

SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

The Freedom Area School Board held their Agenda Board Meeting on September 11, 2014, in the Middle School Library. Vice President Mary Ann Petcovic called the Business Meeting to order at 7:00 pm, EST.

Board Members Present:

Dawn Greene
Harry Gilarno (Arrived 7:05 pm)
Barbara Heyman (Via telephone)
Lori Pail
Mary Ann Petcovic
Lorraine Rocco
Jennifer Sayre
Dennis Sharpless

Board Members Absent:

Alan Colorito

School Staff Present:

Dr. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent
Noriene Plate, Business Manager
William Deal, Principal, High School
Dr. Darlene Corris, Principal, Middle School
Richard Edder, Principal, Elementary School
John Rosa, Faculty and Athletic Director
Gary Mortimer, Director, Buildings and Grounds
Scott Smith, Construction Representative/Clerk of Services

Guests: **Public sign-in sheet attached to the minutes in the minute book.**

Note: An Executive Session was held on Wednesday, September 3, 2014, for contractual and personnel reasons.

The meeting began with Dr. Fuller, Superintendent, introducing Freedom Journalism Students in attendance to observe a governmental meeting.

PUBLIC/COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

New Sewickley Township resident Daleen Patsiga requested information regarding the reopening of the pool at the high school.

Kate Serna, Penn State Beaver Student, asked for information of the district's Rachel's Challenge program.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Pail, to approve letter of District Commitment to participate in the Energy and Advanced Manufacturing Day sponsored by the BVIU and Beaver County Chamber of Commerce, Friday, April 24, 2015, Community College of Beaver County Golden Dome.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Gilarno, Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Sayre, Sharpless, and Pail.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Dr. Fuller, Superintendent, reported on the following saying:

Gas Lease: Most of the language issues have been worked out in the lease agreement with Penn Energy. There are 2 significant issues outstanding: the language concerning the extension of the lease beyond the initial 5-year term and the financial terms of the price per acre that the district would receive. Both of these issues have been identified by Penn Energy as "threshold issues" - meaning that if we don't reach agreement on these issues, they will not move forward with the agreement.

Extension: The current contract language provides that Penn Energy has a free option to renew the lease agreement for an additional 5-year term if they do not move forward with drilling operations during the initial 5-year term. Although this language is common in lease agreements, if they don't do anything with the property in the first 5 years, should we allow them to have it for another 5 years without a fee? However, if we agree to this term, we may gain some headway on the other terms.

Price per Acre: Penn Energy is offering \$2,000 per acre for a non-surface lease and \$3,000 per acre for a surface lease. We requested \$4,000 per acre for a non-surface lease. Penn Energy states that \$4,000 per acre is more than they have paid any other landowner for the 32,000 acres that they have under lease in Eastern Beaver County and feel that the request is out of line. \$2,000 per acre is their best offer. We own approximately 45.95 acres, which would amount to a payment of \$91,900.

Note: The Board asked the Superintendent to continue discussions regarding the \$2,000 offer.

Energy and Advanced Manufacturing Day:

This countywide day, designed to support, encourage, and educate students interested in fields related to Energy and Advanced Manufacturing, will take place in April 2015 for students. However, there will be a number of activities throughout the school year to prepare for the day, including professional development opportunities for secondary teachers, open house activities involving members of the Planning Committee and industry representatives, and assembly programs provided by Job Training for Beaver County and the Beaver County Chamber of Commerce.

Rachel's Challenge Event:

Dr. Fuller, Superintendent, discussed Open House dates, Parent/Teacher conferences and dates Rachel's Challenge Events will take place in the district.

Presentation:

Chantelle McKim, Middle School 8th Grade English Teacher, discussed the Middle School National Junior Honor Society Program saying the program is similar to the National Honor Society at the Senior High School. Ms. McKim outlined the goals for the program, criteria to include a 3.9 GPA needed to be considered as a candidate, and listed examples of service programs the students will be involved in. Dr. Corris, Principal, Middle School, thanked Ms. McKim for starting the initiative as a volunteer.

EDUCATION:

Motion to approve the following Education items was made by Gilarno, seconded by Pail, and unanimously approved through consent agenda according to Act 48:

CA:1 Approve Released Time According to Act 48:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

1. **Gifted:**

a. Confirm: Jennifer Glover, Middle School Learning Support Teacher, Academic Games County-Wide Meeting, September 5, BVIU, Cost Substitute Plus Mileage

2. **Other:**

a. William Deal, High School Principal, New Principal/Athletic Director Seminar, September 16, DoubleTree Hotel-Green Tree, Cost Mileage

CA:2 Jeff Griffith as High School Half-Time Learning Support Teacher retroactive to September 2, 2014 - Step 0M (Clearances on File, Pending Receipt of New Employee Drug Screening)

CA:3 The following mentors for the 2014-2015 School Year, Salary According to Contract:

1. Carole Hartman for Blaire Lasko, High School English Teacher

2. Jessika Fontaine for Jeff Griffith, High School Half-Time Learning Support Teacher

CA:4 Resignation of Brittany Mineard as Big Knob Elementary Learning Support Aide

CA:5 The following aides, 5.75 hours per day, five days per week, at \$11.60 per hour:

1. Jason Knox, Elementary Math Aide (Clearances on File, Pending Receipt of New Employee Drug Screening)

2. Erica Kreshon, Middle School 8th Grade Instructional Aide (Clearances on File, Pending Receipt of New Employee Drug Screening)

- CA:6 Lisa Bradley as Cyber Program Aide, 5.75 hours per day, five days per week, at \$11.60 per hour (Pending Receipt of Updated Clearances and New Employee Drug Screening)
- CA:7 Madison Labon, Butler County Community College, for field experience placement, one day per week, September thru November 2014; to be placed with Karen Suhayda, Conway Elementary 2nd Grade Teacher (Clearances on File)
- CA:8 Waiving 20 day waiting period to begin Homebound Instruction on an as needed basis for an Elementary Student
- CA:9 Agreement for Rachel's Challenge Program for all students and staff (K-12) for 2014-2015 School Year, Cost \$6,500.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Gilarno, Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Sayre, Sharpless, and Pail.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

OPERATIONS:

A motion to approve the following Operations items was made by Gilarno, seconded by Sayre, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

- CA:1 Resignation of Beth Calahan as Part-Time School Nurse effective August 27, 2014
- CA:2 Resignation of Dr. Larry Brock as School Dentist for the Freedom Area School District
- CA:3 Mark Cefola as High School Security Monitor, 5.75 hours per day, five days per week, at \$11.60 per hour (Clearances on File, Pending Receipt of New Employee Drug Screening)
- CA:4 The following as Permanent Part-Time Custodians:
1. Robert Petures (Clearances on File, Pending Receipt of New Employee Drug Screening)
 2. Denzil Long (Clearances on File, Pending Receipt of New Employee Drug Screening)
- CA:5 The following as Custodial Substitutes:
1. Penny Halstead (Pending Receipt of Act 34 and Act 151 Clearances)
 2. Trystyn Summerville (Pending Receipt of Clearances)
- CA:6 Updated 2014-2015 Bus Drivers/Aides/Substitutes List (Handout)
- CA:7 Agreement with ThyssenKrupp Elevator Corporation to furnish and install New Main PC Processor Board for High School Elevator, Cost \$2,480
- CA:8 Agreement with Trane Building Services to repair Chiller System located at Middle School, Cost \$6,450

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Gilarno, Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Sayre, Sharpless, and Pail.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Rocco, to table until the regular business meeting action to award (or not) a contract for the replacement of Athletic Surfaces to Nagle Athletic Surfaces under the KPN State Contract, Cost \$273,322.80.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Gilarno, Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Sayre, Sharpless, and Pail.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Gary Mortimer, Director of Buildings & Grounds, provided the following monthly report:
General Information:

District elevators have been tested. The Conway and Middle School elevators passed the required pressure test. A faulty component with the High School control board failed. The replacement board has been scheduled to be installed. Once completed, the pressure test will be finalized.

District vehicles are being repaired and inspected. Repairs include, but not limited to, the District band trailer with wiring and lights, our dump trailer lighting, lawn mowers, and new set of tires on the GMC 2500.

General electrical, plumbing repairs, including the start-up needs of a new school year.

Big Knob:

The removal of 5000 gallons of sludge has been completed. A required sample has been sent for testing per DEP. Awaiting testing results and any additional requirements for operation of the sewer plant. Completed Module 1 and Module 6 required from DEP on August 29th for the drinking water at Big Knob. The new forms have been completed, submitted, and approved by Laura Blood, DEP, on September 3rd.

High School:

Roof repair along with the HVAC control upgrade specifications have been completed and advertised. Several contractor site visits have been completed. Bids due on September 15th to the Administrative office. Recommendation for Board consideration scheduled for the September 18th meeting.

We have completed the Fortune 500 area, including the dark room, washroom, and educational space.

New filters, supports, rods and racks have been ordered for the dust vac for the Industrial Arts class. Estimated arrival time of September 19th projected at a cost of \$4141.00, materials only. Installation of materials to be done in-house.

Middle School:

Repairs are needed for the chiller unit serving the Middle School. Work has been scheduled.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR:

A motion to approve the following Extra-Curricular items was made by Gilarno, seconded by Sayre, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

- CA:1 The following volunteer coaches:
1. Robert Hueffed, Golf(Clearances on File)
 2. Mary Soisson, Golf(Clearances on File)
 3. Janet Manganello, Girls' Soccer (Pending Receipt of Fingerprint Clearance)
- CA:2 Ryan Smith as Part-Time Assistant Cross Country Coach, Salary According to Contract (to be divided between Ryan Smith and Jesse Bender) (Clearances on File)
- CA:3 Girls' Soccer Team's participation in a game at Highmark Stadium, Station Square, Monday, September 15, 6:30 P.M.
- CA:4 The Big Red Marching Band participation at the Girls' Soccer Game at Highmark Stadium, Station Square, Monday, September 15

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Gilarno, Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Sayre, and Sharpless.
Vote No Vote – Pail. Motion carried – 7 Yeas

John Rosa, Athletic Director, provided the following monthly report:

- 1) Fall Seasons updates on Football, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Golf, Volleyball, Cross Country were provided.
- 2) Important Dates
 - August 29 – Youth Night – HUGE SUCCESS ONCE AGAIN
 - September 15 – Girls Soccer will play Quigley at Highmark Stadium
 - September 19 – Tentative Date to Honor Vince Sinovic (need to reschedule)
 - September 25 - Bonfire
 - September 26 – Homecoming
 - October 10 – Sr. Night for Band/Football/Cheer
 - October 13 – Boys Soccer Sr. Night
 - October 14 – Girls Soccer & Volleyball Sr. Night
- 3) Stadium and Concession Stand arrangement working well.

- 4) Time change for the next two home football games due to glare of the sun was suggested. With homecoming approaching, taking photos into the sun could be an issue. Note: While necessary, football games will begin at 7:30 pm.
- 5) May need to look into a parent code of conduct. Have had a few parents conduct themselves in a manner that is somewhat unacceptable. Playing time is a sensitive issue, and asking a coach about it is acceptable only if it is done in an appropriate manner and setting.
- 6) Positive note – Freedom Football Team and Coaches continued their mission to help the community by completing yard work and weeding at Board President's home recently. They did an excellent job.

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN:

Scott Smith, Construction Representative/Clerk Services, reviewed the construction projects current cost analysis to date, as well as change orders under review. Smith said the project schedule indicates actual percentage of work completed is 17%. Smith reported that the elevator shaft is fully installed at this time. Change orders will need acted on at the regular board meeting. **Copy of the report is attached to the minutes in the minute book.**

BOARD RETREAT:

Board President Heyman, said she would like to conduct a first-ever Board Retreat in October 2014. Dates to be considered will be sent to the Board for consideration. Retreat would begin at 5:30 pm beginning with a light dinner.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Pail, for the Board to go into Executive Session at 9:38 pm, EST, for Personnel Matters.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Gilarno, Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Pail, Sayre, and Sharpless.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Green, for the Board to go out of Executive Session at 10:30 pm, EST.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Greene, Gilarno, Petcovic, Rocco, Heyman, Pail, Sayre, and Sharpless.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Note: No action taken.

Adjourn Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Sayre, to adjourn. All members voting Yea.
8 Yeas. Adjourned at 10:30 pm, EST.

Submitted by:

Lorraine Rocco, Board Secretary