Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

**February 16, 2009 Regular 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.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** -The Board approved the minutes of the January 19, 2009 Regular School Board Meeting.

**SECRETARY CORRESPONDENCE –** No report.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT** – No report.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – Dr. Louis Baldassare**, substitute superintendent, updated the Board about the superintendent search he is currently conducting. The position is still being advertised and applicants have until March 13 to submit resumes. He also noted that he will be hosting a meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2009, to poll the District’s public about what qualities they would prefer in a new superintendent. Dr. Baldassare also commended the boys and girls basketball teams for competing in the WPIAL Class AAA section championships.

**CAFETERIA** – Mrs. Wantland, Mrs. Wisner

The Board approved the Cafeteria Fund Financial Report for January 2009, as submitted.

The Board approved payment of the Cafeteria Fund bills as submitted.

To be paid **$62,223.14**

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Wantland**

The Board approved the Student Activities Fund Financial Report for January 2009, as submitted.

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE** – Mr. Peck, Mrs. Wisner, Mr. Lang

The committee reported that there were three incidents at the High School.

**INSTRUCTION – Mrs. Wisner, Mrs. Wantland**

The Board approved the creation of an endowment fund for a Dual Enrollment Grant.

The Board approved the K4 Attendance Procedure, as submitted.

The Board approved the 2008-2013 Strategic Plan.

**TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Heasley, Mr. Misejka**

No report.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Mr. Misejka, Mr. Heasley**

The Board approved the use of facilities, as submitted.

The Board approved seven change orders with DelRey Windows and four change orders with AB Specialties as submitted. *(These changes were needed so the doors and windows interrelate with the District Security System.)* Net Change of + $3,175. To be paid from Bond Issue.

The Board approved the State Bid contract with Simplex Grinnell to purchase and install New Fire Alarm Systems in accordance with all state bid requirements, bonding, local statutes and District policies regarding school fire alarms for these buildings. Amount to be paid from Bond Issue.

Highlands High School **$149,500**

Grandview Elementary Schoo**l $ 89,255**

TOTAL **$238,755**

The Board approved the purchase of a curtain for a Commencement Backdrop from Pittsburgh Stage at a cost of $997.00 plus shipping. To be paid from Bond Issue.

The Board approved the purchase of a Commencement Backdrop Equipment from Northern Sound and Light, Inc. at a cost of $3,835.68 including shipping. To be paid from Bond Issue.

**PERSONNEL – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Thimons**

The Board ratified the 2008-2009 Substitute Teacher Call List, as submitted. As per Board Policy #405 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #414, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check.

The Board approved the 2008-2009 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).

The Board approved the 2008-2009 Substitute Aide Call List, as submitted, As per Board Policy #505 (Pre-Employment Drug Test) #514, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Criminal Record Check) **.**

The Board accepted, with regret, the resignation of **Rikki Vinkovich** – Cafeteria Alternate, effective February 2, 2009.

The Board accepted, with regret, the retirement of **Lori Harbison** – Secretary – Grandview Elementary, effective March 31, 2009.

The Board ratified the appointment of **Patrick Graczyk** as Title I Coordinator for the remainder of the school year at a stipend of $3,500.

The Board approved the following requests for Leave of Absence, in accordance with Board/District policies:

**Leslie Phillips**

Learning Support Teacher

Middle School

Maternity Leave Using Available Sick Days

Effective May 26, 2009

**Cynthia Smith**

Kindergarten Teacher

Grandview Elementary

Child Rearing Leave

2009-2010 School Year

**Megan Keener**

Life Skills Teacher

Middle School

Maternity Leave Using Available Sick Days

Effective March 16, 2009

**Rebecca Galie**

Kindergarten Teacher

Fairmount Elementary

Family and Medical Leave

Effective February 9, 2009

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

**Christine McLauglin**

Elementary Teacher

**Mary Parmer-Taube**

Elementary Teacher

**FINANCE/TAX – Mrs. Thimons, Mrs. Wantland**

The Board accepted the Treasurer’s Report for the month of December 2008, as submitted.

The Board approved payment of General Fund bills, as submitted.

To Be Ratified $ 681,908.12

To Be Paid $ 339,017.20

TOTAL **$1,020,925.32**

The Board approved the Bond Issue Financial Report as of January 2009, as submitted.

The Board approved the payment of 2007 Bond Issue bills for February 2009 in the amount of $180,543.41, as submitted.

The Board authorized the Solicitor to appeal any properties where the sale price exceeds the assessed value a minimum $75,000. Appeals must be filed by March 31, 2009.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH Mrs. Wantland, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Thimons, Mr. Peck**

Mrs. Wantland reported that the Allegheny-Kiski Health Foundation will be presenting a program about the dangers of heroin abuse at the high school in the audion on Monday, Feb. 23 at 6:30 p.m.

**FORBES ROAD CTC – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Beale**

Mrs. Fox reported that Mr. Quentin Martin, director of Forbes Road, announced his retirement, beginning Nov. 1, 2009. The Forbes Road Joint Board appointed Mr. Paul Balint to be the Acting Director as of July 1, 2009 and to be the Director of vocational education effective Nov. 1, 2009. She also reported that Forbes held its second of three blood drives for the year with a successful outcome of 56 units of donated blood. Forbes also was awarded two grants for equipment totaling $68,744.

Mrs. Fox reported that the FBLA competition was held on Jan. 7, 2009, with 21 students from Forbes participating. More than 350 students competed in all. The following Highlands students placed in the competition – **Adam Giles**, second place, cyber security; **Arthur Napolitano**, third place, computer problem solving; **Matt Kopka**, fifth place, technology concepts, and **Zach Savoie**, fifth place, help desk. There also was a District Skills USA Competition on Jan. 20, 2009 in Johnstown, PA. Highlands students **JJ Yedlowski, Carlie Elliott** and **Rachel Klaes** won the honor of straight to states.

**PSBA/NSBA – Mrs. Thimons**

Mrs. Thimons reported that constituents should write to their legislators stating opposition to the GCAs being developed and proposed by the state. She also said PSBA supports the cyber charter reform bill.

**POLICY – Mr. Heasley, Mrs. Thimons**

No report.

**ATHLETICS – Mr. Lang, Mr. Heasley**

The Board approved the Athletic Fund Report for January 2009, as submitted.

The Board approved the hiring of the following athletic personnel for the 2008-2009 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.)

**Track**

**Chad Walsh**  Head Middle School Coach

**MISCELLANEOUS**

The Board approved the March Board meeting dates as follows:

Agenda Planning Meeting on **March 2, 2009** at 7 p.m. in the High School Library.

Regular Board Meeting on **March 16, 2009** at 7 p.m. in the Community Center.

**2009 Highlands School Board Members**

**Debbie Beale – President**

**Carrie Fox – Vice President**

**Laura Thimons William Heasley**

**Ron Lang Ron Misejka**

**Mark Peck Karen Wantland**

**Judy Wisner**