

## **January 08, 2013 – Board Work Session Minutes**

President Mr. Scott Klopp 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 followed.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Dennis Baver, Mrs. Beverly Blatt, Mrs. Evelyn F. Fox, Mrs. Lisa Hassler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Scott W. Klopp, Mr. Oscar J. Manbeck and Mr. William T. Palmer, Jr.

**ABSENT:**

### **ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

Dr. Edward Albert, Superintendent  
Mr. Thomas Kowalonek, Business Manager  
Ms. Barbara Davis, Director of Instruction & Curriculum  
Ms. Lisa Kiss, Director of Special Education  
Ms. Bonnie Benfer, Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal  
Ms. Cynthia Jenkins, Bethel Elementary Principal  
Mr. Donald Jones, Jr/Sr High Principal  
Mr. Jason Bottiglieri, Jr/Sr High Assistant Principal  
Mr. Michael Leister, Junior High House Principal  
Mr. Stephen Corcoran, Director of Technology  
Mr. Brian Boland, Solicitor  
Mrs. Mimi Shade, Recording Secretary

And the following interested citizens and staff: Ms. Rebecca Davis, Ms. Millie Bross, Mr. Daniel Steinhauer, Mr. Arlan Werst, Mr. Leon Huey, Ms. Paula Huey, Mr. Alex DiGenova, Mr. Dimitri Fantozzi, Mr. John Reece, Ms. Joanne Reese, and Ms. Jill DiGenova.

### **Students of the Month – Penn-Bernville – Ms. Bonnie Benfer, Principal**

- Mrs. Gernsheimer – Mayce Reece & Matthew Boyer
- Mrs. Hamrick – Madelyn Yatchyshyn & Kristen Quillman
- Mrs. Noecker – Kaitlynn Quillman & Sean Pacilio

*The above student's were recognized for being students of the month.*

### **BCTC Students of the Quarter – Mr. Don Jones, JSHS Principal**

- **West Center –**
  - Jacob Digenova – Automotive Collision Repair Technology
  - Lee Epler – Automotive Technology II
  - Brandon Hartranft – Electrical Occupations
  - Kira Naftzinger – Technology Based Entrepreneurship
- **East Center –**
  - Dimitri Fantozzi – Heavy Equipment

*The above student's were recognized for being students of the quarter for BCTC.*

I. Discussion Items

**1. Superintendent's Report**

A. Special Education Audit Presentation – Depart of Education/ Rebecca Davis

*Ms. Rebecca Davis, from the Department of Education informed the board that the Special Ed. Audit went extremely well and we should be very proud. There were no findings.*

B. Business & Computer Brochure

*Dr. Albert showed the board a brochure with information regarding the course offerings for business and computers. There is also one for the tech ed department. These brochures are used to help the students know what is being offered and what the classes are about.*

C. BCTC Comments About Tulpehocken

*Dr. Albert informed the board that we received positive comments from a parent regarding how well we work with BCTC. BCTC also stated that we are great district to work with and we have around 25% of our eligible student population attending there.*

D. Township/Clergy Meetings

*Dr. Albert informed the board that he held his Township and Clergy meetings. They continue to be beneficial and go very well.*

E. Safety of our Schools Report

*Dr. Albert informed the board that we take the safety of our schools very seriously and we are holding meetings and doing everything we can to make the school as safe as it can be.*

F. National Honor Society Pictures/Wrapping Gifts & Helping at Berks Heim

*Dr. Albert shared photos with the board that were taken when the National Honor Society went to Berks Heim to help with their Santa Shoppe. Mrs. Sandy Manbeck facilitated this opportunity.*

G. Foundation Donation

*Dr. Albert informed the board that we received two donations to the foundation one was solely earmarked for the instrumental department.*

H. Church Use of the Board Room – 4 Hours on Sunday

*Dr. Albert informed the board that he was contacted by a couple of gentleman that would like to use the boardroom for church services on Sunday morning. Dr. Albert will be seeking some more information and bring this back before the board.*

***Dr. Albert informed the board that we will be discussing graduation requirements at the 01/15/2013 board meeting.***

## **2. Buildings and Grounds**

- A. Camera Discussion at the High School

***Discussion was held regarding cameras at the buildings. There will be more information to follow regarding cost and detail.***

## **3. Finance**

- A. 2011/2012 Audit Presentation – Linda Himeback, Herbein & Company, Inc.

***Ms. Himeback will be presenting the audit to the board on 01/15/2013.***

- B. Approve the resolution that states the Board of School Directors will not raise any school taxes above the stated index for the 2013/2014 school year.
- C. Approve the 2013 Bond Resolution as presented to the Board.

***The above motions were discussed and will appear on the 01/15/2013 board agenda.***

- D. Bond Rating Report – Tom Kowalonek

***Tom presented the bond rating report to the board. Tom will be looking into a debt management policy.***

## **4. Personnel**

- A. Personnel items are discussed in executive session.

## **5. Programs**

## **6. Policy**

- A. Field Trip Discussion – Policy 121

***Dr. Albert asked the board what they wanted to change regarding the field trip policy. It was discussed and the policy will be looked at.***

## **7. Curriculum**

- A. Upcoming Field Trips: These trips have all been approved by the board in the past.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Trip to Baltimore
  - 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Trip to Washington, D.C.
  - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Trip to New York City
  - US History trip to Gettysburg

*The board was notified that the above field trips will be on the 01/15/2013 board agenda for approval.*

FBLA Fundraising – Millie Bross

*Millie Bross and Kali Wentling asked the board to consider having the FBLA become a club at the JSHS. The board will vote on it at the 01/15/2013 board meeting.*

B. PA School Profile – Barb Davis

*Barb Davis informed the board that the Pennsylvania Department of Education will be doing school profiles for all districts. They will be rating each school. There has not been a release date announced yet.*

## **8. Items for Board Action**

- A. Approve the listed appointments for the Board committees for 2013.
- B. Approve the listed Board representatives for 2013.
- C. Approve the recommendation to use the law firm of Kozloff Stoudt as the school Solicitor for 2013 at the stated rate.
- D. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors of the Tulpehocken Area School District hereby approves the discipline described in the Admission of Fact, Waiver of Hearing, Acknowledgment of Compliance with Procedural Safeguards and Consent to Expulsion concerning student #3000086, and to ratify the execution of same by Dr. Edward Albert, Superintendent of Schools on December 10, 2012.

*The above motions were discussed and will appear on the 01/15/2013 board agenda.*

## **9. Technology**

## **10. Transportation**

## **11. Legislative**

## **12. Administrative Reports**

*Steve Corcoran reported that they are testing a Home Access Program and the eighth grade class will be using it for their course selection to see how it works. They are working on upgrading the library circulation system. They are in the process of planning out early summer upgrades.*

*Don Jones reported that the Keystone exams are completed and we should be seeing those results sometime in March. The concert season was wonderful, the kids did great. Three Tulpehocken students were honored at the state farm show. On-line course selection is being tested and the course selection nights are coming soon.*

*Jason Bottiglieri reported that the discipline report is in front of them. They are holding a crisis team summit this week.*

*Bonnie Benfer & Cindy Jenkins reported that the gift giving for Lavallette Elementary School in New Jersey totaled \$1400.00. They sent snowflakes to Sandy Hook Elementary school in Connecticut to make the kids feel better as they started school again. The Archie Talley assemblies were a huge success. They are getting ready for the Geo Bee.*

*Barb Davis reported that they had several meetings regarding TVA and how they can meet the needs better. She is working on the 2013/2014 school calendar.*

*Lisa Kiss reported that she is very grateful to Rebecca Davis for coming out this evening and reporting on the audit. She is very thankful to all the staff and admin for all the work they have done.*

*Mike Leister reported that they are holding a crisis team summit this week. The Archie Talley assembly was a huge success. They are getting ready for the Spelling Bee.*

**13. Old Business**

**14. New Business**

**15. Public Comment**

**II. Adjournment**

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

*The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. Executive Session was held before after the board meeting.*

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*Ms. Lisa Hassler  
Board Secretary*