

Albert Gallatin Area School Board – Regular Meeting Minutes

D. Ferd Swaney Cafeteria

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Eric Miller

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Christopher Pegg, Vince Belczyk Business Manager, Casey Rankin, Solicitor

President Porupski called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

PUBLIC FORUM

Superintendent Pegg presented the PSBA Honor Roll Recognition Certificate to Carl Planiczka, Board Member for Five (5) Years of Service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Moser to enter into an executive session at 6:07 pm for personnel. All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Janesko second by Dunham to resume meeting at 6:24 pm
All members present voting in favor of motion.

An executive session was held on Monday, September 16, 2024 from 7:34 pm to 9:20 pm for personnel, litigation and student confidentiality.

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 Myers second by Janesko to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 14, 2024.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Myers second by Janesko to accept the treasurer's report including tax collections for August 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 Janesko to grant permission to pay the following bills and payroll for September 2024:

1. Bills, utilities, insurance and contractual obligations paid at the end of the previous month in the amount of \$8,199,617.19.
2. Current month general fund bills in the amount of \$458,900.70
3. Cafeteria fund bills in the amount of \$59,523.14

All members present voting in favor of motion.

ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS

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

DISTRICT RADIOS

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to approve the purchase of district radios from Rudik Communications, LLC in the amount of \$76,213.95. The purchase is in accordance with CoStars pricing with funds provided by the Capital Projects account and a \$30,000.00 Grant from the Fayette County District Attorney's Office. All members present voting in favor of motion.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

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

- a. Markl Supply Company, Inc. \$19,982.00 for the purchase of 3 mobile metal detectors for use at Athletic events throughout the district. Will also be used for graduation, musicals and other district events.
- b. Open Systems Pittsburgh LLC \$31,187.50 representing the balance of pay application #5 \$55,650.75 for the Fire Alarm Panel Phase of the Vestibule Project.
- c. The ESport Company \$41,475.00 for the purchase of 15 computers in accordance with the CoStars contract # 561231 for use in the High School ESport, Portal, and Computer design programs.
- d. Hunter's Excavating & Electrical \$58,574.97 for repairs completed on the Sewage Plant Maintenance Project.

Total Capital Projects \$151,219.47

All members present voting in favor of motion.

PROJECTOR AND SCREEN

A motion was made by Moser second by Dunham to approve purchase of a new projector and projector screen for the High School auditorium from Smart Solution Technologies Inc. at a cost of \$23,700.30. This will be paid using ESSER funds.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None

POLICIES

A motion was made by Howard second by Planiczka to approve second reading of Policy 808 – Food Services. All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Dunham second by Howard to approve second reading of Policy 808.1 – District Cafeteria Charge Policy.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Dunham to waive the third reading and approve Policy 808 and Policy 808.1 .

All members present voting in favor of motion.

NEW HIRES

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to hire Alisa Schantz as Kindergarten Classroom Aide at Friendship Hill for 2024-25 school year.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Howard second by Janesko to hire Morgan Kelly as 180 Day Substitute at Masontown Elementary.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to hire Jason Tingler as 180 Day Security Guard, pending receipt

All members present voting in favor of motion.

of all required documents.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE/FMLA

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Dunham to grant Dorothy Holbert, Elementary Instructor a nonpaid leave of absence from November 6, 2024 through December 1, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Howard to grant Brittany Skinner, School Counselor a paid and nonpaid FMLA from November 10, 2024 through February 2, 2025.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Moser second by Howard to grant Chelsie Myers, Secretary an FMLA from October 29, 2024 through November 26, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

Abstain: J Myers

A motion was made by Janesko second by Planiczka to grant Raegan Jordan, Custodian an intermittent FMLA retroactive to July 12, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

CAFETERIA POSITIONS

A motion was made by Howard second by Janesko to eliminate a 3 hour cafeteria position at AL Wilson.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Janesko to create a 4 hour cafeteria position at AL Wilson.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

AWARD POSITIONS

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

1. Eva Mehalov - Learning Support Instructor at High School
2. Christina George – Grade 1 Instructor at AL Wilson, effective 2025-26 school year
3. Autumn Dziak – 4 hour Cafeteria position at High School
4. Amber Glisan – 4.5 hour Cafeteria position at Smithfield Elementary

All members present voting in favor of motion.

COACH RESIGNATIONS

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to accept resignation of Jules (Buddy) Quertinmont as high school Assistant Boys Basketball coach.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

COACH HIRES

A motion was made by Myers second by Dunham to hire/rehire the following coaches for one season pending receipt of all proper documents.

1. Kameron Miller - Volunteer High School Assistant Volleyball
2. Simon Mulindwa - Volunteer High School Assistant Girls Soccer

3. Nicholas Groover – Varsity Baseball
4. Jeremy Keefer – High School Head Track
5. Mike Simon – High School Assistant Wrestling
6. Harley Constable – High School Assistant Wrestling
7. Sydney Phillips – Head Middle School and High School Assistant Girls Basketball Coach
8. Duane Dupont – High School Fall Conditioning
9. Tim Dye - High School Varsity Assistant Boys Basketball
10. Christie Eicher, Justin Moccaldi, Russell Psenicska – Volunteer Swim
11. Nathan Zimcosky – Volunteer High School Baseball
12. Breanna Mehall – Assistant Middle School Girls Basketball
13. Tim Kelley – Middle School Head Wrestling
14. Joe Embacher – Middle School Winter Athletic Director
15. David Sines and Jules (Buddy) Quertinmont – Co-Head Middle School Boys Basketball

All members present voting in favor of motion.

JROTC NEW HIRE

A motion was made by Howard second by Dunham to appoint LTC Richard Cassem as the Albert Gallatin Area School District JROTC Senior Army Instructor for the term commencing October 28, 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 Cassem 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.

RESIGNATION

A motion was made by Dunham second by Myers to accept the resignation of Valerie Popielarcheck, Special Education Instructor effective September 30, 2024.

All members present voting in favor of motion.

SUBSTITUTES

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

Professional: Brandon Saghy, Spencer Macke, Hannah Blackstone, Tiffany Duley

Nonprofessional: Alice Ohler, Ella McCourt

All members present voting in favor of motion.

FACILITIES USE

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Janesko to grant permission to AG North Class of 2029 use of AG North Gym on October 25, 2024 from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm for Fall Dance; Tracie Reese

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Myers second by Janesko to grant permission to AG Elementary Basketball League use of High School Cafeteria on September 17 and September 18, 2024 from 5:30 pm – 9:00 pm for league coaches meeting and draft; George Daniels

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to grant permission to AG Youth Wrestling to use of High School Cafeteria and Gym on December 14, 2024 and January 19, 2025 for Keystone Youth Wrestling Tournament; Brian Carey

All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Moser second by Myers to grant permission to Boy Scouts to use AL Wilson Elementary Cafeteria on September 16, 2024 for sign ups from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm; Kristen Eagle.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

WVU STUDENT TEACHER AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Moser to grant permission to approve the West Virginia University College of Applied Human Sciences, School of Education Affiliation agreement for five-year term commencing August 1, 2024.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

STUDENT TEACHERS

A motion was made by Myers second by Planiczka to authorize Penn West University student teachers to be placed by the elementary supervisor:
August 2024 - December 2024: Coleman Hunt, Vanessa Toth
All members present voting in favor of motion.

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Sholtis to authorize West Virginia University student teachers to be placed by the elementary supervisor:
August 2024 – December 2024: Heidi Johnston, Gabrielle Stokes, Jonathan Swavel
All members present voting in favor of motion.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Moser second by Myers to approve agreement resolving special education services for student X as presented.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

E-RATE SERVICES

A motion was made by Howard second by Myers to approve Van Strien Consulting proposal for providing E-Rate services during the 2024-25 funding year as presented.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

NATURAL GAS CONTRACT

A motion was made by Sholtis second by Myers to approve a three-year contract extension with NRG/Direct Energy for Natural Gas on the Columbia Gas System with a start date of September 1, 2025. The Contract will have a Basis price of (-\$0.267) cents per Dth. The Contract extension was recommended by the Western Pennsylvania Natural Gas Consortium Committee.
All members present voting in favor of motion.

EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

A motion was made by Planiczka second by Dunham to approve the Resignation Agreement and Release with Employee #24-X, as presented.
Ayes: Sholtis, Dunham, Planiczka, Howard, Porupski
Nays: Janesko, Myers, Moser
All members present voting in favor of motion.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, October 16 2024 at 6:00 pm at the D. Ferd Swaney cafeteria.

A motion was made by Myers second by Dunham to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 pm.
All members present voting in favor of motion