

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

**D. Ferd Swaney Cafeteria**

**Wednesday, June 19, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Ryan Porupski, Vice President Jeff Myers, Secretary Betty Moser, Treasurer Doug Sholtis, Paul Dunham, Dave Howard, Eric Miller, Carl Planiczka

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dan Janesko

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent Christopher Pegg, Solicitor Lee Price, Business Manager Vince Belczyk

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

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

None

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An Executive Session was held on Monday, June 17, 2024 from 7:05 pm to 8:57 pm for personnel, school safety and security and real estate.

### **AGENDA**

A motion was made by Myers second by Howard 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 May 15, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to approve minutes of the Special Meeting held on June 12, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to nominate Doug Sholtis as Board Treasurer.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to appoint Doug Sholtis as Board Treasurer for the 2024-25 school year effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

Abstain: Sholtis

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Howard second by Sholtis to accept the treasurer's report including tax collections for May 2024 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 Myers to grant permission to pay the following bills and payroll for June 2024:

1. Bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$4,914,157.40
  2. Current month general fund bills in the amount of \$447,055.86
  3. Cafeteria fund bills in the amount of \$94,362.74
- All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS**

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

#### **BAND BIDS**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Sholtis to award Band bids for high school, middle school, and elementary schools for 2024-2025 school year to Fawley Music at a cost of \$ 31,599.80. All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **2024-2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to Resolved, that the Board of Directors of Albert Gallatin Area School District, hereby adopts the General Fund Budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 in the amount of \$62,443,289 as presented and authorizes that a tax on real estate be levied at the rate of 15.592 mills or \$1.55 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. There is no tax increase. All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **HOMESTEAD AND FARMSTEAD RESOLUTION**

A motion was made by Dunham second by Howard to approve Resolution authorizing the Homestead and Farmstead exclusion real estate assessment reduction for the Albert Gallatin Area School District's fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 under the provisions of the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1, 2006), as presented. All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **BUDGETARY TRANSFERS**

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to grant permission to make all necessary budgetary transfers for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **DEPOSITORIES**

A motion was made by Miller second by Myers to approve the following depositories for the 2024-2025 school year:

- a. First National Bank
- b. PSDLAF Fund (Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund)
- c. PLGIT – Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust
- d. United Bank

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **ACSHIC**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Miller as required by the affordable Care Act, authorize offering the Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium (ACSHIC) to uninsured employees of the Albert Gallatin Area School District. All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **CLEAN AND GREEN PROGRAM**

A motion was made by Dunham second by Myers to approve the refund of \$23,375.21 in Real Estate Taxes paid in 2023 to Coastal Forest Resources for two parcels numbered 36-21-0043 and 36-21-0048 that should have been enrolled in the Clean and Green program for 2023 as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **TRANSFINDER**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to grant permission to pay Transfinder Corporation the yearly maintenance fee of \$15,892.00.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **WORKERS COMPENSATION-CAPUTO INSURANCE**

Grant permission to purchase Workers Compensation with Caputo Insurance Agency as broker of record, provided the policy is written by Synergy; at a premium of \$118,959.00 and an additional fee of \$24,000.00 for safety loss.

Motion dies for lack of motion.

#### **INSURANCE PACKAGE-CAPUTO INSURANCE**

Grant permission to purchase Insurance Package (Property, Liability, Auto, Inland Marine, Crime, School Leaders E&O, and Umbrella coverage) with Utica Insurance Company through Caputo Insurance Agency at a premium of \$191,034.65 which includes a \$1,000,000.00 Cyber Liability Limit with Obsidian Specialty.

Motion dies for lack of motion.

#### **WORKERS COMPENSATION-BAILY INSURANCE**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Dunham to grant permission to purchase Workers Compensation with Baily Insurance Agency as broker of record, provided the policy is written by Encova Insurance; at a premium of \$104,818.00 and an additional fee of \$16,800.00 for risk management.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **INSURANCE PACKAGE-BAILY INSURANCE**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Planiczka to grant permission to purchase Insurance Package (Property, Liability, Auto, Inland Marine, Crime, School Leaders E&O, and Umbrella coverage) with CM Regent through Baily Insurance Agency at a premium of \$178,302.00 which includes a \$1,000,000.00 Cyber Liability Limit with Tokio Marine/Houston Casualty Company, plus a fee in lieu of commissions totaling \$23,855.00.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Price informed the board on Item E under Administrative, the Novacare Amendment that each party has the right to cancel with a 60 day notice according to the base agreement from 2017.

#### **POLICIES**

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to approve third reading of Policy 249 – Cyber Bullying.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Miller second by Moser to approve third reading of Policy 249.1 Bullying/Cyberbullying.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Howard to approve third reading of Policy 202.1– Non-resident attendance/enrollment.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

Nays: Dunham

#### **ACT 44 REPORT**

A motion was made by Myers second by Moser to Approve the Act 44 Report as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **AWARD POSITIONS**

A motion was made by Howard second by Miller to award the following positions for the 2024-25 School Year:

1. Summer Advancement/Recovery Physical Education Instructor– Tom Corazzi
2. English Instructor at AG High School – Jackie Shultz
3. Grade 2 at George J. Plava Elementary – 1 year only – Christina George
4. Grade 4 at Masontown Elementary– Rosa Stoffa
5. Grade 1 at AL Wilson Elementary – Makayla Munchinski
6. Grade 5 at Masontown Elementary – Christine Spaw-Moats
7. Grade 5 at AL Wilson Elementary – Sarah Rockwell
8. K-5 AL Wilson Elementary Assessment Team Member - Jennifer Thrash
9. K-5 George J. Plava Elementary Assessment Team Member – Jamie Kamp
10. Maintenance Position – Allen Howell
11. Afternoon Shift Custodian at Smithfield Elementary – Jon Dziak
12. Afternoon Shift Custodian at AG High School – Brandon Pegg

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

A motion was made by Moser second by Planiczka to grant Kaela Swenglish, Middle School Instructor a paid and unpaid Leave of Absence from August 20, 2024 through October 28, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to grant Alyssa Bright, Elementary Learning Support Instructor an unpaid Leave of Absence from August 20, 2024 through November 4, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **CREATE AND POST POSITIONS**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Miller to grant permission to create and post an Afternoon Shift Custodian position at AL Wilson Elementary School.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to grant permission to create and post a Second Floating Custodian position.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **NEW HIRES**

A motion was made by Moser second by Myers to hire Marieli Edwards for Grade 5 – 1 year only position at George J. Plava Elementary at the appropriate step pending proper certification.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to hire Shelly Hall for Grade 5 – 1 year only position at AL Wilson Elementary at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Moser second by Myers to hire Skylar Wellington for Grade 4 -1 year only at George J. Plava Elementary at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Myers to hire Riley Ann Steeber as Speech Instructor at AL Wilson Elementary at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Miller to table the hire of a Middle School English Instructor at AG North Middle School at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor to table motion.

A motion was made by Moser second by Myers to hire George Cumberland as Custodian to be placed by the Superintendent.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **RESIGNATIONS**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to accept the resignation of Jennifer Williams, Cafeteria employee effective June 4, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to accept the resignation of Megan Ulishney, Elementary Instructor effective June 7, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **COACH POSITION**

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

Ayes: Howard, Planiczka, Sholtis, Dunham, Myers, Moser

Nays: Miller, Porupski

### **COACHES**

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to hire/rehire the following High School Coaches for one season, pending receipt of all proper documents.

1. Head Girls Basketball – Craig Hoone
2. Head Wrestling – Duane Dupont
3. Assistant Boys Basketball – Jules (Buddy) Quertinmont
4. Assistant Boys Basketball – Justin Goletz

All members present voting in favor of motion.

Abstain: Moser on Item 1 only

### **JROTC REAPPOINTMENT**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Dunham to Reappoint Command Sergeant Major Alexander Lashendock as the Albert Gallatin Area School District JROTC Army Instructor for the term commencing August 1, 2024 and terminating midnight, June 30, 2025 pursuant to employment contract as presented. Compensation shall be equal to the Minimum Instructor pay as from time to time established by the United States Army. Command Sergeant Major Alexander Lashendock shall be employed the appropriate number of days as required by the U.S. Army for salary and reimbursement purposes.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **SECURITY CONTRACTS**

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to reappoint the following School Police Officer contracts for a three-year term commencing with first workday of the 2024-25 school year and terminating midnight, June 30, 2027, pursuant to employment contracts as presented.

1. Don Alston
2. Gary Smearcheck
3. Gerald Furajter
4. John Kraus
5. David Bell

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **SUBSTITUTE LIST**

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

Professional: Sydney Petrowski; Annalia Paoli, Samantha Rosenberger, Madison Adams

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **SUBSTITUTE TEACHER BONUS**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to approve day to day substitute teachers, who work a minimum of 100 days in the 2024-25 school term, receiving a bonus of \$1,000 to encourage the greater availability of day to day substitute teachers. Payment to be made at the conclusion of the school term.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **FOOD SERVICE COOPERATION AGREEMENT/SOUTHEASTERN GREENE**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Planiczka to approve Director of Food Service Cooperation Agreement between Albert Gallatin Area and Southeastern Greene School Districts, subject to approval of the agreement by the District's Solicitor as to form. Southeastern Greene will reimburse the district 10% of the Food Director total employee cost.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **JROTC PROGRAM ACCESS/JEFFERSON-MORGAN**

A motion was made by Myers second by Sholtis to table motion 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 to table motion.

### **NOVACARE AMENDMENT**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Dunham to approve the Amendment to Nova Care contract for providing Athletic Training Services as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm at the D. Ferd Swaney cafeteria.

A motion was made by Dunham second by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm.

All members present voting in favor of motion.