

January 05, 2016 – Board Work Session Minutes

President Mr. Oscar Manbeck called this Work Session of the Tulpehocken Area School District Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room. Pledge of Allegiance and opening Prayer followed.

PRESENT: Mr. Chris Heck, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Scott W. Klopp, Mr. Oscar J. Manbeck, Mr. William T. Palmer, Jr., Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller, Mr. Anthony Rodig, Mr. Daniel Steinhauer, and Mr. Arlan Werst.

ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Robert Schultz, Superintendent
Ms. Barbara Davis, Assistant to the Superintendent
Mr. Thomas Kowalonek, Business Manager
Ms. Lisa Kiss, Director of Special Education
Mr. Andrew Netznik, JSHS Principal
Ms. Diane Lotz, JSHS Assistant Principal
Mr. Mark Brown, Bethel Elementary Principal
Ms. Amanda Cipolla, Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal
Mr. Michael DeBakey, Director of Technology
Mr. Rick Triest, Director of Building & Grounds
Mrs. Mimi Shade, Recording Secretary

And the following interested citizens and staff: Ms. Amy Noecker, Ms. Madeline Marous, Ms. Angie Morous, Mr. Richard Klopp, Mr. Tom Moorhead, Ms. Roxanne McMurtry, Ms. Tammy Field, Mr. George Field, Ms. Suzanne Hamrick, Ms. Lynne Higgins, Mr. Aaron Boyer, Ms. Kelly Boyer, Ms. Samantha Bolles, Mr. Kyle Zellers, Ms. Christie Zellers, Mr. Kevin Zellers, Ms. Carol Zellers, Ms. Michelle Sowers, Ms. Katherine Werst, Mr. Michael Peace, Ms. Lisa Hassler, and Mr. Anthony Orozco, Reading Eagle.

Teacher/Student Presentation – Suzanne Hamrick & Amy Noecker

Google Classroom Presentation

Students of the Month – Penn-Bernville – Mrs. Amanda Cipolla, Principal

Students of the Month:

Suzanne Hamrick – Mackenzi Sowers
Alyssa Boyer

Amy Noecker – Madeline Marous
Sydney Zellers

The above students were recognized as Penn-Bernville Students of the month and also presented Google Classroom to the board. Each student explained and presented how they used

Google Classroom to complete a project. Three students showed how they used it to complete a STEM project and one showed them how she used it to complete a reading project. Each student was congratulated and Dr. Schultz thanked them and their parents for all their hard work.

I. Discussion Items

1. Superintendent's Report

A. 2014/2015 Audit Presentation – Herbein & Company, Inc. – Roxanne McMurtry

Ms. Roxanne McMurtry from Herbein & Company presented the 2014/2015 school year audit to the board. Ms. McMurtry stated that it was an excellent audit and there were no findings.

B. Board Appreciation Dinner – 01/19/2016 District Office Board Room 5:30 p.m.

Dr. Schultz informed the board that the before the next board meeting on January 19, 2016 the Administrators will be providing them dinner to show appreciation for their service.

C. 2016/2017 School Calendar

The preliminary calendar for the 2016/2017 school year was viewed and discussed.

2. Citizen/Student Participation (Pertaining to Agenda items only)

3. Buildings and Grounds

A. Waste Water Treatment Plant Update

Jefferson Township approved the variances with two conditions. We need to submit a plan for traffic control and we need to notify the neighbors of the work schedule.

4. Finance

A. Approve the 2014/2015 Audit from Herbein & Company as presented.

The above motion will be voted on at the 01/19/2016 board meeting.

Approve the resolution that states the Board of School Directors will not raise any school taxes above the stated index for the 2016/2017 school year.

The above motion was voted on as stated below.

- A. A resolution was offered by Mr. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Palmer, to approve the resolution that states the Board of School Directors will not raise any school taxes above the stated index for the 2016/2017 school year.

AYES: Mr. Chris Heck, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Scott W. Klopp, Mr. Oscar J. Manbeck, Mr. William T. Palmer, Jr., Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller, Mr. Anthony Rodig, Mr. Daniel Steinhauer, and Mr. Arlan Werst.

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

5. Personnel

A. Personnel items are discussed in executive session.

6. Programs

A. Internship

The possibility of eliminating senior projects and replacing it with an Internship Program was discussed at great length. It is in the early stages of discussion and they would want to start small with juniors and seniors. There are not funds to pay for staffing to keep grad projects and also offer the Internship program. This topic will be discussed again at a future board meeting.

Mr. Richard Klopp stated that he works with the Boy Scouts and he has seen boys use the grad project to help earn their Eagle Scout status. He would hate to see the community service go away.

7. Policy

A. Give first reading with the intent to give second reading and final approval on February 16, 2016 to the following policy:

113.3 Screening and Evaluations for Students with Disabilities

The above motion was discussed and it was agreed that it will appear on the 01/19/2016 voting session agenda.

8. Curriculum

A. National Constitution Field Trip (Late February 2016) – Mr. Michael Minnich & Ms. Connie Tworkoski

B. Philadelphia Museum of Art (Late February 2016) – Ms. Connie Tworkoski

C. 11th Grade AP/RACC US History Field Trip to Gettysburg (April 1, 2016) – Mr. Michael Minnich

The above field trips were presented to the board and will appear on the 01/19/2016 voting session agenda.

D. STEM Update – Ms. Barbara Davis

Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Bolles updated the board on the STEM program and how well it is going.

9. Items for Board Action

- A. Approve the listed appointments for the Board committees for 2016.
- B. Approve the listed Board representatives for 2016.
- C. Approve the recommendation to use the law firm of Kozloff Stoudt as the school Solicitor for 2016 at the stated rate (no increase).

The above motion was discussed and it was agreed that it will appear on the 01/19/2016 voting session agenda.

10. Technology

- A. Approve the contract with Berks County Intermediate Unit for Regional Wide Area Network (RWAN) and dedicated Internet access beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2021.

The above motion was discussed and it was agreed that it will appear on the 01/19/2016 voting session agenda.

11. Transportation

Mr. Manbeck inquired about the BCIU transportation contract. Mr. Kowalonek informed him that we are beginning negotiations.

12. Legislative

13. Administrative Reports

Mrs. Lotz reported that they are getting ready for the last day of the quarter and gearing up for semester exams.

Mr. Netznik reported that he put an invite in front of them from Lynne Higgins to see our students art work at Goggleworks and Yoccum. We had a day time basketball game with Antietam before the break that was a huge success. We hope to continue this and make it an annual event.

Mr. Brown reported that they held a Holiday around the World Assembly and the students got to see how different countries celebrate Christmas. They are planning a STEM night at Bethel Elementary on February 11, 2016.

Mrs. Cipolla reported that the 1st grade at Penn-Bernville did a fantastic job making ginger bread houses. The Holiday concerts were wonderful. The kids did a great job. They will be holding winter games next Friday.

Mr. Triest reported that he is doing walk-throughs of all the buildings

Mrs. Kiss reported that we have two students up at the JSHS in co-op positions. The MakerSpace rooms have been a great success for her kids.

Mr. DeBakey reported and thanked his staff for all their hard work.

14. Old Business

Mr. Scott Klopp inquired about the SRO and how it is going. He was informed that it is going great and the three officers alternate the schedule. They are building great relationships with the students.

15. New Business

Mr. Rodig inquired about energy grants and stated that he found a really good one. Mr. Kowalonek will be checking into this.

16. Public Comment

Mr. Field inquired if tonight was the first time the board saw the audit. It was explained that there was an audit exit meeting held. The presentation on board meeting night is only a synopsis of the audit.

Mr. Field also commented that he felt the Internship program was a good thing.

Mrs. Hassler informed the board that her daughter will be attending a cyber/charter school for the 2016/2017 school year. She wanted to inform the board because it would involve transportation. Mr. Manbeck said that it would be considered if it met the guidelines.

II. Adjournment

Mr. Palmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Werst.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m. Executive Session was held after the board meeting.

*Mrs. April L. Klopp
Board Secretary*