

March 01, 2022 – Board Work Session Minutes

President Mr. Kyle Batz called this Work Session of the Tulpehocken Area School District Board of Directors to order in the District Office Board Room at 7:01 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance and opening Prayer followed.

PRESENT: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick (7:03 p.m.), Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Andrew Netznik, Superintendent
Mr. Thomas Kowalonek, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Taylor Charles, Director of Pupil Services
Mr. Christopher Hamrick, HS Principal
Mr. Michael Leister, Assistant HS Principal
Mr. Andrew Guers, Bethel Elementary Principal
Ms. Jena Damiani, Penn- Bernville Elementary Principal
Mr. Matthew Shirk, Director of Technology
Mr. Heston Frey, Director of Operations
Ms. Mimi Shade, Recording Secretary

And the following interested citizens and staff: Ms. Lisa Hassler, Mr. Larry Raifsnider, Ms. Emma Raifsnider, Mr. Gerald Bender, Ms. Heather Joy and Family, Ms. Jessica Moyer, Ms. Sara Jackson, Ms. Sianna Jackson, Chris Holding & Family, Ms. Brittany Weaver, Ms. Casey Darnell, Mr. Judah Darnell, Mr. Phil Thomas, Ms. Angela Thomas, Ms. Jolie Thomas, Mr. Tom Moorhead, Mr. Kevin Tran & Family, Mr. Chris Kraemer, Mr. Anthony Rodig, Ms. Michelle Wright, Ms. Jennifer Kester, and Mr. Chris Hoffert & Mr. Mark Quinn of Stifel.

Call to Order President

Pledge of Allegiance.....President

Prayer.....Board Member

Roll CallRecording Secretary

Students of the Month – Penn – Bernville Elementary – Mrs. Jena Damiani, Principal

Mrs. Kercher:

Jolie Thomas
Judah Darnell

Mrs. Moyer:

Emma Raifsnider
Samuel Joy

Mrs. M. Snyder:

Sianna Jackson
Carter Tran

The above students were recognized for being students of the month and congratulated for all their hard work. Parents & Grandparents were also congratulated and thanked for their support and hard work as well.

I. Discussion Items

1. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Andrew Netznik

A. Gifted Field Trips – Ms. Connie Tworkoski

Ms. Tworkoski presented the planned gifted field trips to the board. They are planning on going to the Franklin Institute and Doylestown/Allentown area to experience venues there. This will be voted on at the March 15, 2022 board meeting.

Dr. Netznik congratulated the Boys' Basketball team and informed the board that they are in districts and are hoping to make it to States.

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

Mrs. Hassler asked in regards to the language curriculum is this the same program that was approved before. Dr. Netznik responded: Yes, teachers are now writing the curriculum for that program. It is part of the CKLA program.

Mr. Rodig asked if the Switch Hardware was part of the budget. Mr. Shirk responded that it is part of the five-year plan.

3. Buildings and Grounds

A. Lawn Service Bidding– Mr. Tom Kowalonek/ Mr. Heston Frey

Mr. Kowalonek and Mr. Frey informed the board that we are going out to bid for lawn service for the elementary buildings and the district office. The staff takes care of the JSHS. The bids will be opened on Monday March 14, 2022. The lowest bid will be voted on at the March 15, 2022 board meeting.

B. Penn-Bernville Elevator Repair – Mr. Tom Kowalonek/ Mr. Heston Frey

Mr. Kowalonek and Mr. Frey explained that the elevator is need of repairs at Penn- Bernville Elementary. The elevator Jack needs repaired and the DMC Board needs to be replaced. This was voted on as stated below.

- 3B.1 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the company Schindler Elevator to make the necessary elevator jack repair at Penn – Bernville Elementary School at a cost of \$56,963 in accordance with the PA General Services state contract

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

3B.2 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the company TKE to make the necessary elevator DMC Board replacement at Penn – Bernville Elementary School at a cost of \$8,690 in accordance with the CO-Stars state contract.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

C. Operational Plan – Year 1 – Mr. Tom Kowalonek/ Mr. Heston Frey

Mr. Kowalonek and Mr. Frey went over year one of the operations plan. Each item on the operations plan will be voted as we need to proceed with that item. There will be items to be voted on at the March 15, 2022 board meeting.

4. Finance

A. JSHS Renovation Bond Financing Resolutions – Mr. Mark Quinn & Mr. Christopher Hoffert, Stifel Public Finance

Mr. Quinn & Mr. Hoffert explained the bond process to the board. The board agreed to allow advertising for a bond. There will a bond parameter resolution up for vote at the March 15, 2022 board meeting.

B. Approve donating the stipend for the Board Treasurer of \$500 and the Board Secretary of \$900 to be donated as the Board of Director's Scholarship Award.

C. Approve the 2022/2023 Berks County Career and Technology Center Operating Budget as presented to the Board

The above motion was acknowledged and will be voted on at the March 15, 2022 board meeting.

5. Personnel

A. Accept the resignation of:

- Barbara Wealand Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent for the purpose of retirement, effective May 31, 2022.
- Sierra Briskey as a part-time Emotional Support Paraprofessional at Penn Bernville Elementary, effective February 13, 2022.

B. **Approve Alvin Lynch as Junior High School Principal effective upon release from his current employer at a salary of \$90,500 prorated to the number of days worked for the remaining days within the 2021-2022 school year and a salary of \$90,500 for the 2022-2023 school year, pending completion of paperwork.**

C. Approve the following employment:

A. Support Staff

- Approve the transfer of Gina Gettle from Emotional Support Paraprofessional at Penn Bernville Elementary to Title I Paraprofessional at Bethel Elementary at an hourly rate of \$13.59 effective 2/21/2022.

D. Approve Nina Shelburne as a long-term substitute teacher District Wide from March 16, 2022 thru approximately the end of the 2021-2022 school year at Step 1B \$51,193 pro-rated to the number of days worked. Pending completion of employment paperwork.

E. **Approve the following volunteers for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year:**

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Kyle Kaulbach | Field Trips/Classroom/School Events |
| • Irena Kaulbach | Field Trips/Classroom/School Events |
| • Donna Donkel | Field Trips/Classroom/School Events |
| • Susan Cipa | Classroom |
| • Donna Donkel | Field Trips/Classroom/School Events |
| • Julie Fox | Field Trips/School Events |
| • Crystal Stoltz | Field Trips/Classroom/School Events |

Motion 5B and 5E were voted as stated below. The remaining motions were acknowledged and will be voted on at the March 15, 2022 board meeting.

5B A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve Alvin Lynch as Junior High School Principal effective upon release from his current employer at a salary of \$90,500 prorated to the number of days worked for the remaining days within the

2021-2022 school year and a salary of \$90,500 for the 2022-2023 school year, pending completion of paperwork.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

5E A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve the following volunteers for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year:

- | | | |
|---|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| • | Kyle Kaulbach | Field Trips/Classroom/School Events |
| • | Irena Kaulbach | Field Trips/Classroom/School Events |
| • | Donna Donkel | Field Trips/Classroom/School Events |
| • | Susan Cipa | Classroom |
| • | Donna Donkel | Field Trips/Classroom/School Events |
| • | Julie Fox | Field Trips/School Events |
| • | Crystal Stoltz | Field Trips/Classroom/School Events |

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

6. Programs

7. Policy

8. Curriculum

A. Approve the following Curriculum:

- **English Language Arts Grade 1**
- **English Language Arts Grade 4**

The above motion was voted on as stated below.

8A A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following Curriculum:

- English Language Arts Grade 1
- English Language Arts Grade 4

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

B. Approve the following Curriculum:

- English Language Arts Grade 5
- English Language Arts Grade 6
- Junior-Senior High Chorus
- Junior-Senior High Concert Band

The above motion was acknowledged and will be voted on at the March 15, 2022 board meeting.

9. Items for Board Action

A. Approve the discipline agreement between Tulpehocken Area School District and student #3934332137.

The above motion was acknowledged and will be voted on at the March 15, 2022 board meeting

10. Technology

A. eRate Switch Hardware – Mr. Shirk

Mr. Shirk informed the board that we need to upgrade our switches to handle upgraded technology. The total to upgrade would be \$113, 331.68 through e-rate. Our portion will be \$33,999.51. This will be voted on at the March 15, 2022 board meeting.

B. Camera System Upgrade for Penn-Bernville – Mr. Shirk

Mr. Shirk informed the board that it is time to complete the camera system upgrade at Penn – Bernville Elementary. They would be ordered through VerKada and the cost would be \$23,260.00. This will be voted on at the March 15, 2022 board meeting.

11. Transportation

Mr. Kowalonek informed the board that 9 bid specs were sent out. The bids are due and will be opened on March 14, 2022. There will be a motion up for vote on the March 15, 2022 agenda.

12. Legislative

13. Administrative Reports

- Ms. Jena Damiani – Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal

Ms. Damiani reported that it is Read Across America week and spirit week. There is a local author coming to read to the students on March 2, 2022. We are in the process of Kindergarten Registration.

- Mr. Andrew Guers – Bethel Elementary Principal

Mr. Guers reported that the vending machine now has 35 books in it for the students to obtain. They are five third grade students that are having lunch with the Superintendent on Friday. The PTO is busy organizing the beach bash.

- Mr. Christopher Hamrick – High School Principal

Mr. Hamrick reported the musical Matilda is coming up on March 25, 2022 & March 26, 2022. The FFA breakfast is this Friday. The Hydro and Aquaponics tanks are up and running. There are not any fish in it yet. The Mini-Thon is this Saturday.

- Mr. Michael Leister – Assistant Principal

Mr. Leister reported that Angelle Rescigno has art displayed at the Yocum Institute for Arts. The Boys' Basketball team placed third at district's and will play in the state tournament for the first time since 2007. Spring sports will start on March 7, 2022.

- Mr. Matthew Shirk – Director of Technology

Mr. Shirk reported that they are busy with the musical and thanked Kyle Zellers for all of his help. The winter sports streaming has concluded. The Mini-Thon is approaching.

14. Old Business

Mr. Kowalonek stated that Barbara Wealand will be missed. She does a great job and does a lot for him.

15. New Business

16. Public Comment

Ms. Michelle Wright asked for a prom update. Mr. Hamrick responded that they are in the process of visiting venues and will be meeting with the prom committee on Friday.

Mr. Rodig inquired if the Cub Cadet, Toro & the John Deer could be used instead of buying a new tractor. Dr. Netznik & Mr. Frey responded that the trainers use two of the three tractors and the grounds tractor is in bad shape and in need of replacing.

Mr. Rodig asked if the insurance company was able to help pay for the door at the stadium. Mr. Frey and Dr. Netznik responded that they will check into it.

Mr. Bender stated that he has been living in our district since 1984 and stated that if equipment is maintained it will last a long time.

II. Adjournment

Mr. Batz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Heck. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

*Mrs. April Klopp
Board Secretary*