

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

**D. Ferd Swaney Cafeteria**

**Wednesday, March 19, 2025**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Eric Miller

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

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

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Recognize senior high school student Paxton Kendall, Violinist – PMEA All State conference orchestra selection held at Kalahari Resort on April 11, 2025. Paxton performed Ashokan Farewell for the school board.

Recognize NAACP Diversity Essay, Poster and Coloring Contest for the 2024-25 school year: Avrey Myers, grade 11; Brooklyn Tingle, grade 8; Brooklyn Wooten, grade 6; Emma Sholtis, grade 4; Alayna Noakes, grade 2; Wyatt Cottrell, grade 1; Aubree Tringes, Kindergarten.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Dunham to enter into executive session at 6:15 pm for personnel and real estate.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to resume meeting at 6:29 pm.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

An executive session was held on Monday, March 17, 2025 for personnel, student confidentiality, tax appeal, potential claim by the School District, and real estate.

### **AGENDA**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to adopt agenda as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **APPROVE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Janesko second by Howard to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 19, 2025.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Janesko to approve minutes of the Special Meeting held on March 3, 2025.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **TREASURERS REPORT**

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to accept the treasurer's report including tax collections for February 2025 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 Janesko to grant permission to pay the following bills and payroll for March 2025:

1. Bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$3,742,294.88
2. Current month general fund bills in the amount of \$513,808.88
3. Cafeteria fund bills in the amount of \$113,723.72

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS**

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

### **E-RATE CONTRACTS**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to approve and sign contracts for the two E-Rate Equipment/Service Category 2 Mini-Bid winners: Communications Consulting, Inc to upgrade the access points with a total cost of \$345,150.00, effective for the Funding Year 2025, pending E-rate funding approval. CCL Technologies to upgrade the switching hardware and licensing with a total cost of \$38,186.00, effective for the Funding Year 2025, pending E-rate funding approval. The District portion of the project totaling \$72,162.40 is to be funded through the Capital Projects Fund.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **AUDITING SERVICES**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to award the proposal for auditing services to Hosack, Spect Mutzel & Wood of Pittsburgh, PA for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2025, 2026, and 2027 at a base fee of \$22,500, \$23,500, and \$24,500.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Price added real estate as an executive session topic.

### **CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

A motion was made by Janesko second by Sholtis to seek blanket approval for Curriculum and Instruction motions A-G.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **POLICIES**

A. Approve third reading of Policy 800-AR-0, 800-AR-1, and 800-AR-2 – Records Management Administrative Regulations.

B. Approve first reading of Policy 610 Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation

C. Approve first reading of Policy 611 Purchases Budgeted.

D. Approve first reading of Policy 626 Federal Fiscal Compliance.

### **2025-26 HIGH SCHOOL COURSE ADDITIONS**

E. Approve the 2025-26 High School Course additions as presented.

**2025 COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN INSPECTION**

F. Grant approval for the Albert Gallatin Area School District's 2025 Comprehensive Strategic Plan to be made available for a 28-day public inspection and comment period.

**SETON HILL UNIVERSITY DUAL CREDIT AGREEMENT**

G. Approve the Seton Hill University College in High School Dual Credit Agreement for a three-year term to commence July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028 as presented.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to grant Regina Fiffik, Middle School Instructor a leave of absence from March 12, 2025 through June 4, 2025.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

**RETIREMENT**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to accept the retirement of Regina Fiffik, Middle School Instructor effective end of 2024-25 school term.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

Superintendent Pegg thanks Regina for her 26 years of service with the district and wished a long, happy and healthy retirement.

**AWARD POSITION**

A motion was made by Porupski second by Sholtis to award the following positions according to contract.

1. Jennifer Hartman – Head Teacher – AL Wilson Elementary (remainder of school term)
2. Stephanie Baker – Grade 5 – AL Wilson Elementary (effective 2025-26 school term)
3. Tiffany Jobes – Grade 3 – AL Wilson Elementary (effective 2025-26 school term)
4. Skylar Wellington – Kindergarten – Smithfield Elementary (effective 2025-26 school term)

All members present voting in favor of motion.

**NEW HIRE SECURITY**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to hire Christopher Rosano as Event Security and Substitute School Police Officer at an hourly rate of \$17.00.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

**EXTRA DUTIES PAYMENT**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Janesko to approve the payment of \$800.00 to Duane Dupont for the extra duties performed in the girl's varsity wrestling program for the 2024-25 season.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

**FACULTY MUSICIAN HIRE**

A motion was made by Janesko second by Planiczka to hire Brandon Saghy as High School extra-curricular faculty musician for the spring musical.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

**RESCIND HIRE OF SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to rescind the hire of substitute custodian(X) effective March 18, 2025.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **HIGH SCHOOL COACH HIRES**

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Planiczka to hire/rehire the following high school coaches for the Fall season, pending receipt of all proper documents.

1. Kristin Dunham -Assistant Volleyball
2. Bell Bergman – Assistant Volleyball
3. Jeff Rush - Assistant Football
4. Dylan Rush – Assistant Football
5. Dan Morgan – Assistant Football
6. Zack Dillow – Assistant Football
7. Stan Wolfe –Assistant Football
8. Thomas VanCamp - Assistant Boys Soccer
9. Christi Eicher – Assistant Girls Soccer
10. Hannah Trump – Co-Head Cheerleading
11. Angela Robinson – Co-Head Cheerleading
12. Nikki Trump – Volunteer Asst. Cheerleading
13. Spring Conditioning – Codie Mack
14. Summer Conditioning – Drew Dindl

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL COACH HIRES**

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Sholtis to hire/rehire the following middle school coaches for the Fall season, pending receipt of all proper documents.

1. Makayla Munchinski – Head Softball
2. Jason Rosner – Head Football
3. Melanie Rua – Head Cheerleading
4. Annalia Paoli – Assistant Softball
5. Maddie Flowers - Assistant Softball
6. Codie Mack – Assistant Football
7. Mike Etheridge – Assistant Football
8. Jamie Tanner – Volunteer Cheerleading
9. Joe Embacher as Middle School Athletic Director

### **EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT**

A motion was made by Porupski second by Janesko to approve employment contract for the District's newly appointed Business Manager, Dr. Joshua Chicarelli, for the three year term ending midnight June 30, 2028, as presented.

### **SUBSTITUTE LIST**

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

Professional: Mia Swanson, Richard Banton

Nonprofessional: Berle Pastories

All members present voting in favor of motion.

### **FACILITIES USE**

A motion was made by Janesko second by Howard to grant permission to AG South Class of 2031 to use AG South gym and cafeteria on March 14, 2025 from 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm for dance; Brooke Patterson

All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

A motion was made by Janesko second by Sholtis to seek blanket approval for Administrative motions C-P. All members present voting in favor of motion.

#### **FACILITIES USE**

C. Grant permission to AG Elementary Boys Basketball All Stars to use the AG South Gym on Wednesday and Thursday from February 26, 2025 through April 10, 2025 from 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm for Boys Basketball (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4 grades); Randi Higman

D. Grant permission to AG Youth Wrestling to use AG North Auxiliary Gym on Monday and Thursday from April 28, 2025 through May 30, 2025 from 5:45 pm – 8:15 pm for wrestling conditioning; Brian Carey

E. Grant use of AG High School Auditorium on Thursday, June 5, 2025 from 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm for rehearsal and Friday, June 6, 2025 from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm for piano recital; Jeremy Kendall/Sandy Lowe

F. Grant permission to Fayette County Youth Soccer Club to rent the AG High School field on Sundays beginning April 6, 2025 through June 8, 2025 for travel soccer games. Times vary week to week/no holiday games; Tony Fornili

#### **CARLOW UNIVERSITY AFFILIATION AGREEMENT**

G. Approve the Carlow University Education Department Student Teacher Affiliation Agreement for five-year term commencing February 1, 2025 as presented.

#### **CARLOW UNIVERSITY STUDENT TEACHER**

H. Authorize Beth Gutty, Carlow University student teacher from August 25, 2025 through December 12, 2025 to be placed at Friendship Hill Elementary.

#### **LAUREL BUSINESS INSTITUTE AFFILIATION AGREEMENT**

I. Approve the Laurel Business Institute Affiliation Agreement for Technology Intern to commencing May 1, 2025 – August 31, 2025 as presented.

#### **LBI TECHNOLOGY INTERN**

J. Approve the student technology intern from Laurel Business Institute to intern with Technology Department from May 5, 2025 through August 31, 2025 pending receipt of required documents.

#### **PAFPC CONFERENCE**

K. Request approval for two administrators and one secretary to attend the 2025 PAFPC Conference held in Hershey, PA from May 11-14, 2025 at a cost not to exceed \$3,500 to be paid using Federal Funds.

#### **ADVERTISE FOR BIDS**

L. Authorize Administration to advertise for bids for the following service, Liquid Propane Gas (LPG), Garbage Removal, and Snow Removal.

#### **CONFERENCE REIMBURSEMENT**

M. Grant approval to reimburse Mary Kendall, Music Instructor in the amount of \$374.15 for PMEA regional orchestra competition.

#### **PMEA ALL STATE CONFERENCE**

N. Grant approval for Mary Kendal, Music Instructor to attend the PMEA All State Conference April 9 through April 12, 2025 at PA Kalahari Resorts Conventions at a cost not to exceed \$1,600.

**TAX ASSESSMENT APPEAL**

O. Approve along with German Township and Fayette County the Stipulation and Order of Settlement of the tax assessment appeals for contiguous Tax Parcel Nos. 15-30-0076-01, 15-30-0076-02, 15-30-0076-03, and 21-01-0005 at total combined assessment of \$12,250,000 for tax year 2024 and \$11,700,000 for tax year 2025.

NAY: Porupski

**VAN AND TRUCK PRICING**

P. Authorize Administration to obtain prices for the purchase of a new District van and new District truck utilizing a cooperative purchase such as CoStar.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the D. Ferd Swaney cafeteria.

A motion was made by Janesko second by Porupski to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 pm.

All members present voting in favor of motion.