



MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Homer-Center School Board
Homer City, PA 15748
Central Office Board Room
April 18, 2018

Members Present

Mr. Gerald Bertig
Mr. Michael Bertig
Mr. Logan Dellafiora
Mr. Daniel Fabin
Mr. Fred Hayes

Mr. James McLoughlin
Mrs. Vicki Smith
Mr. Justin Smyers
Mr. Robert Valyo

Members Absent

School Administrators Present

Dr. Charles J. Koren, Superintendent
Mr. Gregory Cessna, Business Manager
Mr. Michael Stofa, Elementary Principal
Mr. Matthew Rodkey, High School Asst. Principal
Mrs. Bethany Genchur, Special Education Director
Mr. Edward Sutter, Facilities Supervisor
Mrs. Rhonda Clifford, Board Secretary

Homer-Center Staff Present

G. Hartnett
T. Bruno

Media Present

Jesse VanHorn, 1160 WCCS
Greg Reinbold, The Dispatch
Chauncey Ross, Indiana Gazette (arrived 7:59 pm)

Visitors

Grace Frazer & Family
Bailey Foust & Family
Shelby Ursiak & Family

The Board held an executive session from 7:00-7:30 p.m. for personnel matters.

President Michael Bertig called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Homer-Center Mission Statement opened the meeting. Nine members were present at roll call to comprise a quorum.

VISITOR COMMENTS-None

Student Recognition

Mr. Stofa introduced Mr. Hartnett who presented Grace Frazer with her Wildcat Recognition Award for April, 2018. Mrs. Genchur presented Bailey Foust with his Wildcat Recognition Award for April, 2018. Mr. Valyo presented Shelby Ursiak with her certificate as the Kiwanis Senior of the Month. Mr. Smyers gave all recipients an HC lapel pin from the Board.

REPORTS

Homer-Center School Board Committees

Academic Committee – Mr. Michael Bertig reported the committee discussed the following: (1) they will be recommending changes to the high school start time and bus changes of 12 min. for next school year. This will be brought to the Board at the May Planning Meeting; (2) Mrs. Genchur gave a presentation on the Special Ed Plan which is on the agenda this evening for Board approval.

Buildings and Grounds Committee- Mr. Jerry Bertig reported discussions centered on the following: (1) getting formal RFP's for cost savings on the lighting and tying that in with the upgrades of the multi-purpose room ceiling and the hot water heater in the elementary school; (2) obtaining quotes for repaving and repairing the parking lot; (3) discussion continues on the elementary basketball court lines; (4) reviewed the lawn treatments which are on the agenda tonight for Board approval. Mr. Smyers noted that he met with the Aultman Fire Dept., Community Group and Township and have come to an agreement on a 20 year lease on the Aultman Playground.

Homer-Center School Board Representatives to Outside Boards

Armstrong-Indiana Intermediate Unit #28-Mr. Hayes reported he, Jerry Bertig and Dr. Koren attended the ARIN Convention at Lenape Technical School on April 17th. He toured the building with students. They had a wonderful meal and then conducted their annual business meeting. Unites School District will host next year. At that meeting the IU passed their Act 93 for personnel and the budget.

Homer-Center Parks and Recreation-Mr. Smyers reported that the committee fielded comments from the Homer-Center Softball coach regarding Floodway Park and the softball field condition. She asked if she did fundraising could it be used to improve the park for softball. One thought was to move the softball team to the Booster Fields. Mr. J. Bertig suggested that maybe the Building and Grounds Committee could look at the field at their next meeting. Mr. Smyers also noted that they are in need of one more Board Member to be on the Parks & Rec Committee. Mr. Randy Thomas has resigned, though we have not received that letter to date. Once it is official and his resignation is accepted by the Board, then we will advertise for the open position.

Indiana County Technology Center-Mrs. Smith reported on the following: (1) ICTC is in negotiations with the teachers and support staff; (2) looking to hire an accountant instead of a business manager; (3) toured the welding area with students; (4) the WCCC & ICTC building/program does not have anything firm to date. Still working out some bugs. She noted it would affect the Adult Ed program at ICTC. This is still in the discussion phase.

Administration

Mr. Stofa reported on the following: (1) the swimming program will be six days this year – 3 days for the girls; 3 days for the boys; (2) PSSA testing began this week. Dr. Koren noted that attendance at the elementary school during testing has been exemplary this week; (3) Grade level reports were included in his Principal's Report.

Mr. Rodkey reported on the following: (1). Shared information regarding Homer-Center's Academy of Choice; (2) shared information regarding homeless and foster care. He is the liaison; (3) shared new attendance evaluations that will occur next school year; (4) he is also working on concussion management training; (5) he will be meeting with the State Police regarding the playground incident on May 24th.

Mrs. Genchur reported on the following: (1) Kindergarten Orientation will be held on May 9th; (2) noted that National History Day two of our students placed for the State competition. They are Justley Sharp and Annaleigh Spade.

Mr. Sutter reported on the following: (1) completed the three year pressure test on the elevators. They passed. (2) Sieman's will be coming in on May 1st. (3) replaced the temperature control computer; (4) worked on the track – cleaning up for spring; (5) he will be asking Board approval again this year for three summer student workers at the next meeting.

Faculty and Staff

Ms. Tina Bruno thanked Cindy Andrie for her years of service at Homer-Center. She also noted that Len Black was doing better and they wished him well. She thanked Mr. Cessna for his hard work on the contract and payroll.

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE APRIL 5, 2018 PLANNING MEETING-CONSENT ITEMS

On a Smyers/J. Bertig motion approved these consent items. Poll vote; motion carried 9-0.

Minutes of the March 15, 2018 Regular Meeting as noted in Appendix A.

Treasurer's Report and Cafeteria Cash Statement for March 31, 2018 as noted in Appendix B.

Approved bills for the general fund, cafeteria and capital reserve fund for March, 2018 as noted in Appendix C.

Business Manager's Items:

Interest earned during March 2018 amounted to \$2,556.68.

Approved a \$3,500 quote from Conrad Siegel for GASB 75 Actuarial Valuation for fiscal years ending June 30, 2018 and 2019 as noted in Appendix D.

Approved a 3 year proposal from Indiana Total Therapy for athletic training services for school years 2018-2019 (\$24,722.97), 2019-2020 (\$25,015.65), and 2020-2021 (\$25,515.96). If hours in any school year exceed 1,120, additional hours will be billed at the following rates per hour: 2018-2019 (\$21.47), 2019-2020 (\$21.68) and 2020-2021 (\$22.11) as noted in Appendix E.

Superintendent's Items:

Personnel

Approved a sabbatical leave for the 2018-2019 school year for Mrs. Suzanne Mateer, Elementary Teacher, for educational purposes.

Approved the following as substitute teachers: Michelle Weaver, ARIN IU 28 Guest Teacher; Lydia Houllion, ARIN IU 28 Guest Teacher; Rebecca Frederick, ARIN IU 28 Guest Teacher; and Eric Helm, ARIN IU 28 Guest Teacher.

Education

Approved Mrs. Vicki Olinger to attend the 2018 Social & Emotional Learning Conference-Building Skills for Lifelong Success in Harrisburg, PA on May 9-10, 2018. Cost to the district is \$629 and one substitute for two days.

Approved homebound instruction for two secondary students (Tracking #17-18-04, #17-18-05 and #17-18-06).

Student Activities

Approved Mr. Greg Page, Mr. Matt Rodkey and students to attend the UPMC Sports Medicine Career Day at Forbes Tower in Pittsburgh, PA on May 10, 2018. Cost to the district is one substitute for one day and transportation.

Buildings and Grounds-No Report

Cafeteria-No Report

Policies

Second reading of revisions to Policy #209.1, 200 Pupils, Head Lice as noted in Appendix G.

Transportation

Approved the following as a spare bus drivers for the 2017-18 school year: Daniel McAdams

Board of Directors

Approved the contract between the Homer-Center School District and Adelphoi Education Services for the 2018-19 school year as noted in Appendix H.

Approved the Special Education Plan Report dated 7/1/2018-6/30/2021 as noted in Appendix I.

Approved the Resolution for School Safety and Reducing School Violence as noted in Appendix J.

Approved the five year contract between the Homer-Center School District and CJAWS, Inc. for technology services from July 1, 2018-June 30, 2023 as noted in Appendix K.

PULLED ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Dellafiora asked that the following agenda items be pulled from the consent agenda and be voted on separately:

Business Manager's Items

D. 4. – On a J. Bertig/McLoughlin motion approved the service proposal with Earthcraft Landscaping for Enhanced Package seasonal turf treatment at Memorial Field (\$3,090), Homer-Center Practice Field (\$2,440), and Homer-Center High School (\$620) as noted in Appendix F. Poll vote; motion carried 8-1 with Mr. Dellafiora voting no.

Superintendent's Items

E. 1. a. On a Dellafiora/J. Bertig motion accepted, with regret, the resignation due to retirement of Mrs. Cindy Andrie, secondary health teacher, effective June 2, 2018. Mrs. Andrie had 16 teaching years with Homer-Center. Poll vote; motion carried 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE APRIL 5, 2018 PLANNING MEETING

On Hold for Legal Revisions: Policy #222, 200 Pupils, Tobacco Use – Dr. Koren noted that a new device has been made that looks like a USB clip and it is actually a vaping device. This policy will need to be reworded to reflect this new device as well.

NEW BUSINESS

On a McLoughlin/Fabin motion approved the following items in New Business. Poll vote; motion carried 9-0.

Approved the Alio maintenance renewal from Weidenhammer Systems Corporation at an annual fee of \$13,449.14 as noted in Appendix L.

Accepted a \$530 Tri-County Business Education Partnership mini-grant to provide transportation for 9th grade students to visit and tour Clark Metal Products in Blairsville, PA. as noted in Appendix M.

Approved continued services with Bayada Home Health Care, Inc. for two elementary students at the rate of \$44/hr. for one student and \$22/hr. for the second student for the 2018-19 school year.

Approved Gary Perman as a spare bus driver for the 2017-18 school year.

Approved Mrs. Cathy Hays, Mrs. Dawn Yurky, and Mrs. Nancy Skultety to attend the See the Sound Visual Phonics Workshop at Penns Manor Elementary School on May 1-2, 2018. Cost to the district is \$60 each and three substitutes for two days.

Approved \$1,300 for the Homer-Center School District librarian to host a summer “camping” themed student read event; a summer “café” themed student read event, and to prepare student Google accounts prior to the start of the new school year.

On a McLoughlin/Valyo motion approved Mr. Robert Stossel as the Athletic Director effective with the 2018-19 school year at the supplemental salary of \$6,182. Poll vote: motion carried 9-0.

On a Valyo/Fabin motion approved the following items. Voice vote; unanimous.

Approved the following as parent volunteers for Prom: Carie Schmidt, Lori Ginter, Lisa Worcester.

Approved the following as parent volunteers for the Wildwood, NJ Indoor Percussion trip May 2-6, 2018: Paula Andrei, Nikki Freed, Carrie George, Craig Hurd, Jacob Hurd, Billi Nairn, Adam Marshall, Gretchen Brubaker, Joanna Morgan, Bob Novak, Mandi Succheralli, Chris Burgess, and Jess Ruddock.

On a Dellafiora/McLoughlin motion approved the Letter of Collaborative Agreement between Merakey Behavioral Health and Homer-Center School District for the 2018-19 school year. Poll vote; motion carried 9-0.

OPEN DISCUSSION- None

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Dellafiora noted he had attended the Keystone Scholars Event at ICTC. He noted there is a \$100 529 College Grant through the Mellon Foundation that is available to students to help with college tuition. Mrs. Smith congratulated Mrs. Genchur on the Special Education Plan and thanked her for her hard work on it. Mr. McLoughlin congratulated Mrs. Andrie on her retirement and noted she will be missed. Mr. Valyo noted Mrs. Andrie is his neighbor and he wishes her all the best on her retirement. Mr. J. Bertig also congratulated Mrs. Andrie on her retirement and wished her well. He also noted he could not believe the end of the school year was fast approaching. Mr. M. Bertig congratulated Mrs. Andrie and thanked her for her years of service. He also noted that the Board took the security questions from the March meeting very seriously. They conducted a three hour meeting recently to discuss a plan for the next school year. Mr. McLoughlin also noted that it will depend on the budget and what we can afford to do

but that everyone's safety is taken very seriously. Mr. J. Bertig noted that the district would be enhancing security, not starting at ground zero as we already have security in place.

On a McLoughlin/Valyo motion the meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m. Voice vote; unanimous.

Submitted for board approval, ✓



Rhonda Clifford, Board Secretary

Seal

Michael Bertig, President