

## **June 06, 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 7:04 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance and opening Prayer followed.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mr. William T. Palmer Jr. (7:09 p.m.)

**ABSENT:** Mr. Harry Fox, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

### **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  
Ms. Kristen Parsons, Assistant High School 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. Lisa Hassler, Mr. Tom Moorhead, Ms. Brittany Weaver, Mr. Brian Foreman, Ms. Rachel Bowers, Ms. Beth Slater, Mr. Sean Slater, Ms. Jennifer Kester, Ms. Sierra Clouser, Ms. Kaylyn Harring, Ms. Sophie Guss, Ms. Gisselle Taveras, Ms. Beth Brendle, Ms. Kallia Brendle, Mr. Seth Palm-Rittle, Ms. Nadine Dove, Ms. Holly Jo Torres, Ms. Judith Coots, Ms. Marie Switzer, and Ms. Diane Lewandowski

Call to Order .....President

Pledge of Allegiance .....President

Prayer ..... Board Member

Roll Call .....Recording Secretary

### **HONORING RETIREES**

Joanne Faust  
Kay (Pun) Hartranft  
Linda Heberling

Michael Leister  
Patrick Slater  
Eleanor Stickler

*The above retirees were recognized before the board. Mr. Slater was there and was personally thanked for his years of service.*

I. Discussion Items

1. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Netznik

A. Comprehensive Literacy & Math Plan – Dr. Timothy Matlack

*Dr. Matlack presented the comprehensive Literacy & Math Plans to the board. There has been eight months' worth of work. They created goals, action steps, and established the time scale of the plans.*

B. Portrait of a Trojan Update – Dr. Denis Quirk

*Dr. Quirk presented the Portrait of a Trojan update to the board. They are focusing on Not what, but what are we learning? and Not what are we teaching, but how? They focused on and are answering the questions Why, How, What?*

C. Driver's Education Discussion

*Dr. Netznik explained to the board that with the resignation of Mr. Slater, we are also losing a drivers ed teacher. PSERS and PDE will not allow him to continue to be our drivers ed teacher and retire. We are hoping to alter our contract with STS so he can go through them as a third party and continue to teach drivers ed. The board agreed to this.*

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

3. Buildings & Grounds/Technology

4. Finance

- A. Approve the adoption the final budget for the 2023-2024 school year with projected expenditures of \$40,124,009 and projected revenues of \$39,946,316 including a real estate tax millage rate of 25.80, Act 511 per capita tax of \$5.00, School Code Section 679 per capita tax of \$5.00, ½% earned income tax, and ½% real estate transfer tax.

*The above numbers are based on the preliminary budget, and are subject to change prior to final approval*

- B. Approve the adoption of the 2023/2024 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution.
- C. Approve the tax resolution to levy taxes for the 2023/2024 school year.

- D. Approve administration to make any necessary journal entries and budget transfers to the financial statements of the school district after June 30, 2023.
- E Approve the commitment of funds for the following categories in accordance with GASB 54 and Board Policy 620:
  - Special Education Program
  - Athletic Facility Improvements
  - Curriculum

*The specific amounts for each category will be determined at a later date.*

***The above motions were recognized and will be voted on at the June 20, 2023 board meeting.***

## **5. Personnel**

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

- A. Approve the following health care personnel for the 2023-2024 school year at the stated stipend.

- **School Doctor – Ziad Osman, M.D.                      \$ 10.00 per exam**
- **School Dentist – Stephen Hassler, D.M.D.        \$ 6.00 per exam**

5A A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following health care personnel for the 2023-2024 school year at the stated stipend.

- School Doctor – Ziad Osman, M.D.                      \$ 10.00 per exam
- School Dentist – Stephen Hassler, D.M.D.        \$ 6.00 per exam

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.,

NAYS: Mr. Harry Fox, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 6-0.

- 
- B. Rescind the following Supplemental Contracts for the 2022/2023 school year.

- **Assistant Junior High Wrestling Coach        Brynn Schaffer        \$1,350**
- **Assistant Junior High School Baseball Coach   Robert Boltz        \$1,350**

5B A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to rescind the following Supplemental Contracts for the 2022/2023 school year.

- Assistant Junior High Wrestling Coach    Brynn Schaffer    \$1,350
- Assistant Junior High School Baseball Coach    Robert Boltz \$1,350

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.,

NAYS: Mr. Harry Fox, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 6-0.

**C. Rescind the supplemental contract for the following Fall Coach position for the 2023/2024 sports season.**

- Assistant Girls' Tennis Coach    Susan Schwartz    \$2,693

5C A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to rescind the supplemental contract for the following Fall Coach position for the 2023/2024 sports season.

- Assistant Girls' Tennis Coach    Susan Schwartz    \$2,693

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.,

NAYS: Mr. Harry Fox, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 6-0.

**D. Approve the resignation of Krysten Tyrrell, Learning Support Paraprofessional at Bethel Elementary School, effective June 1, 2023.**

5D A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the resignation of Krysten Tyrrell, Learning Support Paraprofessional at Bethel Elementary School, effective June 1, 2023.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.,

NAYS: Mr. Harry Fox, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 6-0.

---

**E. Approve the following professional staff salary adjustments based on credit attainment according to the collective bargaining agreement:**

- **Julie Keller from 3M to 3M+15 effective April 16, 2023**
- **Rachel Bowers from 14M to 14M+15 effective February 22, 2023**
- **Ashleigh Moyer from 10M+30 to 10M/2M effective June 7, 2023**
- **Heather Joy from 14M+30 to 14M/2M effective June 2, 2023**
- **Kristin Rabenold from 4B to 4B+24 effective February 2, 2023**
- **Brian Foreman from 7B+24 to 7M effective May 22, 2023**
- **Amy Garber from 2B to 2M effective June 1, 2023**

5E A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following professional staff salary adjustments based on credit attainment according to the collective bargaining agreement:

- Julie Keller from 3M to 3M+15 effective April 16, 2023
- Rachel Bowers from 14M to 14M+15 effective February 22, 2023
- Ashleigh Moyer from 10M+30 to 10M/2M effective June 7, 2023
- Heather Joy from 14M+30 to 14M/2M effective June 2, 2023
- Kristin Rabenold from 4B to 4B+24 effective February 2, 2023
- Brian Foreman from 7B+24 to 7M effective May 22, 2023
- Amy Garber from 2B to 2M effective June 1, 2023

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.,

NAYS: Mr. Harry Fox, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 6-0.

---

**F. Approve the following employment:**

- **Cierra Etchberger as an elementary autistic support teacher at Bethel Elementary at a salary of \$58,613 Step 4M, effective the 2023/2024 School Year.**
- **Hailey Butler as a district school psychologist, at a salary of \$60,934, Step 1M+30, effective with the 2023/2024 School Year with the ability to work up to 8 summer days prior to the start of the school year.**

- **Anthony Kreiser as a Full time Custodian at Bethel Elementary at an hourly rate of \$15.50, effective June 7, 2023, pending completion of employment paperwork and online training.**

5F A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following employment:

- Cierra Etchberger as an elementary autistic support teacher at Bethel Elementary at a salary of \$58,613 Step 4M, effective the 2023/2024 School Year.
- Hailey Butler as a district school psychologist, at a salary of \$60,934, Step 1M+30, effective with the 2023/2024 School Year with the ability to work up to 8 summer days prior to the start of the school year.
- Anthony Kreiser as a Full time Custodian at Bethel Elementary at an hourly rate of \$15.50, effective June 7, 2023, pending completion of employment paperwork and online training.

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.,

NAYS: Mr. Harry Fox, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 6-0.

**G. Retroactively approve the following substitute classified staff/event staff for the 2022-2023 school year:**

- **Josie Wilson**                      **Aide, Secretary**

5G A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to retroactively approve the following substitute classified staff/event staff for the 2022-2023 school year:

- Josie Wilson                      Aide, Secretary

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.,

NAYS: Mr. Harry Fox, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 6-0.

---

**H. Approve the following teachers for Extended School Year – Summer of 2023:**

- **Cierra Etchberger**
- **Logen Hirn**

5H A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the following teachers for Extended School Year – Summer of 2023:

- Cierra Etchberger
- Logen Hirn

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.,

NAYS: Mr. Harry Fox, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 6-0.

---

**I. Approve supplemental contracts for the following Winter Season coaching positions for the 2023-2024 sports seasons:**

- **Kaytlin Becker      Head Fall/Winter Cheerleading Coach      \$4,048**
- **Taylor VanLeuven      Assistant Fall/Winter Cheerleading Coach      \$3,019**

5I A resolution was offered by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve supplemental contracts for the following Winter Season coaching positions for the 2023-2024 sports seasons:

- Kaytlin Becker      Head Fall/Winter Cheerleading Coach      \$4,048
- Taylor VanLeuven      Assistant Fall/Winter Cheerleading Coach      \$3,019

AYES: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, and Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.,

NAYS: Mr. Harry Fox, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 6-0.

## **6. Programs**

## **7. Policy**

- A. Give second reading and final approval to the following policy:

#251 Homeless Students

*The above motion was recognized and will be voted on at the June 20, 2023 board meeting.*

## **8. Curriculum**

- A. Approve an Affiliation Agreement between Tulpehocken Area School District and Kutztown University as presented.
- B. Approve the agreement with Hamburg Area School District for students to attend TASD Agriculture Program for the 2023/2024 school year as presented.

*The above motions were recognized and will be voted on at the June 20, 2023 board meeting.*

- C. ARP ESSER funding proposal for Staff Professional Development connected with Mental Health – Dr. Quirk

*Dr. Quirk presented the mental health staff professional development using ARP ESSER funding. This will be voted on at the June 20, 2023 board meeting.*

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

- A. Approve the following Job Descriptions:
- Administrative Assistant for Pupil Services

*The above motion was recognized and will be voted on at the June 20, 2023 board meeting.*

## **10. Transportation**

## **11. Legislative**

## **12. Administrative Reports**

- Mr. Christopher Hamrick – High School Principal

*Mr. Hamrick reported the following:*

- *High School field day was a success. We had a ton of students who were eligible to participate. The National Guard brought the rock wall. The kids had a ton of fun.*
- *We had a great turn out for tractor day.*
- *Graduation went very well with us narrowly missing the rain.*



- *I would lastly like to thank Mike Leister. We wish him nothing but the best in all his future endeavors. He will be missed but I am so excited to work with Mrs. Parsons she has been very eager to get started and I know she is going to do a great job.*

- Mr. Nev Lynch, Junior High Principal

**Mr. Lynch reported the following:**

- *Elementary Visits from PB and Bethel went really well. Kids were excited to come up!*
- *Field Day was a great success last week. Thank you for Kristen Karl and Kevin Avery who really stepped up to assist with that event for our students.*
- *Last Friday I hosted the Jr. High Awards Ceremony. Many families joined us to celebrate the accomplishments of all students.*
- *Lastly, during our in-service time, I met with my staff to begin the formal transition from a Jr. High to a Middle School. We had a great conversation where staff explored the similarities and differences between the two. We'll look to build upon this initial dialogue upon return in August!*

- Mrs. Kristen Parsons – Assistant High School Principal

**Mrs. Parsons reported the following:**

- *Tulypympics -On May 24th LS and AS from the Elementaries and the HS LS classroom enjoyed a day of fun out on the HS Soccer field. The students and staff participated in games and even participated in an administrative race. The children and their families enjoyed bbq sandwiches prepared by Mr. Leister and grill club, NHS students volunteered to support the games, and fun was had by all.*

- Ms. Lindsey Babczak – Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal

**Ms. Babczak reported that they had a great end of year with Field Day, Dallas, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Graduation. We sent the students off to summer happy.**

- Mr. Andrew Guers – Bethel Elementary Principal

**Mr. Guers reported the following:**

- *Beach Bash was a huge success! Thank you to the PTO for putting on such a well-organized event that was very well attended.*
- *Thank you to Matt Shirk for sending Dennis Judy and Allen Coderre to Bethel to help with the walking path and raised garden bed. Also thank you to school volunteer Nick Hemmerich for designing and working all day with us!*
- *Our final student recognition dinner was this evening, highlighting Penn Bernville and Jr/Sr High students of the month.*
- *Elementary teacher of the year, Mrs. Holly Jo Torres.*

- Mr. Taylor Charles – Director of Pupil Services

**Mr. Charles reported the EOY figures as follows:**

- *338 students received special ed services , this is just over a 10% increase from last year.*

- *26 Gifted Students*
- *925 referrals for evaluations in the 2002-2023 school year.*

*The EOY meeting takeaways trend was growth in students in their independence, responsibility, social growth, and overall growth as a person. He thanked the board for hiring Cierra and Hailey.*

- Ms. Caitlyn Brice – Coordinator of Special Education

*The Special Olympics went great. We had a great turnout of parents, student volunteers, administration, and students. We have a new safety care trainer – Megan Charles. Trainings beginning this week.*

- Ms. Jillian Bergman – Director of Food Services

*Ms. Bergman reported the following:*

- May 12<sup>th</sup> – Beef Promo at the JSHS (flyer provided in board packet). NY Strip steaks were served as a lunch at the JSHS in a partnership with the PA Beef council. The PA Beef council shared the cost of the NY strip steaks as part of The PA Beef to School Program.
- May 24<sup>th</sup> – Achievement Banquet (new staff Judy Werner and Kim Freymoyer worked and did a great job)
- Shout out- Marie Switzer who is an employee at the JSHS cafeteria, is always smiling at students and does an amazing job!

### **13. Old Business**

### **14. New Business**

### **15. Public Comment**

*Kaylyn Haring, Sophie Guss, Giselle Taveras, Kallia Brendle, and Seth Palm-Rittle addressed the board and asked them to re-instate Mrs. Weidenheimer as the NHS Advisor. They sent 25 letters for the board to view. The board will take this under advisement.*

*Mrs. Coots was happy to hear about academic achievement. She asked if Tulpy calculates G.P.A and when do we start counting. Mr. Lynch and Mr. Hamrick fielded her questions.*

*Ms. Diane Lewendowski addressed the board when they were going to do something about their rates. Mr. Netznik informed her that they were going to speak about that that evening in executive session.*

## **II. Adjournment**

*Mr. Palmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Heck. The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m. Executive Session followed for personnel.*

---

*Mrs. April Klopp  
Board Secretary*