

Albert Gallatin Area School Board – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

AG High School Cafeteria – 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, January 15, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Carla Franks, Vice President Ryan Porupski, Treasurer Michael Dunham, Secretary Betty Moser, David Howard, Charity Grimm Krupa, Robert Mangold, Carl Planiczka

MEMBERS ABSENT: Paul Dunham

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Christopher Pegg, Controller Vince Belczyk and Attorney Russell Lucas

President Franks 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

Mr. Wilson, AG North Principal announced the following students were the winners of the 2019 Fireman's Essay Contest: 7th grade student Kahlen Darnell, daughter of Rhianon Ansel and 7th grade student Sara Nuttall, daughter of Eric and Muriel Nuttall. A thank you was given to Mrs. Policicchio, the 7th grade ELA teacher at AG North, who helped with this activity.

Mr. Wilson, AG North Principal announced the following students were winners of the Young Writers Essay Contest: 7th grade student Addie Rodeheaver, daughter of Timothy and Lori Rodeheaver and 7th grade student Isabell Foster, daughter of Justin and Lora Foster.

Mr. Dillow, AG South Principal announced the following students were the winners of the 2019 Fireman's Essay Contest: 6th Grade student Rhilee Metts, daughter of Mike and Jacque LaGuardia; 6th grade student Abbey Oravets, daughter of Fred and Maki Oravets; 8th grade student Elizabeth Dice, daughter of Harry and Renee Dice; 8th grade student Hannah O'Neil, daughter of Julie and Ryan O'Neil.

Joe Kosanko and Dawn Dutchko representatives from the Fayette County Farm Bureau presented the five elementary schools with a book for the library. They passed out information to the Superintendent for a Safety Contest that students can enter.

Riley Armstrong of Masontown, a student at AG North Middle School addressed the board regarding the importance of having a general music teacher versus having the band directors teach all music, choral and all band lessons.

Chad Gump Director of the German Masontown Public Library addressed the board to express his gratitude towards the district for its continued monetary support to the local public libraries. Mr. Gump shared a packet with the board that contained information on the services they offer to the local community and residents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Porupski second by M. Dunham to enter into executive session 6:22 p.m. for personnel, possible litigation, and student confidentiality.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Porupski to resume meeting at 7:09 p.m.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

An executive session was held on Monday, January 13, 2020 from 7:50 pm – 9:29 pm for personnel, possible litigation and security.

AMEND AGENDA

A motion was made by Krupa second by Moser to amend the agenda to add a line item to conduct exit interviews with two administrators that have resigned.

Ayes: Franks, Krupa, Mangold, Moser

Nays: M. Dunham, Howard, Porupski, Planiczka

Motion Fails

ADOPT AMENDED AGENDA

A motion was made by Howard second by M. Dunham to amend agenda to correct Financial Item F amount and correct Maintenance Item B. wording of motion.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to approve minutes of the meeting held on December 18, 2019 as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Krupa second by Porupski to accept treasurer's report including tax collections for December 2019 and preliminary financial statements as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

BILLS AND PAYROLL

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to grant permission to pay bills and payroll for January 2020.

1. Bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$4,261,314.15.

2. Current month general fund bills in the amount of \$214,107.82.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS

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

All members present voting in favor of motion.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to adopt preliminary budget proposal of the Albert Gallatin Area School District for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 in the amount of \$56,064,022 pursuant to Special Session Act 1 of 2006 as presented. The appropriate School District officers are directed to submit the preliminary budget proposal to the Pennsylvania Department of Education on or before February 3, 2020.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

ACT 1 REFERENDUM

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to authorize application to be made to the Pennsylvania Department of Education requesting Act 1 referendum exception for costs incurred for retirement contributions and special education expenditures. The appropriate District officers are directed to apply for the exception on or before February 13, 2020 and to give public notice of the intent to seek the exception by newspaper publication on or before February 6, 2020.

Ayes: M. Dunham, Franks, Howard, Mangold, Moser, Porupski, Planiczka

Nays: Krupa

INCREASE SUB RATE FOR RETIREES

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to grant permission to set the custodian substitute rate for retired district custodians to \$100.00 per day.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

LIBRARY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A motion was made by M. Dunham second by Planiczka to grant permission to give financial support to the following public libraries:

1. German Masontown - \$6,800.00

2. Smithfield - \$2,500.00

3. Point Marion - \$2,500.00

Total: \$11,800.00

Ayes: M. Dunham, Franks, Howard, Moser, Planiczka

Nays: Krupa, Mangold, Porupski

CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent Pegg acknowledged January is School Board Appreciation month.

School Board Appreciation month is the time to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of our elected trustees. The foundation of school leadership is ensuring equal learning opportunities for all students. School Boards lead and advocate for quality and accountable public schools that ensure all students have opportunities to reach their maximum potential. Our school board members must develop policies and make tough decisions on complex educational and social issues impacting the entire community. They bear responsibility for an annual budget of 56 million dollars, 3,300 students and more than 400 employees. They preserve the core of our democracy – public education! In recognition of School Board Appreciation month, I would like to thank our school board members for their dedication and service to our district.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None

RETIREMENT

A motion was made by M. Dunham second by Moser to accept the resignation and retirement of Diana Muha, Custodian effective December 31, 2019.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

Superintendent Pegg thanked Diana for her years of service and wishes her a healthy and happy retirement.

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to accept the retirement of Norbert Porupski, Custodian effective December 31, 2019.

Ayes: M. Dunham, Franks, Howard, Krupa, Mangold, Moser, Planiczka

Abstain: Porupski

Superintendent Pegg thanked Norbert for his years of service and wishes him healthy and happy retirement.

REAPPOINT ROTC INSTRUCTOR

A motion was made by Krupa second by Mangold to reappoint Sgt. First Class Barbara J. Harmon as a School District Junior ROTC Army Instructor for the term commencing August 23, 2019 and terminating midnight, August 24, 2020, pursuant to the terms and conditions of a written agreement, as presented. Compensation for JROTC Army Instructor shall be equal to the Minimum Instructor Pay as from time-to-time established by the United States Army plus \$5,000 for extracurricular activities.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

RIGHT-TO-KNOW OFFICER APPOINTMENT

A motion was made by Howard second by Krupa to appoint Sharon Berkshire as the district's Right-to-Know Open Records Officer commencing February 1, 2020.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to grant Julius Jesso, elementary instructor a leave of absence from January 6, 2020 through March 31, 2020.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Krupa to grant Mary Comunale, high school instructor an unpaid leave of absence from January 29, 2020 to March 6, 2020 as permitted by the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Porupski to grant Crystal Hanchek, nurse an unpaid leave of absence from January 15, 2020 to February 17, 2020.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to grant Taylor Bella a paid and unpaid leave of absence from approximately March 4, 2020 through June 4, 2020, accrued sick days shall be used during leave as permitted by the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

COACHES

A motion was made by Porupski second by Planiczka to hire Austin Bergman as 9th grade head baseball coach for the 2019-2020 season, pending receipt of all proper documents.

Ayes: M. Dunham, Franks, Howard, Planiczka, Porupski

Nays: Krupa, Mangold, Moser

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to award the following middle school coaching positions for the 2019-2020 season, pending receipt of all proper documents:

1. Kristen Bishop - Assistant Track
2. Ian Edenfield – Volunteer Assistant Wrestling
3. Mark Dunham – Head Track

Ayes: M. Dunham, Franks, Howard, Krupa-2 only, Mangold-1 & 2 only, Moser, Planiczka, Porupski

Nays: Krupa – 1 and 3 only

Nays: Mangold – 3 only

Nays: M. Dunham – 3 only

AWARD POSITIONS

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to award Autumn Dziak the 2.5 hour cafeteria position at George J. Plava Elementary.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Porupski to award John Martinko the midnight custodian position at AG High School according to contract.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to award Heather Lux, the Grade 5 Masontown Elementary instructor position for 2020-2021 school year according to contract.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

NEW HIRE TECHNOLOGY TECHNICIAN

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to appoint Nathan Ulderich as a Technology Technician for a term ending June 30, 2022, pursuant to the terms and conditions of a written employment contract, as presented.

Ayes: M. Dunham, Krupa, Howard, Mangold, Moser, Planiczka, Porupski

Nays: Franks

TERMINATE EMPLOYEE

A motion was made by Planiczka second by M. Dunham to terminate employee prior to lapsing of probationary period at the discretion of the Superintendent.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

MUSICAL POSITIONS

A motion was made by Howard second by M. Dunham to award the following extracurricular Musical positions according to contract.

1. Producer/Director – Toby Maykuth
2. Art Director – Lynn Wagner
3. Music Director – Megan Cerullo
4. Technical Director –Jeremy Kendall
5. Program Director – Toby Maykuth
6. Choreographer – Kaylie Valusek

Ayes: M. Dunham, Franks, Howard, Moser, Planiczka, Porupski

Nays: Krupa, Mangold

SUBSTITUTE LIST

A motion was made by Porupski second by Planiczka to grant permission to add the following substitutes pending receipt of all proper documents:

Professional: Stephanie Simon

All members present voting in favor of motion.

FACILITY USE

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Krupa to grant use of AG North cafeteria and gym to AG North Middle School Band on February 14, 2020 from 3:00 pm – 11:00 pm for a dance; Gail Diamond.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to grant use of AG High School and field to Southwestern PA Area Agency on Aging on June 15, 2020 and June 16, 2020 from 6:00 am – 5:00 pm for a health and wellness fair with athletic events; Jamie Moore.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by M. Dunham second by Planiczka to grant use of AG North cafeteria and gym to 8th Grade Dance Committee on May 15, 2020 from 3:00 pm – 9:30 pm for 8th grade dance; Amanda Chipps.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Krupa to grant permission to use AG High School Auditorium on May 26, 2020 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm for a violin recital; Mary Kendall and Marion Irwin.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Krupa second by Mangold to grant use AG High School cafeteria to AGHS Band Booster on May 15, 2020 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm and May 16, 2020 from 7:00 am – 5:00 pm from for a band designer bingo fundraiser; Chrissy Brewer.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

CONFERENCES

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Porupski to grant permission for Troy Golden to attend the one day 65th Annual PASBO Conference in Pittsburgh, PA on March 18, 2020, and will be part of a presentation entitled, "Starting Students Off Right: Awesome School Breakfast Programs". The cost will not exceed \$250 which will include travel and registration. \$150 will be reimbursed.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to grant Duane Dupont permission to attend the PA State Athletic Directors Association Conference in Hershey, PA from March 24 through March 27, 2020 at a cost not to exceed \$700.00.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to grant permission for the following individuals to attend the PETE & C expo in Pittsburgh, PA on February 24 and 25, 2020: Chris Bolin, Matt Pramuk, Noelle Petrun, Laura Yeagley, Merritt Stefancik, and Brandon Berkshire. The cost per person is \$210 for a 2-day pass.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

SOFTBALL FIELD TRIP

A motion was made by Planiczka second by M. Dunham to grant final approval of AG High School Softball team for trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina for The Ripken Experience Spring Training March 19 through March 23, 2020 at no cost to the district; Mark Goodwin.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

FBLA

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to grant approval of the FBLA State Leadership Conference in Hershey, PA from April 5, 2020 through April 8, 2020 at a cost of \$9,295.00 with Albert Gallatin District to share in the amount of \$3,339.00; Karla Lent.

Ayes: M. Dunham, Franks, Howard, Mangold, Moser, Planiczka, Porupski

Nays: Krupa

RESOLUTION SECURITY TRAINING

A motion was made by M. Dunham second by Planiczka to adopt Resolution approving an extension of the February 28, 2020 deadline for armed security guards to complete Pennsylvania School Code required instruction to July 1, 2020, as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

SMITHFIELD ELEMENTARY ROOF REPLACE SPECIFICATIONS

A motion was made by M. Dunham second by Krupa to direct Administration to develop specifications for an overlay roof replacement (roof-over) for Smithfield Elementary School, and obtain competitive quotes and/or bids for purchase and installation of same, including utilization of cooperative governmental purchasing programs, for consideration by the Board.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on February 19, 2020 in the D. Ferd Swaney Elementary School cafeteria. The work session has been changed to Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

A motion was made by M. Dunham second by Porupski to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 pm.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

