

Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

March 19, 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 - All members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The Board approved the minutes of the February 20, 2012 Regular Meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – No report.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Mr. Andrew McBurney (HHS- Senior) reported the following:

- Students received Brown & Gold Awards last month in recognition of academic achievements.
- The Alle-Kiski Jazz Festival was a great event with Highlands students performing. Highlands hosted the event.
- The High School production "High School Musical", directed by **Michael Zeiler**, was an elaborate show that connected faculty and students from each building and members of the community through music.
- Juniors are taking PSSAs through March.
- March 28th marks the end of the third 9 weeks – Seniors will begin the final phase of their Highlands careers!
- Highlands Middle School 8th grade Language Arts teacher Mrs. Jeanine Vivino is nominated for the **National Education Association (NEA) Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence**. Mrs. Vivino is a former teacher of Andrew's and "is phenomenal! I am sure she will do well in the running," he reported.
- A basketball tournament will be held for **Matthew Watts**, a Grandview Upper Elementary School student who is battling brain cancer for the second time. Any support will be appreciated. Get more information from the Community Outreach section of this agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Joseph Latess reported the following:

- Highlands students received high accolades this month, including the following students who were present with their parents to be acknowledged at the meeting:

Cody Woodside, Auto Technology, National Technology Honor Society, Forbes Road CTC

Morgan Berenson, Auto Technology, National Technology Honor Society, Forbes Road CTC

Tiffany Shook, Dental Careers, National Technology Honor Society, Forbes Road CTC

Avanelle Willison, Childcare, National Technology Honor Society, Forbes Road CTC

Samantha Ohl, named President of the Distributive Education Clubs of America – High School Division

Congratulations!

ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Patrick Graczyk reported the following:

- HMS and HHS leadership received a complimentary feedback phone call regarding positive changes in the buildings and better communications from teachers to parents. Keep up the good work!
- Title I did receive a reduction in the amount of funds allocated to Highlands for next year in a total of \$18,000. Title I hosted a Parent-Teacher Organization and Parent Advisory Council meeting this month, at which **Heather Hauser** and **Randy Rybak** presented information about PSSA testing. Next week, the Title I Conference will be held in Hershey at which we will review funding and alter budgets.
- Board members receive information regarding Chapter 4 requirements for programs.

AGENDA ITEMS

The Board unanimously approved the following items:

CAFETERIA – Mr. Hanford, Mr. Krzton

- Cafeteria Fund Financial Report for February 2012, as submitted.
- The payment of Cafeteria Fund bills, as submitted.

March to be paid	\$113,833.61
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STUDENT ACTIVITIES – Mrs. Thimons, Mr. Love

- The Student Activities Fund Financial Report for February 2012, as submitted.

INSTRUCTION – Mr. Love, Mrs. Thimons

Dr. Latess and **Mr. Graczyk** presented a **Balanced Scorecard Mid-Year Report** PowerPoint. The report outlined and highlighted the progress of the administration and faculty in regards to the five District Goals created in 2010 in the Vision For Success. The Vision for Success continues through 2015. Balanced Scorecard Reports are presented twice per year. The presentation can be viewed at the link listed below this Board Highlights or by clicking here. The Balanced Scorecard in its entirety can be viewed here.

TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Masarik, Mr. Hanford

Senator Jim Ferlo's office has been contacted to assist in expediting the process of approving the Hazardous Roads Application by PennDOT. More details to come.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Mr. Lang, Mrs. Fox

- The use of facilities, as submitted.

HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL GYMS:

Mondays weekly, Feb. 20, 2012 through April 30, 2012, 6 – 8 PM
Elementary 4th Grade Basketball, Contact Dennis Cochran, No Fees

HIGH SCHOOL GYM:

Saturday, March 31, 2012, 6:30 AM to 8 PM
Highlands Boys Basketball Charity Basketball Tournament for Matthew Watts
Contacts: Liz Thimons & Laura Thimons, No Fees

- The replacement of the Chiller and Tower for Highlands High School and the Trane Proposal Base plus Alternate #1 for Grandview Upper Elementary School as part of the ACT 39 Project, as submitted at a total of \$4.9 million, pending Bond Issue approval.

* **Mr. Love and Mr. Krzton** voted "NO".

- The HVAC Duct Work for the Administrative Center in C-Wing of Highlands High School at a cost of \$13,405.

NOTE: A Public Hearing/Meeting will be held on March 26, 2012 at 7 p.m. at the High School Library regarding the closure of Heights Early Childhood Center.

PERSONNEL – Mrs. Fox, Mr. Miles

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

Jennifer B. Kosior

Mathematics Teacher

Middle School

Family and Medical Leave of Absence

April 10, 2012 through June 8, 2012

Ronald D. Ehrlich

Custodian

Middle School

Family and Medical Leave of Absence

March 5, 2012 through June 5, 2012

Rena Yoder

Art Teacher

High School

Family and Medical Leave of Absence

May 23, 2012 through June 8, 2012

- The Memorandum of Agreement with the HEA for the 2011-2012 school year related to the Middle School Schedule, as submitted.

- Ratifying the change of assignment of **Jennifer Glaister** to 7 Hour Cook, Middle School effective March 1, 2012.

- Ratifying the following Team Leaders at the Middle School:

Faith Foster

Replacement for Bridget Seery

Tracy Eck

Replacement for Natalie Cale

- Awarding Permanent Professional Contracts to the following teachers, in accordance with Pennsylvania School Code (three years of Satisfactory Performance at the Highlands School District.)

McCue, Catherine
Secondary Teacher

- Approving **Michael Zeiler** as Spring Musical Director Highlands High School for the 2012-2013 school year.

FINANCE/TAX – Mr. Miles, Mrs. Thimons

- The Treasurer's Report for January 2012, as submitted and subject to audit.
- Ratifying Tax Refunds for March 2012 in the amount of \$5,321.26, as submitted.
- Payment of General Fund bills, as submitted.

March 2012 to be ratified	\$615,187.73
March 2012 to be paid	\$ 467,290.60
TOTAL	\$1,082,478.33

- The 2007 Bond Issue Report, as submitted.

- The administration's recommendation that the board authorize participation of Highlands School District in the Western Pennsylvania Electricity Consortium Extension for the purchase of electricity from Duquesne Light Energy and/or First Energy Solutions (select one or two as appropriate) only if the price is at or below our current price. The extended agreement will begin after the final meter read date in 2014 under our current agreement for a period of 12 to 18 months and the price will include all costs except distribution, sales tax, and other local utility charges as contained in the original agreement.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH –Mrs. Fox, Mr. Krzton

Basketball Benefit

Men's basketball tournament will be held on Saturday, March 31 at Highlands High School to benefit Matthew Watts, a Grandview Upper Elementary School student who is battling brain cancer for the second time in his young life. Matthew is currently undergoing chemotherapy treatment. The Over-18 Tournament sponsored by the Boys Basketball Boosters will benefit Matthew and his family. Cost to play is \$30 per player. Registration fee includes a game shirt. Trophies will be awarded. For more information or to register, please contact Dan at 724-487-1892 or steelcity1979@yahoo.com.

Early Childhood Fair Held March 29

The Early Childhood Fair will be held on Thursday, March 29 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Highlands High School. Join Highlands' Early Childhood Team to receive registration packets for Highlands and K4 pre-school, visit informational booths from community groups and businesses, join in children's activities, enjoy refreshments and win prizes! Staff will share information about preparing for the K4 program or kindergarten. Students must be 4 years old for K4 or 5 years old for kindergarten before September 1, 2012 to be registered for fall. To get more information, call Rhonda Caldwell at 724-

FORBES ROAD CTC – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Thimons

Mrs. Fox reported the following:

Four Highlands students were initiated and honored at the National Technology Honor Society ceremony. Dr. Latess and Mrs. Fox attended the ceremony.

- Congratulations to Dr. Latess, who is now the Superintendent of Record of Forbes Road CTC.
- On March 15, Forbes hosted an Open House with student-led tours, displays, and giveaways. Mrs. Fox recommends that anyone who has an opportunity or desire to visit Forbes Road CTC does so to experience what these students are offered and how they excel.

PSBA/NSBA – Mr. Love

Mr. Love reminded the Board that the AIU Convention will be held at The Rivers Club - Oxford Center in Pittsburgh on March 29, 2012 beginning at 5 PM.

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

Mr. Masarik reported that a policy included in the Athletics Handbook is currently under review that will streamline the chain of command in regards to athletic teams and coaches.

ATHLETICS – Mr. Lang, Mr. Masarik, Mr. Hanford

- The Athletic Fund Financial Report for February 2012, as submitted.
- 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
Steckel, Bruce	JV Boys Baseball Coach
Helgert, Dan	Varsity Boys Baseball Assistant Coach
Gallagher, Dennis	JV Boys Baseball Volunteer Coach
Signorella, Joseph	Varsity Boys Baseball Volunteer Coach
Abbott, Tom	Cross Country Coach
Bowser, David	Cross Country Assistant Coach
Turner, Jim	Boys Soccer Head Coach
Chester, Rob	Boys JV Soccer Coach
Beck, Robert	JV Softball Coach
Thimons, Sharon <i>* Mrs. Thimons abstained from vote.</i>	Boys Tennis Coach

- 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:

Albert, Sam	Varsity Football Coach
Hone, Craig	Varsity Football Offensive Coordinator
Anuszek, Todd	Varsity Football Defensive Coordinator
DeJidas, Ron	Varsity Football Assistant Coach
Heasley Sr., William	Varsity Football Volunteer Assistant Coach
Heasley Jr., William	Varsity Football Volunteer Assistant Coach
Elliott, Beau	9 th Grade Football Coach
Negley, Bob	9 th Grade Football Assistant Coach
Bonislawski, Matt	7 th and 8 th Grade Football Coach
Newell, Scott	7 th and 8 th Grade Football Assistant Coach
Wesolowski, Thomas	Girls Volleyball Head Coach
Novak, Joe	Golf Coach

- The resignation of **Shawn Bennis**, Boys Varsity Basketball Coach, effective February 23, 2012.

MISCELLANEOUS

- The change in meeting date of the April 2012 Planning Meeting to April 10, 2012.

- Voting for **Roxanne Sakoian Eichler** as Trustee of the Allegheny County Schools Health Consortium for the Eastern Region for a two-year period effective March 29, 2012.

- The resolution supporting increased state funding for K-12 Public Education, as submitted. You may read this resolution as it is listed below the Highlights link.

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