

Albert Gallatin Area School Board – Regular Meeting Minutes

D. Ferd Swaney Cafeteria

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Eric Miller, Vice President Doug Sholtis, Secretary Betty Moser, Treasurer Ryan Porupski, Paul Dunham, Carla Franks, David Howard, Carl Planiczka, Jamey Capozza (entered at 6:04 pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Christopher Pegg, Business Manager Vincent Belczyk, Solicitor Russ Lucas

Miller called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm followed by a moment of Silent Meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance after which all present responded to roll call.

PUBLIC FORUM

Albert Gallatin High School NAACP & Diversity Clubs Winners: Tom Colebank and Megan Smiley Sponsors. Jaden Dent-Miller, President of the NAACP & Diversity Clubs presented awards.

-Avery Myers – essay winner of the AG Strong High School Essay Contest.

-Avery Haywood (Grade 2-Masontown Elementary) and Lillian Ruble (Grade 5-Masontown Elementary) – poster contest winners of the AG Strong Elementary Poster Contest.

-Kelsey Ream (Grade 8-AG North) - essay winner of the AG Strong Middle School Essay Contest.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Howard second by Sholtis to enter in an executive session at 6:08 pm for student confidentiality.

All member present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Sholtis to resume meeting at 6:30 pm.

All member present voting in favor of motion.

An executive session was held on Monday, April 17, 2023 from 6:50 pm to 7:28 pm for personnel and student confidentiality.

ADODT AGENDA

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to adopt the agenda as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Porupski to approve minutes of the regular meeting held on March 15, 2023.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Capozza to approve minutes of the special meeting held on March 30, 2023.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Capozza to accept the treasurer's report including tax collections for March 2023 and preliminary financial statements as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

BILLS AND PAYROLL

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Capozza to grant permission to pay the following bills and payroll for April 2023.

1. Bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$4,715,277.87
2. Current month general fund bills in the amount of \$958,272.89
3. Cafeteria fund bills in the amount of \$115,074.06

All members present voting in favor of motion.

ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS

A motion was made by Capozza second by Howard to accept activity account report as presented by building principals.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

A motion was made by Franks second by Capozza to grant permission to pay Omega Building Systems \$57,189.53 for services rendered in the secure vestibule general construction phase, payment application no. 6 through Capital Projects.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

LIQUID PROPANE

A motion was made by Howard second by Dunham to award the bid for Liquid Propane Gas to Farrellgas at a fixed price of \$1.44 per gallon for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and \$1.42 per gallon for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

RENEWAL OF BENEFIT RATES

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Capozza to approve the renewal of the following benefit rates for the 2023-2024 fiscal year:

1. Medical benefit rates of the Allegheny County School Health Insurance Consortium as per the attached. Prices reflect a 14% increase over the 2022-2023 rates.
2. Dental benefit rates of United Concordia Dental represent a zero percent increase over the 2022-2023 rates.
3. Vision benefit rates of PSEA Health & Welfare Fund Vision Program represent a zero percent increase over the 2022-2023 rates.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

PROPOSED FINAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET

A motion was made by Howard second by Dunham to approve the Proposed Final 2023-2024 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$63,004,911 subject to change upon final passage.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

CHANGE ORDER

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Howard to approve the Vestibule Project Change Order #2 from A-1 Electric Inc. thereby adding Control Panels and Card Readers to the main entrance exterior doors at a total cost of \$23,800.00.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

BAND TRAILER

A motion was made by Moser second by Capozza to approve the purchase of a Band Trailer from Russell's Auto Sales LLC of Charleroi, PA at a cost of \$12,574.00.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None

POLICIES

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Moser to approve third reading of Policy 251 Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability.

Ayes: Sholtis, Moser, Dunham, Howard, Porupski, Planiczka, Miller

Nays: Capozza, Franks

A motion was made by Howard second by Dunham to approve third reading of Policy 218 Student Discipline.

Ayes: Howard, Dunham, Porupski, Moser, Planiczka, Sholtis, Miller

Nays: Capozza, Franks

A motion was made by Porupski second by Howard to approve third reading of Policy 227 Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia.

Ayes: Howard, Planiczka, Sholtis, Dunham, Porupski

Nays: Capozza, Franks, Moser, Miller

A motion was made by Capozza second by Dunham to approve second and waive the third reading of Policy 137 Home Education Programs.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Capozza second by Franks to approve second and waive the third reading of Policy 137.1 Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Capozza second by Moser to approve second and waive the third reading of Policy 137.2 Participation in Cocurricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Franks second by Moser to approve second and waive the third reading of Policy 137.3 Participation in Career and Technical Education Programs by Home Education Students.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

REVISED 2023-2024 CALENDAR

A motion was made by Moser second by Capozza to approve the revised 2023-2024 school calendar.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

READING PROGRAM

A motion was made by Dunham second by Howard to grant permission to approve the adoption of Amplify CKLA Core Reading Program for Grades K-5 at a cost of \$593,680.84 for a six-year contract.

Ayes: Dunham, Planiczka, Howard

Nays: Porupski, Franks, Moser, Capozza, Sholtis, Miller

Motion Fails

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Porupski second by Moser to approve all motions under Personnel Item A through D.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

COACHES

A. Hire/rehire the following high school coaches for one season, pending receipt of all proper documents.

1. Baylee Powell - Head Volleyball
2. Bruce Guesman - Head Boys Soccer
3. Mike Hart - Head Girls Soccer
4. Kristin Dunham -Assistant Volleyball
5. Zach Dillow, Danny Morgan, Cedric Lloyd, Jeff Rush, Dylan Rush - Assistant Football
6. Aaron Early -Volunteer Assistant Football
7. Jesse Varndell - Assistant Boys Soccer
8. Christi Eicher - Assistant Girls Soccer

Abstain: Dunham on number 5 only

B. Hire/rehire the following middle school coaches for one season, pending receipt of all proper documents.

1. Bethanie Kern - Head Softball
2. Mark Dunham - Head Football
3. Jennifer Sroka - Assistant Softball
4. Larry Flowers, Jason Rosner, Mike Ethridge – Assistant Football
5. Joe Embacher - Fall Athletic Director

AWARD POSITIONS

C. Award the following positions:

1. Ricky Michaels - Afternoon Shift Custodian at AL Wilson Elementary
2. David Skiles - 12 Month Floating Custodian
3. Regis Yuras - Temporary Maintenance

NEW HIRE

D. Hire Carrie Wotring for the 3 hour cafeteria position at AL Wilson Elementary.

ADMINISTRATIVE

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Porupski to approve all motions under Administrative Item A through E. All members present voting in favor of motion.

SUBSTITUTE LIST

A. Grant permission to add the following to the substitute list pending receipt of all proper documents.

Professional: Karley Irwin, Jason Doman, Kristen Smith; Non-Professional: Lisa Silbaugh

FACILITY USE

B. Grant permission to AG Football to use the AG High School Field on April 25, 2023 and April 27, 2023 from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm for youth football camp; Drew Dindl.

C. Grant permission to Troopers (Drum Corps International) to use the AG High School Gym, Locker Room and Football Field on August 6, 2023 from 3:00 am – 9:00 pm for drum corps rehearsal and housing for the day; Nick Putnam/CJ Durso

D. Grant permission to JROTC to use the AG High School Gym on April 29, 2023 from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm for Annual Archery Competition; LTC Walsh

SOCCER CO-OP

E. Approve terminating the Varsity Boys' Soccer Cooperative Sponsorship with West Greene School District.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 6:00 pm in D. Ferd Swaney cafeteria.

A motion was made by Porupski second by Sholtis to adjourn the meeting 6:44 pm.

All members present voting in favor of motion.