

# Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

## December 3, 2012 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** – Eight board members present. **Mr. Jon Love** present by telephone.

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT - Mr. Cole Emanuelson and Miss. Chelsea**

**Grinchuk** reported the following:

- Senior Out to Lunch program began at Highlands High School; HHS held first RAMS Incentive party.
- National Honor Society hosted a successful Blood Drive; Students will donate to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh with "Wear a Hat" Day on Thursday.
- Highlands hosted a Gold Card Luncheon for Thanksgiving. Music concerts will be held on December 13 and December 19 at the High School beginning at 7 PM.
- Auditions were held and cast announced for "FAME" the Musical.
- Students will take the Keystone Exams beginning next week.

**ACTING SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** – **Mr. Patrick Graczyk** reported that staff distributed forms at the Gold Card Luncheon for residents to request assistance from Highlands, either through service hours for students or through other programs. Anyone who did not receive this form may call the Admin Center and ask for **Mrs. Rhonda Caldwell** at 724.226.2400 x4518.

Mr. Graczyk announced and recognized the following individuals:

This holiday season, Highlands shows its spirit with giving! For the selfless actions, dedication to community and for representing the Highlands School District in such an honorable way, please recognize the following staff and students for their commitment to service.

Teacher **Mike Santucci** and students in his 3D CADD course at Highlands High School designed, produced and distributed ping-pong paddles for our veterans. Mr. Santucci joined the KDKA morning news to share information about the project and the Highlands Tech Ed Department. The clip from KDKA can be viewed on the [www.GoldenRams.com](http://www.GoldenRams.com) homepage under "Headlines".

**Sarah Young**, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student at Highlands Middle School, also honors our country's servicemen and women. Sarah makes rosaries and sends them overseas to active troops. Sarah also is preparing to run a race from Washington DC to Gettysburg for Team Red, White and Blue in support of wounded veterans.

**Dominic Montemurro**, a senior at Highlands High School, collected sweatshirts to distribute to veterans this winter through the Allegheny County Camp Cadet Alumni group. The sweatshirts were donated at the Southwestern Veteran's Center in Pittsburgh.

Highlands High School teacher **Jamee Bonnett** students in the Rams PRIDE Committee and the HHS Junior Varsity Cheerleaders organized a food drive for the Allegheny Valley Association of Churches. Students were challenged to bring in the most items per class and totaled more than 1,200 items to be distributed to our local families in need. The cheer squad and PRIDE students loaded up the items and delivered to AVAC last week.

**Fawn Primary Center** students also made a huge donation to the AVAC Food bank. **The Huggables Student Council** collected and sorted almost 800 cans of food for the drive. The Huggables currently are collecting coats, scarves and mittens at Fawn Primary Center for all sizes to distribute throughout Highlands and to the Salvation Army. Fawn will

collect pennies for the KDKA Turkey Fund in December. Fairmount Primary Center students also collected donations for the Turkey Fund. The Huggables sponsors are Kelley Ziolkowski,, Melissa McCurdy and Shelley Pacek.

Last month, Highlands Music Department teacher **Renee Shreffler** organized and hosted the Highlands Alumni & Community Choir's rendition of Highlands Gives Back. The Highlands High School and Middle School Choirs performed along with the Alumni & Community Choir and accepted donations for the AVAC Food Bank, Highlands Area Meals on Wheels and the Alle-Kiski Hope Center. The choral performance raised more than \$660 in cash donations alone for the charities.

Highlands sophomore **Amber Reigard** hosted the third annual Secret Santa Toy Drive to benefit the patients at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. The drive will continue through December 15. Last year, Amber collected hundreds of toys. This year, she hopes to donate more than 1,000.

**Cheyenne and Courtney Stewart** were determined to help when they saw the destruction that Hurricane Sandy caused on the eastern shore. The sisters collected clothing and other items that could be used by the hurricane survivors, and their father, Robert, loaded up a truck and delivered the items to Staten Island, New York. Cheyenne, Robert and Claudia, Robert's mother, made a huge impact by reaching out and delivering hope to these families.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

Unless otherwise noted, the Board unanimously agreed to the following items:

### **CAFETERIA**

No action.

Report: The Highlands Food Services Department will be selling copies of their cookbook for \$10 each at Highlands High School. Proceeds benefit the Lunch Ladies Scholarship Program to benefit a Highlands Senior.

### **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

No action.

### **INSTRUCTION**

No action.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

No action.

### **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

- The Use of Facilities, with a revision to the Middle School Gymnasium to extend to March 3, 2012.

### **PERSONNEL**

- The 2012-2013 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):

**Maryjane Field** – Art

**Christina Steele** – Elementary

**Ricky Lovell** – Elementary

**Leah Shaner** – Secondary Math & Science

- The 2012-2013 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).

**Terrie McCombs**

**Monica Day**

**Taylor Ray-Jetter**

- The Intermittent Leave of Absence of **Tina Gearhard**, Classroom Aide effective November 13, 2012 through January 1, 2013.

- The approval of **Rick Wirth** as High School Musical Technical Director, High School Musical Stage Manager and as Middle School Musical Technical Director & Stage Manager.

- The Memorandum of Understanding with Mr. **Patrick Graczyk** to serve as Acting Superintendent of Highlands School District, as submitted.

- The stipend of \$2,500.00 for **Mr. Jon Rupert**, Business Manager, in recognition of extra duties performed in the absence of the Superintendent.

### **FINANCE/TAX**

- The district participation in the FirstEnergy Friends and Family Revenue Sharing Initiative for school entities. This initiative is coordinated by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit in conjunction with FirstEnergy Solutions and the Western Pennsylvania Electricity Consortium. There is no cost to the District for participation.

- The district participation in the PSBA BUCS unemployment program again this year, as submitted.

- Extending district Tax Abatement Program through December 31, 2014, as submitted.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

**Tarentum Recreational Board** will host Christmas in the Park at Riverview Memorial Park on Christmas in the Park in Tarentum Park from 1 to 4 PM on December 15, 2012 featuring Highlands High School choirs, a live nativity, toy giveaways and Santa's Trolley. Also, Santa gift bags, chances to win in a basket raffle, food and more! All benefits local firefighters.

**Highlands** will accept donations for Toys for Tots of new, unopened toys at Fairmount and Fawn Primary Centers and at Grandview Upper Elementary School the week of December 10 through the 14. Please send donations to school with your child or bring a donation to the building between 8 AM and 4 PM.

### **FORBES ROAD CTC**

No report.

### **PSBA/NSBA**

**Mr. Love** reported that sessions are available for purchase from the PSBA Conference held in October. Mrs. Beale requested that Mr. Rupert seek the topics and that the Board purchase valuable segments for those members who were not able to attend.

**Mr. Love** reported that the PA Child Protection Laws may become more strict and may increase responsibility of schools in regards to who must report suspected abuse, who must be trained and to include home-schooling and cyber-students as school responsibility.

**POLICY**

- The approving the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading for the following Policy:

- #123.1 – Athletic and Cheerleading Responsibilities

**13.0 ATHLETICS**

- The hiring of the following athletic personnel for the 2012-2013 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>
<b>Downs, Logan</b>	Assistant Wrestling Coach (stipend)
<b>McQuaide, Ryan</b>	Volunteer Wrestling Coach
<b>Lecker, Anthony</b>	Volunteer Boys Varsity Basketball
<b>Helgert, Maria</b>	Winter Ticket Seller/Taker
<b>Glaister, Stephanie</b>	Winter Ticket Seller/Taker
<b>Stawinski, Pam</b>	Winter Ticket Seller/Taker
<b>Tutak, Christi</b>	Winter Ticket Seller/Taker
<b>Jones, Tami</b>	Winter Ticket Seller/Taker
<b>Meanor, Steve</b>	Boys/Girls Basketball Scorekeeper
<b>Travis, Justin</b>	Assistant Boys Basketball Coach (to be paid 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Coach stipend)
<b>White, Mindy - Ratify</b>	Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach
<b>Emanuelson, Katelyn - Ratify</b>	Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach

**TECHNOLOGY**

No report.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

No report.

*2012 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*