

Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

February 20, 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 members present. **Mr. William Krzton** is absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The Board approved the minutes of the December 5, 2011 and January 18, 2012 Regular Meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT –

Mr. Jon Rupert reported that a state audit found Highlands in compliance with regulations.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Mr. Andrew McBurney (HHS- Senior) is absent.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Joseph Latess reported the following:

- The budget process is beginning but the Business Department is still awaiting solid figures from the state level. It appears as if there will be no increases in several areas. Receiving flat funding will challenge us as we continue to face rising costs but we will work diligently to balance the budget.

- In line with budget talks: WTAE's Jim Parsons investigated charter school funding in Pennsylvania in the segment: "It's Your Money: FUNDING FAILURE". You can view the segment at the following link: <http://www.wtae.com/news/30391220/detail.html> . Take a moment to see how local charter and cyber schools are using your tax dollars and not performing to state regulations.

- Balanced Scorecard Reports will be available on-line and presented at the March board meeting. The BSC report is an update and mid-year review on the status of goals and target dates established at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year.

ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Patrick Graczyk reported the following:

- High School teachers and Mr. Graczyk observed Co-Teaching at Grandview Upper Elementary School and Highlands Middle School. Teachers were impressed with the level of student engagement, class management among the teachers and excellent student behavior. High School teachers hope to incorporate Co-Teaching to impact math studies.

- A Parent Advisory Council and Parent-Teacher Organization meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on March 6, 2012 at Grandview Upper Elementary School. Included in the agenda are Title I topics and PSSA information for students in Grades 3 through 5.

AGENDA ITEMS

The Board unanimously approved the following items:

CAFETERIA

- The Cafeteria Fund Financial Report for January 2012, as submitted.

- The payment of Cafeteria Fund bills, as submitted.

February to be paid \$89,420.13

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- The Student Activities Fund Financial Report for December 2011 and January 2012, as submitted.

- The following Student Activities Sponsors:

- A. **Melissa McCurdy** – RATIFY
Fawn Student Council Co-Sponsor

- B. **Kelley Ziolkowski** – RATIFY
Fawn Student Council Co-Sponsor

- C. **Terry McKrisky** – RATIFY
Fairmount Student Council Sponsor

INSTRUCTION

Mr. Graczyk presented a Curriculum Report:

- Currently, Curriculum Management and Revision is underway across several district departments, including Health/PE, Communication Arts, Guidance, Art, Foreign Languages and Math. Tech Ed, Family and consumer Sciences and Business Education will begin soon. Several opportunities are provided to teachers for curriculum development, including in-service time, providing substitute teachers for curriculum writing and afterschool sessions. The Math and Language Arts Departments are inputting lesson plans at this point.

TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Masarik reported that the Transportation Committee was notified that the Hazardous Routes applications submitted to Allegheny County were sent to Penn DOT for further review and consideration. At this time the committee will continue to work with local legislators to consider these applications.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

- The use of facilities, as submitted.

- The grass cutting, fertilizing and field lining of Baseball field with Highlands Diamond Club, as per current agreement (no change in cost) \$4,181.

- The grass cutting with JP Custom Lawn Care, as per current agreement (no change in cost) \$22,365.

- A Motion to approve scheduling a public hearing at 7 PM on March 26, 2012 at the Highlands High School Library, pursuant to Section 7-780 of the Public School Code to consider the permanent closing of Heights Early Childhood Center. The Solicitor and Business Manager are authorized, empowered and directed to advertise said hearing in accordance with the provisions of Section 7-780.

- TRANE representatives Mr. Gary Hill and Mr. Dennis Morelli presented information about proposals for the Administrative Center HVAC at the High School and an ACT 39 Project at Grandview Upper Elementary. The Board reviewed the proposals and requested that a walk-through tour be scheduled for both sites to better comprehend the options. No action was taken on the proposals.

PERSONNEL

- 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).

- The following requests for a Leave of Absence, in accordance with Board/HEA Collective Bargaining Agreement:

A. **Joel Helgert** - REVISED
Custodian
Fawn Primary
FMLA and Disability Leave of Absence
December 15, 2012 through April 14, 2012

B. **Megan Zendarski** – REVISED
Grade 3 Reading Teacher
Grandview Upper Elementary
Family and Medical Leave of Absence
Extended until February 27, 2012

C. **M. Shirley Perroz** - RATIFY
Custodian
Middle School
Family and Medical Leave of Absence
Beginning January 18, 2012

D. **Julie Wolfe**
Grade 4 Math and Science Teacher
Grandview Upper Elementary
Family and Medical Leave of Absence
March 12, 2012 through June 8, 2012

E. **Thomas Donnelly**
Tech Education Teacher

Middle School
Education Sabbatical
January 2013 – June 2013

F. Michael L. Rizzo
Athletic Trainer
Extension of Military Leave
Return August 2012

- 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. Michele Williams
Cafeteria Alternate
Effective February 21, 2012

- Accepted the resignation of **Dennis Hornberger**, Custodian I Grandview Upper Elementary School effective February 15, 2012.

- The elimination of the Custodial Supervisor position effective March 20, 2012.

- The hiring of **Robert Rubal** as Substitute Athletic Trainer through July 31, 2012 at a rate of \$500 per week.

FINANCE/TAX

- The Treasurer's Report for December 2011, as submitted and subject to audit.

- The Tax Refunds for February 2012 in the amount of \$6,428.53, as submitted.

- The payment of General Fund bills, as submitted.

February 2012 to be ratified \$ 271,255.99

February 2012 to be paid \$ 289,551.79

TOTAL **\$506,807.78**

- The State Audit Report for the years of 2006-2007 and 2007-2008.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Join Highlands School District Superintendent **Dr. Joseph Latess** for "**Community Conversations**" at Fawn Primary Center on Thursday, February 23 at 9 a.m. The meeting will feature highlights from Fawn PC with Principal **Ian Miller**, current events and highlights of the school district and discussion time with Dr. Latess for concerned district residents. RSVP is appreciated by calling Misty Chybrzynski at 724.226.2400 x250 or by e-mail to mchybrzynski@goldenrams.com.

Highlands High School Musical cast and crew hosted a "Sweethearts Prom" fundraiser at Harrison's Grille in Heights Plaza, Natrona Heights on February 18. The event was very well attended and featured the cast performing songs from High School Musical, this year's production. The Board thanked Harrison's Grille for the continued support of arts at Highlands! For more information about tickets and the show, go to GoldenRams.com.

FORBES ROAD CTC

Mrs. Fox reported that Highlands High School hosted a Recruitment Day for Forbes, which involved students displaying projects and works completed in their Forbes classes, as well as a sample of the tools they use in their respective line of studies at the Vo-Tech school. Middle school students were able to experience hands-on the variety of offerings at Forbes.

Highlands participated in the Future Business Leaders of America conference at St. Vincent College, More than 400 students competed. Highlands students Jacob Crissman took home a first place prize and will advance to Hershey.

PSBA/NSBA

Mr. Love reported that a meeting will be held at AIU3 for administrators and board members to discuss budget and funding with state legislators on February 29.

POLICY

Mr. Masarik reported that the committee will be continuing work on the revised Transportation Policy upon receiving final determination regarding hazardous routes in the district. The committee also will meet to revise an athletics policy that would involve building principals in the dissemination of communications regarding sports.

ATHLETICS

- 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
Foster, Michael	Varsity Track Head Coach
Walsh, Chad	Varsity Track Assistant Coach
Grove, Phil	Varsity Track Assistant Coach
Ballard, Jason	Varsity Track Volunteer Assistant Coach
Foster, Chet	Varsity Track Volunteer Assistant Coach
Kovel, William	Varsity Track Assistant Coach
Rice, Chris	Middle School Track Assistant Coach
Masarik, Andy	Middle School Track Head Coach
Adams, Jessica	Middle School Track Assistant Coach (Pending final CA clearance)
Zendarski, Mike	RATIFY – Timekeeper Boys Basketball
Corso, Domenic	RATIFY – Timekeeper Boys Basketball
Stabile, Tom	RATIFY – Timekeeper Boys Basketball
Koprivnikar, Greg	RATIFY – Scorekeeper Boys Basketball
Goheen, Seth	RATIFY – Scorekeeper Boys Basketball

Hey, Richard	Varsity Wrestling Volunteer Coach
Zendarski, Michael	Varsity Softball Head Coach
Wichrowski, Beth	Varsity Softball Volunteer Coach
Kuniak, Mary	Jr. High Softball Head Coach
Barch, Benjamin	Varsity Baseball Volunteer Coach
McQuade, Shawn	RATIFY – 9 th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
Speer, Robert	RATIFY – Wrestling Jr. High Assistant Coach
Switzer, Norman	RATIFY – Jr. High Wrestling Head Coach

MISCELLANEOUS

No report.

2012 Highlands School Board Members

Debbie Beale - President

Carrie Fox - Vice President

Laura Thimons

Jonathon Love

Ron Lang

William Krzton

Eric Miles

Michael Masarik

Ryan Hanford