

**May 02, 2023 – 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 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance and opening Prayer followed.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick (7:06 p.m.), Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.(8:26 p.m.), and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

**ABSENT:**

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:**

Dr. Andrew Netznik, Superintendent  
Dr. Denis Quirk, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Mr. Thomas Kowalonek, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. Matthew Shirk, Chief Operating Officer  
Dr. Timothy Matlack, Director of Teaching & Learning  
Mr. Taylor Charles, Director of Pupil Services  
Ms. Caitlyn Brice, District Coordinator of Special Education  
Mr. Christopher Hamrick, HS Principal  
Mr. Nev Lynch, JH Principal  
Mr. Michael Leister, JSHS Assistant Principal  
Mr. Andrew Guers, Bethel Elementary Principal  
Ms. Lindsey Babczak, Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal  
Ms. Jillian Bergman, Director of Food Services  
Ms. Mimi Shade, Recording Secretary

**And the following interested citizens and staff:** Ms. Nadine Dove, Ms. Jennifer Becker, Mr. Brian Foreman, Ms. Jennifer Kester, Ms. Lisa Hassler, Mr. Tom Moorhead, Mr. Tommy Hassler, Ms. Ashley Hassler, Ms. Kristen Blankenbiller, Ms. Julie Blankenbiller, Ms. Averil Reisch & Family, Ms. Megan Heath, Mr. Victor Colon, Mr. Xander Colon, Mr. Sean Young, Ms. Jane Rhorbach, Ms. Darla Mays, Mr. Larry Mays, Ms. Tonya Mays, Mr. Anthony Rodig, Ms. Cheryl Straw, Mr. Jacob Straw, Mr. Chris Kraemer, Mr. William Straw, Ms. Deb Unger, and Ms. Rebecca Unger

Call to Order .....President  
Pledge of Allegiance .....President  
Prayer ..... Board Member  
Roll Call .....Recording Secretary

## **High School – Mr. Christopher Hamrick – HS Principal**

### **High School Students of the Month:**

#### **December**

David Bednarczyk  
Kristen Blankenbiller

#### **February**

Tyler Bucher  
Madison Blouch

#### **April**

Breanna Claman  
Bryson Erb

#### **January**

Jacob Straw  
Averi Reisch

#### **March**

Noah Addis  
Rachel Hager

### **BCTC Students of the Quarter:**

#### **BCTC East**

Aydin Beck  
Evan Hoffman  
Hannah Plempel  
Lucas Werner

#### **BCTC West**

Caleb Daub  
Xander Colon  
Sawyer Carefoot  
Tonya Mays  
Hannah Wojciechoswsky

*The above students were recognized and thanked for being student of the month. The parents/guardians were also thanked for their support.*

### **I. Discussion Items**

#### **1. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Netznik**

- A. Keep PA Beautiful Poster Competition – Mr. Brian Foreman

*Mr. Foreman presented Epiphany Juarez, Regan Wolf, & Emmerson Hassler to the board because their artwork placed in this years Keep PA Beautiful Poster Competition.*

- B. Webfilter Presentation – Mr. Young & Mr. Shirk

*Mr. Young presented our Webfilter and how it works to ensure our students are unable to access sites and information that they are not supposed to be seeing or using.*

- C. PA FFA State Convention

*Dr. Netznik presented the PA FFA State Convention field trip to the board. This will be a motion on the May 16, 2023 board agenda.*

- D. Wesley Edris Art Scholarship

***Dr. Netznik presented the Wesley Edris Scholarship to the board. This will be a motion on the May 16, 2023 board agenda.***

- E. May 16, 2023 Board Meeting – Location Changed to Penn-Bernville Café

***Dr. Netznik informed the board that due to the May election and the district office being a polling place, the May 16, 2023 board meeting will be held at Penn-Bernville Elementary in the cafeteria.***

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

**3. Buildings & Grounds/Technology**

- A. Approve the purchase of student laptops from Dell Technologies in the amount of \$110,200.80 in accordance with the yearly Technology Plan for all incoming fifth and ninth grade students.

***The above motion was recognized and will appear on the May 16, 2023 board agenda.***

- B. Bethel Elementary School Gymnasium – Mr. Shirk  
i. Refinish Floors  
ii. Bleacher Replacement  
iii. Scoreboard (cost split between youth program and district)

***The above motion was recognized and will appear on the May 16, 2023 board agenda. The board wanted to pay for the full cost of the scoreboard instead of splitting with the youth program. It will appear on the May 16, 2023 agenda with the full cost.***

- C. Carpeting Projects for Elementary Libraries (ESSER Funding)

***The above motion was recognized and will appear on the May 16, 2023 board agenda.***

**4. Finance**

- A. 2023/2024 Preliminary Budget Presentation – Mr. Thomas Kowalonek

***Mr. Kowalonek presented the preliminary Budget to the board.***

- B. Adopt the preliminary budget for the 2023-2024 School Year with projected expenditures of \$\_\_\_\_\_ and projected revenues of \$\_\_\_\_\_ including a real estate tax millage rate of \_\_\_\_\_, Act 511 per capita tax of \$5.00, School Code Section 679 per capita tax of \$5.00, .5% earned income tax and .5% real estate transfer tax.

***(Figures will be provided prior to the May 16, 2023 board meeting.)***

***The above motion was recognized and will appear on the May 16, 2023 board agenda.***

- C. Approve the following institutions as depositories for the 2023-2024 school year:

Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF)  
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT)  
Truist  
Wells Fargo  
PNC Bank  
US Bank  
Tompkins VIST Bank

***The above motion was recognized and will appear on the May 16, 2023 board agenda.***

- D. Appoint Christopher Heck as board treasurer for a term beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 for a stipend of \$500.

***The above motion was recognized and will appear on the May 16, 2023 board agenda.***

## **5. Personnel**

- A. Approve the following Resignation:
- Accept the resignation of Patrick Slater Junior Senior High School Health & Physical Education/Driver Education Teacher, for the purpose of retirement, effective with the last day of the 2022-2023 school year.
- B. Approve to terminate the employment of Logan Livingood as a district custodian. This termination falls within the terms of the 60-day probationary period as outlined in the support staff handbook.
- C. Approve the following employment:
- Approve Tyler Frederick as a part-time technology student worker at an hourly rate of \$14.00, effective June 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023 not to exceed 29.5 hours per week.
- D. Approve a supplemental contract for the following Spring Coach position for the 2022-2023 sports season.
- Jason Manbeck     Assistant Junior High Track Coach     \$1,599.00
- E. Approve the following substitute classified staff/event staff for remainder of the 2022-2023 school year:
- Taryn Stothart     Event Staff

***The above motions were recognized and will appear on the May 16, 2023 board agenda.***

F. Volunteers for the remainder of the 2022-2023 School Year.

- Christopher Shirey           Field Trips
- Tanya Shirey               Field Trips
- Samantha Marencik       School Events
- Erica Lutz                 Field Trips/Classroom/School Events
- Crystal Kauffman         Field Trips/Classroom/School Events
- Jonathan Knight          Coaching/Field Trips/Classroom/School Events

*The above motion was voted on as stated below:*

5F     A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following volunteers for the remainder of the 2022-2023 School Year.

- Christopher Shirey           Field Trips
- Tanya Shirey               Field Trips
- Samantha Marencik       School Events
- Erica Lutz                 Field Trips/Classroom/School Events
- Crystal Kauffman         Field Trips/Classroom/School Events
- Jonathan Knight          Coaching/Field Trips/Classroom/School Events

AYES:     Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Harry Fox, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller.

NAYS:

ABSENT:   Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 8-0.

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## **6. Programs**

## **7. Policy**

## **8. Curriculum**

- A.     Approve the 3-year agreement with Renaissance for the implementation of the Star 360 and Freckle platforms.

*The above motion was recognized and will appear on the May 16, 2023 board agenda.*

## **9. Items for Board Action**

- A.     Approve Dr. Andrew Netznik as the Tulpehocken Area School District's Trustee for the Berks County School District Health Trust and Mr. Thomas Kowalonek as the Alternate Trustee for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years.

*The above motion was recognized and will appear on the May 16, 2023 board agenda.*

**10. Transportation**

**11. Legislative**

**12. Administrative Reports**

- Mr. Christopher Hamrick – High School Principal

*Mr. Hamrick reported that Keystones are in May. Math is from 05/15-05/16. ELA is from 05/17-05/18. and BIO is from 05/22-05/23. Pride Points high school student of the month is Sophia Courtright. Prom was Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Berkshire Country Club. The FFA Banquet was Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., at the Bernville Fire Hall. Congratulations to the Tulpy FFA Dairy Judging Team and Maya Bicksler for placing 1<sup>st</sup> in the contest as a team and Maya as an individual.*

- Mr. Nev Lynch, Junior High Principal

*Mr. Lynch reported Pride Points Students of the month of April are 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Cole Spencer and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - Aracely Shobe. Pride Points Teacher of the month was Heather Joy from 7<sup>th</sup> Grade. April 25-27 were ELA for both 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade., 05/02 & 05/03 are math for both 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> is Science for 8<sup>th</sup> grade only. The Mini Thon for the JH was on Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. The JH raised just under \$6,000 dollars. Students had a great time, including the opportunity to tape him to one of the poles out on the back field. Thank you to all those that helped, including Mike Mulholland and Kerry Lehman. A huge shoutout to Miss Dietrich and our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who participated in the American Legion Essay Contest. The contest involved students writing an essay about how social media can affect one's life. Two of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, Maya Hein and Troy Ruffner, placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the entire state.*

- Mr. Michael Leister – Assistant High School Principal

*Mr. Leister reported that tractor day is May 26, 2023, breakfast begins at 6:45 a.m. FFA Milkshakes and PA Farmshow milkshakes will be there along with several food trucks.*

- Ms. Lindsey Babczak – Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal

*Ms. Babczak gave a shout out to Diana Haldren, our music teacher, who planned and organized a PB talent show for the end of May. She had the pleasure of sitting in on auditions for about 20 acts from our 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, which included dancing, singing, dice stacking, and much more. She was blown away by their talents and excited to get a look into so many students' passions and interests beyond the classroom. There are a lot of concerts coming up this month and an art show showcasing our students' talents K-6. We have final few days of PSSA's. The students have been focused and hard at work. It truly has been a team effort.*

- Mr. Andrew Guers – Bethel Elementary Principal

*Mr. Guers gave a shout out to our new specialists Mr. Brian Foreman and Ms. Kaylee Clauser. Both new teachers have implemented new community engagement activities in their first year with Bethel Elementary.*

- a. Mr. Foreman has organized an elementary art show during our elementary concerts!*
- b. Ms. Clauser has developed a talent show that will be held Thursday May 24<sup>th</sup>. Another shoutout to our wonderful and dedicated PTO. They have put countless hours into our events this year such as Beach Bash which will happen this Friday and our Teacher Appreciation Week. We truly appreciate all the hard work and dedication to our students and*

*families. He was invited by Mrs. Clauser to a class performance by our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students utilizing the recorders they will get to take home.*

- Mr. Taylor Charles – Director of Pupil Services

*Mr. Charles reported that ESY is from July 10, 2023 – July 27, 2023 – Monday – Thursday 9-12. Bethel Only. Recognition to Holly Jo Torres. He was invited to visit the classroom and was impressed.*

- Ms. Caitlyn Brice – Coordinator of Special Education

*Ms. Brice reported that she held a training on addressing challenging behaviors in the home for the community; six people signed up with three people attending. Tulpy Special Olympics – led by Kristen Parsons will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of May 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. She gave recognition to Gina Gettle who went above and beyond to support the AS classroom while a PARA was on her honeymoon.*

### **13. Old Business**

*Mr. Palmer reported that the FFA Banquet was a huge success with 205 people in attendance. He also thanked the teachers and staff for going above and beyond.*

### **14. New Business**

*Mr. Batz reported that he attended the Tulpehocken Township Joint Master Plan kick off meeting. They are looking at wanting to redo the Lions Club fields and are looking at the fields at Bethel to see if there is a need there. The next meeting is on 06/07/2023 at Kauffman's.*

### **15. Public Comment**

*Jennifer Kester reported that the Bethel Beach Bash is on Friday it is open to the public and all our welcome.*

## **II. Adjournment**

*Mrs. Klopp made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Heck. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m. Executive Session followed for personnel.*

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*Mrs. April Klopp  
Board Secretary*