



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

Members Present

Mr. Gerald Bertig
Mr. Michael Bertig
Mr. Logan Dellafiora
Mr. Daniel Fabin
Mr. Fred Hayes
Mr. Justin Smyers
Mrs. Vicki Smith

Members Absent

Mr. James McLoughlin
Mr. Robert Valyo

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

Homer-Center Staff Present

Len Black
Christina Bruno
Pamela Michael
Jon Stolarz
Brad Adams
Cindy Andrie
Josh Kapcoe
Kara Gardner
Sarah Cook
Scott Bauer
Lisa Golec
Dawn Yurky
Deanne Magolis
Dena Strini
Tawnya Hirsch
Suzanne Mateer

Media Present

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

Visitors

Everett Lee & Family
Abby Novak & Family
Jesse Lee & Family

The Board held an executive session from 7:01-7:41 p.m. for personnel reasons.

President Michael Bertig called the meeting to order at 7:42 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Homer-Center Mission Statement opened the meeting. Seven members were present at roll call to comprise a quorum.

VISITOR COMMENTS – None

PRESENTATIONS

Student Recognition

Mr. Stofa introduced Mrs. Dawn Yurky who presented Everett Lee with his Wildcat Recognition Award for January, 2018. Mr. Rainey presented Jesse Lee with his Wildcat Recognition Award for January, 2018. Mr. Dellafiora presented Abby Novak with her certificate as the Kiwanis Senior of the Month. Mr. Smyers gave all recipients an HC lapel pin from the Board.

School Director Recognition Month

January is School Director Recognition Month. Dr. Koren read a resolution to the Board and thanked them all for their service to our community, students and staff. The resolution will be added to the Board Minutes.

REPORTS

Homer-Center School Board Committees

Academic Committee – Mr. Michael Bertig gave a report that the committee continues to gain insight into the high school start time. The committee received a cost estimate from the bus company as to running the two schools simultaneously. Cost increase would be \$192,786 to transportation. Since this is not within our budget, they will be reviewing these times or tinkering with times instead. The committee also discussed the goals and school climate survey results.

Buildings and Grounds Committee- Mr. Jerry Bertig noted that there was no December meeting. He noted that the boiler issue was discussed at the Planning Meeting in January.

Homer-Center School Board Representatives to Outside Boards

Armstrong-Indiana Intermediate Unit #28-Mr. Hayes noted that the January meeting was cancelled due to weather. The next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2018.

Homer-Center Parks and Recreation-Mr. Smyers had no report.

Indiana County Technology Center-Mrs. Smith noted that the Business Manager at ICTC had resigned. They will be looking for a replacement. She also noted that the population at ICTC had increased.

Administration

Dr. Koren mentioned Mrs. Lisa Adams and the kidney donation she recently made. It is having such a positive effect on our students. He commended her actions. Mr. Michael Bertig also noted that this goes well beyond the cause for a colleague and that it shows that Homer-Center truly is a family.

Mr. Stofa submitted a written report, but had to leave the meeting early. He gave no verbal report.

Mr. Rainey reported on the following: (1) Teddy Bear Fund Drive- Students Nick Schmidt, Shelby Ursiak and Stephen Plowcha along with Mrs. Cindy Scott took a check to Renda Broadcasting in the amount of \$2,060 as their contribution. A video of the presentation was posted to the Homer-Center Facebook page; (2) The Heritage Conference Basketball Championships will be Friday, February 9 at the KCAC. Girls' game is at 6:00 p.m.; Boys' game to follow. Tickets are \$5.00 and available at the Box Office at the KCAC or online at iuptix.com. This year's championship will include an art exhibit from three students from each county school. Homer-Center students Lizzie Barenick, Faith Buggiey and Katie Burgess will have drawings on display as part of the exhibit. Also, Heritage Conference will present a \$250 scholarship to Nick Schmidt and Mikayla Dokos during the championship event.

Mrs. Genchur reported on the following: (1) Mid-Year Assessments in the elementary school are still underway. Weather and illness has prolonged the process; (2) SWPBIS second quarter ROAR assembly was held on Friday, January 19th. They will be honoring top Paw earners in each grade.

Faculty and Staff

Ms. Christina Bruno-HCEA-noted that today was the first day of the new semester.

Mr. Len Black-HCESP-noted it was a tough weather year. He thanked the Board Members for their hard work.

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE JANUARY 4, 2018 PLANNING MEETING-CONSENT ITEMS

On a Smyers/Hayes motion approved all consent items. Poll vote; motion carried 7-0.

Minutes of the December 14, 2017 Regular Meeting as noted in Appendix A.

Treasurer's Report and Cafeteria Cash Statement for December 30, 2017 as noted in Appendix B.

Approval of bills for the general fund, cafeteria and capital reserve fund for December, 2017 as noted in Appendix C.

Business Manager's Items:

Interest earned during December 2017 amounted to \$2,320.29.

Resolution and agreement for Homer-Center School District's participation in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program through the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the 2018-2019 school year as noted in Appendix D.

Resolution that the Homer-Center School District will not increase any school

district tax for the 2018-2019 school year at a rate above the Act 1 index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education as noted in Appendix E.

Committing \$1,309,109.75 for future capital projects as “Committed Fund Balance” within the General Fund, Fund Balance as per Homer-Center School District Policy #620.

Superintendent’s Items:

Personnel

(1) David Romance as an ARIN IU 28 Guest Teacher; (2) Mrs. Karen Marshall as the Marching Band Assistant at the supplemental salary of \$1,223 for the 2017-18 school year, retroactive to August 14, 2017; (3) Mr. Alex Arone as a boys’ basketball volunteer for a five week period retroactive to December 22, 2017; (4) Mr. Andrew Kent as a volunteer track coach for the 2017-2018 season.

Education

(1) Mrs. Erin Hildebrand to attend the Google Educator Level 2 Certification Boot Camp on January 22-23, 2018. Cost to the district is \$175 and one substitute for two days; (2) Mrs. Bethany Genchur to attend the PDE Conference in Hershey, PA on February 26-28, 2018. Cost to the district is \$503; (3) Mrs. Lisa Adams, Mrs. Cindy Scott to attend the OTDA Spring 2018 Institute for Educators Conference in State College, PA on May 10-11, 2018. Cost to the district is one substitute for 1.5 days; (4) Ms. Tammy Buffone to attend the Mandated Safety Care Initial Training at ARIN IU 28 on May 3-4, 2018. Cost to the district is \$50 and one substitute for two days.

Student Activities

(1) Mrs. Kristin Curci and students to attend Harrisburg University of Science and Technology on January 22, 2018. There is no cost to the district; (2) Senior Class Trip to Virginia Beach, Williamsburg and Busch Garden on May 21-23, 2018; (3) Transporting the junior high boys’ team from Homer-Center to the KCAC on Saturday, January 20, 2018 for "Heritage Conference Night - IUP Basketball".

Buildings and Grounds

(1) Mr. Nick Arone, Mr. Matt Wilson and the Homer City Boosters to use the Elementary gym on Friday, February 23, 2018 from 5:00-9:00 p.m.; Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and the high school gym on February 23, 2018 from 5:00-9:00 p.m.; Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. for basketball tournaments. With Board approval, the group will be charged custodial fees and security fees as needed (Sunday has been cancelled); (2) Mr. Nick Arone, Mr. Clyde Palmer and the Homer City Boosters to use the High School gym on Friday, March 16, 2018 5:00-9:00 p.m.; Saturday, March 17, 2018 11:00-7:00

p.m.; and Sunday, March 18, 2018 1:00-5:00 p.m. With Board approval, the group will be charged custodial fees and security fees as needed.

Cafeteria-No Report

Policies

First read of revisions to Policy #808, 800 Operations, Food Services.

Transportation – No Report

Board of Directors

(1) School Board Meeting Dates – February-June, 2018 as noted in Appendix F; (2) MOU between Homer-Center School District and HCESP for “Steps to Success” Program as noted in Appendix G; (3) COMPLY Agreement in the amount of \$4,147 effective July 1, 2018; (4) Department of the Auditor General Performance Audit dated December 2017 as noted in Appendix H; (5) Revised school calendar – cancellation day Jan. 5 – snow make-up day – Mar. 29th as noted in Appendix I.

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE JANUARY 4, 2018 PLANNING MEETING-NONE

NEW BUSINESS

On a Dellafiora/Smyers motion approved the following New Business. Poll vote; motion carried 7-0.

(1) Mrs. Christine Yurky to use the high school auditorium, LGI, cafeteria and 14 classrooms for the Youth and Government Legislative Convention on February 10, 2018 from 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; (2) Mrs. Erin Hildebrand to attend PIIC Meetings at ARIN IU 2 8 on January 25, February 15, March 15 and May 17, 2018. Cost to the district is one substitute for four days; (3) Mrs. Cindy Scott and Ms. Tammy Buffone to attend the Annual Special Education Conference in Hershey, PA on February 26-28, 2018. Cost to the district is \$576.00 and two substitutes for three days (NOTE: Mrs. Genchur noted that Ms. Buffone and Mrs. Scott would only need to pay for their dinners. The \$576 for the conference would be paid for by PDE).

OPEN DISCUSSION

On a Smith/Dellafiora motion supported a resolution opposing ESA Voucher Programs (SB 2). Poll vote; motion carried 7-0. A signed copy of the resolution will be sent to our Representatives by Vicki Smith. A signed copy of the resolution is also attached to the minutes.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. J. Bertig noted he liked the new format for consent items. He asked if we can still add items for the next meeting agenda as we had done previously. Mr. M. Bertig noted that we will. Mr. M. Bertig also noted that there is room on the Academic Committee and Building and Grounds Committee for any Board Member to serve on. No more than four Board Members can serve on any committee, so as not to have a quorum. (Note: Since the meeting, Mr. Logan Dellafiora has signed up for the Building and Grounds Committee). Mr. Fabin had no report. Mr. Dellafiora reiterated his opposition to SB 2 on the ESA Voucher Program. He noted this would be a move in the wrong direction for school districts. He also noted he enjoyed the past three year security briefing by Mr. Dan Sacco at the January 4th Planning Meeting. Mrs. Smith told everyone to stay warm and be safe. Mr. Hayes noted it was an honor to serve on the Board. He also noted how tough it is to operate on our budget with the limitations by the State and Federal Governments for our budget. Mr. Smyers had no report.

On a Hayes/Smyers motion the meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m. Voice vote; unanimous.

Submitted for board approval,



Rhonda Clifford, Board Secretary

Seal

Michael Bertig, President