

Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

May 18, 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 – All members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The Board approved minutes of the April 20, 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.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session for a Personnel item.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Mr. Jon Rupert reported the following:

- Ernie Graham of ELA Sports will be at the Track with three contractors on June 16 regarding the issue in Lane 6. Time TBD.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – Highlands H.S. student **Alexis Carrion** reported the following:

- The HHS Variations group traveled to New York City at the end of April and beginning of May. They had an amazing time--performing in the city, watching the filming of the Today show, sightseeing and attending two Broadway plays. Special thanks to Mr. Zeiler and the Variations Boosters for organizing this wonderful trip!
- The Junior/Senior Prom held on May 8 in the high school gym and cafeteria was great! Special thanks to all of the parent volunteers, the high school staff who helped to decorate, chaperone and organize this special event for us. A huge THANK YOU to Mr. Tyler Kirin for all of his hard work, time and talent! It was OUT OF THIS WORLD!
- On Friday, May 8, we had an all school assembly to recognize and honor the teachers for Teacher Appreciation Week. Prior to this event, students, parents and community members were able to nominate an outstanding teacher who has made a difference in their life. The two teachers who were named Teacher of the Year were Mr. Krezminski and Mr. Zeiler. Congratulations and thank you to both of them!
- We are in the midst of our Keystone Testing week. These end-of-course tests in Biology, Algebra and Literature are graduation requirements. Students have until the end of their junior year to demonstrate proficiency. Students who are retaking any exam are able to take the on-line version of the test. All first time testers take the exam by paper/pencil. After 3 days of testing, things are going pretty smoothly. Next week are final exams for seniors on Tuesday and Wednesday and for underclassmen on Thursday and Friday. This year is really going fast!
- This Wednesday evening is the Forbes Road Certificate Ceremony for our graduating Forbes seniors. The ceremony starts at 7 p.m. at Gateway HS. We are so proud to have the valedictorian of Forbes again this year. Congratulations to Nick Carrigan! Nick is the top student in his class and in his program---Computer Networking and Security.
- We are gearing up for this Friday's Spring Sanity! This school wide event is such a wonderful opportunity for our school to come together, celebrate and raise money and awareness about cancer. Last week, we had many teachers volunteer to sit in the Dunk Tank to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Students were able to come to the courtyard during lunch or study hall to try for a chance to dunk their favorite teacher. We also had a Stop the Bop event where students and staff would have to pay money in order to NOT hear a song played loudly during class changes. So far, we have collected over \$800 for the Make A Wish organization. Spring Sanity is the culminating activity with 16 dodge ball teams competing for the first place. Each team member pays \$10 to compete. In between dodge ball games, students will have the opportunity to Sumo wrestle their favorite teacher. We are all looking forward to this fun event!
- Please join us at the annual Baccalaureate Ceremony on Sunday, May 31 at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium. This non-denominational ceremony is a Highlands tradition and is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community to pause and reflect on the year and offer well wishes to the soon to be graduates.
- Finally, the 47th Annual Commencement of HHS will take place on Thursday, June 4th at 6:00 p.m. at Golden Rams stadium. Everyone is invited to attend. No tickets necessary at the stadium.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Michael Bjalobok

- We have repeatedly discussed the Technology Infrastructure Update at previous board meetings with our e-rate provider, Epic. I am suggesting that we do not move forward or spend district funds until the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1.
- Although we are not currently where we want to be at in regards to technology, we are having Keystones testing and other final testing conducted at this time of the year and so far it has been reported that with 500 students testing, there have been no glitches. Thank you to Doug Costa and Questeq for their work on this.
- Students are currently finalizing assessments, such as MAP testing and Keystones, which will provide query data to look at where our kids are at academically at the end of the school year. I will have information available to share at the June meeting.

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

- Summer Academy sessions for teachers are being planned for the week of June 8 and August 10. Topics range from professional development with technology to Educator Effectiveness to student improvement plans.
- The English, Language Arts and Math curriculum committees will be meeting to find where the gaps are and close them with curriculum improvements and adjustments.
- On May 19 and 20, the math curriculum committee will be reviewing meaningful learning lessons to teach for students to utilize in writing exercises.
- The new Student Information System, iPass, will be used for training for teachers on May 22. A "mock" system will be uploaded for teachers to begin exploring how to use the system. Thank you to Doug Costa for assisting with making this a smooth transition with Harris Solutions.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT –Misty Chybrzynski reported:

- Career Exploration Days were held at the Middle School and at Grandview this past week. Several community members, professionals and board members visited the schools to discuss their careers, the education required to get their positions, their daily duties and other aspects of their jobs with the students. Included in the speakers were a professional athlete, the National Guard, a PPG paint chemist, an Erie Insurance agent, Secret Service Agent and many others. Visit www.goldenrams.com this week to read more about the experience.
- Positive Athlete Pittsburgh program named Olivia Szalanski (girls tennis) as a positive athlete for the 2014-15 school year! Olivia was recognized for her positive demeanor and leadership skills at the Heinz History Center by Hines Ward and other professional athletes in a ceremony on Wednesday, May 13. Also recognized were Amber Reigard and Samantha Kovach.
- The Relay for Life will be held on Saturday, May 30 all day. Please join the local teams in their efforts to raise funds for the American Cancer Society in this family fun, community event.
- Check your children's folders for information about signing up for the Compass Camp program this summer.
- Clearances are required for all volunteers beginning July 1. The former process of background checks is no longer acceptable. All volunteers will need at least the State Criminal Record Check and Child Abuse Clearances. Visit www.goldenrams.com for more information or step by step instructions about how to acquire these clearances.
- Additionally, all employees of the district will be required to update and submit their clearances prior to December 31, 2015. I currently am collecting and evaluating those clearances. I was audited by the FBI regarding the Act 114 clearances and received a perfect audit in April.

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.
May to be paid \$77,016.26

STUDENT ACTIVITIES – Mrs. Beale

- The Student Activities Fund Financial Report, as submitted. [
- The Summer Music Camp, as submitted.
- The hiring of the following individual for the 2015-2016 school year:
 - A. Jones, Kiara
 Competition Cheer Squad Coach

INSTRUCTION – Mr. Love

- Changes to the 2015-2016 School Calendar, as submitted.

TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Masarik

No report.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Mr. Lang

- The Use of Facilities, as submitted [SEE APPENDIX 6.1]
- Vasco Inc. to resurface the tennis courts for \$19,399.00 payable from the Capital Reserve Fund.
- The District to advertise for bids to upgrade the High School Auditorium Sound System.

PERSONNEL – Mr. Miles

- The 2014-2015 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.
- 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.
- Five-year contract extension for Superintendent Dr. Michael Bjalobok, from March 1, 2018 through February 28, 2023, pursuant to the Section 1073 of the School Code and to the agreement, as submitted.

** Mr. Masarik and Mrs. Beale voted "NO".*

- The request for Child Rearing Leave in accordance with the Board/HEA Collective Bargaining Agreement:

- A. Employee # 5412
2015-2016 School Year

- Approving, with regret, the retirement of the following Professional Staff:

- A. Lucchino, Mary Jo
Speech & Language Teacher – Middle School
Effective June 4, 2015

- Approving, with regret, the retirement of the following Classified Staff:

- A. Hornberger, Cheryl
Custodian I – Middle School
Effective May 31, 2015

- B. Zylinski, John
Custodian I – High School
Effective June 5, 2015

- The hiring of the following Secondary Summer School Staff:

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|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Schrock, Chelsea | Toole, Michael |
| Motosicky, Jennifer | Hassler, Patrick |
| Zimmerly, Marianne | Black, Kathy |
| Schoepf Kelly | Karaica, Jeff |
| Stack, Catherine | Bengel, Todd (Coordinator) |

- The hiring of the following Elementary Compass Camp Staff:

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Burris, Patty | Reidmiller, Sandy |
| Meldon, Patricia | Milberger, Lauralee |
| Mazzotta, Jan | |

**Additional names may be ratified dependent upon total students registering.

- The hiring of the following Extended School Year Staff:

**Mrs. Beale voted "NO".*

Professional Staff:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Wyant, Kristen | Seery, Bridget | Rybak, Randy |
| Smith, Jason | Stawinski, Kristy | Woodrow, Kim |
| Foster, Faith | Millburn, John | Ferrante, Kristan |
| McLaughlin Christine | Nania, Vickie | Ballard, Jason |
| Dohn, Allyson | Elliott, Beau | |

Paraprofessional Staff:

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Corey, Cynthia | Leasure, Rebecca | Garrett, Andrea |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|

Manocci, Donna	Wloczewski, Carol	Wetmore, Amy
Drobka, Carrie	Joyce, Michelle	Shoemaker, Erin
Layhew, Jeannie	Mazza, Lisa	Gearhard, Tina
Wike, Heather	Mosovsky, Rita	Kraynik, Jeanne
Smith, Leslie	Artman, Terri	Dykes, Maria

- The hiring of the following Professional Staff in accordance with Board Policy #404 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #415, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check:
 - A. Mosesso, Angela
Speech/Language Teacher – Middle School
Master’s Degree, Step 5
Effective August 24, 2015
 - B. O’Donnell, Lindsay
Speech/Language Teacher – Elementary
Master’s Degree, Step 5
Effective August 24, 2015

FINANCE/TAX – Mr. Miles

- Tax Refunds, as submitted.

May to be paid	\$14,005.84
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- Payment of General Fund Bills, as submitted.

May to be ratified	\$249,372.64
May to be paid	<u>\$628,452.58</u>
	\$877,825.22
- Selling the following properties to the highest bidder:
 - A. STOTSIC – 1223-a-235
1401 Bakerstown Road
Tarentum, PA 15084
 - B. SOPCAK – 1223-H-293
401 E. 9th Avenue
Tarentum, PA 15084
- The transfer of \$134,960 from the sale of the old Administrative Center to Capital Reserve.
- A 1-year contract with EdgeClick for website advertising.

FORBES ROAD CTC – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Thimons

- Congratulations to Nick Carrigan on being the Valedictorian for the Forbes Road CTC Ceremony this coming Wednesday, May 20. We are very proud of Nick and all of his accomplishments in the past three years at Forbes!
- The proposed 2015/2016 Forbes Road Career & Technology Center Budget Summary, as submitted.

PSBA/NSBA – Mr. Hanford

No Report.

AIU 3 REPORT – Mrs. Beale

- The AIU Board met in April and the biggest issue to deal with was the elimination of a total of 15 positions at three AIU programs / schools. It was a tough thing to do, but due to decrease in pupil enrollment it was required of us as a Board to make this decision.
- The next meeting will be held May 27, with the Executive at 5 PM and the Public meeting at 6 PM at the AIU3 in the Waterfront, Homestead building. This meeting was postponed due to elections.

POLICY – Mrs. Thimons

- The second reading of the following Board Policies with solicitor’s recommendations for 113.1, 113.2, 113.4.

A.	No. 107	Adoption of Planned Instruction
B.	No. 108	Adoption of Textbooks
C.	No. 109	Resource Materials
D.	No. 110	Instructional Supplies
E.	No. 111	Lesson Plans
F.	No. 112	Guidance Counseling
G.	No. 113	Special Education

- H. No. 113.1 Discipline of Students with Disabilities
- I. No. 113.2 Behavior Support
- J. No. 113.3 Screening and Evaluations for Students with Disabilities
- K. No. 113.4 Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information

- The first reading of the following Board Policies
 - A. No. 114 Gifted Education
 - B. No. 115 Career and Technical Education
 - C. No. 116 Tutoring
 - D. No. 117 Homebound Instruction
 - E. No. 118 Independent Study
 - F. No. 119 Current Events
 - G. No. 121 Field Trips
 - H. No. 122 Extracurricular Activities
 - I. No. 122.1 Cheerleading Squads
 - J. No. 123 Interscholastic Athletics
 - K. No. 123.1 Safety in Youth Sports
 - L. No. 123.2 Sudden Cardiac Arrest

** Mr. Love submitted recommendations regarding the Cheerleading Policy and academic eligibility as well as taking out the schedule of number of participants allowed.*

ATHLETICS – Mr. Myers

- The Athletic Fund Financial Report, as submitted.
- The hiring of the following athletic personnel for the 2015-2016 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
Albert, Sam	Varsity Football Head Coach
Anuszek, Todd	Defensive Coordinator, Varsity Football
DeJidas, Ron	Varsity Asst. Football Coach
Elliott, Beau	Varsity Asst. Football Coach
Foster, Michael	Grade 7/8 Football Coach
Nowicki, Chris	Grade 7/8 Football Asst. Coach
Walsh, Chad	Football Volunteer Coach
Thompson, Jordan	Football Volunteer Coach
Abbott, Tom	Cross Country Head Coach
Bowser, Dave	Cross Country Asst. Coach
Novak, Joe	Golf Head Coach
Wells, Zach	Golf Volunteer Coach
Stoczynski, Tyler	Varsity Boys Basketball Coach
Foster, Michael	MS Boys Basketball Coach
Walker, Bethany	MS Girls Soccer Coach
Walker, Brad	Boys Varsity Soccer Coach
McGowan, Cory	Asst. Varsity Volleyball Coach

- Consider hiring **Steve Bielak** as Middle School Basketball Coach.
** Mr. Lang, Mrs. Fox, Mr. Myers, Mrs. Thimons and Mr. Miles voted "NO".*
- Hiring **Drew Jonczak** as Girls Basketball JV Coach for the 2015-16 school year and the Grade 7 and Grade 8 Girls Basketball Coach for the 2015-16 school year.
** Mr. Masarik voted "NO" based upon additional information needed and Mr. Love voted "NO".*

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