

# Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

## March 17, 2014 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 – All members** present.

**Carrie Fox** commented that Highlands High School has had an exciting and rewarding month, with WPIAL and PIAA finisher **Bailey Bonnett** winning in the swim championships, students competing and winning at Hershey at the **DECA** Conference and the amazing production of **SHREK! The Musical** by Mr. Michael Zeiler, Mrs. Deb Lehw and the high school cast.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – The Board approved the minutes of the February 17, 2014 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 –Jon Rupert** reported:

- The buyer interested in the former Administrative Center building called to clarify that they would be interested in putting a daycare center in the building.
- A community eligibility provision in the Federal Lunch Program will allow school districts with greater than 40 percent free or reduced lunch able to offer the entire district free lunch. More information will be available in April.
- The Board received site maps of the Golden Rams Stadium area where AT&T would like to install a cell tower for \$12,000 per year renter fee. The Board previously approved this. The tower will be in a light pole, with a small structure built to house the equipment. The structure will be on the visitor's side.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – Derrick Mazur** reported the following:

- SHREK! The Musical was performed the weekend of March 7. The high school cast, parent volunteers, faculty and director Mr. Zeiler and producer Mrs. Lehw created a great musical. It was one of the best musicals, although they all have been really good.
- Senior Nolan Wise was accepted in to the Naval Academy.
- Aubrey Simpson received the Horatio Award. Aubrey was one of 51 in the state to receive this national award.
- Bailey Bonnett was featured as the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Athlete of the Week. Bailey is only a freshman and already won the WPIALs and took the bronze this past weekend in the swimming and diving championship meets.
- Jacob Diller was recognized by President Barack Obama for his volunteerism.
- HHS hosted a blood drive in support of Kelly Smith. We collected 71 units of blood! Kelly and her parents came to the drive and were very touched by the student and community participation.
- Students are scheduling for next year! It's amazing that this year has gone by so quickly!

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Michael Bjalobok** reported the following:

- Students will be taking the PSSA tests. Faculty recently underwent the second round of reviewing NWEA / MAP data and should be able to predict where we will fall within PSSA results. Next year, when we take the PSSAs we will be able to take them directly on the new devices (tablets). This will eliminate the administrative review of erasures, etc. that the state is currently tightening up on test reviews and school procedures evaluations.
- There will be a new look for the Superintendent's report in the upcoming months. Administrators will be updating the Board and the public about various programs and current events for student success. This month, **Charles Mort and Debbie Beucker**, principals at Highlands Middle School, will present. *View the PowerPoint presentation on the Board Highlights page by clicking on the link below March 17, 2014 Board Meeting Highlights.*

**ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Mr. Patrick Graczyk** reported the following:

- We had the first Comprehensive Planning meeting this month and were able to form committees and the start-up process began. We will be examining and core beliefs for students. The Board and members of the public are invited to join. More information can be reviewed and meeting dates will be posted at [www.goldenrams.com/graczyk](http://www.goldenrams.com/graczyk).
- Dr. Bjalobok and I were able to hear Alan November speak about technology at a recent conference. If you would like to hear more about Technology in Education, listen to the Tech Talk posted at [www.goldenrams.com/graczyk](http://www.goldenrams.com/graczyk).
- We are currently in the process of PVAAS roster verification.
- A meeting regarding Educator Effectiveness will be held March 27 at 3:15 - 4:15 PM for secondary level and 4:15 – 5:15 PM for elementary level. You are welcome to attend, where we will be analyzing trend and making recommendations to the committees.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Ms. Misty Chybrzynski** reported the following:

- Congrats to **JULIAN FLENORY**, who will be representing Highlands HS on the Boys Cager Classic team, and to **MEGHAN ZIEMIANSKI** (Fairmount, Fawn – Art teacher) who will be coaching the Girls Cager Classic team as a Burrell HS representative. Read more here: <http://bit.ly/1fD9vth>.

- Be Our Guest at Highlands Middle School to see the **Beauty & The Beast Jr.!** Shows are Friday, March 21 at 7 PM and Saturday, March 22 at 2 PM and 7 PM. Ticket are Floor Seating \$6 and Balcony Seating \$4. Check the website for discount Gold Card ticket prices. Check out the story here: <http://bit.ly/1i5tSo2>.

- **World Down Syndrome Awareness Day**, March 21, Friday. Recognize Down Syndrome Awareness Day with the Lots of Socks event – rock your favorite, wildest, most striped or mismatched socks – but wear them noticeably. When people ask you, "What's up with the socks?" You can let them know that you support Down Syndrome Awareness Day. Get more info about this event here: <http://bit.ly/1iVGMDv>.

- SAVE THE DATE! **Highlands Early Childhood Fair**, Thursday, April 3 from 5:30 – 8 PM, Highlands High School Cafeteria. Kindergarten & Pre-K Registration Packets will be distributed at the Fair. Family fun event with food, giveaways and community groups!

***The Board voted unanimously for the following agenda items (unless otherwise noted):***

**CAFETERIA – Mrs. Thimons, Mr. Miles**

The Board approved the Cafeteria Fund Financial Report for February 2014, as submitted.

The Board approved the payment of Cafeteria Fund Bills for March 2014, as submitted.

<b>March to be paid</b>	<b>\$94,623.93</b>
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**STUDENT ACTIVITIES – Mr. Love, Mr. Masarik**

The Board approved the Student Activities Fund Financial Report for January and February 2014, as submitted.

**INSTRUCTION – Mrs. Beale, Mrs. Thimons**

The Board approved the 2014-2015 School Calendar, as submitted. **[SEE APPENDIX 4.1]**

The Board approved the following Make-up Days for the 2014-2015 school year:

- January 19, 2015
- February 16, 2015
- April 2, 2015
- April 6, 2015

The Board approved the 2014-2015 Designated School Holidays, as submitted. **[SEE APPENDIX 4.3]**

The Board amended the 2013-2014 District Calendar to add a ½ Act 80 Day on April 17, 2014.

**\*Mr. Love** voted "NO".

The Board approved the 2014-2015 Middle School Program of Studies, as submitted.

**TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Lang, Mrs. Beale**

No report.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Mr. Lang, Mr. Myers**

The Board approved the Use of Facilities, as submitted. **[SEE APPENDIX 6.1]**

**\*Mr. Hanford** added the use of the Middle School gym, from 5 to 8 PM, Monday through Fridays in August, OPEN GYM for youth basketball, grades 5 - 9. Contact is Jeff Thimons. No fees.

The Board accepted bids for the following:

Pollick Custom Lawn Care – Sports Lining	\$4,600
MMC Land Management – Chemical Treatment	\$8,906
Pollick Custom Lawn Care - Grass Cutting	\$19,400

The Board approved ELA Sport as a consultant for the Turf and Track project, contingent upon solicitor review, at a cost between \$6,000 to \$8,000.

**PERSONNEL –Mr. Hanford, Mrs. Thimons**

The Board ratified the 2013-2014 Substitute Teacher Call List, as submitted. As per Board Policy #405 (Pre-Employment Drug Test, #514, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Criminal Record Check). **[SEE APPENDIX 7.1]**

The Board approved the 2013-2014 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) **[SEE APPENDIX 7.2]**  
The Board approved the hiring of the following Classified Employees in accordance with Board Policy #504 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #515, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check:

**Kelly Bloch**

Nurse's Aide – Replacement  
Fairmount, Fawn and Grandview  
Salary as per Secretary/Aide Contract  
Effective March 18, 2014

The Board ratified the ESP (Secretaries and Aides), PSEA-NEA Contract effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2017, as submitted.

The Board approved the addition of one (1) Autistic Support Teacher and one (1) Behavior Specialist position for Grandview Upper Elementary School for the 2014-2015 School year.

**FINANCE/TAX – Mr. Miles, Mr. Love**

The Board ratified / approved Tax Refunds in the amount of \$6,621 for March 2014, as submitted.

The Board approved payment of General Fund bills, as submitted.

March to be paid	\$433,070.24
March to be ratified	\$385,866.89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$818,937.13</b>

The Board renewed the lease agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Head Start Program, as submitted.

The Board approved the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Agreement for general electric, natural gas, paper, custodial supplies, diesel and gasoline, as submitted.

The Board approved the setting of bond amounts for tax collectors as follows as per Section 684 of the Pennsylvania School Code:

• Harrison Township	\$350,000
• Tarentum	\$200,000
• Fawn Township	\$200,000
• Brackenridge	\$200,000

The Board approved administration to enter into an electric supplier agreement with the supplier providing the lowest pricing for electricity based on a competitive process (this includes the AIU Consortium and all other suppliers).

The Board approved the proposed 2014-2015 Allegheny Intermediate Program of Services Budget, as presented. The Budget totals \$4,088,563. There is no increase in the total district allocation. The Highlands School District's expected contribution to the AIU Program of Services budget is \$21,473.08.

**FORBES ROAD CTC – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Beale**

**Mrs. Fox** reported:

- Four students were inducted in to the Forbes Road National Technical Honor Society on Tuesday, March 4. **Nick Carrigan** (grade 11) - Computer Networking and Security, **Johnathan Hladney** (grade 12) - Automotive Technology, **Matthew Morrow** and **Kyle Matovcik** (grade 12) - Automotive Technology. **Nicholas** was the student speaker, and **Johnathan and Kyle** recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 88 students attended the Hands-On Tour at Forbes Road CTC.

**PSBA/NSBA – Mr. Love**

- **Mr. Love** reminded the Board that on March 31 the AIU Convention will be held. Elections for the AIU Board of Directors will take place. Mrs. Beale will be running for a place on the Board. Good luck, Mrs. Beale!

**POLICY – Mr. Masarik, Mr. Love**

The Board approved the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the following policy:

- 001 – Name and Classification **[SEE APPENDIX 12.1]**

The Board tabled the vote for the contract with PSBA for Policy Review and Updates, as submitted.

**ATHLETICS – Mr. Myers, Mr. Hanford**

The Board approved the Athletic Fund Financial Report for February 2014, as submitted.

The Board ratified the hiring of the following athletic personnel for the 2013-2014 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/or Board Policy #916.1:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Blackburn, Janice	Varsity Assistant Softball Coach
Ballard, Jason	Middle School Track Assistant Coach
Kordes, Courtney	MS Softball Coach
Masarik, Sr. Michael	Volunteer Recreation Swim Supervisor

*\* Mr. Masarik abstained from voting on himself.*

**MISCELLANEOUS**

The Board approved the Small Games of Chance Resolution for the Girdiron Club.

*2014 Highlands School Board Members*

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