

March 2, 2021

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

MINUTES

March 2, 2021

**Hanover Area Junior/Senior High School
Hanover Township, Pennsylvania
March 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, March 2, 2021 at 6:08PM. 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., Paul Holmgren, Dr. Vic Kopko, and Michael Mazur, and Matthew Redick.

ABSENT: None

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

OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT: Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent; 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 made the following executive session report. "Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act, the Hanover Area Board of Education met in executive session on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 to discuss matters of employee relations, labor negotiations, matters of litigation in closed session at 5PM and began the public meeting at 6:08PM. The matters discussed in closed session related solely to employee relations, labor negotiations, and threats of- as well as ongoing- litigation".

"Are there any comments from the public on agenda items only?"

There were no comments from the public on agenda items.

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APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES/REPORTS

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

- Regular Board Meeting minutes of February 2, 2021.
- Luzerne Intermediate Unit Board of Directors Regular meeting minutes of January 27, 2021.
- Wilkes-Barre Area Career & Technical Center Board of Education-Joint Operating Committee minutes of January 25, 2021.

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

No: None:

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Chair declared the motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent, offered the following report.

“Yes, President Mahle. I’d first like to start off by congratulating our Senior Class Officers: Isabella Popson, Mollie Corbett, Brooke Coleman. They were members of a panel for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association this past week. It was hosted by Representative Edward Pashinski and it was discussing the challenges students face in their education during a pandemic and learning in this distance format. Our students represented three of nine students from local school districts, but the broadcast was statewide. I am very proud of these students. They did a wonderful job and I congratulate them and their families for a wonderful job. In addition I’d like to share with the board and this community about an initiative we are starting with the Hanover Area School District. Hanover Helping Hanover Special, this is an initiative over the Lenten Season, over the 7 weeks of the Lenten Season, we are promoting local businesses. We understand the financial hardships folks are going through during this time with the restrictions of the state, the fear of people going out in the public. It has really created a financial burden on businesses paired with the fact that our students in the High School are taking a rigorous academic path known as advanced placement. These qualification tests are rather expensive. They are between \$80 and \$100, so what we’ve been doing is these community partnerships with local restaurants and the more folks patronize these business, the percentage of sales that they send back to these advance placement students help offset the costs of these tests. We are in week 3 right now, in fact Pizza Bella in Ashley is our feature tonight. So we are trying to push these businesses, help them as well as help our students. So, if you pay attention to our social media, these are the

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businesses that are helping our students. If we can help them as a community, we would appreciate it as a district.

Last week, our administration at the High School held a Community Night for Senior parents, the graduating class of 2021. There was a brainstorming session for upcoming events such as Awards Nights, academic and athletic, as well as a graduation ceremony. Within this community night there were discussions and places on our websites and within Google Classrooms where folks can go and visit to learn how to complete the financial aid forms, how to apply to colleges, military, and other post secondary institutions. So, it was a wonderful job done by High School administration, guidance counselors, and Mrs. Christa Langdon, the Senior Class Advisor.

We have begun our hybrid schedule. It's the yellow schedule that is now posted to our website. This is now in-person instruction, paired with our distance learning format. You are going to see some time changes, folks. There is a time change for the incorporation of our WIN period and that's an acronym for a term that I want folks to get used to. It's an acronym for a What I Need period and this is a period for folks seeking remediation or acceleration of some sort. We have built this period into every student's schedule. It's a particular class to focus on any need, so this is something the Hanover Area School District is implementing to remediate any students with learning loss piece that everybody continually hears about. These schedule changes are reflected on our website, so if you want to see, you can go there to visit. And, some of the changes you'll see are March 1st we had our highest need students come in; March 15th, our 6th grade and PreK students come in on the Blue Schedule, then the following week the 22nd you're going to see all grades coming in on the White Schedule. This is also reflected on our school district website. Transportation, bus stops, the regulation is one window seat per bus. All these regulations are on there. If anybody has a question naturally, you send an email or call the Superintendent's Office.

My final point of interest tonight, is folks are experiencing over the last two days some interruptions from our internet service. This is not confined to only the Hanover Area School District. We had experienced a cyber attack over the last two days. There are neighboring school districts as well as school districts in Lackawanna County that have experienced similar attacks and we have been affected by it. I'm very proud to say that I'm very thankful for President Mahle for contacting one of his colleagues in the Army National Guard. They, the domestic cyber division, are coming to help out. So, the cyber operations division will be in our district all week next week helping to identify where the problem points are and we will get it rectified and remediated so we apologize to any community members, parents, students who have been experiencing any outages. It is not anything that we intended on, it is an outside source that is bringing these types of disruptions. So, we do apologize. That is my report, President Mahle."

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

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

NO: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chair declared the motion carried.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

GENERAL:

It was moved by Mrs. Bleich, seconded by Mr. Ciavarella: To Approve the following motions 1 through 5:

1. Approve the second and final reading of the following Board Policies and attachments as 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 for Formal Complaints

Policy #103 Attachment #4 Note to Parents

Policy #252 Dating Violence

2. Authorize the Superintendent to notify the Northeast Pennsylvania School District's Health Trust, by letter, of our intent to withdraw from participating as of June 30, 2022.

3. Motion to move April Board Meeting from April 6th to April 13, 2021.

4. Approve the Luzerne County Recycling Office to hold a tire recycling at the Junior-Senior High School parking lot on Saturday, October 9, 2021.

5. Approve the 2021-2022 School District Calendar. (Exhibit G-5)

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BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 THROUGH #5 ABOVE): YES: Bleich, Ciavarella, Holmgren, Kopko, Mahle, Masur, Potsko, Redick, and Stevens
NO: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
Chair declared the motions carried.

FINANCIAL:

It was moved by Dr. Kopko, seconded by Mrs. Potsko: To approve the following motions 1 through 11, Number 7 we are taking off:

1. Ratify the following PNC check register(s): (Exhibit F-1)
January 28, 2021 to February 23, 2021
2. Approve the PNC check register(s) of: (Exhibit F-2)
February 24, 2021
3. Elliott, Greenleaf & Dean \$3,298.52
January 2021
Invoice #157969
4. Approve the request under the name of Dino Ferri to waive all late fees and penalties on Parcel #I9NW1-004-004.
5. Approve the agreement with the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for RWAN E-Rate Consortium for a period 7-1-2021 to 6-30-2028. (Exhibit F-5)
6. Approve the following 2020 Tax Refunds:

Christine Hannon 2020	\$79.12
Lizette Lopez 2020	\$75.43

BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 TO AND INCLUDING #6 ABOVE):
YES: Bleich, Ciavarella, Holmgren, Kopko, Mahle, Masur, Potsko, and Redick.
NO: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Masur, on #1 and #2
Chair declared the motions carried.

PERSONNEL:

It was moved by Mr. Ciavarella, seconded by Mr. Stevens: To approve the following motions: #1 through #6; and #8 through #11, #7 was tabled.

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1. Approve the February 2021 Salary Adjustments as per the HAEA Union Contract. (Exhibit P-1)
2. Amend personnel motion #3 of the February 2, 2021 Board Meeting, agreement with Mr. Joseph Caputo, to read as per attached. (Exhibit P-3)
3. Accept the resignation of Jatally Nieves, paraprofessional, effective March 5, 2021. (Exhibit P-4)
4. Approve an Unpaid Leave of Absence for Employee #31248, from March 12, 2021 to the end of the 2020-2021 school year.
5. Approve the FMLA Leave of Employee #31308, effective March 22, 2021.
6. Approve a Maternity Leave request for Employee #31969, effective April 19, 2021.
- 7. (Tabled) Approve the purchase of cafeteria equipment from Lyndwood Elementary from _____, in the amount of \$ _____. Hanover Area received 3 quotes for the equipment. Equipment will be purchased out of food service funds.**
8. Approve Karyna Vargas as an Unpaid Athletic Intern. All paperwork is on file in the Superintendent's Office.
9. Appoint the following Extra Curricular Personnel, for the 2020-2021 school year:

Corey Coons	Head Jr. High Baseball	\$2,145.00
Jim Bush	Volunteer Baseball	UNPAID
John Kilheeny	Volunteer Baseball	UNPAID
John Centak	Head Jr. High Track	\$2,011.00
Carl Daubert	Asst. Varsity Track	\$2,011.00
Kenneth Daubert	Asst. Jr. High Track	\$1,478.00
Kelly Rine	Asst. Varsity Track	\$1,936.00
Carl Daubert, Jr.	Track Volunteer	UNPAID
Hayden White	Track Volunteer	UNPAID
Kenneth White	Track Volunteer	UNPAID
Ryan Kratz	Asst. Boys Volleyball	\$1,530.00
Vicki Groff	Head Jr. High Softball	\$2,145.00
Gary Williams	Asst. Varsity Softball	\$2,145.00
Lauren Stamm	Asst. Jr. High Softball	\$1,478.00

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Tracey DeRocco Softball Volunteer UNPAID

10. Appoint David Bulzoni as Business Manager, at a salary of \$85,000, prorated, effective March 4, 2021, pending negotiations of the contract.

11. To approve the following stipends for Boys Basketball Coaching: Matt Desoye, \$1,000; and Tony Marcincavage, \$700.

BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 through #6 and #8 through #11; No Vote on Item #7, as it was Tabled):

YES: Bleich, Ciavarella, Holmgren, Kopko, Mahle, Masur, Potsko, Redick, and Stevens

NO: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

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.

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:

April Work Session: Tuesday, April 13, 2021

April Regular Meeting: Tuesday, April 13, 2021

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ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Dr. Kopko, seconded by Mrs. Potsko: To adjourn the Regular School Board Meeting at 6:23PM.

BOARD VOTE:

YES: Bleich, Ciavarella, Holmgren, Kopko, Mahle, Masur, Potsko, Redick, and Stevens

NO: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chair declared the motion carried.

ATTEST: _____, Secretary

Rick Stevens
Hanover Area School Board