

Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

February 18, 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 present.

Mrs. Carrie Fox reported that the Board held an executive session on February 11, 2013 to discuss personnel matters and on February 18, 2013 to discuss a student discipline issue.

Mrs. Fox announced that the Board appreciates and thanks **Mr. Pat Graczyk** and **Mr. Jon Rupert** for their leadership during the Superintendent Search period. Mrs. Fox also welcomed Dr. Michael Bjalobok back to Highlands as its new Superintendent. Dr. Bjalobok served as Assistant Superintendent from 2007 through 2009 before taking the Superintendent position at South Side Area School District in 2009.

Dr. Bjalobok addressed the Board and the public audience to thank them for the welcome and note that he is excited to return to Highlands, a district that he truly enjoyed while here previously. He said he is anxious to return and work with the Administration team, the Board, faculty and the parents and community members. Dr. Bjalobok will return to Highlands beginning March 1.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The Board approved the minutes of the January 22, 2013 Regular Meeting and the February 11, 2013 Special Meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – **Jon Rupert** reported the following:
No report.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – No report. Students were not present due to President's Day holiday (no school for students).

ACTING SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – **Mr. Patrick Graczyk** reported the following:

- Title I monitoring will take place this year with the assistance of the Department of Education. The monitoring will allow for suggestions at our Title I schools upon completion.
- Changes will be forthcoming in the entrance and visitor procedures at Highlands elementary buildings, Fawn and Fairmount Primary Centers and Grandview Upper Elementary School. Waiting areas have been installed at the three buildings. Visitors will wait until office personnel are able to greet and assist them. Informational postcards were sent to parent addresses and more detailed information can be found on the www.goldenrams.com website.
- Mr. Graczyk addressed the Board, thanking them for their trust in his abilities to oversee the district as Superintendent while the Board conducted a search and interview process. He also thanked the Administration Team for maintaining programs and priorities during the lapse of Superintendents.
- The qualifiers for the WPIAL winter sports were announced. Mr. Graczyk congratulated and recognized the following Highlands athletes:

Wrestlers - Nolan Wise- 138 pound weight class; Derrick Mazur- 152 pound weight class; Zach Mazur- 170 pound weight class; Tommy Grates- 195 pound weight class.

Swimmers - Girls 200 Yard Medley Relay- Laura Ciuchta, Carly Boda, Maddie Phillippi, Laura Gillette; Girls Individual Events- Carly Boda- 100 yard Breaststroke; Maddie Phillippi- 100 yard Butterfly; Boys 200 Yard Freestyle Relay, Boys 400 Yard Freestyle Relay- Cole Emanuelson, Sean Frantz, Michael Masarik, Nathan Masarik; Boys Individual Events- Cole Emanuelson- 200 yard Freestyle, 100 yard Freestyle; Sean Frantz- 100 yard Butterfly; Michael Masarik- 200 yard Freestyle, 100 yard Freestyle, 50 yard Freestyle; Nathan Masarik- 200 yard Freestyle, 100 yard Freestyle, 50 yard Freestyle, 100 yard Backstroke.

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

- Highlands Middle School and High School are prepping for the upcoming musical productions. Highlands Middle School will perform **Willy Wonka Jr** on March 22 and 23. Highlands High School will perform **Fame** on March 8, 9 and 10. Students and production staff have been busy rehearsing, creating sets and performing at this year's Alumni Cabaret, a fundraiser held earlier this month. Please join us for these highly anticipated annual events!

- Highlands School District Music Department hosted **Highlands Gives Back**, an annual concert to benefit local charities featuring Highlands musical faculty, alumni and friends, on January 25. The concert netted \$1,400 in donations and collected non-perishable food items and children's clothing as admission to benefit the AVAC Food Bank, Highlands Area Meals on Wheels and the Alle-Kiski Hope Center.

- Highlands will host the **Early Childhood Fair** on April 4 from 5:30 to 8 at Highlands High School. Parents and families are invited to attend and enjoy the many activities and learn about our Pre-K programs and prepare for kindergarten registration.

- Highlands Middle School and High School held the Brown and Gold Academic Award Ceremonies this month to recognize the many students who performed well during the first semester of school.

- Highlands High School art students are partnering with the Pittsburgh Glass Center to create a large installation above the front entrance of the High School. The theme of the project involves high school life and Highlands history. Alumni are encouraged to contact **Mrs. Renae Yoder** at ryoder@goldenrams.com or 724.226.1000 to add input.

All of this information and much more can be found on the district website www.Goldenrams.com.

AGENDA ITEMS

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

CAFETERIA

- Cafeteria Fund Financial Report for January 2013, as submitted.
- Payment of Cafeteria Fund bills, as submitted.

February to be paid \$88,447.53

STUDENT ACTIVITIES – No items/report.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

- The Student Discipline Agreement, as submitted.

INSTRUCTION

The Board approved the 2013-2014 Program of Studies for Highlands High and Middle School, as submitted.

TRANSPORTATION

- **Mr. Masarik** reported that the Burtner Road closure and construction project is on schedule for completion for March 1.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

- The use of facilities, as submitted.
- The Board approved grass cutting, fertilizing and field lining of the Baseball field with Highlands Diamond Club for 2013 at no increase in cost (\$4,181).
- The Board approved accepting bids for grass cutting services, lawn chemical treatment, and sports field preparation.

PERSONNEL

- The Board approved 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). [SEE APPENDIX 7.1]
- The Board approved the recall of Tyler Kirin, Social Studies Teacher, High School, effective February 19, 2013.
- The Board approved the recall of Billie Jean Burton to the position of Custodian II, effective February 19, 2013.
- The Board accepted the resignation of the following staff:

Susan Pesci – ratify

Elementary Aide, Fawn Primary Center
Effective February 8, 2013

- The Board ratified the change in position of Jonathan Ball to Behavior Interventionist, Middle School at a \$1.00 per hour increase.
- The Board rejected Grievance #13-04, as submitted.

FINANCE/TAX

- Tax Refunds in the amount of \$1,871.22 for February 2013, as submitted.

- Payment of General Fund bills, as submitted.

February to be ratified	\$ 196,160.75
February to be paid	\$ <u>662,184.34</u>
TOTAL	\$ 858,345.11

FORBES ROAD CTC

Mrs. Fox reported:

- Highlands Middle School hosted a Career Fair Recruitment event with Forbes Road CTC. Middle school students were able to experience hands-on the various courses and technology studies that students are offered at Forbes.
- Forbes Road CTC students will be recognized at a National Technology Honor Society event on March 5 at Forbes Road CTC.

PSBA/NSBA

Mr. Love reported the following:

- A Stand Up for Public Education meeting held at AIU3 this month was very well attended. The meeting included parents, administrators, school board members and legislators and an open forum to discuss the main issues in public education, including the PSBA legislative focus items for this year: They include Pension / Retirement Costs; Charter School Laws and School Funding.
- Mr. Love encouraged parents to contact representatives regarding two co-sponsor requests (1204 and 1088) that involve changes to funding rules for charter schools.
- Also discussed were upcoming proposals and bills on safety and security in public schools, fundraising rules involving games of chance and hunter safety being taught in schools.

POLICY

- The first reading of the following policies:

113.2 – Positive Behavioral Support Plan [SEE APPENDIX 12.1A]

123.1 – Athletic and Cheerleading Responsibilities [SEE APPENDIX 12.1B]

702.1 - Athletic Field Advertising [SEE APPENDIX 12.1C]

13.0 ATHLETICS

- The Board approved the Athletic Fund Report for January 2013, as submitted.

- The Board approved 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:

Name	Position
Zendarski, Mike	Softball Head Coach

Heasley Jr., William	Softball Varsity Assistant Coach
Beck, Bob	Softball JV Head Coach
Wichrowski, Beth	Volunteer Softball Coach
Bush, Kevin	Softball Middle School Head Coach
Weissert, Jeff	Baseball Head Coach
Helgert, Dan	Varsity Baseball Assistant Coach
Barch, Ben	Volunteer Baseball Coach
Torgent, Nate	Volunteer Baseball Coach
Gallagher, Dennis	Volunteer Baseball Coach
Steckel, Bruce	Baseball JV Head Coach
Foster, Mike	Varsity Track Head Coach
Walsh, Chad	Varsity Track Assistant Coach
Grove, Phil	Varsity Track Assistant Coach
Rice, Chris	Volunteer Track Coach
Foster, Chet	Volunteer Track Coach
Newell, Scott	Middle School Track Head Coach
Duffey, John	Middle School Track Assistant Coach
Bonislawski, Matt	Middle School Track Assistant Coach

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