

Albert Gallatin Area School Board – Regular Meeting Minutes

D. Ferd Swaney Cafeteria

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Eric Miller, 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

Recognize Brooke Zooner, Grade 11 for 3rd place award in Ligonier Valley Writers' Contest; Kim Swaney, Instructor

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held on Monday, May 13, 2024 from 7:27 pm to 8:29 pm for personnel, student confidentiality 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 Howard second by Dunham to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 17, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Myers to accept the treasurer's report including tax collections for April 2024 and preliminary financial statements as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

BILLS AND PAYROLL

A motion was made by Myers second by Dunham to grant permission to pay the following bills and payroll for May 2024:

1. Bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$3,181,085.11
2. Current month general fund bills in the amount of \$303,760.11
3. Cafeteria fund bills in the amount of \$100,981.46

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.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to grant permission to pay the following bills through Capital Projects:

1. A-1 Electric, Inc. \$16,065.00 for services rendered in the secure vestibule electric phase, payment Application no. 3

All members present voting in favor of motion.

PROPOSED 2024-2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to approve the Proposed Final 2024-2025 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$63,051,719.00 subject to change upon final passage.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

WORKERS COMPENSATION

A motion was made by Dunham second by Sholtis to table motion to purchase Workers Compensation with Caputo Insurance Agency as broker of record, provided the policy is written by Synergy; at a premium of \$124,383.00 and an additional fee of \$24,000.00 for safety loss.

All members present voting in favor to table motion.

INSURANCE PACKAGE

A motion was made by Dunham second by Sholtis to table motion 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 \$198,476.65 which includes a \$1,000,000.00 Cyber Liability Limit with Obsidian Specialty.

All members present voting in favor to table motion.

WORKERS COMPENSATION

A motion was made by Dunham second by Sholtis to table motion 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 \$17,600.00 for risk management.

All members present voting in favor to table motion.

INSURANCE PACKAGE

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

HOT WATER STORAGE TANK

A motion was made by Dunham second by Planiczka to grant permission to purchase and install hot water storage tank from Lee's Plumbing and Excavating, Inc. at a cost of \$13,690.00 for D Ferd Swaney.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

AWARD SEAL COATING BID

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to award sealing coating bid for AL Wilson and Central Office lots to JR Seal Coating at a cost of \$13,177.00.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

PRESS TOOL

A motion was made by Dunham second by Howard to approve purchase of Dewalt press tool for district plumbing projects in the amount of \$3,299.00.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None

POLICIES

A motion was made by Myers second by Moser to approve third reading of Policy 237 –Responsible use of Technology.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to approve third reading of Policy 217 – Graduation Requirements.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to approve third reading of Policy 241- Dual Enrollment/Concurrent Enrollment.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

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

All members present voting in favor to table motion.

A motion was made by Dunham second by Planiczka to approve third reading of Policy 903 – Public Participation/Comment in Board Meetings.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

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

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Dunham second by Howard to approve second reading of Policy 249.1 Bullying/Cyberbullying.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

2024 GRADUATION LIST

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to approve the 2024 Graduation List as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

2024-25 HIGH SCHOOL COURSE ADDITIONS

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to approve the 2024-25 High School Course additions as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

OSHA CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

A motion was made by Howard second by Sholtis to accept the proposal in the amount of \$3,200.00 to purchase student licenses through Career Safe for a 10 hour OSHA certification program.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

WIT & WISDOM READING SERIES

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to approve the purchase of the K-5 Wit & Wisdom Reading Series at a cost of \$490,000 to be paid using ARP ESSER and district funds.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

SCIENCE OF READING PROJECT-MGT

A motion was made by Myers second by Moser to motion to approve the continuation of Science of Reading Project as stated in the RFP to MGT Step By Step Learning for the 2024-25 school year contingent on allocation of Title I funding.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

SPECIAL EDUCATION CONSULTING SERVICES- MGT

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to motion to approve Special Education Consulting Services as stated in the RFP to MGT Step by Step Learning for the 2024-2025 school year.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

PERSONNEL

President Porupski seeks permission for blanket approval for all items listed under Personnel A-Q.

A motion was made by Howard second by Sholtis to approve all items listed under Personnel A-Q.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

RESIGNATION

A. Accept the resignation of Kayla Grimm, Elementary Instructor effective end of the 2023-24 school term.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

B. Award Katelyn Berkshire a leave of absence the first day of the 2024-25 School Term until October 7, 2024.

AMEND ELEMENTARY INTERVENTION TEACHERS MOTION

C. Motion to reconsider and amend the following Motion adopted at the Board's legislative meeting held April 17, 2024 to state as follows:
Grant permission for Administration to hire five (5) Elementary Intervention Teachers for the 2024-25 school year, to a maximum placement of Step 3 of the teacher's salary schedule, with credit commensurate with prior teaching experience up to three (3) years, with the hiring to be ratified by the Board at a subsequent meeting. Teachers to be placed by the Superintendent.

CONTRACTS

D. Approve the appointment of Justin Keller as Technology Coordinator/Network Systems Technician for a five (5) year term to commence June 1, 2024 pursuant to contract.

E. Approve the appointment of Amanda Lechlitter as Assistant to the Technology Coordinator for a five (5) year term to commence June 1, 2024 pursuant to contract.

F. Approve the appointment of Ryan Grimm as Technology Integration Specialist for a five (5) year term to commence June 1, 2024 pursuant to contract.

NEW HIRE - CUSTODIAN

G. Hire Theodore Gibbs as full-time custodian at AL Wilson Elementary.

JROTC NEW HIRE

H. Appoint LTC Tommy Guthrie as the Albert Gallatin Area School District JROTC Senior 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. LTC Tommy Guthrie shall be employed the appropriate number of days as required by the U.S. Army for salary and reimbursement purposes.

NEW HIRE – CERTIFIED SCHOOL NURSE

I. Hire Linda Nick as Certified School Nurse at Step 1, Temporary Professional Employee commencing the first work day of the 2024-25 school term.

NEW HIRE – CAFETERIA EMPLOYEE

J. Hire Ricki Foster as 4 hour cafeteria employee at the High School effective May 7, 2024.

AWARD POSITIONS

K. Award the following positions for the 2024-25 School Year:

1. Grade 2 at AL Wilson – Michelle Myers
2. Grade 5 at AL Wilson - 1 year only – Sarah Rockwell
3. Grade 1 at George J. Plava – Rachael Sunyak
4. Grade 2 at George J. Plava – 1 year only – Makayla Munchinski
5. Grade 5 at George J. Plava – 1 year only – Christina George
6. Certified School Nurse – Jennifer Lilley
7. Emotional Support at George Plava – Lauren Smochinsky
8. Grade 2 at Friendship Hill – Dorothy Holbert
9. Grade 4 at Masontown Elementary – Christine Spaw Moats
10. Grade 3 at AL Wilson Elementary – Jennifer Sroka

AWARD HIGH SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPONSORS

L. Award the following High School extra-curricular activity sponsors for the 2024-25 school year:

1. Art Club – Kristen Venturino
2. Interact Club – Amanda Martin
3. Academic League – Genna Naymick
4. Math Team – Julia Pillar
5. Mock Trial/Debate Team – Rebecca Taylor
6. SADD – Alison Perry
7. Future Business Leaders of America – Karla Lent
8. Future Educators – AnneMarie Koss
9. Honor Society – co-sponsors Alison Perry & Elizabeth Mulac with shared contractual stipend
10. Yearbook – Taylor Saghy
11. Student Council (2) – Christy Wolfe and Joyce Umble
12. Book Club – Taylor Saghy
13. NAACP – Tom Colebank
14. Freshman/Sophomore Activities–co-sponsors Alison Perry & Elizabeth Mulac with shared contractual stipend
15. Junior/Senior Activities - co-sponsors Christy Wolfe & Joyce Umble with shared contractual stipend
16. Envirothon Club – James Comunale
17. Drama (2) (plays) – Rebecca Taylor and Megan Cerullo
18. Musical (as per Board budget) – Rebecca Taylor
19. Band Director – Charles Durso
20. Assistant Band Director – Charles Gibson

21. Vocal Musical Director – Gail Diamond
22. Auxiliary Band Choreographer – Amber Hildock
23. Choral Pep Club – Gail Diamond
24. Percussion Instructor – Dylan Dubois

AWARD HIGH SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR DEPARTMENT HEADS

M. Award the following High School Department Heads for the 2024-25 school year:

1. Math – Cindy Kopas
2. Science – Bethany Herman
3. Social Studies – Jeff Kopas
4. English – Amanda Martin
5. Electives/Specialists – Ken Musko

AWARD MIDDLE SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPONSORS

N. Award the following Middle School extra-curricular activity sponsors for the 2024-25 school year:

1. Student Council – AG South – Andrew Hostetler; AG North co-sponsor Megan Hadenak & Taylor Bella
2. Newspaper Sponsors – AG South – Andrew Hostetler; AG North Kate Armstrong
3. Yearbook Sponsor – AG North – Jeri Turner
4. Band Director - Mary Kendall
5. Vocal Music Director – Gail Diamond
6. Elementary Band Director - Brandon Gift, Megan Cerullo, Jeremy Kendall

AWARD HEAD TEACHERS

O. Award the following Head Teachers for the 2024-25 school year:

1. AG North Middle School - Tiffany Duncan
2. AG South Middle School – Brooke Patterson
3. AL Wilson Elementary – Stacey Peton-Tenny
4. Friendship Hill Elementary – Tammy Bricker
5. Smithfield Elementary – Christine Robinson
6. George J. Plava Elementary – Jamie Kamp
7. Masontown Elementary – Heather Hartley

COACHES

P. Hire/rehire the following middle school coaches for the Fall season, pending receipt of all proper documents.

1. Head Football – Mark Dunham
2. Head Co-Ed Soccer – Thomas VanCamp
3. Head Cheerleading – Jamie Tanner
4. Head Softball – Makayla Munchinski
5. Assistant Softball – Annalia Paoli
6. Assistant Football – Jason Rosner, Mike Etheridge
7. Assistant Co-Ed Soccer – Matthew (Shea) Fleenor

Q. Hire Spencer Macke as Head Varsity Boys Basketball Coach for one season, pending receipt of all proper documents.

SUBSTITUTE LIST

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

Professional: Alexander Bilohlavek Non-Professional: Donald Metz

All members present voting in favor of motion.

PENN WEST STUDENT TEACHERS

A motion was made by Moser second by Myers to authorize Penn West University student teachers to be placed by the elementary supervisor:

August, 2024 – December, 2024: Coleman Hunt, Valen Lilley, Vanessa Toth

All members present voting in favor of motion.

INTERMEDIATE UNIT 1 AGREEMENTS

A motion was made by Dunham second by Planiczka to approve the following Intermediate Unit 1 Agreements for the 2024-25 school year:

1. Access Reimbursement Service Agreement-Administrative Support
2. Access Reimbursement Services Agreement-IU1 Based Staff
3. Educational Services Agreement
4. Partial Hospitalization Program Services Agreement
5. Curriculum Services Agreement, ESL Services

All members present voting in favor of motion.

CTI SATELLITE PROGRAM AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Howard second by Moser to approve the Agreement for Establishment and Operation of a Satellite Program with the Fayette CTI as presented.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

SOLICIT BIDS FOR UPGRADES

A motion was made by Howard second by Myers to grant permission to solicit bids for upgrades to Sewage Plant.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 6:00 pm at the D. Ferd Swaney cafeteria.

Superintendent Pegg announced that a budget workshop and special meeting for other matters that may become before the board will be held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 6 pm at D. Ferd. The meeting will be advertised and posted on website.

A motion was made by Myers second by Howard to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 pm.

All members present voting in favor of motion.