



MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Homer-Center School Board  
Homer City, PA 15748  
Central Office Board Room  
February 16, 2017

Members Present

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

Mr. James McLoughlin  
Mrs. Julie Rado  
Mrs. Vicki Smith  
Mr. Justin Smyers

Members Absent

None

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

Christine Kowchuck  
Lisa Adams  
Len Black

Media Present

Josh Widdowson, 1160 WCCS  
Chauncey Ross, Indiana Gazette  
Greg Reinbold, Dispatch

Visitors

Anna Overman and Family  
Stephen Plowcha and Family  
Elijah Turk and Family

The Board held an executive session from 7:00-7:35 p.m. for personnel reasons.

President Vicki Smith called the meeting to order at 7:38 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.

MINUTES

On a Hayes/Fabin motion approved the minutes from the January 19, 2017 Regular Meeting. Voice vote; unanimous.

## VISITOR COMMENTS-None

## STUDENT RECOGNITION

Mr. Stofa introduced Elijah Turk as the Wildcat Recognition Award recipient for February and Mrs. Christine Kowchuck presented him with his certificate and bowling and ice skating passes. Mr. Rainey introduced Stephen Plowcha as the Wildcat Recognition Award recipient for February and presented him with his certificate and bowling and ice skating passes. Mr. Michael Bertig presented Anna Overman with her Kiwanis Senior of the Month certificate. Mrs. Smith presented all with HC lapel pins on behalf of the Board.

## REPORTS

1. ARIN IU 28- Mrs. Rado had no report.
2. ICTC-Mrs. Smith noted that 339 Career Plan Showcase Training for K-12 would be conducted next week and that ICTC hired from in-house for the Business Manager position - Mr. Robert Kanick.
3. Building and Grounds-Mr. J. Bertig reported on the following: (1) Draft of the capital projects and major needs list is forthcoming; (2) Priorities are stair treads, floor issue in the lobby of the high school, maintenance truck, replace the large hot water tank, Memorial Field PA system, high school auditorium lighting in the pit area, elementary classroom floors, PA system in the elementary school, some concrete areas outside the high school, bringing the "memorial" back to the Memorial Field; (3) Mr. Sutter was then asked to report on the recent water testing done in the school district. He handed out a memo on the lead contaminants and the results memo (attached to minutes). The report showed no lead in our system with a "less than .005 mg/L" which is the lowest possible measurement.
4. Parks and Recreation –Mr. Smyers had no report.
5. Academic Committee –Mr. M. Bertig had no report, however, Dr. Koren noted that some of the Administration had a demonstration regarding Academy of Choice – Cyber School options with Edgenuity. They are exploring options to save the district money on cyber schools. Next week, VLN will be in to demonstrate.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. McLoughlin read the Treasurer's Report and Cafeteria Cash Statement for January 31, 2017. On a Dellafiora/Rado motion, the reports were approved. Voice vote; unanimous.

## BILLS

On a M. Bertig/Fabin motion the general fund, cafeteria and capital reserve fund bills for February, 2017 were approved for payment. Poll vote; motion carried 9-0.

## BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Cessna reported that interest earned during January, 2017 amounted to \$707.54.

On a J. Bertig/Hayes motion approved budgetary transfers for the 2016-2017 fiscal year as noted in Appendix A. Poll vote; motion carried 9-0.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

### PERSONNEL

#### Certified Personnel

On a Dellaflora/Rado motion approved the following: (1) the following as substitutes, Mrs. JoAnne Britcher, Mrs. Susannah Volpe and Mrs. Donna Rosenberger; (2) employed Mrs. Ashley Clouser and Mrs. Deborah Bem as substitutes in the area of elementary education effective approximately March-May, 2017. Voice vote; unanimous.

### EDUCATION

On a M. Bertig/Smyers motion approved Mr. Charles Kirkland to attend the "Let's Get Digital Seminar" at Bloomsburg University on April 20 (PM)-21, 2017. Cost to the district is \$135 and one substitute for one day. Using the school van. Voice vote; unanimous

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES

On a McLoughlin/Dellaflora motion approved Ms. Sue Mazur and students to attend the IUP Math Competition on April 20, 2017. Cost to the district is one substitute for one day. Using the school van. Voice vote; unanimous.

### BUILDING AND GROUNDS

On a J. Bertig/Smyers motion approved the following use of building and grounds: (1) Scott Bauer and Sharon Mechling to use the elementary gym on February 27-May 31, 2017 from 3:00-8:00 p.m. for baseball and softball practices. There are no fees; (2) Scott Bauer and Sharon Mechling to use the elementary gym on March 4, 11, and 18, 2017 from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. for baseball and softball clinics. There are no fees; (3) Carolyn Sacco to use the elementary library on Wednesday, March 29, 2017 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. for the Scholastic Family Night Book Fair. Cost to the district is one security guard for four hours totaling \$74.76; (4) Mrs. Krista Dunn and the HCAABC to use the high school gym and cafeteria for a Fourth Grade Basketball Tournament on Saturday, March 18, 2017 from 8:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m. The group will be charged \$350 in custodial fees. Voice vote; unanimous.

CAFETERIA – No report at this time.

## POLICIES

Informational – Considered a first reading of new Board Policy 600 Finances, #620, Fund Balance as noted in Appendix B.

TRANSPORTATION - No report at this time.

## BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

On a Hayes/Rado motion approved Mr. Daniel Cooper, Esquire, as the Homer-Center School District Solicitor for the 2017-2018 school year at the rate of \$80/hour and \$20 per trip each way to the District offices. Poll vote; motion carried 9-0.

On a Fabin/Rado motion approved the following: (1) accepted the donation from the Zion Lutheran Church of Indiana of 20 folding side arm chairs and cart; (2) approved continued participation in the ARIN IU 28 PPT (Pregnant and Parenting Teens) Program for the 2017-2018 school year. Homer-Center's share is \$900. Voice vote; unanimous.

On a McLoughlin/Fabin motion approved Parker Surveying & Engineering, LLC as the design consultant for the Homer-Center Elementary School Playground Project at a fee of \$2,600. Poll vote; motion carried 9-0.

## OTHER REPORTS

Mr. Stofa reported on the following: (1) Elks Essay Winners were announced: Alexandra Schmidt, Madison Bash and Alaina Fabin. They will be asked to attend the next Board Meeting and read their essays to the Board; (2) Parent-Teacher Conferences were held on February 9<sup>th</sup>; (3) Elementary Valentine's Day Parties were held on February 14<sup>th</sup>; (4) Kindergarten Registration will be held on March 1, 2017. All children who will be five years old before September 1, 2017 and live in the district can register.

Mr. Rainey reported on the following: (1) Girls playoffs Wed. Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> 7:00 p.m. vs. Blairsville, Home; Boys playoffs Thurs. Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> 7:00 p.m. vs. Bishop Guilfoyle at Bishop Guilfoyle; (2) Mrs. Olinger secured a grant from the Kids in Need Foundation in the amount of \$500. They will be purchasing virtual reality goggles for Mr. Buffone's science class; (3) Jr. High NHS induction will be April 10 at 1:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium; Sr. High NHS induction will be April 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria; (4) Baccalaureate is Sunday, May 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium; (5) Interact Club and Student council combined to hold a Homeless Awareness Drive Feb. 13-17; (6) Rainbow Room Registration is Feb. 20; (7) Senior play "Anne of Green Gables" has been moved to Tuesday, March 28 at 7:00 p.m.; (8) Reality Tour will be held at the Blairsville Community Center on March 15 at 6:00 p.m.; (9) Near Pod Training has begun and a complete article can be found on the HCEA Wildcat Tale.

Mrs. Genchur reported on the following: (1) Elementary SWPBIS assembly Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with Jump Rope for Heart; (2) Early Outreach – Joni Henri from Early Outreach has begun working with students to provide services to younger-transition age students with disabilities in planning and preparing for employment and/or postsecondary training; (3) School Based Mental Health – Family Psychological Associates to offer in-school mental health counseling services for those that qualify for their programming. This should begin in August, 2017. They will be on campus 2 days/week for a full day with 45 minute sessions each student to start.

Mr. Sutter reported on the following: (1) DCNR Conference Call on February 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss playground grant; (2) Siemens was in to install the coil in Room 205; (3) Rosebud Mining was in surveying for stress cracks on the interior and exterior of the buildings. A full report is forthcoming.

#### REPORT OF HCEA REPRESENTATIVE-Mrs. Adams

Mrs. Adams noted that the Wildcat Tale had been emailed to the Board. She also reported on the homeless drive currently underway at the high school.

#### REPORT OF HCESP PRESIDENT- Mr. Black

Since he was unable to attend the January Board Meeting, Mr. Black thanked the Board Members for their hard work and service to the students and staff.

#### REPORT OF BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Hayes thanked the administration for administering the water testing and thanked the local water authority for their help and support on this project. Mr. J. Bertig thanked Mr. Stofa for the grade level reports. He also thanked Mrs. Olinger for all her hard work on the recent grant proposals. He also noted the great work the elementary school is doing for the American Heart Association. Mr. McLoughlin congratulated Mr. Bauer and the Playground Committee on a tremendous job in securing the grants and their fundraising efforts. He also noted the great work of Mr. Rainey and the staff of the Heritage Conference on the recent championship games at the KCAC. Mrs. Smith noted how well done the Heritage Conference was and looks forward to working with the KCAC again next year. Mr. Rainey then presented a sample of new cheerleading uniforms for Board approval. Mr. Dellafiora, Mrs. Rado, Mr. Fabin, Mr. Smyers, and Mr. M. Bertig had no reports.

On a Hayes/Rado motion the meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m. Voice vote; unanimous. The Board went into Executive Session from 8:45-10:03 p.m. for negotiations reasons.

Submitted for board approval,

  
Rhonda Clifford, Board Secretary

Seal

Vicki Smith, Board President