

Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

October 21, 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 – Mr. Ron Lang and Mr. Jon Love were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The Board approved the minutes of the August 19, 2013 and September 16, 2013 regular Meetings.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - No report.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT - Derrick Mazur reported the following:

- Homecoming included Spirit Week, a community parade and the crowning of Homecoming King **Dan Grove** and Queen **Danielle Voytko** at half-time in the Rams vs. Greensburg Salem football game.
- The Highlands High School morning announcements – HAM News – appears daily from the work of student producers and reporters as part of a broadcast class with **Mr. Tom Abbott**.
- Students enrolled in **Mr. Pat Hassler's** dual-enrollment Psychology class are partnering with Highlands Middle School mentoring classes and librarian **Dr. Sandra Reidmiller**. The students will participate in a Wilderness Survival Obstacle course on Friday, Oct. 25 to discuss the Psychology of Survival.
- The Fall Follies talent show is Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 7 PM at Highlands High School Auditorium.
- Varsity girls tennis and Varsity boys football teams made it to the playoffs in their sports!

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Michael Bjalobok reported the following:

- The Pennsylvania Department of Education released School Profiles this month. Due to missing, inaccurate or confusing test data some schools did not receive the numerical "score" on their profiles. Highlands High School is one of those with incorrect data from PDE. All of the goals set this year are targeting those issues noted in the profiles, and at Highlands High School. Our goals are targeting those issues and aimed at raising our numerical values. Such goals include NWEA and MAP testing and model schools at the High School. In addition, technology will bring web-based testing and assessments to our schools.

ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Mr. Patrick Graczyk reported the following:

- Join Title I faculty, staff and Parent Advisory Council for the annual **FAMILY READING NIGHT** for district families with students in Pre-K to Grade 5 to the at Highlands Middle School from 6:30 to 8:30 pm on **Thursday, Nov. 7**. The Family Night will feature the popular inspirational entertainer **Jim "Basketball" Jones**, who will encourage students to "bounce into a good book"! Several lucky parents and students will also take home a prize of a **Barnes & Noble NOOK eReader!** There will be three raffled for parents as well as one for three different age groups. Please RSVP by **Nov. 1** through school.
- A parent sent a letter to the Administrative Center commending **Vickie Nania** and **Chris Nowicki**, former teachers of the parent's student, who continued to support her son through the years and into Highlands High School. The parent thanked the teachers for their support and commitment to students!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – Ms. Misty Chybrzynski reported the following:

- **BOYS VARSITY FOOTBALL**, 10/25 at 7 PM: Rams vs. Knoch @ Knoch.
FYI: New Athletic Department Phone number (Matt Bonislawski, Athletic Director) 724.226.2400 x4533.
- **HIGHLANDS HOCKEY**, HOME Game on 11/08 at 5:30 PM vs. Burrell at the Pittsburgh Ice Arena (former Valley Sports Complex).
- **COACHES! PARENTS! BOOSTERS!** Call Misty Chybrzynski ASAP at 724.226.2400 x4550 or email to mchybrzynski@goldenrams.com to nominate a POSITIVE ATHLETE for your sport. Positive athletes may not be the star on the field, but are the kids that care about the team, community or school during the on and off-season! Please indicate the student's name, sport(s) and why they are a positive athlete!
- **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** On October 26, Trinity United Methodist Mission Group has chosen Grandview to help on **Make A Difference Day!** Volunteers will be on the playground from 9 AM-Noon to Make A Difference on our playground. Vines will be removed from the fence, hopscotch/4-square repainted, trash collected, etc. **Volunteers are**

needed and welcomed! If you have any questions, please see Heather Hauser (GRV-Principal) or contact Pastor Jeff Vanderhoff at (814)322-5267.

- Wednesday, October 30, **Red Ribbon Week** "Wear Red Day" to celebrate a commitment to being Drug Free.

Elementary schools will take a pledge to be Drug Free from Judge Carolyn Bengel at morning assemblies.

- The **Tarentum Brackenridge Christmas Parade** will be held on November 23, 1 PM.

- **The Lion's Club** hosted a literacy event titled "A Lion's Tale" in the Riverview Memorial Park in Tarentum on Saturday, October 19. The event invited local 3- and 4-year-olds to a story reading through the park. Each volunteer read two pages of the story and then encouraged the students to anticipate what the next pages would reveal further down the path in the park. Thanks to **Marnie Kosmal, Deb Turner, Jody Shumaker** and **Laurie Malcolm** for participating with the other Lion's Club members!

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

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

No Report.

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

- The Student Activities Fund Financial Report for September 2013, as submitted.

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

- Authorizing District to purchase the HP Elite Pad 900 under Co-Stars with HP Financial Services at a cost of \$162,391.00 per year for a 3 year lease, as submitted.

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

- Mr. Graczyk reported that he contacted Chief Mike Klein and Grace United Methodist Church regarding the bus stop along Carlisle Street. He is waiting responses.

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

- Ratifying the Use of Facilities, as submitted.

- Approving High School Stage upgrade of Counterweight System by Co-Stars at a cost of \$41,000, as budgeted.

- Ratifying contractors to install Salt Shed, as shown payable from the 2007 Bond Issue.

Big Top Shelters (vinyl shelter)	\$ 5,950.00
Stone and Co (47 yards of concrete)	\$ 5,005.20
Thrower Cement (30 blocks)	\$ 1,935.00
Mechling Concrete	\$ 4,915.00

Total: \$17,805.20

- Extending the current agreement for an additional 210 days with Czekalski Realty to sell the Administrative Center.

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

- Ratifying 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). **[SEE APPENDIX 7.1]**

- Ratifying the 2013-2014 Substitute School Nurse 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 7.2]**

-Ratifying 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) **[SEE APPENDIX 7.3]**

- Ratifying the following request for Leave of Absence, in accordance with Board/HEA Collective Bargaining Agreement:

Marilyn I. Skwartz

Guidance Counselor

High School

Effective October 14, 2013 thru February 3, 2014 (*Change in start date previously on Sept. 2013 agenda.*)

- 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:

Satterfield, Edward

AV Assistant

\$25.00 per hour

Wirth, Rick

AV Assistant

\$25.00 per hour

Krause, Kurt

Custodian – 5 hour position

Fawn Primary Center
Salary as per SEIU Contract
Effective October 22, 2013

- Rejecting Grievance #14-02, as submitted.
- Rejecting SEIU Grievance, as submitted.
- Ratifying the following 2013-2014 Department Chairs:
 - Debor, Charles** – Physical Education/Health
 - Giovengo, Susan** – Guidance
 - Colberg, Trina** – Foreign Languages
 - Santucci, Michael** – Tech Ed
- Ratifying the resignation of Aaron C. Rea, 6th Grade Math Teacher Middle School effective September 16, 2013.
- Approving the District to enter a contract with Questeq at an estimated first year cost of \$165,000 contingent that terms be approved by the Superintendent and Solicitor. **[SEE APPENDIX 7.10]**
- Approving the Confidential Secretary Agreement, as submitted. **[SEE APPENDIX 7.11]**
- Approving the termination of the following Technology positions effective October 31, 2013:
 - Mr. Paul Hoffman** – Director of Technology
 - Mr. Todd Jones** – Technology Support

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

- Approving Tax Refunds in the amount of \$16,924.55 for October 2013, as submitted. **[SEE FINANCIAL REPORT 8.1]**
- Approving payment of General Fund bills, as submitted. **[SEE FINANCIAL REPORT 8.2]**

October to be ratified	\$ 472,241.72
October to be paid	\$ 596,332.39
TOTAL	\$1,068,574.11
- Approving all necessary budget transfers from the total independent audit reclassification, in accordance with Section 687 of the School Code.

FORBES ROAD CTC – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Thimons

No report. **Dr. Bjalobok** noted that the next meeting is not until Thursday so they will have information next month.

PSBA/NSBA – Mr. Love

Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Beale and **Dr. Bjalobok** reported about the annual PSBA School Leadership Conference held in Hershey, PA last week. The three, as well as **Mr. Rupert**, attended. This year's theme was being a "hero and leader" and featured Captain Richard Phillips, teacher Kaitlyn Roig of Sandy Hook Elementary School and the former captain of the US Hockey team Mike Eruzione. The seminars included schools working with emergency response services, social media success, setting goals to change instruction and learning, and new teacher assessments, among others. In addition, Highlands Emergency Services Alliance (HESA) which includes a High School Course instructed by **Mr. Mike Krzeminski**, attended the conference with a booth to share the program with other schools. Students **Laura Gillette** and **Marquis Turner** attended as Student Delegates with teacher **Mr. Zac Wells**.

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

No report.

ATHLETICS – Mr. Hanford, Mr. Masarik

- Approving the Athletic Fund Financial Report for September 2013, as submitted.
- Ratifying 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:

Name	Position
Brancato, Beth	Swim Coach
Mechling, Tom	Assistant Swim Coach
Rovnan, Helene	Volunteer Assistant Swim Coach
Foster, Michael	Varsity Track Coach
Grove, Phil	Varsity Assistant Track Coach
Foster, Chester	Volunteer Varsity Assistant Track Coach
Koprivnikar, Jennifer	Varsity Softball Coach
Reudiger, Derek	MS Boys Soccer Coach
Weissert, Jeff	Varsity Baseball Coach
Helgert, Dan	Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach

Foster, Michael	7th and 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
Lauer, Jacob	7th and 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
Jones, Tammy	Winter Ticket Taker/Seller
Tutek, Christie	Winter Ticket Taker/Seller
Glaister, Stephanie	Winter Ticket Taker/Seller
Stawinski, Pamala	Winter Ticket Taker/Seller

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Mr. Miles** made a motion to publish the delinquent taxpayers list in the Valley News Dispatch. The motion was approved. **Mr. Rupert** will update the Board with cost.

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