

**ALBERT GALLATIN AREA SCHOOL BOARD – REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2015 – 6:00 P.M.  
ALBERT GALLATIN SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Doug Sholtis, Secretary Edward Colebank, Treasurer Jeff Myers, David Howard, John Kopas, Ken Plisko, Janet Swaney

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Vice-president Michael Dunham, Tom DeGusipe

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent Carl Bezjak, Controller Denise Sheetz and Attorney Lee Price

President Sholtis 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**

Debbie Burnett S.E.I.U. President spoke on behalf of the cafeteria furloughs. Mrs. Burnett stated the union had questions they would like the board to consider before making their final determination to furlough. When was the study done and did it take into consideration the new CEP program which will now permit all students to have free meals. Was the afterschool dinner program considered in this study along with start and end times for employees. Are job duties being reconfigured and if so how and when will staff be notified. Do workers get extra hours if duties are not completed? Will this affect the special events? Why now as we begin a new program?

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Kopas second by Colebank to enter into executive session at 6:10 p.m. for personnel.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Colebank to resume the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

President Sholtis announced an executive session was during the work session on July 15, 2015 for personnel from 6:36 p.m. to 7:10 p.m.

**AGENDA**

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to adopt the agenda as presented.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Plisko second by Colebank to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 23, 2015 as presented.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

**BOARD MEETING START TIME**

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to start all board meetings at 6:00 p.m.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **D. FERD PUBLIC HEARING**

A motion was made by Swaney second by Kopas to grant permission to advertise for a Public Hearing on D. Ferd Elementary School.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mr. Beznak announced the need for the hearing is to discuss the possible closure of the D. Ferd Elementary School at the start of the 2016-17 school year. Administration has recommended the closure based on several factors: current and projected student enrollments; the cost of operating school buildings; student transportation costs and the leveling of school district revenues on the one hand and the normal yearly increases in expenditures on the other. Prior to accepting or rejecting Administration's recommendation the School Board wants to conduct a public hearing to receive citizen comments on the possible closure of D. Ferd Swaney. If the Board chooses to close D. Ferd this would not be in effect until the 2016-17 school year.

#### **FINANCIAL**

A motion was made by Plisko second by Colebank to accept the treasurer's report including tax collections for May 2015 and preliminary financial statements as presented.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **BILLS AND PAYROLL**

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to pay the following:

1. Bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$3,209,792.32
2. Current month general fund bills in the amount of \$990,528.41

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS**

A motion was made by Colebank second by Howard to grant permission to pay bills through Activity Accounts as presented by building principals.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **BIOLOGY BOOKS**

A motion was made by Plisko second by Myers to purchase 195 Keystone Biology books from Holt McDougal HMH Publishing Co. at a cost of \$14,607.22.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **MUSIC BIDS**

A motion was made by Colebank second by Swaney to award AG North Music bid to Fawley Music in the amount of \$9,366.60.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **COPIERS**

A motion was made by Swaney second by Myers to renew lease agreement through Office Systems of Fayette and Greene, Inc. for Xerox Copiers at a cost of \$9,185.54 per month (annual savings of \$3,494.04) according to terms of PEPPM 2015 commencing September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2020. All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **PROGRASS**

A motion was made by Colebank second by Swaney to approve service agreement with ProGrass for HS field at a cost of \$3,800.00 for the 2015-16 school year. All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

None

### **POLICIES**

A motion was made by Plisko second by Swaney to approve the following policies:

1. Second reading of Field Trips Policy # 121
2. Second reading of Volunteer Policy # 915
3. Second reading of Attendance Policy # 204
4. First reading of Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response Policy #819

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **AWARD POSITIONS**

A motion was made by Swaney second by Myers to award the following positions according to contract:

1. Shawn Chory the North/South Library position
2. Mary Ellen Jones the English position at AG South

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **NEW HIRES**

A motion was made by Myers second by Howard to hire Andrew Giles as a Temporary Professional Employee for Music at AG North/South at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Kopas second by Myers to hire Michelle Myers as a Temporary Professional Employee for Elementary with placement to be determined by Superintendent at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Colebank second by Myers to hire Leandra Dirda as a Temporary Professional Employee for Elementary with placement to be determined by Superintendent at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Plisko second by Howard to hire Johnna Pleban as a Temporary Professional Employee for Elementary with placement to be determined by Superintendent at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to hire Megan McGill as a Temporary Professional Employee for Elementary with placement to be determined by Superintendent at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Plisko second by Colebank to hire Amanda Martin as a Temporary Professional Employee for Elementary with placement to be determined by Superintendent at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **CREATE**

A motion was made by Kopas second by Swaney to create a Grade 5 CSR position at D. Ferd Swaney. All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **EXTRA CURRICULARS**

A motion was made by Colebank second by Howard to hire the following extra-curricular Sponsors at AG South:

1. Brooke Patterson – Newspaper
2. David Dunham - Yearbook
3. Justin Malik as Student Council Volunteer Sponsor at AG

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to hire Heather Hartley as Head Teacher at Masontown Elementary School for the 2015-16 school year.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **COACHES**

A motion was made by Howard second by Myers to accept the resignation of Mike Long as Middle School assistant football coach and hire him as High School assistant football coach (5 of 5).

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Kopas second by Colebank to hire the following coaches as recommended by Athletic Director:

1. Shawn Smearcheck as Assistant Boys Soccer Coach at AGHS
2. Susan Lengvarsky as Girls Head Volleyball Coach at AGHS
3. Elizabeth Springer as Assistant Girls Volleyball Coach at AGHS
4. John Kochis as Assistant Football Coach at AG North/South Middle School
5. Ellen Hillenbrand as Head Girls Basketball Coach at AG North/South Middle School

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to approve the following leaves of absence:

1. Michelle Pramuk from August 18, 2015 to approximately September 28, 2015
2. MaryEllen Jones for the first semester of the 2015-16 school year

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **CAFETERIA POSITIONS/FURLOUGHS**

A motion was made by Kopas second by Howard to eliminate the following vacant cafeteria positions effective August 17, 2015:

1. Masontown Elementary School – 2 hr position
2. George J. Plava Elementary School – 1 ½ hr position

Ayes: Kopas, Howard, Colebank, Plisko, Swaney, Sholtis

Nays: Myers

A motion was made by Kopas second by Plisko to eliminate the following cafeteria effective August 17, 2015:

1. Albert Gallatin High School – 2 hr position
2. AG North Middle School – 3 hr position
3. AG South Middle School – 3 hr position
4. A.L. Wilson Elementary School - 3 hr position
5. D. Ferd Swaney Elementary School – 3 hr position
6. Friendship Hill Elementary School – 3 hr position
7. Smithfield Elementary School – 2 hr position

Ayes: Kopas, Plisko, Colebank, Howard, Swaney, Sholtis

Nays: Myers

A motion was made by Kopas second by Swaney to lay off the following appropriate cafeteria employees, based upon seniority effective August 17, 2015:

1. Tina Machosky
2. Sherry Hruska
3. Terra Mick
4. Tara Azzardi
5. Nicole Givler
6. Alison Price
7. Betty Reckart

Ayes: Kopas, Swaney, Colebank, Howard, Plisko, Sholtis

Nays: Myers

### **FACILITY USE**

A motion was made by Swaney second by Myers to grant the 2016 Post Prom Committee use of AGHS cafeteria for a Vendor/Craft Show on November 6 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for set up and on Saturday November 7, 2015 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; April Karwatske.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

**SUBSTITUTES**

A motion was made by Colebank second by Swaney to add Allen Howell and Ken Rozzell to the substitute custodian list pending receipt of all proper documents.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

**CONFERENCE**

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to grant Barbara Harmon permission to attend the JROTC Instructor Training Workshop August 3 – 7, 2015 in Princeton, NJ pending Cadet Command approval.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Sholtis announced the next regular meeting will be held on August 19, 2015 in the A. L. Wilson Elementary School cafeteria at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Myers second by Kopas to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.