

## **Albert Gallatin Area School Board – Regular Meeting Minutes**

**D. Ferd Swaney Cafeteria**

**Wednesday, July 17, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Ryan Porupski (via conference call), Vice President Jeff Myers, Secretary Betty Moser, Treasurer Doug Sholtis, Paul Dunham, Dave Howard, Dan Janesko (arrived 6:06 pm), Eric Miller, Carl Planiczka

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent Christopher Pegg, Solicitor Lee Price

Vice President Myers called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Superintendent Pegg opened sewage bids from Hunters Excavating and ZRM, LLC.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Dunham to enter in an executive session at 6:06 pm for personnel. All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Dunham second by Planiczka to resume the meeting at 6:34 pm. All members present voting in favor of motion.

An executive session was held on Monday, July 15, 2024 from 6:50 pm – 7:30 pm for personnel, real estate and school safety and security.

### **AGENDA**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to adopt agenda as presented. All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **APPROVE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 19, 2024. All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to approve minutes of the Special Meeting held on July 3, 2024. All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **TREASURER’S REPORT**

A motion was made by Dunham second by Planiczka to accept the treasurer’s report including tax collections for June 2024 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 Dunham to grant permission to pay the following bills and payroll for July 2024:

1. Bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$5,947,702.28
2. Current month general fund bills in the amount of \$1,183,108.45

3. Cafeteria fund bills in the amount of \$747.01  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

**ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS**

A motion was made by Moser second by Howard to accept activity accounts as presented by building principals.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

**LIGHTING – CARDELLO**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to grant permission to purchase lighting in amount of \$12,398.88 for High School and Central Office from Cardello Lighting & Electric Supply.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to grant permission to pay the following bills through Capital Projects:

1. Communications Consulting, Inc. \$30,819.28 for upgrades to cyber security  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

**VINYL CUTTER AND PRINTER**

A motion was made by Porupski second by Janesko to grant permission to purchase a vinyl cutter and printer for the high school from American Print Consultants in the amount of \$15,470.00.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

**VERKADA LICENSE AND EQUIPMENT - BIZTEC**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Janesko to grant permission to purchase Verkada license and equipment for security upgrades from Biztec LLC in the amount of \$74,102.00, COSTARS #0000540144.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

None

**POLICIES**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Janesko to approve the motion to retire district Policy 249 – Cyber Bullying.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

Superintendent Pegg stated the policy has been incorporated in existing policy 249.1.

A motion was made by Moser second by Janesko to approve first reading of Policy 213 – Assessing and Reporting Student Progress.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to approve first reading of Policy 801 – Public Records.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Dunham second by Moser to approve first reading of Policy 223 – Use of Motor Vehicles by Students.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **ATSI PLAN**

A motion was made by Howard second by Janesko to approve ATSI Plan as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **MGT STEP BY STEP SPECIAL EDUCATION CONSULTING**

A motion was made by Howard second by Sholtis to motion to approve Special Education Consulting Services as stated in the updated RFP to MGT Step by Step Learning for the 2024-2025 school year paid by Special Education funding.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **HOUGHTON MIFFLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL ELA PROPOSAL**

A motion was made by Moser second by Janesko to motion to approve Houghton Mifflin Harcourt middle school ELA proposal in the amount of \$125,447.74.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Janesko to grant John Martinko, Custodian a leave of absence from June 4, 2024 through July 15, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to grant Cindy Kopas, High School Instructor a leave of absence from August 20, 2024 through January 21, 2025.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **RESIGNATION**

A motion was made by Howard second by Dunham to accept the resignation of Jacqueline Alston, Hall Monitor effective July 8, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

Superintendent Pegg thanked Mrs. Alston for the excellent job she has done for the district.

#### **AWARD POSITION**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to award Julie Harvey as K-5 George J. Plava Elementary Assessment Team Member.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **NEW HIRES**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Porupski to grant permission to hire the following Paraprofessional Learning Support/Classroom Aides to be placed by the Director of Special Education/Superintendent.

1. Lana Berkshire
2. Rosemary Olson
3. Deborah Beck
4. Mary Ann Pegg
5. Virginia Miner
6. Claudia Butorac

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **NEW HIRES**

A motion was made by Porupski second by Janesko to hire Lee England as 180 Day Security Guard.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Janesko to hire Patrick Odell as Middle School Volunteer Assistant Cross Country Coach for one season pending receipt of proper documents.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Janesko to hire Gerald Arnold as High School Volunteer Assistant Cross Country Coach for one season pending receipt of proper documents.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Janesko to hire Cody Mack as Middle School Assistant Football Coach for one season pending receipt of proper documents.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to hire Jennifer Sroka as Middle School Assistant Softball Coach for the Fall 2024 season.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to hire Meghan Howard as Health Room Aide.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

Abstain: Howard

A motion was made by Janesko second by Moser to hire the following Elementary Intervention Teacher positions for the 2024-25 school year, at appropriate step, with benefits:

1. Brenda Cousins - Friendship Hill Elementary
2. Sarah Tinker – Smithfield Elementary
3. Carole Whetzel – George J. Plava Elementary
4. Skyla Bradshaw – AL Wilson Elementary

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Janesko second by Dunham to hire the following as the 180 Day Benchmark Substitutes for the 2024-25 school year at the appropriate salary:

1. Kaitlyn Kotarsky - Friendship Hill Elementary
2. Cheryl Kurosky – Smithfield Elementary
3. Megan Sterner – George J. Plava Elementary
4. Emily Ewart – AL Wilson Elementary
5. Annalia Paoli – Masontown Elementary

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **RESCIND MOTION**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Howard to rescind motion to create and appointment Jennifer Sroka as the additional Middle School Assistant Softball Coach position for the Fall 2024 season.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **RATIFY CREATE AND POST POSITION**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Sholtis to ratify creating and posting an additional Middle School Assistant Softball Coach position for the Fall 2024 season.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **CREATE AND POST POSITION**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to grant permission to create and post an additional High School Assistant Volleyball Coach position for the Fall 2024 season.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **TENURE**

A motion was made by Janesko second by Moser to grant tenure to the following teachers as defined in PA School Code:

1. Luke Zelich, Special Education Instructor
  2. Genna Naymick, Special Education Instructor
  3. Beth Weeks, Speech Instructor
  4. Alex Mears, High School Instructor
  5. Jessy Franks, Special Education Instructor
  6. Abriana Gunnoe, Special Education Instructor
  7. Elizabeth Roderick, Elementary Instructor
  8. Emery Dirda, Elementary Instructor
- All members present voting in favor of motion.

Superintendent Pegg congratulated the professional educators for earning tenure in the state of PA.

### **SUBSTITUTES**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to grant permission to add the following to the substitute list pending receipt of all proper documents.

Professional: Sharon Hays; Nonprofessional: Patty Lewis  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **JROTC ACCESS AGREEMENT**

A motion was made by Howard second by Dunham to approve the continuation of the JROTC Program Access between Albert Gallatin School District and Jefferson-Morgan School District for the 2024-25 school year.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **WVU STUDENT NURSES**

A motion was made by Moser second by Janesko to approve the following WVU student nurses for fall clinical's at various times, throughout the district, pending receipt of clearances: Laura Keene, Abigail Castle, Kaitlyn Dellinger, Julia Chapman  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL CO-OP WITH MT. MORIAH**

A motion was made by Howard second by Janesko to approve for Albert Gallatin Area School District to proceed with a cooperative sponsorship with middle school students at Mt. Moriah Christian School for the 2024-25 school year term at no cost to the district.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL CO-OP WITH CHESTNUT RIDGE**

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to approve for Albert Gallatin Area School District to proceed with a cooperative sponsorship with middle school students at Chestnut Ridge Christian School for the 2024-25 school year term at no cost to the district.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **DUCK HOLLOW LEASE AGREEMENT**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Sholtis to approve Lease Agreement with Duck Hollow Discovery Learning Center, Inc. for portions of the D. Ferd Swaney School Building and grounds for a 4 year term commencing July 1, 2024 and an additional 2 year automatic renewal, as presented. The rent is \$800.00 per month for each room.  
All members present voting in favor of motion.

**STUDENT TEACHER**

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to authorize Bradleigh Lincoln, Grand Canyon University student teacher from September 2024 through January 2025 to be placed at Masontown Elementary and High School. All members present voting in favor of motion.

**JROTC FIELD TRIP**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Janesko to grant permission to the JROTC (16 cadets) to participate in an education staff ride of Gettysburg Battlefield from August 15-16, 2024 with request the use of two school vans: CMS Lashendock, at no cost to the district. All members present voting in favor of motion.

**FACILITIES USE**

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to grant permission to AG Youth Football League to use the AG North Middle School for Football practice from 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm and AG High School for games from 10:00 am – 8:00 pm from July 29, 2024 through November 3, 2024; Jeff Marsh All members present voting in favor of motion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 6:00 pm at the D. Ferd Swaney cafeteria.

Mr. Pegg announced that the August Meetings will change due to hiring for positions. The Work Session will be held August 12, 2024 and the Board Meeting on August 14, 2024.

A motion was made by Moser second by Sholtis to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm. All members present voting in favor of motion.