

**HIGHLANDS SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
September 19, 2011**

MINUTES

The regular school board meeting was called to order at 7:24 p.m. by President Debbie Beale. All rose and saluted the flag.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Mrs. Debbie Beale | Mrs. Carrie Fox |
| Mr. Ronald Lang | Mr. William Krzton |
| Mrs. Karen Wantland | Mr. William Heasley |
| Mrs. Laura Thimons | Mr. Eric Miles |

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mrs. Judy Wisner – out of town

ADMINISTRATORS AND SECRETARY PRESENT

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dr. Joseph Latess | Mr. Jon Rupert, Secretary |
| Mr. Patrick Graczyk | Mr. Jay Morgan |
| Mrs. Jennifer Goldberg | Mr. Charles Mort |
| Mrs. Cathy Russo | Ms. Misty Chybrzynski |
| Mr. Shawn Bennis | Mr. Paul Hoffman |
| Mrs. Heather Hauser | Mrs. Debra Lehew |
| Ms. Lisa Ray | |

SOLICITOR PRESENT

Lisa Colautti, Esquire

VISITORS: See attached list.

AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES On motion by Mrs. Wantland and seconded by Mr. Lang approved the minutes of the August 15, 2011 Regular Meeting and August 29, 2011 Special Meeting. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

No Report.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Mr. Andrew McBurney reported the following:

- The school year began with a smooth start
- We have 2 senior student class meetings each month to discuss policies and elections
- The pep rallies are MC by me this year since Mr. Shirey retired

- Sports updates are as follows:
 - Soccer Team is 3-3
 - Football Team is 2-1
- Thank you to the administrators and school board for the new cell phone policy the students appreciate it.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Joseph Latess reported the following:

- The High School was awarded the SIG Grant.
- President Obama will do his annual Back to School speech on September 28, 2011. It will be available on our website if students and families wish to view it.
- The 1st newsletter will go out this week to all families with students in the district.

ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Patrick Graczyk reported the following:

- The Strategic Plan was changed today and will be submitted this week.
- The Curriculum Review Teams have been adjusted and will have their first session in October and will be adding Health and PE.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Beale reported that there was an Executive Session held prior to this meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

CAFETERIA

On motion by Mrs. Wantland and seconded by Mr. Lang approved the payment of Cafeteria Fund bills, as submitted.

To be paid: \$11,124.16

Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

On motion by Mrs. Thimons and seconded by Mrs. Fox approved the Student Activities Fund Financial Report for June 2011, as submitted. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mrs. Thimons and seconded by Mrs. Fox approved ratifying the approval and resignations of the 2011-2012 Activity Sponsors, as submitted. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

INSTRUCTION

Cathy Russo, High School Principal gave an overview of the School Improvement Grant.

On motion by Mrs. Wantland and seconded by Mr. Lang approved the 2013 Foreign Language Trip, as submitted. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mrs. Wantland and seconded by Mr. Lang approved the 8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip, as submitted. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mrs. Wantland and seconded by Mr. Lang approved the 30-day review of the District's Strategic Plan. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION

There were a number of questions about the bussing of the students, safety patrols and how will the district be able to accommodate the requests of daycare center transportation.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

On motion by Mr. Heasley and seconded by Mrs. Wantland approved awarding bid for sale of properties.

- A. 300 Jones Hollow Road
Shelli Linamen
\$2,200.00

- B. 255 Dellenbaugh Heights
Melvin McNeal
\$3,850.00

Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Heasley and seconded by Mrs. Wantland approved the re-bid of the following property:

- A. 627 E. 7th Avenue
Tarentum, PA

- B. Two Modular Classrooms

Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL

On motion by Mrs. Fox and seconded by Mr. Lang approved the 2011-2012 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). Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried

On motion by Mrs. Fox and seconded by Mr. Lang approved the 2011-2012 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) Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mrs. Fox and seconded by Mr. Lang approved the appointment and the

resignation of the 2011-2012 School Year Department Chairpersons, Team Leaders, and grade Level Leaders, as submitted. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mrs. Fox and seconded by Mr. Lang approved the hiring of the following Professional Staff, 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:

- A. Noelle David-Byers
Elementary Guidance Counselor
Home Base – Grandview
Master’s Step 1 - \$41,719
Effective September 21, 2011

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Roll Call: | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
| | Mr. Heasley | Mr. Lang |
| | Mrs. Wantland | Mr. Miles |
| | Mr. Krzton | Mrs. Thimons |
| | | Mrs. Fox |
| | | Mrs. Beale |

Motion Failed. 3 Yes, 5 No.

On motion by Mrs. Fox and seconded by Mr. Lang ratified the recall of Amy Grove to the position of Behavior Specialist Autistic Support Classroom effective August 29, 2011. The salary for this position is \$32,256. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mrs. Fox and seconded by Mr. Lang ratified 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:

- A. Jennifer Glaister
5-hour Cook
Salary as per Cafeteria Salary Schedule
- B. Karen Willis
Personal Nurse – Grandview
Salary as per Secretary/Aide Salary Schedule
Effective August 31, 2011
- C. Kerianne Mackowski
Personal Aide – Fairmount
Salary as per Secretary/Aide Salary Schedule
Effective August 31, 2011
- D. Zachary Rice
Personal Aide – Fairmount

Salary as per Secretary/Aide Salary Schedule
Effective August 31, 2011

Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mrs. Fox and seconded by Mr. Lang ratified the resignation of the following personnel.

- A. Cynthia L.T. Lambing
Elementary Teacher
Effective August 29, 2011
(was furloughed June 2011)
- B. Valarie C. Walters
Library Aide
Middle School
Effective August 29, 2011
- C. Rebecca Stauffer
Personal Aide
Effective August 23, 2011
- D. Tracy Reese
Personal Aide
Effective June 1, 2011
- E. Lisa Hill
Cafeteria Alternate
Effective August 5, 2011
- F. Karen Willis
Personal Nurse - Grandview
Effective September 12, 2011.

Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Recommend approving the following requests for a Leave of Absence, in accordance with Board/HEA Collective Bargaining Agreement:

- A. Trina Colberg – ratify
German Teacher
High School
Family and Medical Leave of Absence
August 29, 2011 through January 3, 2012
- B. Megan Zendarski
Elementary Title 1 Teacher

Grandview Upper Elementary School
Family and Medical Leave of Absence
November 7, 2011 through January 30, 2011

C. Kara Walter – ratify
Elementary Teacher
Fawn Primary Center
Family and Medical Leave of Absence
September 16, 2011 through January 3, 2012

D. Amy Eidenshink – ratify
Librarian
High School
Family Leave of Absence
September 9, 2011 through October 21, 2011

Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

FINANCE/TAX

On motion by Mr. Miles and seconded by Mr. Lang approved the Treasurer’s Report for July 2011, as submitted and subject to audit. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Miles and seconded by Mr. Lang approved Tax Refunds for September 2011 in the amount of \$990.78, as submitted. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Miles and seconded by Mr. Lang approved payment of General Fund bills, as submitted.

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| September to be ratified | \$199,374.53 |
| September to be paid | <u>\$398,570.45</u> |
| TOTAL | \$597,944.98 |

Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

United Way

The Education Challenge campaign through The United Way launched this month. Currently, Highlands School District is partnering with The United Way to incorporate programs such as In2Books and e-mentoring to help students in Grades 3 to 5 and in High School to become better readers and more successful students. Opportunities also will be available for K4 to Grade 2 students and Middle School students. Please check the www.GoldenRams.com website for updates on this important campaign.

Comcast is offering a program called Internet Essentials. It’s available to households with children who receive free school lunches under the National School Lunch Program. Informational flyers

regarding this affordable internet access has been sent home with students. If you need more information, please call 1-855-846-8376 or visit www.internetessentials.com

Mrs. Wantland reported that the Alle-Kiski Health Foundation awarded the HESA team their grant is it was the most successful grant ever awarded.

Mr. Fox saluted the HESA students and Mr. Huey for organizing the 911 climb.

FORBES ROAD CTC

No Report.

PSBA/NSBA

Mr. Krzton reported the there is nothing new at this point to report, but the legislators will be back in session soon.

POLICY

Mr. Krzton made a recommendation that the board have a policy meeting to look at the transportation policy and any other policies that need revised. Administration will schedule that meeting in November 2011.

ATHLETICS

On motion by Mr. Lang and seconded by Mrs. Fox approved the Athletic Fund Report for August 2011, as submitted. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Lang and seconded by Mrs. Fox approved the hiring of the following athletic personnel for the 2011-2012 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 |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Thimons, Sharon | Varsity Girls Tennis Coach |
| Novak, John | Volunteer Assistant Golf Coach |
| Choma, Ken | Volunteer Grade 7/8 Football Coach |
| Foster, Michael | 7/8 Grade Football Coach |
| Karacia, Jeff | Equipment Manager |

Roll call. 7 Yes, 1 Abstention. Motion carried. Mrs. Thimons ABSTAINED.

On motion by Mr. Lang and seconded by Mrs. Fox accepted the resignation of Tyler Kirin, Varsity Girls Tennis Coach. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

TECHNOLOGY

No Report.

MISCELLANEOUS

No Report.

REMARKS BY VISITORS

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Lang and seconded by Mr. Krzton the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY