

# Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

## April 21, 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. \*Mrs. Thimons present via telephone.

**Carrie Fox** asked for a Moment of Silence in respect of the passing of **Mrs. Carol Fraser**, science teacher at Highlands Middle School.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – The Board approved the minutes of the March 17, 2014 regular meeting, with one correction to the Buildings & Grounds portion of the minutes.

**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** had no report.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – Michael Calfe** reported the following:

- Philip Little from the Attorney General's Office hosted two sessions at the High School regarding the Safe and Respectful Use of Technology, focusing on Cyber-Bullying and Consequences and Social Media use.
- Another successful Gold Card Luncheon was held last week. It was wonderful to see the Seniors in the community and share a performance and meal with them. Thanks to Mrs. Sharon Conway and the Food Services Department for preparing the food, to the Art Department for the centerpieces and to Mr. Matt Beresik and Mr. Lee Lynn and the Jazz Bands for the great entertainment. National Honor Society students also helped serve.
- The Keystone Exams will be coming up.
- Prom Tickets are on sale. The Prom 2014 Big City Ballroom is being held at the Westin Hotel and Convention Center Downtown Pittsburgh on Saturday May 10 from 6:30-11:30 pm.

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

- Questeq will be at the Agenda meeting in May to discuss an update on the technology and statistics from data already collected this year.
- 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, **Heather Hauser and Deb Lehw**, principal and Special Education Director at Grandview Upper Elementary School, will present. *View the PowerPoint presentation on the Board Highlights page by clicking on the link below April 21, 2014 Board Meeting Highlights.*

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

Title I allocation amounts were released. Title I will see a decrease of \$2,000 and Title 2A will see a decrease of about \$60. This is good news compared to the previous two years, which showed thousands of dollars in funding reductions.

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

- HIGHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL has been named the Highmark Most Positive High School in Southwestern PA in the C Harper Positive Athlete Pittsburgh program! Our school received this honor for the way we came together to support our Highlands family and friends after losing student Ryan Richards in a tragic accident at the beginning of this school year. Our community, students and staff truly care about each other and help each other through the most difficult times - over and over again. Next month, representatives from our school will be honored at a reception with Hines Ward, Roberto Clemente Jr and other athletes and Executives from distinguished organizations on our local area. Our school also will receive a \$2,500 award. More than 20 students were nominated but did not receive scholarships; however, the program coordinator shared feedback from the "judges" that was very complimentary about our student body. Michael Calfe was a strong finalist for the Most Positive Athlete (football).
- Attention parents of students in Kindergarten through 8th grade! Plan now for higher education at our FREE Planning for College Presentation on Wednesday, April 23 at 6 pm in the Highlands Middle School Auditorium. Representatives from PHEAA (Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency) and the PA Treasury will present information and be available for questions. Contact High School Guidance Counselor Beth Carrarini at 724-226-1000, ext. 4104 or visit [www.PHEAA.org](http://www.PHEAA.org) for questions.

**\*\*SAVE THE DATE! MAY 1 – PROUD TO BE PUBLIC EDUCATION RALLY – HMS – 6:30 PM\*\*\***

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

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

- The payment of Cafeteria Fund Bills for April 2014, as submitted.  
April to be paid                      \$89,929.21
- The bid awards for bread, milk, and ice cream services as follows:
  - Milk – Turner’s Dairy
  - Ice Cream – Pittsburgh’s Best Ice Cream
  - Bread – Schwebel Bakery
- A RFP for Food Service Program Management, as soon as feasible (approximate implementation date August 2015 or sooner), as submitted. **[SEE APPENDIX 1.3]**
- \***Mrs. Beale** voted "NO."
- Authorizing the district to participate in the Community Eligibility Program for free lunches, contingent upon final state review and increased subsidies prevail as expected.

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES – Mr. Love, Mr. Masarik**

- The Student Activities Fund Financial Report for March 2014, as submitted.

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

- The 2014-2015 School Calendar Revisions, as submitted. **[SEE APPENDIX 4.1]**  
*View an "AT A GLANCE" Calendar for 2014-2015 on the Board Highlights page by clicking on the link below April 21, 2014 Board Meeting Highlights.*
- Hosting a "Compass Learning Camp" at Grandview Upper Elementary School for the summer of 2014. Cost not to exceed \$15,000 in staff stipends (*no transportation and a ratio of 1 teacher per 20 students*).
- Hosting a "Keystone and/or Compass Learning Camp" for secondary students. Cost not to exceed \$7,000 in staff stipends (*no transportation and a ratio of 1 teacher per 20 students*).
- Purchasing Compass Learning Student Licenses for Biology, Algebra I, and English Literature at the High School. Cost not to exceed \$13,000, as submitted **[SEE APPENDIX 4.4]**
- Extending NWEA to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Students, as submitted. **[SEE APPENDIX 4.5]**

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

No Report.

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

- The Use of Facilities, as submitted. **[SEE APPENDIX 6.1]**
- \***Mrs. Beale** voted "NO".
- The Track and Turf project with Field Turf, Inc. in accordance with the PA State Bid Contract (KPN201203-01) in the amount of \$604,200, with a "H" logo centerfield and no soccer lines and no end zone lettering.
- \***Mrs. Beale and Mr. Masarik** voted "NO".

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

- 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 7.1]**
- Ratifying with regret the resignation of Billie Burton, Custodian II, Middle School effective April 17, 2014.

**FINANCE/TAX – Mr. Miles, Mr. Love**

- Ratifying/approving Tax Refunds in the amount of \$8,011.07 for April 2014, as submitted.
- Approving payment of General Fund bills, as submitted.

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| April to be paid     | \$ 442,187.85         |
| April to be ratified | <u>\$ 692,682.27</u>  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>\$1,134,870.12</b> |

- Approving the adoption of the preliminary budget in the amount of \$41,575,498 in accordance with Act 1 and the Pennsylvania School Code, as submitted.
- Authorizing Solicitor to Sheriff Sale properties, as presented. **[SEE APPENDIX 8.4]**

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

**Mrs. Fox** reported the following:

- Career Day will be held at Highlands Middle School with Forbes Road CTC students on May 9.
- The Certificate Ceremony will be held at East Allegheny High School on May 21.
- The next Forbes Road CTC board meeting will be held on April 24.

### **PSBA/NSBA – Mr. Love**

- Several legislative items are on deck regarding education:
- Act 29 of 2013 was passed regarding Child Protective Database.
- On the governor's desk is SB 33 regarding whistleblowers and SB 21 regarding Child Protective guidelines.
- SB 267 regarding valid excuses for education-related trips.
- HB 1671 regarding expanding the allowable reasons for Boards to go into executive sessions. This would also require audio recording and archiving those recordings for one year. Comments about this from board members are due to PSBA by Tuesday, April 22.
- An "Advocacy on the Hill" event will be held on May 5 and May 6. May 5 will be a series of workshops and May 6 will be a day in Harrisburg talking to members of the House and the Senate

### **POLICY – Mr. Masarik, Mr. Love**

- Approving the contract with PSBA to provide Policy Review and Manual at a cost of \$5,500.

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

- Approving the Athletic Fund Financial Report for March 2014, as submitted **[SEE APPENDIX 13.1]**
- Ratifying 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/or Board Policy #916.1:

| Name              | Position                              |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Novak, Joe        | Golf Head Coach                       |
| Abbott, Tom       | Cross Country Head Coach              |
| Albert, Sam       | Football Head Coach                   |
| Stoczynski, Tyler | Boys Basketball Head Coach            |
| Lang, Ron         | VOLUNTEER Girls Basketball Head Coach |
| Turner, James     | Boys Soccer Head Coach                |
| Duffield, Mark    | Girls Soccer Head Coach               |
| Thimons, Sharon   | Girls Tennis Coach                    |

***\*Mrs. Beale, Mr. Love and Mr. Masarik voted "NO" to Ron Lang, Volunteer Girls Basketball Head Coach.***

***\*Mrs. Laura Thimons abstained from voting for Sharon Thimons, Girls Tennis Coach.***

- Approving Mary Beth Jones, CRNP, to perform Athletic Physical Examinations only at a stipend of \$5,000 for the 2014-2015 school year.

### ***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*