

February 2, 2021

**HANOVER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

MINUTES

February 2, 2021

Hanover Area Junior/Senior High School
Hanover Township, Pennsylvania
February 2, 2021

NOTE: Due to the mandated closure of schools, and for the health and safety of individuals, the Board of Education held this Regular School Board Meeting using the virtual platform *Zoom*.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Hanover Area School District was held using the virtual platform *Zoom*, on Tuesday, February, 2, 2021, at 6:15PM. The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Mr. John J. Mahle, Jr.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESENT: John J. Mahle, Jr., President; Stacy Bleich, Vice President; Joyce Potsko, Treasurer; Rick Stevens, Secretary; Frank Ciavarella Jr., Dr. Vic Kopko, and Michael Mazur, and Matthew Redick.

ABSENT: Paul Holmgren

Rick Stevens, Secretary, stated a Quorum was established for the meeting.

OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT: Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent; Attorney Jack Dean, School Solicitor; Attorney William Finnegan, School Solicitor; Mrs. Lisa Kitchen, Administrative Assistant; and a number of citizens.

Mr. Mahle welcomed all present on the virtual platform to the meeting. He also stated: "In accordance with the Sunshine Act of Pennsylvania, the Board met in Executive Session from 5PM to 6:13PM to discuss matters relating to Personnel and Finances".

Mr. Mahle then asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on this evening's agenda items. Lisa Kitchen indicated that "no one from the public wished to provide input on the agenda items at this time".

APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES/REPORTS:

It was moved by Ms. Bleich and seconded by Mr. Chivarella: To approve the following minutes and accept the following reports:

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- Regular Board Meeting minutes of January 5, 2021.
- Luzerne Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting minutes of December 15, 2020.
- Wilkes-Barre Area Career & Technical Center Board of Education-Joint Operating Committee minutes of December 21, 2020.

School Solicitor, Jack Dean, stated: “John wait, wait. As to the Regular Minutes of January 5, 2021, item #5 under Financial Planning, that should have been reflected as a recusal for Frank Chivarella. Item #5 financial planning regarding a contract with Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority, so with that correction, you can seek a motion.”

BOARD VOTE: YES: Bleich, Chivarella, Kopko, Mahle, Mazur, Potsko, Redick, Stevens

No: None:

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Holmgren

Chair declared the motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent, offered the following:

“Thanks, President Mahle. I want to begin this evening by announcing that next Monday evening, February 8th at 6PM, I will be hosting another Community Night. This is going to be a night continuing on with our plans moving forward. I am committed solely to the safety of the staff and the students of this district. As a result, I am going to extend out our work and schooling from home but I will provide specific details during this community night. Right now, the community’s health is not speaking to a safe environment for our teachers, our support staff, nor our students, so as that’s being said, I would like to spell this out in a meeting next Monday evening. In addition to that, the Juniors and Seniors at our High School, you should have received a letter if you were in a Keystone preparation course last school year. Due to the pandemic, if you passed these courses, you should have received a letter from the Hanover Area School District, speaking of a Non-Testing Proficiency, which does accomplish the requirements set forth by the Department of Education and the Hanover Area School District making the students exempt from this requirement so long as they passed that course. Additionally, we are always showing our commitment to enhancing the academic abilities of our students, with that being said the district was in contact by our head football coach who wants to talk about the exemplar academic performance by some of our football players. I am going to briefly turn this meeting and my report over to him, to speak of our honorable athletes on the football team. Mr. Hummer?”

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Coach Rick Hummer: "Thank you, Mr. Barrett. Good evening ladies and gentlemen of the Hanover Area School Board, the Administration, and the public. Thank you for letting me take a few minutes of your time to inform you of the 2020 Hanover Area Football members that are a part of the PA Football News All Academic Teams. We'll start off with the Bronze Team. The Bronze Team is a GPA of 83-88. Right now we have Junior Xavier Ankner with an 85.09GPA and a Sophomore, Christian Torres with an 83.17GPA. Our Silver Team is considered and 89 through a 92 GPA and we have 2 members of that with Senior Tay-Von Hines with a 91.52 and Joe Curcio with an 88.29, which is great work. Finally, our Gold Team, which is a GPA of 93 and above. Members of that were Seth Strause with a 99.33GPA, Peter Hibbard with a 98.36GPA, Bobby Sabecky with a 97.91GPA, Junior, Jake Zola with 97.86GPA, Senior Connor Hummer with a 97.82, Senior Dylan Martinez with a 96.67 and Senior Jacob Mercandante with a 94.55. So 11 members of our football team that made those teams and we are very proud of them. Thank you for the time to honor these guys. It is really appreciated by me and my staff. Thank you."

Mr. Barrett continued: "Thank you, Coach Hummer and congratulations to these students for making academics their top priority. I really appreciate that report. In addition to that this evening, we have a special guest from the Pennsylvania School Board Association. As we had mentioned last month that January was School Board Member Recognition Month and a PSBA representative for the state, Shane Pagnotti is here this evening to recognize our Board Members. Mr. Pagnotti."

Shane Pagnotti: "Thank you for having me, Mr. Barrett. My name is Shane Pagnotti, I'm your member services manager on behalf of the Pennsylvania School Board Association. I'm a few days late, but thanks for having me, due to a scheduling conflict. But January was designated as School Director Recognition Month and I'd be remorse if I didn't make it to Hanover to thank everybody. So I'm here to recognize the challenging and vital work that Boards do on behalf of the students, schools, and families. So on average, school directors devote up to 10 hours per month to the complex responsibilities of board business. This includes adopting policy, voting on budgets, evaluating school security issues and reviewing hiring decisions. The impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic has added an additional challenge to school boards as they determine how best to provide the needs of students and their families in this new environment. From navigating virtual board meetings to supplying students with needed food and technology, and during remote instruction, boards were tasked with making critical decisions quickly with the best information available. Board service is an unpaid position. And the majority of school directors cite their desire to give back or to continue to contribute to public education as their main motive for their service. So as locally elected officials, school directors are invested in their communities. They are our neighbors, our friends, local leaders, parents, and

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engaged citizens. So January is designated for recognizing these public servants. We, at PSBA, want to take a moment to express out gratitude for your time and efforts year round on behalf of these communities. The job you do ensures our schools continue to provide opportunities for success for every student, even during these unprecedented times. So, thank you Hanover Area School District School Directors for advocating on behalf of our collective interest and for the benefit of our children. And, Miss Kitchen has a bunch of certificates for each of you. I'm sure we're all remote but you will have it soon. So, Miss Kitchen, thank you very much for that. And, if you wouldn't mind, just give yourselves a hand, a thank you for all these hours that everyone is devoting. So, again, thank you on behalf of PSBA."

Mr. Barrett: "Thank you so much. President Mahle, that concludes my monthly report."

It was motioned by Mr. Redick, seconded by Mr. Stevens: To accept the Report of the Superintendent.

BOARD VOTE: YES: Bleich, Chivarella, Kopko, Mahle, Masur, Potkso, Redick, and Stevens

NO: None

ABSENT: Holmgren

ABSTAIN: None

Chair declared the motion carried.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

GENERAL:

It was moved by Mrs. Potsko, seconded by Mr. Chivarella: To Approve the following motions:

1. Approve the first reading of the following Board Policies and attachments per Exhibit G-1:

Policy #103 Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students

Policy #103 Attachment #1 Report Form

Policy #103 Attachment #2 Complaint Procedures

Policy #103 Attachment #3 Grievance Process and Formal Complaints

Policy #103 Attachment #4 Note to Parents

Policy #218.3 Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault

Policy #252 Dating Violence

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2. Approve the following Administrative Regulations:

- 103.I-AR-O Nondiscrimination-Qualified Students with Disabilities
- 200-AR-2 Parental Registration Statement
- 251-AR-O Homeless Students
- 251-AR-1 Homeless Student Identification Intake
- 251-AR-2 Procedural Safeguards Notice of Denial of Enrollment
- 251-AR-3 Enrollment Complaint to Pennsylvania Department of Education's State Coordinator for Homeless Children's Initiative

3. Approve the 2020-2021 Organizational Chart as per Exhibit G-3.

BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 THROUGH #3 ABOVE): YES: Bleich, Chivarella, Kopko, Mahle, Masur, Potsko, Redick, and Stevens

NO: None

ABSENT: Holmgren

ABSTAIN: None

Chair declared the motions carried.

FINANCIAL:

It was moved by Ms. Bleich, seconded by Dr. Kopko: To approve the following motions:

1. Ratify the following PNC check register(s): (Exhibit F-1)
12-17-2020 to 1-26-2021
2. Approve the PNC check registers of: (Exhibit F-2)
1-27-2021
3. Elliot Greenleaf & Dean \$1,982.38
December 2020
Invoice #157699
4. Motion to approve the repository sale of parcel #01-J9NE1-T01-165-000 in the amount of \$1,000.00.
5. Motion to approve the repository sale of parcel #01-19SE4-018-000 in the amount of \$500.00.

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6. Acknowledge the Audit of Financial Statements of the Hanover Area School District, as prepared by BBD, LLP, Certified Public Accountants for the Fiscal Year, June 30, 2020. (Exhibit F-6)
7. Approve the Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 General Operating Budget and Resolution, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. (Exhibit F-7)
8. Approve the following tax refunds:
Eugene L and Fay Klinges \$90.47
Hanover Township, PA
2020 Refund
9. Approve the request of Mr. Glen O'Donnell, to waive the late fees and penalties in the amount of \$92.17 on Parcel #25-I9NWI-007-001-000. (Exhibit F-9).
10. Pugliese, Finnegan, Shaffer & Ferentino LLC \$351.00
Invoice #266727
June 2020-Dec. 2020

BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 TO AND INCLUDING #10 ABOVE):

YES: Bleich, Chivarella, Kopko, Mahle, Masur, Potsko, Redick, and Stevens

NO: None

ABSENT: Holmgren

ABSTAIN: Masure on 1 and 2

Chair declared the motions carried.

PERSONNEL:

It was moved by Mr. Chivarella, seconded by Mr. Redick: To approve the following motions:

1. Accept the resignation of Michael Zapatoski as Head Baseball Coach. (Exhibit P-1)
2. Approve the request of Employee #31785 to take Maternity Leave beginning Tuesday, March 9, 2021 and ending on Friday, May 14, 2021. (Exhibit P-2)
3. Approve the agreement between the Hanover Area School District and Mr. Joseph Caputo, as an independent contractor for business management Services, at \$90.00/hour, for an estimated ten (10) to fifteen (15) hours per week, effective February 1, 2021 to April 30, 2021. (Exhibit P-3)
4. Appoint Heath M Hoovler as an UNPAID Intern for the Athletics Department.

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All paperwork is on file in the Superintendent's Office

5. Appoint Theresa R. Walts as a Long-term Pre-K Substitute Teacher, effective January 15, 2021 to the end of the 2020-2021 school year, at a rate of B, Step 1, \$47, 683, prorated, with benefits.
6. Approve the Last Chance Agreement between Employee #30129 and the Hanover Area School District.
7. Authorize Superintendent, Nathan Barrett, on behalf of the Board of Education to inform Attorney William Finnegan that the district waives any conflict of interest as a result of his representation of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority as per Exhibit P-7.
8. Appoint the following Extra-Curricular Personnel for the 2020-2021 school year:

Kathy Healey	Head Softball Coach	\$3,348.00
Don Pientka	Head Boy's Volleyball Coach	\$3,123.00
Robert Slusser	Asst. Girl's Basketball Coach	UNPAID
9. Appoint Todd Kolbicka as Head Baseball Coach at a salary of \$3,348.00 for the 2020-2021 school year.

BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 TO AND INCLUDING #9 ABOVE):

YES: Bleich, Chivarella, Kopko, Mahle, Masur, Potsko, Redick, and Stevens

NO: None

ABSENT: Holmgren

ABSTAIN: Stevens on #7

NEW BUSINESS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. John Mahle, Board President, asked if there was anyone from the public who would like to address the Board.

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Mrs. Lisa Kitchen, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, advised that there was no one from the public on the Zoom call that raised a hand to address the board.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

March Work Session: Tuesday, March 2, 2021

March Regular Meeting: Tuesday, March 2, 2021

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mrs. Bleich: To adjourn the Regular School Board Meeting at 6:34PM.

BOARD VOTE:

YES: Bleich, Chivarella, Kopko, Mahle, Masur, Potsko, Redick, and Stevens

NO: None

ABSENT: Holmgren

ABSTAIN: None

Chair declared the motion carried.

ATTEST: _____, Secretary

Rick Stevens
Hanover Area School Board