

Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

March 16, 2015 Voting School Board Meeting

NOTE: This Board Highlights document includes the actions of the School Board Meeting. It is not meant to be an exact reflection of the meeting's minutes.

AGENDA

ROLL CALL – Mr. Hanford was not present due to a death in the family. **Mr. Lang** was not present due to travelling.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The Board approved minutes of the February 16, 2015 Regular Meeting.

REMARKS BY VISITORS

NOTE: Remarks to be restricted to those items listed on the Agenda. Persons offering remarks, when recognized, are to stand and state their name and place of residence.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – No report.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – Highlands High School student **Alexis Carrion** reported the following:

- Last weekend was the awesome musical TARZAN! Congratulations to the cast and crew and special thank you to all of the volunteers, guest musicians, parents and staff who helped to make the show spectacular!
- Congratulations to junior Josh Nulph for being named the Pennsylvania DECA Vice President last month in Hershey. Josh also placed 4th and will compete in Sports & Entertainment Marketing at the national level in Orlando, Florida. Senior Matthew Mamros will also participate in a leadership workshop.
- Congratulations to **the Varsity Cheerleading Competition Squad** on their *undefeated* season and to the **Varsity Boys Basketball Team** for making the playoffs.
- Congratulations to **Bailey Bonnett** for winning the Gold Medal at the PIAA Championships in the 500 freestyle competition at Bucknell University. Bailey now holds the school record for this event!
- A group of HHS teachers have created a *Student of the Month* program to recognize a student from each grade level who best exemplifies RAMS—Respectful, Accountable, Motivated and Safe. Teachers and staff nominate students based upon these qualities and a panel of teachers selects the winners. Here are the winners for February and March: Cera Dickerson, Renae Cebula, Breanne Lewis, Brayden Thimons, Lance Hank, Josh Gentile, Isabella Augustine, Brandon Johnson.
- On March 31st, HHS will host its 3rd annual Mentor Day. This is an excellent opportunity for students to connect with and learn from community members and professionals from a wide array of fields. Students will be able to select three presentations to attend---Biomedical engineering, morning news technician, traveling abroad, managing your finances and interview skills are just some of the workshops that are being offered. Special thanks to Mrs. Eidenshink, Mrs. Gurrera and Mrs. Galcik for organizing this event!
- One of our 10th grade students, Danielle Basista, has organized a Prom Dress Drive for families in our district and community. Danielle has collected over 140 fancy dresses, accessories, shoes and purses and will host several "shop days" here at the high school for students who want to find that special dress. If you know of a student who is in need of a dress, encourage her to come to HHS on March 18, 19 or 20 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Michael Bjalobok

- Ron Dufalla visited Highlands at the Agenda Board meeting to discuss Fair Funding Formulas and the work that the Circuit Riders are doing to get the word out about funding.
- The schedule for Make Up Days is as follows: **Wednesday, April 1:** Full Day for Students and Staff, **Thursday, April 2:** Half Day for Students and Staff (AM), Half Day (PM) for Teachers (clerical), **Friday, April 3:** SCHOOLS CLOSED, **Monday, April 6:** Full Day for Students and Staff. The Gold Card Luncheon is CANCELLED as faculty will be working on Educator Effectiveness during their clerical time and will not be available to volunteer.
- After the thaw of the snow on the track, it has been discovered that several areas have uneven settling where there is drainage underneath. The project manager will be visiting the facility on Wednesday to review the situation. The solicitor has already reviewed the contract from last year's work. The community and Highlands track team will still be able to use the track, but home track meets will need to be rescheduled.

ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT -Mr. Patrick Graczyk reported:

- Title I amendments will be out soon and we will find out if we have any increase or decrease in funding.
- The state reviewed the Comprehensive Plan. Two minor corrections were made. The rest of the Plan was approved.
- The HVA Committee has been meeting and visited Seneca Valley S.D. and Elizabeth Forward S.D. to explore options and programs at other districts to use at Highlands. Our technology teachers attended a BrightBytes Conference, where we found that we are very innovating and ahead of the game in regards to technology at Highlands. The ease of accessing data, pursuing a 1-to-1 device and the classroom experimentations and experiences using technology put us at the top among other schools.
- Rich Teneyck is continuing to meet and plan with the HVA Committee.
- I met with the math Curriculum team to discuss the review and update of curriculum in anticipation of possibly needing new textbooks.
- Principals have been inviting a faculty teacher to our K-12 Professional Development meetings to help plan and collaborate with ideas and scheduling for P.D. next year.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT –Misty Chybrzynski reported:

- Highlands Middle School presents The Music Man, Jr., directed by teacher **Renee Shreffler**, on March 27 and 28. Tickets cost \$6 for floor, \$4 for balcony. Gold Card pays \$2 for Reserved, no charge for balcony for evening shows. Gold Card does not pay for any seat for afternoon. Get tickets: 3:30-4 p.m. March 25 to 26 at the Middle School.
- The Early Childhood Fair will be held on Thursday, April 16 from 5:30 to 8 pm at Highlands High School in the Cafeteria. Please use the arcade entrance near the gymnasium. The Fair will feature crafts, activities and story times for children and registration packets and information about the Kindergarten and Pre-K programs at Highlands. Local organizations and agencies will have information and representatives on-site. Refreshments will be served. Contact Jaye Misejka at 724.226.2400 x4518 with questions.
- Highlands Charity Big Band and Alumni Choir will present the annual Highlands Gives Back Charity Concert on Friday, April 17 at the Clarion Hotel. The concert event will include a dinner and performances from the Murphy Music Center Big Band as well. The event begins at 6 PM with a cocktail hour followed by a buffet style dinner. Get the ticket details and the list of events here: <http://bit.ly/18vwaLL>.
- Congrats to 2015 Carson Scholar winners **Melissa and Jennifer Gustafson!** These Highlands HS students will be recognized at Heinz Field in May for their dedication to community service!
- Bailey wins the Gold! Congrats to **Bailey Bonnett**, Highlands sophomore swimmer, for winning the Gold Medal at the PIAA Championships in the 500 freestyle competition. This is Bailey's first career state gold medal, won at Bucknell University. Highlands sophomore Ben Blackburn qualified for the consolation final in the 100 breaststroke.
- Congrats to Coach **Tyler Stoczynski** and student athlete **Kaison Branch** for being selected to participate in the 2015 Roundball Classic All-Star Game at Geneva College. Coach Stoch will be the head coach of the East team. The game starts at 8:30 PM on Friday, April 17.
- Several students have art on display in the Valley. Check out **WHO & WHERE** in this link: <http://bit.ly/1GevJky> .
- Highlands High School CADETS in the Fire Training Program have been offered an opportunity to visit the Training Center of the New York City Fire Department in April. To donate to the field trip fund, go to: <http://www.gofundme.com/lgaddg>.

AGENDA ITEMS

Unless otherwise noted, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following items:

CAFETERIA - Mr. Hanford

- The payment of Cafeteria Fund Bills, as submitted.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES - Mrs. Beale

- The Student Activities Fund Financial Report, as submitted.
- The HESA trip to New York City to tour the New York City Fire Department Training Center on April 10-12, 2015.

INSTRUCTION - Mr. Love

- Receipt and acknowledging acceptance of the McGinley Scholarship Charitable Trust from PNC Bank, as submitted.

TRANSPORTATION - Mr. Masarik

No report.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS - Mr. Lang

- The Use of Facilities, as submitted [**COPY ATTACHED**]
- Middle School Replacement Project by Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$140,000, as submitted. Vendor is approved on the CSIU cooperative purchasing program and the cost of the project is covered by the district's insurance carrier, School Claims Service, LLC. Administration and Solicitor authorized to prepare and review all necessary contracts and invoices.

PERSONNEL - Mr. Miles

- The 2014-2015 Substitute School Nurse Call List, as submitted. As per Board Policy #505 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #414, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Criminal Record Check.
- The 2014-2015 Substitute Aide/Secretary Call List, as submitted. As per Board Policy #505 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #514, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Criminal Record Check.
- The 2014-2015 Substitute Custodian Call List, as submitted. As per Board Policy #505 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #514, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Criminal Record Check.
- Ratifying the following request for Sabbatical Leave of Absence:
 - A. Employee # 3928
February 13 through the end of the school year
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Highlands School District and the Highlands Education Association, PSEA/NEA to resolve Grievance No. 14-01, as submitted.
- The retirement of the following Professional Staff:
 - A. Petrulak, Carol
Title I Reading Specialist – Fairmount Primary Center
Effective June 5, 2015
- The resignation of the following Classified Staff:
 - A. Gould, Tim
Custodian I – Grandview Upper Elementary
Effective March 11, 2015
- The following request for FMLA:
 - A. Employee # 5419
Beginning April 6, 2015
Utilizing available sick and personal days

FINANCE/TAX - Mr. Miles

- Tax Refunds, as submitted.
- Payment of General Fund Bills, as submitted.

FORBES ROAD CTC - Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Thimons

- The Skills USA competition was held. Congratulations to Highlands students Nick Carrigan Nick Richardson, Dougan Smith and Shawn Lock. They will head to Hershey for the state competition April 8-10.

PSBA/NSBA - Mr. Hanford

- No report.

AIU 3 REPORT - Mrs. Beale

- The Board held a meeting February 23. This was also the Board Appreciation Month celebration. We were given gifts of wood-crafted bookends and a donation to the Special Olympics in our names. I am giving the Highlands High School Library the bookends.
- The AIU will hold its Conference on March 30. This is an election year with 4 seats available and I encourage the Highlands board to attend. It will be a day of learning with various groups and schools presenting information.
- There are 16 \$20,000 Grable Foundation grants available.

POLICY - Mrs. Thimons

- The first reading of the following Board Policies:
 - A. No. 100 Comprehensive Planning

- B. No. 101 Mission/Beliefs/Goals Statements
- C. No. 102 Academic Standards
- D. No. 103 Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices
- E. No. 103.1 Nondiscrimination – Qualified Students with Disabilities
- F. No. 104 Nondiscrimination in Employment and Contract Practices
- G. No. 105 Curriculum
- H. No. 105.1 Review of Instructional Materials by Parents/Guardians and Students
- I. No. 105.2 Exemption of Instruction
- J. No. 106 Guides for Planned Instruction

ATHLETICS - Mr. Myers

- The Athletic Fund Financial Report, as submitted.
- The hiring of the following athletic personnel for the 2014-2015 school year in accordance with Board Policy #404 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #414, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check. (Salary as per Board/HEA Collective Bargaining Agreement) and #916.1:

Name	Position
Abbott, Tom	Varsity Track Head Coach
Campbell, Jeff	Baseball Volunteer Coach
Barch, Ben	Baseball Volunteer Coach
Bowser, Dave	Varsity Track Assistant Coach
Walsh, Chad	Varsity Track Assistant Coach
Rusiewicz, Jr., Al	Middle School Track Coach
Leighlitner, Dan	Middle School Assistant Track Coach
Nulph, Amy	Middle School Assistant Track Coach

- The resignation of the following athletic personnel for the 2014-2015 school year:

Name	Position
Foster, Michael	Varsity Track Head Coach
Grove, Phil	Varsity Track Assistant Coach
Nowicki, Chris	Middle School Track Coach

2015 Highlands School Board Members

Carrie Fox – President Eric Miles – Vice President
Laura Thimons Jonathon Love
Ron Lang Kerry Myers
Ryan Hanford Michael Masarik Debbie Beale