

**ALBERT GALLATIN AREA SCHOOL BOARD – REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2015 – 6:00 P.M.
AG NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice-president Michael Dunham, Secretary Edward Colebank, Treasurer Jeff Myers, Tom DeGusipe, David Howard, John Kopas, Ken Plisko, Janet Swaney

MEMBERS ABSENT: President Doug Sholtis

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Carl Bezjak, Assistant Superintendent Beth Hutson, Controller Denise Sheetz and Attorney Tony Giglio

Vice-president 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

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Myers second by Kopas to enter into executive session at 6:03 p.m. for real estate tax litigation and personnel.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by DeGusipe to resume the regular meeting at 6:20 p.m.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Vice-president Dunham announced an executive session was held during the work session on Monday, June 22, 2015 from 6:57 p.m. to 7:42 p.m. for personnel.

AGENDA

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

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Howard second by DeGusipe to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 20, 2015 as presented.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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 by Denise Sheetz.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

BILLS

A motion was made by Howard second by Myers to authorize payment of bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$1,897,041.79.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Kopas to authorize payment of current month general fund bills in the amount of \$2,765,549.10.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to authorize payment of bills through activity accounts as presented by building principals.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

2015-2016 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

A motion was made by Howard second by Plisko to adopt the General Fund Budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 in the amount of \$51,975,426.00 as presented; and authorizes that the tax on real estate be levied at the rate of 13.0088 mills which is an increase of 0.5217 on the dollar, or \$1.30 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.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Janet Swaney stated "Our legislators in Harrisburg need to take action, it is not fair that the property owners in Pennsylvania take all the burden in funding our schools. This Board has only raised taxes twice in twenty-three years, we have been very fiscally responsible over the years, and there is just too much injustice of the system. It breaks my heart to have to raise taxes, but right now we have no other choice".

HOMESTEAD/FARMSTEAD

A motion was made by Plisko second by Myers to approve the Resolution authorizing the Homestead and Farmstead exclusion real estate assessment reduction for the Albert Gallatin Area School District's fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, 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 Myers second by DeGusipe to grant permission to make all necessary budgetary transfers for fiscal year ending June 30, 2015.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

ANTICIPATION NOTE

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to grant permission to accept the proposal from PNC Bank dated June 22, 2015 for a tax and revenue anticipation note in an amount not to exceed \$3,900,000.00 at an interest rate of 0.96 %. The purpose of accepting the proposal is to have a commitment from PNC Bank to lend the District money should the District experience a cash flow shortfall anytime during the 2015-2016 school year. Any loan would have to be paid off on or before December 31, 2015 and could possibly be extended.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

WORKER'S COMPENSATION

A motion was made by Colebank second by Howard to purchase Workers Compensation with Caputo Insurance Agency as broker of record, provided the policy is underwritten by Synergy Compensations Ins. Co., at a premium of \$166,348.00 and additional fee of \$24,000.00 for safety loss.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

INSURANCE PACKAGE

A motion was made by Howard second by Myers to purchase Insurance Package (Property, Liability, Auto, Umbrella and EDP coverage) with Liberty Mutual Ins. Co. at a premium of \$135,576.00.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

DEPOSITORIES

A motion was made by Plisko second by Howard to approve the following Depositories for the 2015-2016 school year:

1. PNC Bank
2. United Bank
3. First National Bank

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

ON HANDS

A motion was made by Colebank second by Swaney to approve the professional development contract with ONHand Schools in the amount of \$27,000.00 paid by SIG Funds.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

FEDERAL FUNDS

A motion was made by Howard second by DeGusipe to approve the Preliminary Federal Fund monies as follows:

1. Title 1 - \$1,817,612.00
2. Title IIA - \$297,160.00

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

MUSIC BIDS

A motion was made by Colebank second by Myers to approve HS and South Band Supply bids to Fawley Music in the amount of \$20,757.65 lowest responsible bid.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

FALL SPORT BIDS

A motion was made by Kopas second by Myers to approve the following fall sport bids (lowest responsible bids):

1. Century Sports - \$13,480.12
2. Riddell - \$6,790.60

Total bids - \$20,270.72

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

A motion was made by Howard second by Plisko to authorize payment of \$44,700.00 to Trane for HS wrestling room paid through Capital Projects.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

None

POLICIES

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

1. First reading of Field Trips Policy # 121
2. First reading of Volunteer Policy # 915
3. First reading of Attendance Policy # 204
4. Second reading of Cyber Bullying Policy #249 waive 3rd reading adopted
5. Second reading of Bully/Cyber Bullying Policy 249.1 waive 3rd reading adopted

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Plisko second by Colebank to approve third and final reading of policy # 209.1 Head Lice, policy adopted.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

A motion was made by Swaney second by Howard to approve Seton Hill as a Dual Enrollment Post-Secondary Partner for the 2015-16 school year.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Swaney second by Colebank to eliminate a 10 month secretary at AGHS and create a 12 month secretary at AGHS.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

RETIREMENT/LEAVES

A motion was made by Plisko second by Swaney to accept the retirement of School Nurse Lois Peters effective July 10, 2015.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mr. Bezzak thanks Lois for all her hard work and dedication to the students of the Albert Gallatin District and wishes her the best in her retirement. It was truly a pleasure to work with her.

A motion was made by Plisko second by Howard to grant Barbara Holly a leave of absence from August 19, 2015 to October 12, 2015 her date of retirement.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mr. Bezzak wishes her well in her retirement and thanks Barbara for her years of service.

A motion was made by DeGusipe second by Myers to extend Christine Satovich sabbatical to a full year.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Howard to extend Trent Langley's leave of absence to March 4, 2016 his effective date of retirement.
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mr. Bezjak gives thanks and best wishes to Trent.

A motion was made by Myers second by DeGusipe to grant Melinda Courie a one year sabbatical for the 2015-2016 school year.
All members present voting in favor of the motion.

AWARD POSITIONS

A motion was made by Plisko second by Colebank to award the following positions according to contracts:

1. Eric Sampson – Physical Education at AGHS
2. Crystal Roderick – Physical Education at Friendship Hill/Smithfield
3. Jennifer Leech – Kindergarten at Masontown
4. Cindy Black – 6 ½ hour cafeteria at Masontown
5. Michelle Dice - 5 ½ hour cafeteria at AG South
6. Stacey Bill – 12 Month secretary at AGHS

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

NEW HIRES

A motion was made by Howard second by Colebank to hire Jamie Kubina as custodian for afternoon shift at AGHS.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Plisko second by Myers to hire Scott Popovich as custodian for midnight shift at George J. Plava Elementary School.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Plisko to hire Meghan Bogden as Temporary Professional Employee for Speech-Hearing Instructor at Friendship Hill/Masontown/South Schools at Step 2.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Swaney to hire Kim Riley and Lisa Show as Temporary Professional Employees for School Nurses at appropriate steps with placement to be determined by Superintendent.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

Mr. Bezjak stated the above hires are due to PDE requirements and recent retirements.

A motion was made by Colebank second by Myers to hire Brian Shoaf as 180 day full time security guard.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

EXTRA CURRICULAR/HEAD TEACHERS

A motion was made by Howard second by Myers to hire the following South Middle School extra-curricular activity sponsors:

1. Head Teacher – Dave Dunham
2. Band Director – Mary Kendall

Ayes: All but one (VP Dunham abstain on # 1 only)

Abstain: # 1 only VP Dunham

Nays: None

A motion was made by Colebank second by Plisko to hire the following North Middle School extra-curricular activity sponsors:

1. Year Book – Rosemary Novotny
2. Student Council – Jeremy Keefer
3. Math Counts – Taylor Bella
4. Newspaper – Kate Armstrong
5. Head Teacher – Tiffany Duncan
6. Band Director – Gail Diamond

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Swaney second by DeGusipe to hire the following Elementary School Head Teachers:

1. A.L. Wilson – Larry Flowers
2. D. Ferd Swaney – Stacey Peton
3. Friendship Hill – Jennifer Vail
4. George J. Plava – Jamie Kamp
5. Smithfield – Toby Maykuth

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Howard to hire the following High School extra-curricular activity sponsors:

1. Art Club – Caitlin Solan
2. Interact Club – Aimee Parquette
3. Academic League – Jared Plisko
4. Math Team – Julia Pillar
5. Mock Trial – Jeff Kopas
6. SADD – Megan Smiley
7. Young Astronauts – Mike Revak
8. Honor Society – Mia Shaffer
9. Yearbook – Bethany Chicerelli
10. Student Council – Megan Wojtowicz
11. Junior/Senior Activities Sponsor – Kristi Kaiser
12. Department Heads:
 - a. Math – Cindy Kopas
 - b. English – Cindy Halfin
 - c. Science – Michael Dunham
 - d. Social Studies – Jerry Quinn
 - e. Electives/Specialists – Karla Lent

13. Future Educators Sponsor – Elizabeth Springer
14. Future Business Leader – Karla Lent
15. Senior Project Sponsor – Elaine Kopich
16. Senior Work Release – Ken Musko
17. Robotics – Maryann Hughes
18. Book Club – Alison Vandegrift
19. Band Director – Charles Durso
20. Assistant Band Director – Wyatt Wilson
21. Vocal Music Director – Joe Andria
22. Choral Pep Club – Joe Andria
23. Video Productions – Eric Nuttall
24. Drama/Plays – Toby Maykuth & Joe Andria
25. Producer/Director – Toby Maykuth & Joe Andria
26. Art Director – Lynn Wagner
27. Music Director – Toby Maykuth & Joe Andria
28. Musical (As per Board budget) – Joe Andria
29. Andy Giles – Percussion

Ayes: All but (Dunham # 12C) and (Plisko # 3)

Abstain: Dunham # 12C only and Plisko # 3 only

Nays: None

FACILITY USE

A motion was made by Howard second by Colebank to grant use of AGHS Football field from July 7 – 9, 2015 for Elementary football camp grades 3 – 8; Joe Embacher.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

WVU

A motion was made by Plisko second by DeGusipe to enter into agreement with WVU for Nurse Interns/Field Experience for the 2015-2016 school.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

CONFERENCE

A motion was made by DeGusipe second by Kopas to grant permission for 2 Instructors to attend the Low Incidence Disabilities Institute in Hershey from August 9 -13, 2015 at a cost not to exceed \$1,800.00 paid by Access funds.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-president Dunham announce the next regular meeting will be held on July 15, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the AG South Middle School cafeteria.

A motion was made by Plisko second by Kopas to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

All members present voting in favor of the motion.

