

August 01, 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, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Andrew Netznik, Superintendent
Mr. Thomas Kowalonek, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Timothy Matlack, Director of Teaching & Learning
Mr. Taylor Charles, Director of Pupil Services
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 Tinney, Penn-Bernville Elementary Principal
Mr. Trevor Brown, Dir. of Athletics, Student Activ. & Comm. Relations
Ms. Mimi Shade, Recording Secretary

And the following interested citizens and staff: Ms. Jessica Moyer, Ms. Lisa Hassler, Mr. Tom Moorhead, Ms. Diane Moorhead, Mr. Wes Good, and Mr. Chris Kraemer

Call to OrderPresident

Pledge of AllegiancePresident

Prayer Board Member

Roll CallRecording Secretary

I. Discussion Items

1. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Netznik

A. District Student Internships Proposal

Dr. Netznik asked the board to pay for our student internships. There would be approximately 4 or 5 each semester. The board asked him to check into the numbers and report back at the August 15, 2023 board meeting.

B. Groundbreaking Ceremony – August 30, 2023

Dr. Netznik reported that there will be a groundbreaking on August 30th at 10:30 a.m. for the MS/HS renovation project. He asked the board to let us know if they will be attending.

C. 2023-2024 Enrollment for Kindergarten

Dr. Netznik informed the board that we don't have a clear number of kindergarten students yet, because people have not finished their enrollment.

D. PA State Budget Update

Dr. Netznik reported that the PA State Budget is in limbo. They come back into session on September 18, 2023. If all goes as planned there will be funds for mental health, and he is hoping to hire another school counselor that will float between buildings and focus on mental health.

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

3. Buildings & Grounds/Technology

A. Change Orders Authorization – Dr. Netznik

Dr. Netznik asked the board how they wanted to handle change orders. Below is how they would like it handled. This will be voted on at the August 15, 2023 board meeting.

- *\$10,000 or less: Dr. Netznik is authorized to approve with ratification at the next board meeting.*
- *\$10,000 to \$25,000: Dr. Netznik is authorized to approve after consultation with Board President and Chair of the Building & Grounds Committee with ratification at the next board meeting.*
- *\$25,001 or more: Brought to the full board for discussion and approval.*

- B. Approve the awarding of the bid for the elementary playground turf & outdoor classroom project to _____ at a cost of _____ to be paid out of ESSER II funding.

Dr. Netznik reported that there was an error, and the bid opening will be tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. instead of this afternoon. He asked the board to consider granting the ability to approve the bid if it does not exceed \$250,000. It was revised and voted on as stated below.

3B.1 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to revise the above motion 3B.

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.

3B.2 A resolution was offered by Mr. Heck, seconded by Mrs. Klopp, to Approve the administration to award the bid for the elementary playground turf & outdoor classroom project to the lowest bidder not to exceed \$250,000, to be paid out of ESSER II funding.

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.

4. Finance

5. Personnel

A. Approve the following Resignation:

- **Brook Ziegler as a 7th Grade Mathematics Teacher at the Middle School effective June 5, 2023.**

B. Rescind the approval of Trent Johnson as an Assistant High School Boys' Basketball Coach for the 2023/2024 School Year.

C. Rescind the approval of Katelyn Hollinger as a Junior High Basketball/Competition Cheerleading Coach for the 2023/2024 School Year.

D. Approve the following employment:

- **Logen Hirn as an Emotional Support Teacher at the middle school, at a salary of \$53,393, Step 2B, effective the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year pending acceptance into the Teacher Intern Program. Upon acceptance into the PDE Teacher Intern Program, Mr. Hirn will have 3 years to complete his Instructional Level I certification. Failure to complete his instructional certification within the 3 year program window would result in termination of employment.**
- **Anna Falco as a Health and Physical Education teacher at the High School, at a salary of \$56,213, Step 1M, effective the beginning of the 2023-2024 School Year.**
- **Erin Mahoney as an emergency certified Long-Term Substitute Teacher for Agriculture at the Middle School for the 2023-2024 School year at a salary of \$56,213, Step 1M.**
- **Jodi Patricola as a Long-Term Substitute Teacher for 11th grade English from the beginning of the 2023/2024 School year through approximately the first**

Semester at a salary of \$56,213, Step 1M, prorated to the number of days worked.

- **Maricruz Rubio as a Part time Autistic Support Paraeducator at Bethel Elementary at an hourly rate of \$16.00 (plus \$2.00 position differential) effective the beginning of the 2023/2024 School Year.**

The above motions were voted on as stated below:

5. A-D A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the above motions 5- A-D.

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.

E. Approve the following mentors:

- **Krystal Thompson for District School Psychologist (Hailey Butler) - \$500**
- **Kylene Sanders for Elementary Agriculture Teacher (Brianna Weist) - \$500**
- **Holly Jo Torres for Elementary School Counselor at Bethel Elementary (Molly Kutz) - \$500**
- **Holly Jo Torres for Elementary Autistic Support Teacher at Bethel Elementary (Cierra Etchberger) - \$375**
- **Amy Garber for Long Term Substitute Agriculture Teacher at the Middle School (Erin Mahoney) - \$500**
- **Kerry Lehman for 7th Grade Mathematics Teacher at the Middle School (Heather Boltz) - \$250**
- **Holly Baer for Learning Support Teacher at the High School (Tyler Moyer) - \$250**
- **Brent Johnson for Health and Physical Education Teacher at the High School (Anna Falco) - \$500**
- **Leslie Polyak Long Term Substitute 11th Grade English Teacher (Jodi Patricola) - \$500 (prorated)**

- **Derek Herr for Learning Support teacher at the Middle School (Logen Hirn) - \$375**

The above motion was voted on as stated below:

5E A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the above motion 5E

AYES: Mr. Chris Heck, Mr. Matthew Hetrick, Mr. Carl Kauffman, Mrs. April Klopp, and Mrs. Kristan Rissmiller.

NAYS: Mr. Kyle Batz, Mr. Christopher Beitler, and Mr. Harry Fox

ABSENT: Mr. William T. Palmer Jr.

ABSTAINED:

This motion was carried 5-3.

F. Approve tenure for the following professional staff:

- **Kristen Overly**
- **Kristin Rabenold**
- **Hanna Woolf**

G. Approve the volunteers as listed on the attachment for the 2023- 2024 School Year.

H. Approve the title change for Caitlyn Bryce from Coordinator of Special Education to Assistant Director of Pupil Services effective September 1, 2023.

I. Approve supplemental contract for the Fall Coach position for the 2023-2024 sports season.

- **Assistant Junior High Girls' Soccer Coach Michael Glass \$1,350.00**

5. F-I A resolution was offered by Mrs. Klopp, seconded by Mr. Heck, to approve the above motions 5- F-I.

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.

6. Programs

7. Policy

A. Give second reading and final approval following policies:

#202	Eligibility of Nonresident Students
#301	Creating a Position
#302	Employment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent
#304	Employment of District Staff
#305	Employment of Substitutes
#306	Employment of Summer School Staff
#307	Student Teachers/Interns
#308	Employment Contract/Board Resolution
#309	Assignment and Transfer
#309.1	Telework – <i>New Policy</i>
#805.2	School Safety Personnel – <i>New Policy</i>
#805.3	Use of Force Policy – <i>New Policy</i>

The above motion was recognized and will be voted on at the 08/15/2023 board meeting.

8. Curriculum

9. Items for Board Action

A. Approve the following Job Description:

- Paraeducator

B. Approve the client services agreement for speech and language pathology services between Soliant Health, LLC and Tulpehocken Area School District as presented.

The above motions were recognized and will be voted on at the 08/15/2023 board meeting.

10. Transportation

11. Legislative

12. Administrative Reports

- Mr. Christopher Hamrick – High School Principal

Mr. Hamrick reported that they continue to build into our MTSS system. This year they are implementing Multi-Disciplinary Teams. Kristen and he will be meeting with each team weekly. They are still working on the structure of these meetings to best meet the needs of our students. Shout out to Lydia Beck who is working really hard to get students set up for internships and work-based learning.

- Mr. Nev Lynch, Middle School Principal

Mr. Lynch reported that he is gearing up for our first official year as Tulpehocken Area Middle School. He has used feedback from last year, both student and staff, to build upon our PBIS program, PRIDE POINTS, aiming to continue the progress we made in our first year of implementation. 7th grade orientation is August 14th @ 9-11. 8th grade students along with some HS students will be helping give student tours and answering questions. My 7th grade staff will be joining on Monday to meet all of their incoming students and answer any pressing questions they have. A shoutout to all of our custodial staff who have been doing an amazing job trying to get the building ready for the start of the year, working around the asbestos abatement project that is simultaneously happening.

- Ms. Kristen Parsons – Assistant High School Principal

Ms. Parsons reported that 9th grade orientation is August 14th @12. High Student student council students and NHS students will be providing tours for students. Shout out to Marcy Wink and Andrea Kreiser. They are working hard to sort and deliver materials to teacher's classrooms.

- Ms. Lindsey Tinney – Penn-Bernville Elementary School Principal

Ms. Tinney gave a shout out to Missey Huey for all her hard work this summer receiving materials and getting them where they need to be. Penn-Bernville made their first post using DOJO. We will be doing post using DOJO once a month with updates for families. She has been focused on community connections. She met with the director of the Bernville Library, Debe Donley about being at back to school night, and discussed opportunities for partnerships this school year. They are arranging for and hoping to have tables from the girl scouts, boy scouts, library, PTO, and club groups.

- Mr. Andrew Guers – Bethel Elementary School Principal

Mr. Guers gave a shout out to Wendy Fisher for helping our kindergarten students finish registering and getting the proper documents in. There are exciting building projects underway.

- *We started tearing out the old carpet in the library in preparation for our new carpet in the library in preparation for our new carpet and furniture. The space will not only provide students with the opportunity to check out books but allow teachers to teach small groups.*
- *The first phase of our courtyard projects is near completion. The courtyard adjacent to the cafeteria is the first project. The second courtyard will have a pergola serving as an outdoor classroom.*

Gave another shout out to Mr. Shirk and the buildings and grounds crew for getting the building ready for students in a few short weeks.

- Mr. Taylor Charles – Director of Pupil Services

Mr. Charles is going to set up Doughnuts with the Director. It will consist of a special education advisory committee that is made up of staff, faculty, parents & guardians. The main objective is to build a trusting partnership between the district and families, but to also ensure we are offering out students the best we can.

- Dr. Timothy Matlack – Director of Teaching & Learning

Mr. Hamrick thanked Mr. Hamrick and Dr. Quirk for making themselves available to join him in working with our new Ag teacher Erin Mahoney to try to frontload some professional learning so that she can hit the ground running this year. They appreciated Erin's willingness to join them for three days before we officially start to work through that learning. He appreciates the time and work the Kindergarten team has put into reviewing and revising how

they are reporting learner progress on their report cards. The adjustments are more reflective of the learners' current state of mastery rather than being based on end-of-year standard. He thanked Mr. Charles, Mrs. Tinney, and Mr. Guers for helping bridge the final collaborative efforts with Alvernia University and Kutztown University. We will be hosting two special education student teachers this fall as well as a cohort of pro sem students from Kutztown.

- Mr. Trevor Brown – Director of Athletics, Student Activities, & Community Relations
Mr. Brown reported that head coach meetings will be completed next week. Continued meeting with youth organizations and h discussions about HS youth involvement. He attended the Boosters meeting on July 29th. He is working with the Ad's to work out scheduling errors. He is working on filling coaching positions. He is working with the elementary admin for community outreach... i.e.: Haircuts BTSN reps. He attended the Rehrersburg meeting for park renovations with the youth soccer president. Softball is hosting team camp this week. Field Hockey and Boys' Soccer are both at Millerville for team camp this week.

13. Old Business

14. New Business

15. Public Comment

Mr. Wes Good asked the board to change the way bus routes are done for private schools. He stated his children are on the bus much longer then needed.

II. Adjournment

Mrs. Rissmiller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Klopp. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

*Mrs. April Klopp
Board Secretary*