absent (Andres & Magnotta)
- IV. **Motion to Approve Agenda** - Director Sivak, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve the Agenda. Vote: 7-yes, 0-no, 2-absent (Andres & Magnotta)
- V. **Announcement of Executive Session** –
March 26, 2019 – Support Negotiations and Contract Legal Issue
- VI. **Approval of Minutes** – Director Sivak, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve the minutes of March 12, 2019. Vote:7-yes, 0-no, 2-absent(Andres & Magnotta)
- VII. **Recognition** –
Wrestling:
Team - PIAA Southeast Regional Champions
Josh Jones - PIAA AA Champion 132lbs
Matt Arciuolo - PIAA AA 3rd Place 160 lbs
Nick Rosengrant - PIAA 8th Place 145lbs
Thomas Spirk - PIAA 8th Place 138 lbs
Nick Warnke - PIAA State Qualifier - 285 lbs
Dane Csencsits - PIAA State Qualifier - 195 lbs
Swimming:
Noah Mauro - PIAA AA 7th Place - Diving
Ryan Kerr - PIAA State Qualifier 200 IM
400 Free Relay - Ryan Kerr, Kyle Kerr, Dan Keats, Milo Whitley
Indoor Track & Field:
Talitha Diggs - PTFCA State Champion 400m run
- VIII. **Presentation**
 - A. High School Student Representative Report – Ferris Abu-Ghosh
 - B. 2019-20 Northampton Community College Budget Presentation – Dr. Erickson and Jim Dunleavy
- IX. **Superintendent’s Report** – *Dr. Craig Butler, Superintendent*
- X. **Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors – Agenda Items Only**

XI. Presentation of Bills – David Bonenberger

- A. General Expenditures – \$367,343.90
- B. Cafeteria Expenditures – \$19,838.61
- C. Health Benefits – \$409,658.53
- D. Capital Projects – \$9,653.53

1. Approve the above presentation of bills.

Director Sivak, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve the Presentation of the Bills. Vote: 7-yes, 0-no, 2-absent (Andres & Magnotta)

XII. Treasurer’s Report - Mark Sivak/David Bonenberger

- A. Cash Investment and Bond Activity
- B. Condensed Board Summary Report
- C. Capital Project Finance Report
- D. Budget Transfers – \$10,242.10
- E. Middle School Activity Report – February 28, 2019
- F. High School Activity Report – February 28, 2019

1. Approve the above Treasurer’s Report.

Director Sivak, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve the Presentation of the Bills. Vote: 7-yes, 0-no, 2-absent (Andres & Magnotta)

A. Education

1. Approve the first reading for the following policy:
202.1 – Foreign Exchange Students

Director Miller asked that we look into language testing the students prior to arrival.

Director Miller, seconded by Director Sivak moved to approve Education Item #1.

Vote: 7-yes, 0-no, 2-absent (Andres & Magnotta)

2. Approve the 2019-20 High School Program of Studies.

Director Dettmar asked that the Vo-Tech class list be updated.

Director Eichfeld stated that he will be voting no due to the Gender Studies Class.

Director Pakzad commented that we have Kindergarten classes with 21-22 children in a class and the high school has classes with 7 or less children in them.

Director Eichfeld moved to delete the gender study class from the Program of Studies, no second.

Director Miller, seconded by Director Sivak moved to approve Education Item #2.

Vote: 6-yes, 1-no (Eichfeld), 2-absent (Andres & Magnotta)

3. Approve the Independent Education Evaluation (IEE) to be completed for student #6679923808, by Dr. Jay Stone, not to exceed the cost of \$5,000.00.

Director Sivak, seconded by Director Miller moved to approve Education Item #3.
Vote: 7-yes, 0-no, 2-absent (Andres & Magnotta)

B. Personnel

1. Approve the resignation of Matthew Hughes, middle school gifted long term substitute. His last day was Thursday, March 21, 2019.

Director Miller, seconded by Director Sivak moved to approve Personnel Item #1.
Vote: 7-yes, 0-no, 2-absent (Andres & Magnotta)

2. Approve the retirement of Brenda Schmidt, K-8 Guidance Secretary. Her last day will be June 30, 2019.
3. Approve Ashlyn Petrie as a part time instructional paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$18.17 for no more than 28 hours per week. Benefits are per the current Educational Support Staff Compensation and Benefits Plan. Her first day will be March 27, 2019.
4. Approve the following 2019-20 fall coach: *(New coaches are in italics.)*

Football:

Brad Trembler- Varsity Head Coach - \$8,586

Director Sivak, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve Personnel Item #4. Vote: 7-yes, 0-no, 2-absent (Andres & Magnotta)

Director Magnotta arrived at 8:10pm.

5. Approve the stipend of \$40 per hour (not to exceed \$2,000) for Danielle Lewis to writing 25 middle school GIEP's and progress reports for the remainder of the 2018-19 school year.

Director Sivak, seconded by Director Miller moved to approve Personnel Item # 5. Vote: 8-Yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Andres)

6. Approve the following 2018-19 substitute teacher(s):
Jessica Evans – Elementary Certified
Kristi Levin – Elementary Certified
7. Approve unpaid time off for Dale Frankenfield, transportation, from April 23, 2019 until approximately June 11, 2019.

Director Miller, seconded by Director Sivak moved to approve Personnel Items # 2, 3, 6 & 7. Vote: 7-yes, 0-no, 2-absent (Magnotta & Andres)

8. Approve the attached conference/travel requests

Director Miller, seconded by Director Sivak moved to approve Personnel Item #8. Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Andres)

C. Facilities

Director Eichfeld discussed the history of the HVAC project. Originally lighting was not part of the plan but decided to look at it as an option. He was disappointed that there was an error in calculations and his confidence in D'Huy has been shaken.

Director Pakzad is concerned that he never knew about the project until recently, he also stated that he is in dispute over the cost per square foot; he has found several prices that are much cheaper. Director Pakzad feels this is a big decision and is looking out for the best interest of the taxpayer which is hard to do when he does not have trust in the numbers D'Huy has presented.

Director Miller won't debate the numbers but it would be better to compare to other PA schools.

Director Dettmar is concerned about cost per square foot based upon Director Pakzad's numbers and hopes to get clarification from D'Huy.

Director Baxter has a responsibility to understand and feels we have too many open ended questions to award a two million dollar project.

Arif Fazil, President D'Huy Engineering, apologized for the calculation mistake and stated that the cost per square foot Director Pakzad has presented is not a fair comparison. D'Huy's price includes things such as cabinetry and steel work on the roof so it is not a fair cost comparison.

Director Pakzad stated that D'Huy did not find the mistake in calculation; we did and he feels the burden is on D'Huy to build back the confidence. He also commented that the price stayed the same as many projects were folded into this project.

Director Dettmar asked about when the rooftop units need to be replaced what would be the plan.

Director Karabin commented on the beginnings of this project. He asked if the cost is \$40 pr \$65 per square foot, depending on D'Huy's answer will impact his vote. Director Karabin stated that he will not vote for anything again if it goes through a committee again.

1. Motion to rescind the bid award from March 12, 2019 to Trefz Mechanical to replace the High School HVAC electrical system

and install new LED lighting in the amount of \$288,357.00 as well as rescind the bid of award of March 12, 2019 to PAMSCO, to replace the High School HVAC system in the amount of \$1,839,758.00. In approving this motion the Board rescinds and/or rejects all bids and shall discontinue the HVAC replacement project unless or until further board action is considered.

Director Pakzad, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve Facilities Item #1.
Vote: 3-yes (Pakzad, Magnotta, Baxter), 5-no (Eichfeld, Sivak, Dettmar, Karabin, Miller), 1-absent (Andres)

2. Motion to rescind the bid award from March 12, 2019 to Trefz Mechanical to replace the High School HVAC electrical system and install new LED lighting in the amount of \$288,357.00.

Director Miller, seconded by Director Dettmar moved to approve Facilities Item #2.
Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Andres)

3. Approve the awarding of the contract to replace the High School HVAC electrical system to Wind Gap Electric as the low bidder, in the amount of \$125,000 to be funded by Capital Projects Fund.

The award of contracts set forth above is expressly made contingent upon receipt of all governmental approvals required for the project and is also subject to final review and approval of the solicitor's office of any applicable contracts and approvals. Said award of contract is further made contingent upon the receipt of the appropriate performance and payment bonds, certificates of insurance, and signed Standard Form of Agreement between Owner and the above referenced Contractor, all in compliance with the contract. The Board of School Directors hereby authorizes the Project Architect or Loren Szczesny, Esquire, and the law firm of Fox Rothschild LLP, Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, legal counsel for School District, to issue notices of intent to award to the Contractor consistent with the terms of the award of contract set forth herein. The Board of School Directors further authorizes its officers, administration, solicitor, and Project Architect to take any and all necessary actions in order to effectuate the intent and purposes of this motion, including, without limitation, execution of the contract by the administration. Funding for these projects shall come from Capital Projects.

Director Miller, seconded by Director Sivak moved to approve Facilities Item #3.
Vote: 5-yes (Karabin, Miller, Eichfeld, Sivak, Dettmar), 3-no (Pakzad, Magnotta, Baxter), 1-absent (Andres)

D. Finance

2019-2020 Budget Timeline for the 2018-2019 School Year

May 31, 2019 - *District Deadline* to adopt the 2019-20 proposed final budget and upload the signed Certification of Use of PDE-2028 into the Consolidated Financial Reporting System application.

June 10, 2019 (20 days prior to final budget adoption deadline) – *District Deadline* to make the 2017-18 Proposed Final Budget available for public inspection on PDE-2028.

June 20, 2019 (10 days prior to final budget adoption deadline) – *District Deadline* to offer public notice of its intent to adopt the 2018-19 final budget.

June 30, 2019 (annual deadline) – *District Deadline* to adopt the 2019-20 final budget.

A. Finance Committee Meeting Report from March 13, 2019

E. Community Outreach

The next meeting of the Saucon Valley Partnership is scheduled for April 10, 2019 at 7 pm at Saucon Valley School District.

F. Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School – Cedric Dettmar and Bryan Eichfeld

G. Colonial Intermediate Unit – Sandra Miller

H. PSBA – Mark Sivak and Sandra Miller

I. Hellertown/Lower Saucon Chamber of Commerce – Tracy Magnotta

J. Saucon Valley Foundation for Educational Innovation – Tracy Magnotta

K. Northampton Community College – Susan Baxter

L. Academic and Personnel Committee – Tracy Magnotta

A. Academic and Personnel Committee Meeting Report from March 19, 2019

M. New Business

N. Old Business - Director Pakzad asked on the status of the Robotics Club at the High School, has anything been done about it yet? Dr. Butler said it is on the list. High School Principal Gary said that there is an after school program. Director Miller wants the Academic & Personnel Committee to look into and discuss the District’s cyber school options.

XIII. Citizen’s Inquiries and Comments – Visitors should state their name and address.

XIV. Announcements

Future Meetings ~

April 9, 2019 – 7 pm –Business Meeting – Audion
April 23, 2019 – 7 pm –Business Meeting – Audion

XV. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

Director Dettmar, seconded by Director Sivak moved to adjourn the meeting.
Vote: 8-yes, 0-no, 1-absent (Andres) 9:35pm

ATTEST: _____
Secretary President