

**ALBERT GALLATIN AREA SCHOOL BOARD – REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017 – 6:00 P.M.  
D. FERD SWANEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Paul Dunham, Vice-president Betty Moser, Treasurer Ken Plisko, Secretary Edward Colebank, Michael Dunham, David Howard, Jeff Myers, Doug Sholtis, and Janet Swaney

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

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

President P Dunham 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**

Justin Moccaldi of Smithfield spoke about the Feasibility Study done in 2015. Mr. Bezjak stated the feasibility study was done to see how we can get the best utilization from our buildings. Currently North is only at 58% capacity and South is at 54%.

Charity Krupa of Smithfield – Informs the Board she is recording the meeting via her cell phone. She is concerned there was unethical and illegal activity during the sale of the Windy Hill School. She has asked the Board President to have an independent investigation into this matter.

Mr. Sholtis said Mr. Jarrett the high bidder, has been a long time client and instead of doing 2 deeds it was done in one. Nothing illegal.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

President P Dunham announced an executive session was held on Monday, June 19, 2017 from 7:02 p.m. to 7:35 p.m. for personnel, litigation and collective bargaining negotiations.

**AGENDA**

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

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to approve the minutes of May 17, 2017 as presented.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to accept the treasurer's report including tax collections for May 2017 and preliminary financial statements as presented.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

**BILLS AND PAYROLL**

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to pay the following bills and payroll for June 2017:

1. Bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$2,259,699.79
2. Current month general fund bills in the amount of \$896,492.98

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS**

A motion was made by Colebank second by Howard to approve payment of bills through activity accounts as presented by principals.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **2017-18 GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

A motion was made by Plisko second by M Dunham to adopt the General Fund Budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 in the amount of \$53,078,061.00 as presented; and authorizes that the tax on real estate be levied at the current rate of 14.935 mills or \$1.49 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 remain in effect at the same rate. There is no tax increase.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **ACT 1 HOMESTEAD/FARMSTEAD**

A motion was made by Myers second by Sholtis 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, 2017, under the provisions of the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1, 2006), as presented.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **BUDGET TRANSFERS**

A motion was made by Colebank second by Howard to make all necessary budgetary transfers for fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **INSURANCE**

A motion was made by Swaney second by Moser to purchase Workers Compensation with Caputo Insurance Agency as broker of record, provided the policy is underwritten by Synergy Comp Insurance Co.; at a premium of \$170,813.00 and additional fee of \$24,000.00 for safety loss.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Colebank to purchase Insurance Package (Property, Liability, Auto, Umbrella and EDP coverage) with Utica National Ins. Co. at a premium of \$130,554.00 which includes cyber suite coverage.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **DEPOSITORY**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Colebank to approve First National Bank as District Depository for the 2017-2018 school year.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **AFFORDABLE CARE ACT**

A motion was made by M Dunham second by Swaney to authorize offering the Intermediate Unit 1 Health Insurance Consortium Bronze Plan to uninsured employees of the Albert Gallatin Area School District as required by the Affordable Care Act.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **CYBER CHARTER RESOLUTION**

A motion was made by Colebank second by Myers to approve Resolution of class action filed against the Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School as presented.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **BAND/ATHLETIC BIDS**

A motion was made by Howard second by M Dunham to award the following Band bids to:

1. High School - \$9,948.45
2. AG North Middle School - \$8,056.90
3. AG South Middle School - \$8,838.90
4. Elementary Schools - \$661.55

Total Bids - \$27,505.80

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Myers to award the following Fall Athletic Bids to:

1. Century - \$16,267.60
2. Riddell - \$4,831.14

Total Bids - \$21,098.74

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **IU 1 ELECTRIC CONSORTIUM**

A motion was made by Swaney second by Sholtis to authorize the IU 1 Electric Consortium to extend the current agreement from December 2019 to end in December 2022 as long as it is at or below the current contract rate through Premier Power Solutions LLC. Administration is directed to execute an extension with Premier Power Solutions, LLC for electric service within the parameters.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **FOOD SERVICE MEMBERSHIP**

A motion was made by Swaney second by Moser to become a member of the Pittsburgh Regional Food Service Directors. Membership dues are \$400.00.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **ESCHOOL VIEW MAINTENANCE**

A motion was made by Myers second by Howard to renew eSchoolView Maintenance, Hosting and Support from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 at a cost of \$4,590.84.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **ONE CALL**

A motion was made by Plisko second by Howard to renew One Call service agreement at a cost of \$6,967.59 for the 2017-18 school term.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

None

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

President P Dunham announced a thank you note was sent from Sandra Lowe and students for use of auditorium for their music recital.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAM**

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to Approve purchase of K-5 Journeys English Language Arts program at a cost of \$206,800.82 for a 6-year subscription from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **PILOT PROGRAM**

A motion was made by Colebank second by M Dunham to approve agreement with Albert Gallatin Education Association to keep the Pilot Program in the Middle Schools for the 2017-2018 school term as presented.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **SCIENCE MATTERS**

A motion was made by Swaney second by Moser to approve the renewal of Science Matters program for grades 1 – 8 for the 2017-18 school term at a cost of \$43,105.00.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **RETIREMENT/RESIGNATIONS**

A motion was made by Plisko second by Howard to accept the retirement of Constance Battaglia effective June 6, 2017.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Colebank second by Myers to accept the retirement of Terrie Kopec effective June 6, 2017.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Plisko second by Myers to grant Candice Jordon a leave of absence commencing July 17, 2017 to June 30, 2018 official retirement date.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Colebank second by Howard to grant Dianne Patterson a leave of absence commencing October 16, 2017 to June 30, 2018 official retirement date.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mr. Beznak thanks the above individuals for their many years of dedicated service and wishes them a long and happy retirement.

A motion was made by Howard second by Myers to accept the resignation of Lauren Smochinsky as Aide effective June 6, 2017.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Swaney second by Myers to accept the resignation of Cynthia Belch effective June 5, 2017.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **NEW HIRES**

A motion was made by Moser second by Howard to hire Anne Kutec as a Temporary Professional Employee for speech at the appropriate step.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Colebank to hire Alison Perry as a Temporary Professional Employee for music at appropriate step.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Colebank to hire Megan Cerullo as a Professional Employee for music at step 8.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Swaney second by Howard to hire Tammy Kezmarsky as a Professional Employee for special education at appropriate step.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Myers to hire Courtney Phillips as a Temporary Professional Employee for special education at appropriate step.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by M Dunham second by Swaney to hire Troy Golden as Food Service Director commencing July 1, 2017 according to written contract agreement.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Moser to create Special Education Support Administrator position.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to hire Jared Plisko as Special Education Support Administrator at the appropriate step according to the Administration Compensation Plan.  
Ayes: Howard, Moser, Colebank, M Dunham, Myers, Sholtis, Swaney, P Dunham  
Abstain: Plisko

Mr. Bezjak explains with the elimination of one district Lead Support Position and 1 IU Support position, this creates a savings of approximately \$84,000.00.

A motion was made by Swaney second by Myers to rescind Delmar Shipp's resignation as 180-day security guard from May 17, 2017.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **FURLOUGH**

A motion was made by Howard second by Swaney to adopt Resolution furloughing, demoting and/or not renewing the necessary number of professional and temporary professional staff effective with the start of the 2017-2018 school term, as presented.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **POSITIONS**

A motion was made by Moser second by Howard to eliminate one special education Lead Support position at HS and create 1 special education position at North/South.  
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mrs. Swaney would like to see more positions for special education created.

A motion was made by Sholtis second by M Dunham to transfer Eric Witt to George J. Plava Elementary School per his request.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

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

1. Grade 4 CSR at Friendship Hill – Jennifer Hartman
2. Grade 3 CSR at George J. Plava – Tiffany Jobes
3. Grade 1 CSR at George J. Plava – Jennifer Sroka
4. Grade 3 CSR at Smithfield – Merritt Stefancik
5. Grade 2 at AL Wilson – Amy Lewis
6. Learning Support at AG North – Meghan Hadenak
7. Social Studies at AG South – Charles Courie
8. Grade 4 at AL Wilson – Stacey Peton
9. Learning Support at Friendship Hill – Ashley Winkler
10. Guidance at Masontown/George J. Plava – Michelle Aulthouse
11. Grade 2 at Smithfield – Alfreda Hanley

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by M Dunham second by Swaney to hire the following extra-curricular activity sponsors for the 2017-18 school year:

1. Sherry Williams – South Newspaper
2. Tricia Moser – South Student Council
3. Melissa Balchak – South Yearbook
4. Stacey Bill – HS Freshman/Sophomore Class
5. CJ Durso – HS Band and Pep Band Director
6. Mike Revak – HS Astronaut
7. Julie Pillar – HS Math Team

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **ATHLETIC TRAINER**

A motion was made by Myers second by Colebank to enter into agreement for Athletic Trainer for the 2017-18 school term at a cost of \$35,000.00 with NovaCare Rehabilitation, pursuant to proposal letter of May 11, 2017.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **CONNECT TO CLASSROOMS**

A motion was made by Howard second by Myers to extend the Connect to Classrooms contract for 2017-18 school year for one HS Behavior Specialist for an additional cost not to exceed \$20,000.00 to be paid by SSIP grant funds.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **COACHES**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Colebank to hire the following High School coaches for one season during the 2017-18 school year, pending all proper documents are received:

1. Golf – Bernie Wydo
2. Head Cross Country – Joe Thomas
3. Head Boys Soccer – Jeremy Keefer

4. Head Girls Soccer – Rick Hansen
  5. Co-Head Cheerleading – Kristen Embacher and Emily Ward
  6. Head Girls Volleyball – Michelle Pergar
  7. Assistant Football (5) – Jeremy Liotta, Rich Kolesar, Eric Fusco, Tyler Naulty
  8. Assistant Volleyball – Katie Nolder
  9. Assistant Boys Soccer – Ephraim Yoder
  10. Assistant Girls Soccer – Andy Miles
  11. Co-Assistant Cheerleading – Kristen Embacher and Emily Hartman
  12. Summer Strength Conditioning – Shawn Liotta
  13. Chris Moser and Jeff Gates as Volunteer Assistant Football
- All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Howard to hire the following Middle School coaches for one season during the 2017-18 school year, pending all proper documents are received:

1. Head Girls Basketball – Ellen Hilenbrant
2. Head Football – Tom Corazzi
3. Head Cheerleading – Melissa Corob
4. Head Coed Soccer – Tim Flecker
5. Assistant Girls Basketball – Rebecca Phillips
6. Assistant Cheerleading – Tiffany Pantalo
7. Fall Athletic Director – Joe Embacher

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **FACILITY USE**

A motion was made by Swaney second by Moser to grant use of High School auxiliary gym from July 17 – 20, 2017 from 8:30 – 3:00 for Cheer camp; Nikki Trump.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Swaney second by M Dunham to table action on use of High School auditorium for School Board Candidate Forum on October 3, 2017 (Alternate Date October 10) from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. by Herald Standard Newspaper; Patricia Yauger.

Ayes: Swaney, M Dunham, Colebank, Howard, Moser, Plisko, Sholtis, P Dunham

Nays: Myers

#### **SUBSTITUTES**

A motion was made by Colebank second by Myers to add the following to the substitute lists pending receipt of all proper documents:

1. Professional - Lauren Smochinsky
2. Security – Jesse Snyder

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

#### **SEAL COAT BIDS**

A motion was made by Swaney second by Howard to grant permission to bid for seal coating of school parking areas.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

**HIGH SCHOOL REPAIRS**

A motion was made by Plisko second by Myers to replace Compressor and authorize repairs for High School Chiller at a cost of \$13,797.00 as per written proposal dated June 14, 2017 presented by TRANE.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

**STEEL SPORT POLES**

A motion was made by Myers second by Colebank to authorize inspection of four (4) steel sport light poles at a cost of \$625.00 per pole as per written proposal presented by Asset Inspection Solutions, LLC.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President P Dunham announced the next regular meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on July 19, 2017 in the D. Ferd Swaney Elementary School.

A motion was made by Myers second by Howard to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.