

# Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

## August 19, 2013 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. Fox* requested a Moment of Silence for Ryan Richards, a Highlands High School student who died after falling from the bed of a pickup truck; and Mrs. Betty Bjalobok, the mother of Superintendent Dr. Michael Bjalobok, who also passed away. Mrs. Fox thanked the district administration, faculty, coaches, students and community members who supported the Richards family and Dr. Bjalobok during this difficult time.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An Executive Session was held on August 19, 2013 at 6:30 PM to discuss Personnel and Grievance matters.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** The Board approved the minutes of the June 20, 2013 Regular Meeting.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT – Jon Rupert** reported the following:

- The Board will vote PSBA Candidates as a whole this year. More information will be sent to the Board.
- Dave Strellec of Tarentum Borough notified the district of four properties that will be demolished soon.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Michael Bjalobok:**

- Commended Jay Morgan and the Buildings & Grounds crew for the hard work at the various buildings and sites this summer. The district is looking great for the students to return!
- Commended Administration Team for preparation work this summer with major programs such as Model Schools Initiative at the High School and M.A.P. and Compass Learning at the elementary level buildings.
- Dr. Bjalobok met with Rep. Frank Dermody and discussed two major issues that need to be addressed in Harrisburg: PSERS retirement fund and charter schools. PSERS costs Highlands SD alone \$2 million this year. Dr. Bjalobok expressed his extreme displeasure with the way the School Employee Retirement funds were managed. He also told Rep. Dermody that Charter Schools absolutely should be held accountable for educating our children – and proving that they are through the PSSA exams – before they are funded with taxpayers dollars! They should not be petitioning for any additional funding when they have not yet proven to be effective! The charter school funding experiment is one that has failed.

**ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Patrick Graczyk** reported that staff is excited for the beginning of a new year. This summer, principals hosted Summer Workshops detailing Charlotte Danielson's Domains and indicators of student learning and achievement.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH – Misty Chybrzynski** reported the following:

- Thanks to everybody for the votes for the Grandview video in the Big Lots Lots2Give contest this summer. We did win a third prize award for the playground. We will have the student cast at the September meeting for student recognition. Please join us!
- Highlands students return to school on August 28. Staff returns August 22. District calendars will be mailed on August 23 directly to homes, but the calendar is available now on the [www.goldenrams.com](http://www.goldenrams.com) website.
- The Allegheny Valley Salvation Army in Brackenridge hosted a Back to School Bash on August 10 for Highlands students and families. The event provided about 400 students with backpacks, school supplies, hair cuts, dental exams, eye exams and an afternoon of fun and food! This is the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Back to School Bas, with United Healthcare joining the Corps. This year as a corporate sponsor.
- THE FIRST VARSITY FOOTBALL GAME is Friday, August 30 at 7:00pm, Golden Rams Stadium. The Rams play Hollidaysburg.
- DON'T MISS PIE NIGHT! Get a preview of the Highlands Varsity Marching Band's halftime show while enjoying a slice of pie and a beverage on Wednesday, August 21 at 7:00pm at Golden Rams Stadium. Admission is \$4.

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

**CAFETERIA – Mr. Hanford, Mr. Krzton, Mr. Lang**

- The Cafeteria Fund Financial Report for May and June 2013, as submitted.
- The contract with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for district to provide lunches for the Head Start Program for the 2013-2014 school year.

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES – Mrs. Thimons, Mr. Love, Mrs. Beale**

- The Student Activities Fund Financial Report for May 2013 (revised) and June and July 2013, as submitted.
- The High School Band Trip contingent upon receipt of itinerary and list of estimated cost.
- June 7, 2014 as the district's Kennywood Picnic date.
- The 2013-2014 Student Activity Sponsors, as submitted.

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

No report.

**TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Masarik, Mr. Love, Mrs. Beale**

- The 2013-2014 Bus Stops and Routes.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Mr. Lang, Mr. Miles, Mr. Hanford**

- Czekalski Real Estate, Inc. to list the sale price for the Administrative Center at \$200,000.

- The Trane services agreements at an estimated cost of \$101,075 for district-wide HVAC services, as submitted.
- Extending the Agreement of Sale between the School District and RBG Development for the Heights Elementary School property to allow for a seven-month extension of the due diligence period in exchange for RBG's payment of \$10,000 to the District. Administration and Solicitor are authorized to negotiate the Amendment and present it to the Board for consideration and approval in September.

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

- 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).
- 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).
- The 2013-2014 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 2013-2014 Substitute Secretary/Aide Call List, as submitted. As per Board Policy #505 (Pre-Employment Drug Test) #514, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Criminal Record Check).
- 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. Andrew Lynch**

Elementary Computer Teacher  
 Step 1 Master's (\$45,264)  
 Effective August 22, 2013

**B. Christina Kurtz**

Middle School Computer Teacher  
 Step 1 Master's (\$45,264)  
 Effective August 22, 2013

**C. Sara Kissell**

Writing Lab/English Teacher  
 High School  
 Step 1 Master's (\$45,264)  
 Position to be paid with SIG Grant Funds  
*Pending Drug Test Results*

- Ratifying the hiring of following ESY Staff:

**A. Carolyn Suspansic**

Transportation Aide  
 Effective June 13, 2013

- The 2013-2014 Department Chairs, Team Leaders, and Grade Level Leaders, as submitted.
- Ratifying the resignation of the following employees:

**A. Dina Bellinoti – ratify**

Aide  
Fawn Primary Center  
Effective July 19, 2013

**B. Kristy Montgomery – ratify**

Aide  
Grandview Upper Elementary  
Effective July 29, 2013

**C. Rebecca Miller – ratify**

Aide  
Highlands High School  
August 4, 2013

- Approving hiring of **Cheryl Bash**, Custodian II Fawn Elementary School effective August 19, 2013.
- Extending the agreement with Caroline Jackson, School Improvement Coordinator for the 2013-2014 school year at no change in salary, payable from SIG Grant Funds.
- The Board deny Highlands ESP, (Secretaries/Aides) Grievance No. 1 of 2013-2014.

**FINANCE/TAX – Mr. Miles, Mrs. Thimons, Mr. Krzton**

- Tax Refunds in the amount of \$2,200.33 for August 2013, as submitted.
- Payment of General Fund bills, as submitted.

July and August to be ratified	\$ 1,170,849.23
August to be paid	<u>\$ 472,510.05</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,643,359.28

- The Pond Security Contract for the 2013-2014 school year, as submitted.

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

No Report.

**PSBA/NSBA – Mr. Love**

- Appointing the following two PSBA Voting Delegates:

1. Debbie Beale
2. Carrie Fox

**POLICY – Mr. Krzton, Mr. Masarik, Mr. Miles**

**Mr. Krzton** reported that the Policy Committee will present new policies / updates soon.

**ATHLETICS – Mr. Hanford, Mr. Masarik**

- 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>
Weissert, Jeff	Football Usher
Wesolowski, Tom	Girls Volleyball Head Coach
Jonczak, Andrew	JV Girls Basketball Coach <i>*pending receipt of Child Abuse clearance prior to the voting meeting</i>
Jonczak, Andrew	MS Girls Basketball Coach <i>*pending receipt of Child Abuse clearance prior to the voting meeting</i>
Heasley Sr., William	Volunteer Varsity Football Coach
Ostrowski, Matt	Volunteer Varsity Football Coach
Duffey, John	Volunteer Varsity Football Coach
Nowicki, Chris	Volunteer Varsity Football Coach

- Ratifying the resignation of **Jeff Karaica** Equipment Manager effective August 5, 2013.

### *2013 Highlands School Board Members*

*Carrie Fox - President*

*Ryan Hanford - Vice President*

*Laura Thimons                      Jonathon Love*

*Ron Lang                                      William Krzton*

*Eric Miles      Michael Masarik      Debbie Beale*