

MINUTES OF BOARD WORKSHOP HELD JANUARY 15, 2014

The Board of Directors of the Greenville Area School District met for the Board Workshop on Wednesday, January 15, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., in the Lecture Hall of the Greenville High School. The following members were present: Charles Demarest, John Forbes, Evan Gruver, Laura Leskovac, Steve Lewis, Mary Reames, Richard Rossi, Howard Scott and President Dennis Webber.

Others present: Mark Ferrara, Superintendent
 Michele A. Orahoad, Board Secretary
 Brian S. Bronson, K-6 Elementary Principal
 Jodi Hibbard, Technology Technician
 Dr. Mark D. Hogue, Principal Grades 7-8-9
 Connie S. Timashenka, K-12 Special Education & Curriculum Director
 Brian S. Tokar, Principal Grades 10-11-12

Staff present: Two (2)
Visitors: Two (2)
Press: One (1)

1. Mr. Ferrara announced that January is the month board members are recognized for their service and presented each of them a certificate of appreciation for their dedication to the students and residents of Greenville. Mr. Tokar introduced Lindsey Wingard who attended the meeting to deliver a cheese tray on behalf of the Student Council. Hempfield and East Elementary staff contributed fruit and a cake for the board to enjoy during the Executive Session.
2. Mr. Bronson presented attendance information on the November 22 Parent/Teacher conferences where students' progress and predictive results were shared with parents. The Act 80 day provided the time to conduct a total of 572 conferences. The participation rates at Hempfield and East were 90% and 92% respectively.
3. Mr. Rossi presented a proposed Field Trip for Gifted Students to The Challenger Learning Center, Wheeling, WV on April 16, 2014.
4. Mr. Forbes gave an overview of items discussed and the recommendations from the Athletics Committee meeting held on January 15.
 - o Spring coaches list (partial), sports schedules
 - o Track transportation and supply bids. Mr. Webber expressed a concern on the increase and requested an update before next Tuesday's meeting.
 - o Revised winter coaches list
 - o Explained the solicitor has not recommended hiring \$1 coaches
 - o New pole vault mat needs for the track
 - o Requests for Use of Facilities – Knights of Columbus & Elks Club for Free Throw competitions
 - o Mr. Webber inquired about the notification sent to Commodore Perry concerning the Co-op.
5. Mr. Demarest reviewed the Budget Committee agenda from January 13.
 - o Act 1 Index
 - o PSBA BUCS Basic Program
 - o PSERS Rate
 - o \$500 Carryover for Section 125 Plans
 - o Procurement – Approval to Bid: Band Uniforms, Reestablish the crown and re-sod Stewart Field, Track

- o Capital Projects Fund
- o PlanCon Park K

Mrs. Reames commented that the State now includes the retirement reimbursement in the total increase of subsidy to the districts.

6. Mr. Ferrara reported on the Communication Council Meeting of November 12. He described the meetings as very productive to head off disagreements and that the dialogue has been good between administration and the association. Mrs. Kim Ohr concurred that the meeting have been positive. The council meets the second Tuesday of each month.
7. Mrs. Reames had nothing new to report from the Legislative Committee at this time.
8. Mr. Webber reported the Mercer County Career Center conducted its Reorganization Meeting in December and has 481 students currently enrolled. The Career Center will host a Skills USA competition in the coming months and plans to advertise lease opportunities for vacant land around the facility.
9. Mrs. Reames announced the Policy Committee Report will continue to review the 600-900 series.
10. Announced a donation in the amount of \$35,000 was received from UPMC.
11. Discussed the need for Speech and Language Contracted Services – MIU IV.
12. Discussed 2nd Semester Independent Studies for 2nd semester Art III.
13. Considered Use of Facilities Requests.
 - o MIU IV ABE/GED Classes
 - o Elks Hoop Shoot
 - o Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition
 - o His Work, His Way (Key Club & Varsity G)
14. Received request for Exoneration of Temporary and Permanent Occupational/Per Capita Tax
 - o Greenville Borough
 - o Hempfield Township
 - o Sugar Grove Township
15. Deferred discussion of a Parent Transportation Agreement to executive session.
16. Distributed a district organizational chart.

TOPICS REQUESTED BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Timashenka provided the board with a Special Education Services schematic.

Mr. Ferrara responded to an inquiry concerning a feasibility study conducted by HHSDR and discussed possible new additions to the buildings re-configuration of grade levels. Mr. Lewis contributed that hedging the interest rates could be beneficial in the overall cost of future borrowing.

Mr. Tokar, Dr. Hogue and Mr. Wig discussed various aspects of GPA, QPA in relation to Dual Enrollment opportunities.

Mr. Tokar informed the board that the High School is utilizing PowerSchool to electronically schedule students and produce a master schedule.

Mr. Bronson responded to a request for an update on the School Improvement Status of East Elementary. The School Performance Profile has replaced AYP and recognizes growth in each content area rather than a measurement of 17 benchmarks. East is utilizing Professional Learning Communities to analyze data and is no longer identified by PDE as a school that needs improvement.

Mr. Webber announced he and Mrs. Reames attended a presentation by Stanley Security on December 5 to hear of many options to increase school security. The board will begin working on new policies to tighten security within the district.

Mr. Gruver presented his letter of resignation from the board to President Webber in order to pursue employment opportunities with Grove City College. Mr. Webber, on behalf of the board, thanked him for his service and wished him well in his new pursuits.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Distributed December Board Meeting Minutes, Board & Administrator Publication for School Board Members and Financial Reports.

Upcoming Dates

Friday, January 17	District In-Service Day
Monday, January 20	Make Up Day for 1/7 Calamity Day
Tuesday, January 21	Regular Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Maintenance department is preparing the Hempfield house for occupancy at a target monthly rental fee of \$800 plus utilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Ferrara expressed his sincere thanks for everyone's participation in the board orientation meeting.

Mrs. Reames announced that plans are being finalized for a welcome reception for the Superintendent in February.

HEARING OF VISITORS

None

At 9:00 p.m. the board adjourned to Executive Session.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.


Michèle A. Orahood
Business Manager