

## **March 02, 2021 – Board Work Session Minutes**

President Mr. Oscar Manbeck called this Voting Session of the Tulpehocken Area School District Board of Directors to order at 7:01 p.m. via Zoom. Pledge of Allegiance and opening Prayer followed.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Chris Heck (7:07p.m.), Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. Oscar J. Manbeck, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller, Mr. Anthony Rodig, and Mr. Daniel Steinhauer.

**ABSENT:**

### **ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

Mr. Andrew Netznik, Superintendent  
Mrs. Amanda Cipolla, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Thomas Kowalonek, Chief Financial Officer  
Mrs. Kristin Holst, Director of Pupil Services  
Mrs. Rebecca Marmas, Assistant Director of Pupil Services  
Mr. Justin Welker, JSHS Principal  
Mr. Christopher Hamrick, Assistant JSHS Principal  
Ms. Jena Damiani, Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal  
Mr. Andrew Guers, Bethel Elementary Principal  
Mr. Matthew Shirk, Director of Technology  
Ms. Jillian Bergman, Director of Food Services  
Mr. Heston Frey, Director of Operations  
Mrs. Mimi Shade, Board Recording Secretary

**And the following interested citizens and staff:** Ms. Ashley Pastor, Ms. Alyssa Strauss, Mr. Chris Kraemer, Ms. Dawn Weiss, Elaan and Jason Honicker, Ms. Erin Chiveral, Ms. Holly Baer, Ms. Jamie Schur, Ms. Jocelyn Gross, Ms. Kristan Karl, Mr. Kevin Avery, Ms. Leigh Bragg, Ms. Mary Snyder, Ms. Michelle Wright, Mrs. Jacobs, Ms. Pamela Hoffert, Ms. Staci Ahrensfield, Ms. Tina Wise, Ms. Elaine Fernandez, Ms. Kayle O'Neill, Ms. Rachel Heim, Ms. Rachel Moyer, Ms. Ashely Count, Ms. Kylene Sanders, Ms. Marcy Wink, and Mr. Robert Neiswender

Call to Order ..... President

Pledge of Allegiance.....President

Prayer.....Board Member

Roll Call .....Recording Secretary

I. Discussion Items

#### **1. Superintendent's Report**

***Mr. Netznik and Mr. Guers informed the board that Dollar General gave Bethel Elementary \$50,000 to go towards literacy.***

A. Discussion on the JSHS Project

*There was discussion held regarding the JSHS project and what the next steps would be. It was decided to have the architects at the March 16, 2021 voting session to present and answer any questions the board may have.*

B. 2020/2021 School Year Update

*Mr. Netznik opened up discussion with the board regarding when/if to return to 5 days a week of in person instruction. There was discussion and questions were fielded and answered from the public. This was voted on as stated below.*

- 1B. A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to approve returning to in person instruction 5 days per week starting with the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, still keeping the live stream option for those that want to continue to use it.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. Oscar J. Manbeck, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller, and Mr. Anthony Rodig, and Mr. Daniel Steinhauer.

NAYS: Mrs. April Klopp

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-1.

---

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

3. Buildings and Grounds

4. Finance

- A. 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.

- B. Approve the 2021/2022 Berks County Career and Technology Center Operating Budget as presented to the Board.

*The above motions were discussed and will be voted on at the March 16, 2021 board meeting.*

5. Personnel

*The below motions were voted on as stated below.*

A. Accept the following Resignations:

- Kayle O'Neill, Emotional Support Teacher at Penn - Bernville Elementary, effective February 18, 2021.

- **Susan Burns for the purpose of retirement, Junior Senior High School Counselor, effective with the last day of the 2020-2021 school year. The day will be at the conclusion of extra summer days worked until June 18, 2021.**

5A. A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to accept the following Resignations:

- Kayle O'Neill, Emotional Support Teacher at Penn - Bernville Elementary, effective February 18, 2021.
- Susan Burns for the purpose of retirement, Junior Senior High School Counselor, effective with the last day of the 2020-2021 school year. The day will be at the conclusion of extra summer days worked until June 18, 2021.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Chris Heck, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. Oscar J. Manbeck, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller, Mr. Anthony Rodig, and Mr. Daniel Steinhauer.

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

**B. Approve supplemental contracts for the Spring Coach positions for the 2020-2021 sports season. In the event of an extended/mandatory school closure and/or the cancellation of an athletic season, stipends will be prorated to the number of days worked during the in-season time, unless documentation is provided to and approved by the superintendent justifying the continuation of the extra-curricular position during an extended/mandatory school closure.**

- **Ernest Woolf Asst. Junior High Track and Field Coach \$1,335.00**

5B. A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve supplemental contracts for the Spring Coach positions for the 2020-2021 sports season. In the event of an extended/mandatory school closure and/or the cancellation of an athletic season, stipends will be prorated to the number of days worked during the in-season time, unless documentation is provided to and approved by the superintendent justifying the continuation of the extra-curricular position during an extended/mandatory school closure.

- Ernest Woolf Asst. Junior High Track and Field Coach \$1,335.00

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Chris Heck, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. Oscar J. Manbeck, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller, and Mr. Anthony Rodig.

NAYS: Mr. Daniel Steinhauer

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-1.

---

**C. Approve Ryan Gallagher as a School Psychologist, Step 6M+45 at a salary of \$66,091, pro-rated to the number of days worked, start date pending release from current school district.**

5C. A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve Ryan Gallagher as a School Psychologist, Step 6M+45 at a salary of \$66,091, pro-rated to the number of days worked, start date pending release from current school district.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Chris Heck, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. Oscar J. Manbeck, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller, Mr. Anthony Rodig, and Mr. Daniel Steinhauer.

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

---

**6. Programs**

**7. Policy**

**8. Curriculum**

**9. Items for Board Action**

*The below motion was voted on as stated below.*

**A. Approve the revised Special Education Settlement Agreement #2021-01 originally approved at the January 19, 2021 listed as motion 9.0.5.**

9A. A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the revised Special Education Settlement Agreement #2021-01 originally approved at the January 19, 2021 listed as motion 9.0.5.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Chris Heck, Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. Oscar J. Manbeck, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller, Mr. Anthony Rodig, and Mr. Daniel Steinhauer.

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 9-0.

---

**10. Technology**

## **11. Transportation**

## **12. Legislative**

## **13. Administrative Reports**

- Ms. Jena Damiani – Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal

*Ms. Damiani reported that they are celebrating Read Across America week. Our reading specialists and Kylene Sanders (STEM teacher) created a fun week of activities and spirit days. They are beginning to plan for state testing (PSSAs).*

- Mr. Andrew Guers – Bethel Elementary Principal

*Mr. Guers reported that Dollar General Corporation donated a very generous \$50,000 to promote literacy at Bethel Elementary School. We will be using the funds to foster the love of reading in our students. During the school week, grade levels held WIN time (what I need) prior to dismissal to catch students up on work and to work individually with students that need extra support. On virtual Wednesdays, they have students coming to the building to receive individual help and instruction from 9-11:30 a.m. He holds a study session for students weekly on a Thursday. Students are with him from 3:30-4:30 and work on missing work and assignments.*

- Mr. Justin Welker – JSHS Principal

*Mr. Welker reported that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade history classes have had a guest speaker. They are preparing for the musical coming up. You will be able to access the link to watch it virtually for a fee on our website. The boys' basketball team are in a district playoff game this evening.*

- Mr. Christopher Hamrick – JSHS Assistant Principal

*Mr. Hamrick reported that Mr. Stoy's class has been collecting plastic bags in order to help the environment and to build a recycled plastic picnic table. They have beaten last year's mark. Angelle Riscigno was awarded the Coggins award from the Yokum institute of the arts. Her art work is from a cross curricular assignment in which she created the visuals for another students short story.*

- Ms. Jillian Bergman – Director of Food Services

*Ms. Bergman reported that the cafeteria has had to readjust with the virtual days, but everyone handled it well. They had a valentine's day contest and it was received well by the students.*

- Ms. Kristin Holst – Director of Pupil Services

*Ms. Holst reported that they are excited about our new school psychologist. They are piloting a new program to obtain signatures and they are excited to see how it works.*

- Ms. Rebecca Marmas – Assistant Director of Pupil Services

*Ms. Marmas reported that she has been busy working in the ER transition. She has been out in all of the buildings.*

- Mr. Heston Frey – Director of Operations

*Mr. Frey reported that they were pretty busy with snow removal, but everything went great. They have been busy taking care of odds and ends at the JSHS. He is really happy with the HIPPO system and how things are working and helping keep track and assess maintenance.*

- Mr. Matthew Shirk – Director of Technology

*Mr. Shirk reported that Conner Davis is our student technology worker and he is doing a great job.*

## **14. Old Business**

**15. New Business**

**16. Public Comment**

**17. Adjournment**

II. Adjournment

*Mr. Palmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Heck. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.*

---

*Mrs. April L. Klopp*  
*Board Secretary*