



MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Homer-Center School Board
Homer City, PA 15748
Central Office Board Room
February 15, 2018

Members Present

Mr. Gerald Bertig
Mr. Michael Bertig
Mr. Logan Dellaflora
Mr. Daniel Fabin
Mr. Fred Hayes
Mr. Justin Smyers
Mrs. Vicki Smith
Mr. Robert Valyo

Members Absent

Mr. James McLoughlin

School Administrators Present

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

Homer-Center Staff Present

C. Bruno J. Stolarz
J. Bell P. Michael
D. Strini S. Mateer
C. Turk J. Kapcoe
C. Detwiler T. Hirsch

Media Present

Jesse VanHorn, 1160 WCCS
Greg Reinbold, The Dispatch
Chauncey Ross, Indiana Gazette

Visitors

Godfree Rodman and Family
Katlyn Hippchen and Family
Stephen Plowcha and Family
Candy Shaffer and Melinda Sharer,
PTA

The Board held an executive session from 7:00-7:55 p.m. for personnel, legal and student issues.

President Michael Bertig called the meeting to order at 7:56 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Homer-Center Mission Statement opened the meeting. Eight members were present at roll call to comprise a quorum.

VISITOR COMMENTS – None

Student Recognition

Mr. Stofa introduced Mrs. Janice Bell who presented Godfree (Louie) Rodman with his Wildcat Recognition Award for February, 2018. Mr. Rainey introduced Ms. Christina Bruno who presented Katlyn Hippchen with her Wildcat Recognition Award for February, 2018. Mr. Fabin presented Stephen Plowcha with his certificate as the Kiwanis Senior of the Month. Mr. Smyers gave all recipients an HC lapel pin from the Board.

Elks Americanism Essay Contest Winners, Meegan Williams, second place, and Alaina Fabin, third place, read their winning essays to the Board. Certificates were presented to them by Mrs. Mateer.

REPORTS

Homer-Center School Board Committees

Academic Committee – Mrs. Vicki Smith reported the committee spent a considerable amount of the meeting discussing the school calendar. Mr. M. Bertig noted they also discussed SAT's and the report out about scores the previous year. Homer-Center's scores are not as high this year as our peers. They are looking at possible items to focus on – 11th Grade taking the PSAT's in the future and paying for them. Mr. J. Bertig noted that more students are taking the SAT's and this might have skewed the test results.

Buildings and Grounds Committee- Mr. Jerry Bertig reported the committee had two firms come to the meeting to discuss ways to save energy costs. More firms will be coming to the next meeting. They are also looking at the repairs to the Kindergarten playground and wall that is deteriorating.

Homer-Center School Board Representatives to Outside Boards

Armstrong-Indiana Intermediate Unit #28-Mr. Hayes noted the next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2018 and he would report at the next Board Meeting.

Homer-Center Parks and Recreation-Mr. Smyers reported at the last meeting they welcomed a new member, Mr. Brian Harrister of Aultman. Some discussion centered on the Homer City Pool and the Aultman Playground. Dr. Koren made note that he commends the Parks & Recreation group for taking the old playground equipment from the elementary school and installing it at the Aultman Playground area. They did a fantastic job.

Indiana County Technology Center-Mrs. Smith reported ICTC accepted the resignation of Mr. Kanics and interviews will begin soon as well as talks with ARIN IU assisting in some aspects of the job. They also had a discussion on substitute teachers. More discussion will follow at their March meeting.

Administration

Mr. Stofa reported on the following: (1) February 8th was an Act 80 half day and Parent-Teacher Conferences were conducted from 3-7 p.m.; (2) elementary Valentine's Day parties were held on February 14th; (3) Mrs. Snyder in the elementary office is mailing Kindergarten enrollment packets to parents who will be 5 years old prior to September 1st. Registration is March 7th and early count is 43; (4) Grade Level Reports were available for Board Members to read.

Mr. Rainey reported on the following: (1) Homer-Center hosted the Western PA YAG Pre Legislative Conference February 10th. This serves as an officer training and rehearsal for the PA YAG Convention held in April; (2) girls' basketball qualified as the 5th seed in District 6 Class AA. They will play at Bellwood-Antis on February 21st; (3) boys' basketball qualified as the 4th seed in District 6 Class AA. They will host West Branch on February 22nd; (4) Heritage Conference held their basketball championships February 9th. Seniors Nick Schmidt and Mikayla Kokos were awarded Heritage Conference Scholarships at the KCAC. Faith Buggey, Lizzie Barenick and Katie Burgess had works in the art exhibit on display during the championship games. Mr. Rainey handed out programs that will be used at the championship games. Students from ICTC formatted the programs.

Mrs. Genchur reported on the following: (1) the ROAR Reward has started in the cafeteria. Each day one table per grade level will be recognized with the Golden Dustpan Award. Those students will be receive a ticket to be entered into a drawing to have special seating with their friends on Fridays; (2) students will begin taking the PASA tests. The window for testing is February 19-April 13.

Mr. Sutter reported on the following: (1) staff is dealing with the weather; (2) the elevators are fixed at the high school; (3) IPS came into the district and serviced and repaired the pumps. They are discussing an annual maintenance plan.

Faculty and Staff

Ms. Christina Bruno-HCEA reported that their prayers are going out for the victims of the school shooting in Florida.

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE FEBRUARY 1, 2018 PLANNING MEETING-CONSENT ITEMS

On a Smyers/J. Bertig motion approved all consent items. Poll vote; motion carried 8-0.

Minutes of the January 18, 2018 Regular Meeting as noted in Appendix A.

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

Approval of bills for the general fund, cafeteria and capital reserve fund for January, 2018 as noted in Appendix C.

Business Manager's Items:

Interest earned during January 2018 amounted to \$2,392.20.

Superintendent's Items:

Personnel

Approved Mr. Robert J. Sagely as a substitute teacher in the area of Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Earth Science and General Science.

Education- No Report

Student Activities – No Report

Buildings and Grounds

(1) Mrs. Carrie George and the Homer-Center Band Boosters to conduct a Basket Bash in the Elementary School Cafeteria/Gym on Sunday, March 4, 2018 from 1:00-6:00pm. With Board approval, custodial fees will be assessed to the group; (2) Mr. Bob Rado and the Homer-Center Boys Basketball Boosters to conduct their annual Basketball Camp and Shooting Clinic in the high school gym on the following dates and times:

June 11-15, 2018 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Basketball Camp

June 18-21, 2018 8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Shooting Clinic

With Board approval, all fees will be waived.

Cafeteria-No Report

Policies

(1) Second reading of revisions to Policy #808, 800 Operations, Food Services (Appendix D); (2) First reading of revisions to Policy #222, 200 Pupils, Tobacco Use (Appendix E).

Transportation

Approved the following as a spare bus driver for the 2017-18 school year: Greg Yaworski

Board of Directors

Appointed Mr. Robert Valyo as the Assistant Treasurer effective immediately.

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE FEBRUARY 1, 2018 PLANNING MEETING-NONE

NEW BUSINESS

On a Hayes/Valyo motion approved the following items in New Business. Poll vote; motion carried 8-0.

(1) Accepted the resignation of Mr. Kristopher Marinas, custodian, effective February 22, 2018; (2) approved March 29, 2018 as an unpaid day for Mrs. Heather Lowry, high school teacher; (3) approved the participation in the PPT Program with ARIN IU 28 at an annual fee of \$900; (4) approved the revised 2017-2018 school calendar with the snow make-up date on March 19, 2018 from the February 7, 2018 cancellation day (Appendix F); (5) approved

the request of Mrs. Candy Shaffer and the PTA to use the elementary cafeteria, gym and playground for an Easter Bunny Breakfast/Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 7:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. The Board determined not to charge fees to the organization; (6) Ms. Laura Root to attend the PMEA Annual Conference in Lancaster, PA on April 19-21, 2018. Cost to the district is \$620 and one substitute for two half days; (7) accepted the donation from the Homer City Area Athletic Booster Club for two new basketball rims for the elementary gym.

On a Fabin/Dellaflora motion ratified the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Homer-Center School District and the Homer-Center Education Support Professionals effective July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021. Poll vote; motion carried 7-1 with Mr. Smyers voting no.

OPEN DISCUSSION

President Michael Bertig presented several versions of the 2018-2019 school calendar for open discussion. The final draft will be taken to the County PAC Meeting next Tuesday to review with ICTC. The Board will vote next month on the Homer-Center 2018-2019 School Calendar.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Smith noted that she has contacted legislators regarding Senate Bill 2. She encourages all Board Members and community members to call, email, write your legislators and voice your opposition to this Bill. No other Board Members had comments.

On a Hayes/Dellaflora motion the meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m. Voice vote; unanimous.

Submitted for board approval,



Rhonda Clifford, Board Secretary

Seal

Michael Bertig, President