

April 06, 2021 – Board Work Session Minutes

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

PRESENT: Mr. Kyle Batz, 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: Mr. Chris Heck

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. Heston Frey, Director of Operations
Mr. Justin Welker, JSHS Principal
Mr. Christopher Hamrick, Assistant JSHS Principal
Mr. Michael Leister, 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

SOLICITOR PRESENT:

Mr. Brian Boland, Solicitor

And the following interested citizens and staff: Chris Kraemer, Jessica Moyer, Jamie Schur, Kylene Sanders, Gary Deck, Holly Baer, Melinda Davis, Nicole Clabaugh, Suzanne Hamrick, Lisa Hassler, Henry Guarriello, Steve Himmelberger, Justin Smith, Kristen Karl, Other citizens identified in zoom as 13046424343, Erin, and gs.

Call to Order President

Pledge of Allegiance.....President

Prayer.....Board Member

Roll CallRecording Secretary

I. Discussion Items

1. Superintendent's Report

A. 2020/2021 School Year Update – April 7, 2021 1st Wednesday back

Mr. Netznik presented that tomorrow, April 7, 2021 will be our first official Wednesday. All students will returning back to the building for in-person instruction.

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

3. Building and Grounds

A. Proposal: Vehicle Purchase using ESSER II Funds – Mr. Kowalonek & Mr. Frey

Mr. Kowalonek presented the replacement the 2007 Chevrolet Transit Van and the 2010 F550 Dump Truck. Mr. Kowalonek asked the Board for direction on whether there was support to replace the vehicles.

Mr. Steibnhauer asked: Will these two be replaced? Mr. Frey responded: Yes. The dump truck has a plow and will be replaced. The dump truck body carries salt for the winter.

Mr. Frey suggested that we get a salt insert or an aluminum body to avoid the salt residue. Mr. Kowalonek mentioned they will look at gas engine versus a diesel because then we are able to do shorter distances. Both vehicles were on schedule to be replaced.

Mr. Kowalonek explained that the vehicles will be purchased utilizing federal stimulus ESSER II funds.

Mr. Netznik stated that the district purchased equipment to wash the under carriages of the vehicles to prevent salt residue. The replacement of these vehicles will bring the district fleet up to date.

Mr. Steinhauer suggested that the Board provide some direction for vehicles. Mr. Netznik stated that he would prefer Ford Transit for van so all are the same in fleet, but suggested that we open up the search to RAM, Ford, and Chevrolet for the dump truck. Mr. Palmer agreed with Mr. Netznik that getting quotes from multiple manufactures would be best. The members of the Board concurred on trying to secure multiple quotes for the dump truck.

4. Finance

A. 2021/2022 Budget Timeline – Mr. Kowalonek

Mr. Kowalonek presented the Board with a budget timeline. Finance committee has scheduled a meeting for April 14, 2021.

B. Approve the transfer from the General Fund to Capital Reserve

The Finance Committee will make recommendation for the voting session to move money to the Capital Reserve at the voting session.

5. Personnel

- A. Approve the resignation of Nicole Clabaugh, JSHS Literacy Coach/Reading Specialist.
- B. Approve the job description of Board Certified Behavior Analyst.

The above motions were discussed and will be voted on at the 04/20/2021 board voting session.

C. Approve the following substitute classified staff/event staff for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

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|------------------|----------------------|
| • Gerald Kieffer | Custodian |
| • Joel Jackson | Cafeteria, Custodian |
| • Megan Myers | Cafeteria |
| • Sean Slater | Event Staff |

The above motion was voted on as stated below:

- 5C. A motion was made by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mrs. Klopp to approve the following substitute classified staff/event staff for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| • Gerald Kieffer | Custodian |
| • Joel Jackson | Cafeteria, Custodian |
| • Megan Myers | Cafeteria |
| • Sean Slater | Event Staff |

YES: Mr. Kyle Batz, 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: Mr. Chris Heck

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

D. Approve supplemental contract for the Spring Coach position 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.

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| • Chesney Bredbenner | Head Junior Varsity Softball Coach | \$2,560.00 |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|------------|

The above motion was voted on as stated below

- 5D. A motion was made by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mrs. Klopp to approve the supplemental contract for the Spring Coach position 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.

- Chesney Bredbenner Head Junior Varsity Softball Coach \$2,560.00

YES: Mrs. April Klopp, Mr. Oscar J. Manbeck, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr., Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller, Mr. Anthony Rodig

NAYS: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Matthew Lytle, Mr. Daniel Steinhauer

ABSENT: Mr. Chris Heck

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 5-3.

6. Programs

7. Policy

8. Curriculum

- A. Kindergarten Jump Start – Mr. Guers & Mrs. Damiani

Mrs. Damiani and Mr. Guers presented a recommendation to have Kindergarten start the school year for 2021-2022 two days early so that Kindergarten teachers would be able to acclimate them to the building prior to other students arriving. This allows teachers to know the students better through a smaller more personal setting.

- B. JSHS ATSI Update – Mrs. Cipolla & JSHS Administration

Mrs. Cipolla and the JSHS Administration presented the reason for why the JSHS was labeled ATSI and the action steps that the JSHS staff are taking to meet goals and targets set by ATSI. As part of the solution, Mrs. Cipolla and Mr. Welker requested that the Board support the addition of two new ELA teachers at the Junior High in order to provide 80 minutes of additional instruction.

- C. Approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement with Reading Area Community College for the 2021/2022 Academic Year.

The above motions were discussed and will be voted on at the 04/20/2021 board voting session.

- D. Camp Invention Proposal – Mrs. Cipolla & Mr. Kowalonek

- 8.D. A resolution was offered to approve the Camp Invention proposal with the district covering all the cost of the camp with the exception of \$20. If a student has perfect attendance, the district will reimburse the \$20.00.

YES: Mr. Kyle Batz, 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: Mr. Chris Heck

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

Mrs. Cipolla and Mr. Kowalonek presented a proposal that would utilize ESSER II federal stimulus funds to provide up to 93 students with the opportunity to go to Camp Intervention. After some discussion, it was decided that the district would cover the cost of the camp minus \$20.00. Families would be responsible for \$20.00 of the camp fee. Any students who have perfect attendance will be reimbursed the \$20 fee.

9. Technology

- A. Laptops for Seniors – Mr. Netznik & Mr. Shirk

Mr. Netznik presented the idea of allowing the seniors to take their laptops with them upon graduation. Any laptops not taken would be sold with a wholesaler.

Mr. Rodig asked Mr. Shirk: What a good value for the laptop would be \$60-80? Mr. Shirk agreed. Mr. Shirk also explained that all devices come with a license, but we would have to remove district software packages.

- B. Printing Solution Proposal – Mr. Shirk

Mr. Shirk presented a proposal to the Board to eliminate individual classroom printers and move to a regional printing model. The cost savings would be \$593.00 per month.

10. Transportation

11. Legislative

12. Administrative Reports

- Ms. Jena Damiani – Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal

Ms. Damiani reported that the PTO Easter Egg Hunt was a success. The staff is currently working on 3rd quarter report cards. It is exciting to have the band in -person again. The district provided 126 kids received Tulpy Packs for over Spring Break.

- Mr. Andrew Guers – Bethel Elementary Principal

Mr. Guers reported that Heidi Messner, our ESL teacher, conducted a program by providing cards for Meals on Wheels. Mr. Guers worked with the Tulpehocken Police Department to bring the program “Stranger Danger”. The Gathering Place is offering our staff free coffee during designated days in April. The staff has been having some fun playing a “Guess Who

Game”. Teachers and staff submitted a picture from their elementary years and staff were asked to name who the picture belonged to.

- Mr. Justin Welker – JSHS Principal

Mr. Welker reported that Teacher Penny Wars are under way. All money raised will be donated to charity. Our first in-person day is this Wednesday. The ELA department wraps up the ELA MTSS Series tomorrow.

- Mr. Christopher Hamrick – JSHS Assistant Principal

Mr. Hamrick reported that our Spring Musical, “Newsies”, was a hit. The musical was offered in three medias: drive in, in person, and a virtual performance. Prom will be held April 24th. The JSHS has collected 195 pounds of plastic in March for our Trex competition.

- Mr. Michael Leister – JSHS Assistant Principal

Mr. Leister reported that staff are getting ready for the PSSAs and the Keystone tests. Mr. Leister provided the Board with copies of the history of Tulpehocken Valedictarians/Salutarians.

- Ms. Jillian Bergman – Director of Food Services

Ms. Bergman reported she is conducting the 2nd round of meetings with her staff, the Holiday Meal was a success, and she is currently planning the final menus to utilize the existing inventory. The district was also able to secure an additional \$4000 in funding for fruits and veggies.

- Ms. Rebecca Marmas – Assistant Director of Pupil Services

Ms. Marmas reported on classroom visits. The JSHS Life Skills classroom is partnering with student council on a coffee shop. Bethel K-3 LS celebrated St. Patrick’s Day, Elementary gifted is partnering with CHOPS/P.S. Hershey to host a book and craft drive.

- Mr. Heston Frey – Director of Operations

Mr. Frey reported that outdoor activities are keeping everyone busy, spring start up of HVAC with a few issues, snow on PB roof caused a vent to bend sideways. There are a few hiccups with the lighting at Bethel.

- Mr. Matthew Shirk – Director of Technology

Mr. Shirk reported on technology tickets and Sean’s growth as a technology staff member.

14. Old Business

15. New Business

16. Public Comment

17. Adjournment

II. Adjournment

Mr. Rissmiller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Palmer. The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Mrs. April L. Klopp
Board Secretary