

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF WILKINSBURG
LEGISLATIVE MEETING
August 23, 2016

The August 23, 2016 Legislative Meeting of the Wilkinsburg School District Board of Directors was called to order by the Board President, Ed Donovan at 7:05pm. The meeting was held in the Administration Building at 718 Wallace Avenue, starting with the Pledge of Allegiance. The following board members were in attendance: Klara K. Brown, Kathy Firestine, Michael A. Johnson, Joshua Miller, Debra Raubenstrauch, Beth Slaby, Kevin Urda, LaTonya Washington. Substitute Superintendent, John Frombach, Rick Liberto, Business Manager and the Solicitor Matthew Hoffman, of the firm Tucker Arensberg, P.C., were also present.

The Board met in Executive Session from 6:30 to 7:00pm on a Legal Matter. Ed Donovan introduced the new Superintendent Dr. Linda Iverson. He also shared a notebook of transition activities from Alschuler Communications and announced that it will be left with the Board Secretary for those who would like to review it.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

A motion was made by LaTonya Washington, seconded by Michael Johnson to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2016 Legislative Session.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Kathy Firestine, seconded by Michael Johnson to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2016 Special Legislative Session.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

BOARD GOVERNANCE

A motion was made by Joshua Miller, seconded by Kathy Firestine to approve the 2017 Kennywood Agreement.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Michael Johnson, seconded by LaTonya Washington to authorize the Board Secretary to cast the online ballot for the PSBA Slate of Candidates for 2017.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Kathy Firestine, seconded by Debra Raubenstrauch to approve the PA-Educator.net Contract of Services, in the amount of \$1,750 for the 2016-17 school year.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Debra Raubenstrauch, seconded by Joshua Miller to approve the attendance of Ed Donovan and Klara Brown at the 2016 PSBA School Leadership Conference (estimated costs of \$2,620).

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Michael Johnson, seconded by Kathy Firestine to approve the attendance of Jeanne Taylor at the 2016 PSBA School Board Secretaries Conference (estimated expenses of \$1,052).

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

EDUCATION/CURRICULUM

Dr. Matsook gave an update on the progress to-date with the Pittsburgh-Wilkinsburg Partnership.

A motion was made by Kathy Firestine, seconded by Debra Raubenstrauch to approve the contract with Interim Healthcare Services for skilled nursing services for a student attending the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, in the amount of \$42.00 per hour (estimated costs of \$60,480 for the 2016-17 school year).

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Kathy Firestine, seconded by Michael Johnson to approve the donation of High School Band instruments to Westinghouse Academy, in accordance with the list appended to the minutes.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Kathy Firestine, seconded by Debra Raubenstrauch to approve the donation of High School Athletic Equipment to Westinghouse Academy, in accordance with the list appended to the minutes.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by LaTonya Washington, seconded by Kevin Urda to approve the agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to provide Title I services at East Catholic, Sister Thea Bowman, and St. Bartholomew, for a total of \$46, 360.50.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by LaTonya Washington, seconded by Debra Raubenstrauch to approve the agreement with Allegheny Intermediate Unit to provide Title I services at Pittsburgh Urban Christian School, for a total of \$7,417.65.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Kathy Firestine, seconded by Michael Johnson to authorize the administration to contract for psychological services to conduct reevaluations on approximately 15 secondary students attending Westinghouse Academy in an amount not to exceed \$10,000, to be paid from transition funding.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Michael Johnson, seconded by Kevin Urda to approve the Contract to Sell or Purchase Meals From Schools with 1st Years Day Care for the 2016-17 school year.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Joshua Miller, seconded by Kathy Firestine to ratify and confirm the August 2016 General Fund payments of \$1,546,862.13 for benefits, and other operational expenses.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

FINANCE

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at 5:30p.m.

Board members attending: Deb Raubenstrauch (Chair), Ed Donovan, Beth Slaby, Kevin Urda, Latonya Washington Staff attending: Rick Liberto

Mr. Liberto reported the following:

- No new information regarding the purchase of Johnston School.
- Discussions with Verizon about placing a cell phone tower on top of the high school continue with the attorneys.
- All paperwork for ACCESS funds have been filed with the state. Waiting for state approval. The Allegheny Intermediate Unit will be training staff on how to do the paperwork.
- District received good news that PDE approved 15-16 Title I funding retroactive to July 1. \$600K of the \$1.3M has been received. The 16-17 Title I application has been filed. If approved, the district will receive \$1.4M.
- Preliminary work on the FY16 audit began Aug 10 and 11. Auditors plan to officially start on Sept. 26 and anticipate being completed by the end of October. Ms. Raubenstrauch asked that all adjusting entries made by the auditors be seen by the Board.
- Cash flow continues to look good through November. There are still some charter school payments being withheld from district subsidies, even though the schools have been notified to send the invoices directly to the District.
- Due to a conflict of interest, Tucker Arensburg cannot represent the District at the August 31 tax appeal hearing. Mr. Liberto will attend.

The 15-16 Summary of Revenue and Expenses and the 15-16 Balance Sheet were reviewed. While there are still audit adjustments for tax revenue and misc. other items, it appears that the district may end the year with a surplus.

Mr. Liberto reviewed the financial reconciliation report from PPS and WSD’s transition expenses. Mr. Donovan agreed to talk to the Committee about the expenses. Ms. Raubenstrauch asked to see the expenses reported in the categories that were budgeted.

No update on the Bond refinancing. Standard & Poors still has concerns with the partnership with Pittsburgh.

Review of Current Financial Statements

Bank Reconciliations - Mr. Liberto reviewed the General and payroll fund bank reconciliations through July. It was agreed that bank reconciliations will be emailed to board members each month and that they would no longer be printed out with other agenda items.

Treasurer’s Report - The check register for August was reviewed.

Monthly Financial Reports - The July regular financial reports were reviewed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Michael Johnson, seconded by Debra Raubenstrauch to approve the continued retention of John Frombach as a consultant through September 30, 2016, at the daily rate of \$450, to assist with the transition of the new superintendent and for the provision of consultant services as Interim Director of Facility Services (which includes responsibility for the management of

student transportation services). Thereafter, Mr. Frombach shall continue the provision of consultant services as Interim Director of Facility Services at an hourly rate of \$50 not to exceed thirty hours per week, until terminated by either party upon written notice.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Michael Johnson, seconded by Kathy Firestine to approve the following resignations:

1. Vickie Ammer, effective August 18, 2016.
2. Christy Kotnick, effective August 18, 2016.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Beth Slaby, seconded by Michael Johnson to approve the Nutrition, Inc. employees for the 2016-17 school year, per the attached list.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Kevin Urda, seconded by Kathy Firestine to approve the S. D. Transit, Inc. employees for the 2016-17 school year, per the attached list.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Michael Johnson, seconded by Debra Raubenstrauch to approve the amendment to the Kelly Staffing Agreement, to include substitute secretaries at a rate of \$17.04 per hour.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

FACILITIES/TRANSPORTATION/FOOD SERVICE

A motion was made by Michael Johnson, seconded by Debra Raubenstrauch to approve the expanded list of routes with SD Transit, Inc. for transportation services for the 2016-17 school year (estimated cost of \$1,151,710).

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Michael Johnson, seconded by Joshua Miller to approve the Security Services Contract with St. Moritz Security Services, Inc. for services at Kelly and Turner Elementary Schools for the 2016-17 school year (estimated cost of \$109,152), upon review and approval by the district solicitor.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Michael Johnson shared all of the details for the Back to School event being held on September 25th from 3:00 to 6:00pm.

POLICY AND PLANNING

none

NEW BUSINESS (SPEAKERS TO NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

none

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Any questions about the Solicitor's Report should be directed to the Superintendent.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Pre-K is fully enrolled as of August 23rd. Total enrollment includes: 275 at Kelly, 227 at Turner, and 202 at Westinghouse.

The district received notification that Compensatory Education Litigation has been filed by the Education Law Center. Ed thanked John for his service in the Superintendent role.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Michael Johnson, seconded by Kathy Firestine to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 pm.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Jeanne E. Taylor

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School Board Secretary