

**ALBERT GALLATIN AREA SCHOOL BOARD – REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.
FRIENDSHIP HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Michael Dunham, Vice-president Tom DeGusipe, Secretary Edward Colebank, Treasurer Ken Plisko, Paul Dunham, David Howard, Betty Moser, Janet Swaney

MEMBERS ABSENT: Doug Sholtis, M Dunham leaves the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

ALSO PRESENT: Acting Superintendent Carl Beznak, Controller Denise Sheetz and Attorney Lee Price

President M Dunham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by a moment of silent meditation and Pledge of Allegiance after which all present responded to roll call.

PUBLIC FORUM

President M Dunham presents Mrs. Swaney with a plaque from the Intermediate Unit 1 for her 20 years of service as a school board member and thanks her for her dedication to education.

Mrs. Swaney thanks the current and past board members she has worked with over the years. They all have given their best to educate our children.

Gifted Instructor Allison Haragos presented AG South 7th grade student Matthew Karpeal. Matthew took third place in the Intermediate Unit 1 “24 Math Tournament out of 70 contestants, which in turn sent him to the state competition in Harrisburg. Matt did very well during this competition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Howard second by Colebank to enter into executive session at 6:08 p.m. for personnel.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Swaney to resume meeting at 6:33 p.m.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

President M. Dunham announced an executive session was held from 7:00 p.m. to 8:35 p.m. for personnel interviews and from 9:30 p.m. to 9:44 p.m. for personnel.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Colebank second by DeGusipe to adopt agenda as presented.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Plisko second by DeGusipe to approve minutes of regular meeting held on May 18, 2016’

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by DeGusipe second by Swaney to accept the Treasurer's report including tax collections for May 2016 and preliminary financial statements as presented'

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

BILLS AND PAYROLL

A motion was made by Swaney second by Moser to authorize payment of the following bills and payroll for June 2016:

1. Bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$1,821,536.25
2. Current month general fund bills in the amount of \$3,024,754.48

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS

A motion was made by Colebank second by DeGusipe to approve payment of bills through activity accounts as presented by building principals.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

2016-2017 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

A motion was made by DeGusipe second by P Dunham to adopt the General Fund Budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 in the amount of \$51,016,740.00 as presented; and authorizes that the tax on real estate be levied at the rate of 14.935 mills which is an increase of 1.9262 mills or \$1.49 of each \$100.00 assessed evaluation of all property taxable for school purposes located within the School District. All Act 511 and other School Code Taxes will remain in effect at the same rate.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mrs. Swaney stated she voted yes with regrets.

President M Dunham announced we have furloughed, teaching staff and nonprofessional staff along with cutting programs and expenditure cuts in athletics and other areas. This board did everything possible not to raise taxes.

Mr. Bezjak asks the public not to blame the board or administration for the tax hike. Legislators in Harrisburg are ignorant of the fact they are to be funding education. Eighty-five percent of schools in Pennsylvania are being forced to raise taxes to maintain a viable school program. The inadequate school funding formula has to be changed. Administrators and this board have done their best to not raise taxes, put the blame where it belongs on our ineffective state legislators.

HOMESTEAD

A motion was made by Swaney second by DeGusipe to approve the Resolution authorizing the Homestead and Farmstead exclusion real estate assessment reduction for the Albert Gallatin Area School District's fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, under the provisions of the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1, 2006), as presented.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

BUDGETARY TRANSFERS

A motion was made by Colebank second by Howard to grant permission to make all necessary budgetary transfers for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

WORKER'S COMPENSATION

A motion was made by Swaney second by P Dunham to purchase Workers Compensation with Caputo Insurance Agency as broker of record, provided the policy is underwritten by Synergy Compensations Ins. Co., at a premium of \$187,045.00 and additional fee of \$24,000.00 for safety loss.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

INSURANCE PACKAGE

A motion was made by Howard second by Colebank to purchase Insurance Package (Property, Liability, Auto, Umbrella and EDP coverage) with Liberty Mutual Ins. Co. at a premium of \$149,648.00.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

DEPOSITORIES

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to approve the following Depositories for the 2016-2017 school year:

1. PNC Bank
2. United Bank
3. First National Bank

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

A motion was made by Swaney second by Plisko to authorize offering as required by law the Intermediate Unit I Health Insurance Consortium Bronze Plan to uninsured employees of the Albert Gallatin Area School District.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

YMCA

A motion was made by Colebank second by DeGusipe to renew Uniontown YMCA agreement for pool time at a weekly rate of \$150.00 per hour from September 2016 through May 2017.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

SNOW REMOVAL

A motion was made by Howard second by Swaney to award snow removal bids as follows:

1. Penn Plus for a three-year term per 6 inch plow as follows: George Plava at \$150.00; Masontown at \$140.00; Friendship Hill at \$130.00; North Middle School at \$150.00 and AGHS at \$350.00

2. On Par for a three-year term per 6 inch plow as follows: A.L. Wilson at \$135.00; Smithfield at \$135.00, Administration Office at \$110.00 and D Ferd Swaney at \$50.00 when called
 3. Rte 21 Stone for a three-year term per 6-inch plow at AG South Middle School at \$170.00
- All members present voting in favor of the motion.

GARBAGE REMOVAL

A motion was made by Plisko second by Howard to award garbage removal bid to Advance Disposal at a cost of \$6,104.00 per month school in-session hauling and \$2,811.00 per month for summer recess hauling for a 3-year term.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

MUSIC BIDS

A motion was made by Colebank second by Moser to award Band bids as follows to Fawley Music Store (lowest responsible bid):

1. High School \$9,998.85
2. Middle Schools \$6,961.60
3. Elementary Schools \$7,985.45

Total Bids - \$24,945.90

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

ATHLETIC BIDS

A motion was made by Howard second by Colebank to award Athletic bids as follows:

1. Century Sports - \$16,924.10
2. Riddell - \$4,715.95

Total Bids - \$21,715.95

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

ALGEGRA BOOKS

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to purchase consumable Algebra 1 books, six (6) year subscription for Middle and High Schools commencing with the 2016-2017 school year at a total cost of \$21,865.40.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Bezjak announced the district received a letter of thanks for the use of the High School auditorium for the piano recital from Ms. Sandra Lowe and students.

A letter was sent from Mr. and Mrs. Paul Nace II thanking all the District employees for the education, moral values and respect given towards their children during their time in the Albert Gallatin School District.

Mrs. Alisa White also sent a letter praising A.L. Wilson 1st Grade Instructor Ms. Eva Mehalov. Ms. Mehalov goes above and beyond her teaching duties with all her students, giving them extra help, along with being such a caring teacher. She truly has made an impact in the lives of her students and is to be commended.

POLICIES

A motion was made by DeGusipe second by P Dunham to approve the following Policies waiving second readings and adopt as presented:

1. Federal Program Travel Reimbursement Policy #150
2. Conflict of Interest and Federal Programs Policy # 150.1 and 827
3. Fraud Policy #828

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A motion was made by Howard second by Colebank to grant Security Guard Julie Dewar a leave of absence for approximately 8 weeks commencing July 6, 2016.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Swaney second by Howard to grant Custodian Joe Powell a leave of absence for approximately 12 weeks commencing June 2, 2016.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Colebank second by Howard to grant Custodian Edward Vaji a leave of absence for approximately 8 weeks commencing June 30, 2016.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR HIRES

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to hire the following extra-curricular sponsors at AGHS:

1. Andy Giles – Percussion Instructor
2. Kaylie Valusek – Auxiliary Instructor

Ayes: Howard, Moser, Colebank, DeGusipe, P Dunham, Plisko, Swaney (On # 1 only), M Dunham

Abstain: Swaney on # 2 only

AWARD POSITION

A motion was made by Swaney second by Howard to award Marycarol Kezmarsky the Elementary Secretary position at A.L. Wilson.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

RETIREMENT

A motion was made by Colebank second by P Dunham to accept the retirement of Wanda McKay RN effective June 1, 2016.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mr. Bezjak thanks Ms. McKay for her many years of service and wishes her a happy retirement.

ELIMINATE/CREATE POSITIONS

A motion was made by Swaney second by P Dunham to eliminate the following positions commencing the start of the 2016-2017 school year:

1. Middle School Library position
2. Middle School Physical Education/Health position
3. Middle School Computer/Freshman Seminar position
4. Guidance Counselor at AG High School
5. Special Education position at AG High School
6. One half (1/2) Elementary Art position
7. Middle School Library Aide position
8. One High School Hall Monitor
9. One School Security Guard
10. Three Custodians

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to create the following Class Size Reduction positions:

1. Kindergarten at George J. Plava Elementary School
2. Kindergarten at A.L. Wilson Elementary School

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

FURLOUGH

A motion was made by P Dunham second by Swaney to adopt Resolution furloughing, demoting and/or not renewing the necessary number of professional and temporary professional staff effective with the start of the 2016-2017 school term, as presented.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

NON-PROFESSIONAL FURLOUGH

A motion was made by Plisko second by Swaney to furlough the following support staff effective with the start of the 2016-2017 school term:

1. Brian Shoaf – Security guard
2. Terra Mick – Cafeteria employee
3. Lora Hower – Hall Monitor

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

NEW HIRES

A motion was made by Swaney second by DeGusipe to hire Allison Evans as a Temporary Professional Employee for English at AGHS at Step 2.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by DeGusipe second by Moser to hire Kristin Pavlovich as a Temporary Professional Employee for English at AGHS at Step 1.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

President M Dunham leaves the meeting at 6:48 p.m. and Vice-president DeGusipe takes over.

STUDENT TEACHING

A motion was made by Howard second by Swaney to approve California University student Debra Blaacker's practicum with Keli DeCarlo.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

FACILITY USE

A motion was made by Howard second by Swaney to grant use of AG South softball field and gymnasium for Middle School and Fairchance Sanction Softball Teams practice from June 16 – August 31, 2016 when available; James Hershberger.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Colebank second by Moser to grant permission for Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of America to hold sign-ups and meetings at all five (5) elementary schools. Schedules will be approved by each building principal.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-president DeGusipe announced the next regular meeting will be held on July 18, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Masontown Elementary School cafeteria.

A motion was made by Swaney second by P Dunham to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.