

**MINUTES**  
**AGENDA MEETING OF THE BALDWIN-WHITEHALL BOARD OF SCHOOL**  
**DIRECTORS**  
**BALDWIN-WHITEHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Wednesday, January 10, 2018**

The Baldwin-Whitehall Board of School Directors met on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Central Administration Office for their Agenda Meeting. There was an Executive Session held at 6:30 p.m. to discuss personnel.

**THE FOLLOWING BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:**

Ms. Karen Brown  
Dr. Anthony DiCesaro  
Mr. Dan Knezevich  
Mrs. Tracy Macek  
Mr. Gerald Pantone  
Mr. Louis Rainaldi, Jr.  
Mr. David Solenday  
Ms. Janice Tarson  
Mrs. Louise Wolf

**Administrators in Attendance:**

Dr. Randal Lutz, Ms. Denise Sedlacek, Mr. Mark Cherpak, Mr. Randy Huddart, Mr. J. Regis Kostrub, and Solicitor, Ms. Lisa Colautti

**Student Board Representatives present:**

Michael Kahwash, Corina Pittman, and Avery Greenaway

**1.0 Call to Order**

Mr. David Solenday, Board President

**2.0 Pledge of Allegiance**

**3.0 Roll Call**

Theanita Hampsay, Board Secretary, called the roll.

**4.0 Mission Statement of School District**

Ms. Brown read the Mission Statement.

The Baldwin-Whitehall School District is committed to the promotion of excellence through a system of traditional values, a quality educational program, and a world of opportunities.

## **5.0 Student Board Representative Comments**

Avery Greenaway spoke about the Transportation Department donating 30 bicycles to Toys For Tots. Avery also spoke about the Stage Band and the Baldwinaires visiting schools within the District to sing for the students during the holidays.

## **6.0 Superintendent Report**

### **6.1 Dr. Randal A. Lutz**

Dr. Lutz welcomed Mr. Gregg Behr to the Baldwin-Whitehall School District.

### **6.2 Gregg Behr, Executive Director of The Grable Foundation**

Gregg Behr, Champion for Kidsburgh, leading grantmaker, Executive Director of the Grable Foundation in his eleventh year. Gregg Behr manages a grantmaking portfolio advancing early childhood education, education reform, out-of-school time support, and informal learning. Gregg and The Grable Foundation provided early stewardship for the Pittsburgh Remake Learning Network, committing to a vision for transforming Pittsburgh into Kidsburgh.

Mr. Gregg Behr spoke about innovative creative learning in the Baldwin-Whitehall School District and in Western Pennsylvania.

Ms. Brown thanked Mr. Behr for the great presentation. Ms. Brown also thanked the teachers that were present in the audience this evening.

Mr. Rainaldi thanked Mr. Behr for his presentation. He also thanked the teachers for being present.

Mrs. Macek thanked Mr. Behr for the presentation and she spoke about the Simulator at Harrison Middle School.

Dr. Lutz thanked Mr. Behr for his support of the District and his impact on education. Dr. Lutz spoke about transforming/remaking learning in the District and thanked the teachers for coming to support Mr. Behr this evening.

Dr. Lutz introduced Mr. Randy Huddart, Facilities Manager, and Mr. J. Regis Kostrub, Assistant Facilities Manager, to the Board who were present for the meeting.

### **6.3 District Weather Delay/Cancellation Procedures**

Dr. Lutz discussed the decision-making process related to school delays and cancellations.

## **7.0 Board President Remarks**

### **7.1 Mr. David Solenday, Board President**

Mr. Solenday thanked Mr. Behr for his presentation. He also thanked Administrators and teachers who were present this evening.

## **8.0 Education and Instruction**

### **8.1 Revised 2017-2018 School Calendar**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Athletic Director Vince Sortino recommend that the Board approve the attached, revised 2017-2018 School Calendar.

Dr. Lutz spoke about the proposed changes to the 2017-2018 school calendar. He spoke about special accommodations that will be made for the Special Election on March 13, 2018 at Baldwin High School and Whitehall Elementary School so that school can be held in all buildings on this day. He spoke about May 4, 2018 and May 17, 2018 now being early dismissal days due to athletic events being held at the High School.

Mr. Pantone spoke about after-school music practice on the day of the Special Election, March 13, 2018.

Dr. Lutz said that there will be no impact to permit groups using the inside of the auditorium and permit groups will be informed to ensure they provide proper supervision for children on this day.

### **8.2 WQED Whole School Survey - McAnnulty Elementary School**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Denise Sedlacek, and Director of Curriculum Andrea Huffman recommend that the Board approve the volunteer survey through the District's partnership with WQED and the Ready to Learn Grant to be used for all McAnnulty Elementary School families.

Mr. Pantone asked if the date of birth question on page 14 could be changed to just birth year.

Ms. Sedlacek said that she would check to see if that was possible.

### **8.3 Agreement - Wesley Spectrum (Acute Partial Hospital)**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Denise Sedlacek, and Supervisor of Pupil Services Marissa Gallagher recommend that the Board approve the

agreement between the Baldwin-Whitehall School District and Wesley Spectrum for educational services for a student while enrolled in the Acute Partial Hospital component of Wesley Spectrum Schools for the 2017-2018 school year at a rate of \$75.00 per day.

No discussion.

#### **8.4 Agreement - Allegheny Intermediate Unit - Title I Non-Public School**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Denise Sedlacek, and Principal Daniel Emanuelson recommend that the Board approve the Agreement between the Baldwin-Whitehall School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to provide remedial instructional services for nonpublic schools as listed in the attached agreement from January 5, 2018 through June 30, 2018.

Dr. Lutz said that he will double check the agreement terms and this may need to be changed to cover the entire school year, not just January 5, 2018 through June 30, 2018 as currently written.

### **9.0 Business and Finance**

#### **9.1 Capital Improvement Planning**

Dr. Lutz spoke about the Capital Improvements Assessment and a three-year plan to address the District's needs. A copy of this report is attached to the minutes explaining each phase. A copy of the Facility Study for Long-Term Capital Improvements is attached to the minutes.

Mr. Cherpak spoke about the financial impacts on the District of the three-year plan.

Mrs. Macek asked if the Board could get a breakdown of the costs associated with each project to include architect fees for each project.

Mr. Cherpak said the architect fees are broken down on the HHS DR Feasibility Study and are listed as Soft Costs under each project.

Mrs. Macek spoke about the need for the demographic study when the Pennsylvania Department of Education had given enrollment projections.

Dr. Lutz said that Pennsylvania Department of Education bases projections on live birth rates. He said that the demographer will look at more specific factors to determine enrollment based on building location.

Mrs. Macek asked for clarification of the playground space at Whitehall Elementary School.

Dr. Lutz said that they have not yet specified the exact space for the playground area at Whitehall Elementary School.

Ms. Brown said that she likes the way the phases were broken down and hopes that the District considers innovative learning and remake learning for when planning for each project.

Mr. Pantone spoke about the life expectancy of all projects, estimated start date for Phase 1, collaboration with Brentwood School District, and the status of PlanCon.

### **9.2 2018-2019 Budget**

Mr. Cherpak explained that the Board must decide between preparing a preliminary budget or adopting a resolution not to exceed the index for the 2018-2019 school year.

Mr. Pantone spoke about the budget process between the Proposed Budget and the Final Budget.

Mrs. Macek spoke about the budget process and how there are changes that happen between the Proposed Budget and the Final Budget based on additional information.

Ms. Brown spoke about the budget process and said that she is not in support of the Act I resolution.

Mr. Cherpak said that if the Board chooses the Preliminary Budget route, he will have a high level Preliminary Budget draft for the Board at the January 17, 2018 meeting.

### **9.3 Land Survey Results - Baldwin High School**

Dr. Lutz spoke about a recent land survey done at Baldwin High School. He said that there are three areas of concern that are identified on the map which is attached to the agenda.

Dr. Lutz said that the District will work with the Solicitor's office and the residents to seek solutions.

### **9.4 Award of Bid - Transportation Vehicles**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Business Manager Mark Cherpak, and Transportation Manager Dave Tompkins recommend that the Board award the bid for purchase of twelve (12) 72-passenger buses to Meyers Equipment Corporation, 8860 Akron Canfield Road, Canfield, Ohio 44406, at a cost of \$1,122,828.00.

No discussion.

### **9.5 Joint Purchasing Agreement - Allegheny Intermediate Unit**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Business Manager Mark Cherpak recommend that the Board approve continued membership in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program according to the attached agreement.

No discussion.

### **9.6 Donation - State Representative Bill Kortz**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept a donation of \$125.00 from Representative Bill Kortz.

Mr. Knezevich spoke about how Mr. Kortz divides his cost of living raise among several school districts.

### **9.7 Donations - MK63444 Fund (Student Lunch Account)**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept the following donations to the MK63444 Fund in the total amount of \$150.00:

W. Scott Wilson - Lynn P. Wilson - \$30.00  
Donald C. and Diane E. McCallum - \$20.00  
Wendy J. Benigas (Hyde) Class of 1972 - \$100.00

No discussion.

### **9.8 Maintenance/Plow Vehicle**

Mr. Cherpak said that the District's maintenance plow vehicle recently would not pass inspection. He explained the need to replace the vehicle quickly due to the winter season and asked that the Board consider allowing Administration to purchase a new vehicle at Woltz & Wind Ford through Costars and waive the requirement to go through a specific request for proposal process and purchase from the government purchasing network.

Mr. Knezevich spoke about voting on this item this evening.

Ms. Colautti said that the Board can have a consensus to approve the purchase and ratify the purchase next week.

The consensus of the Board was to move ahead with the purchase if the turnaround time to receive the vehicle was reasonable.

Dr. Lutz said that Administration will provide the Board information on two more Facilities Department vehicles for purchase in the near future.

**10.0 Unfinished Business**

**10.1 Policy 303 Employment of Administrators - 2nd Reading Policy 404 Employment of Professional Employees - 2nd Reading Policy 504 Employment of Classified Employees - 2nd Reading**

No discussion.

**10.2 Unfinished Business - Board**

Mr. Pantone spoke about the Substitute Teacher Service television commercial that has been airing recently.

**11.0 New Business**

**11.1 2017-2018 Board Goals**

Mr. Solenday asked that the Board review the 2017-2018 Board goals and to provide any feedback regarding any changes.

**11.2 Candidates for the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Board of Directors**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors supports the following candidate to run for the position of Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) Board of Directors representing the Baldwin-Whitehall School District:

Mr. Rainaldi asked how often this group meets.

Dr. Lutz said that they meet monthly.

**11.3 New Business - Board**

Mrs. Macek spoke about the band performing at the recent Steeler football game as well as one of the District's teachers that was recognized, at the same game, for the Innovative Educator Award.

Ms. Sedlacek spoke in detail about the Chevron Leaders in the Classroom Award that was recently given to Ms. Deborah Reynolds.

Mrs. Macek asked that Administration provide the Board with information on these types of awards and grants when they are awarded in the District.

Dr. Lutz said Administration will provide information on these types of awards and grants to the Board on a monthly basis moving forward.

Mr. Rainaldi said that he agrees with Mrs. Macek and would like to have this information in the future as well.

Mr. Pantone spoke about the new format for recognizing teachers during the board meetings and the need for a Parking Committee.

Mr. Rainaldi said that he would like to see a Parking Committee added to the Board agenda for next week.

Dr. Lutz spoke about the District's parking challenges. He said there will be a new Administrative Facilities Committee that will be starting this month that will address parking concerns and asked Mr. Knezevich to be part of this committee.

Mr. Knezevich as well as Mr. Pantone said they want to serve on the new Facilities Committee.

Mr. Pantone spoke about the School Resource Officer grant and the possibility of the District holding a Question and Answer event for the community.

Dr. Lutz said that Administration has been looking at ways to hold Question and Answer sessions for the community using social media.

Ms. Colautti said that it is most appropriate to entertain public comment during the regular advertised public meetings.

Dr. DiCesaro spoke about community involvement in the regular monthly board meetings and committee meetings.

Mrs. Macek said that she agrees with having a public forum regarding projects related to the feasibility study.

Mr. Rainaldi said that he likes the idea of having a public forum and spoke about public participation.

Mr. Knezevich spoke about public participation at the regular monthly board meetings.



**12.0 Solicitor Report**

**12.1 Solicitor Report**

Ms. Colautti said that many Districts hold public forums to discuss renovations or facilities projects.

**13.0 Resident Comments**

**13.1 Name and address should be clearly stated.**

MaryAnn Koltz, 548 Old Farm Road, spoke about school taxes.

John Evosevic, 5239 Fieldcrest Drive, spoke about community turnout at board meetings.

**14.0 Matters of Information - Superintendent**

**14.1 Dr. Randal A. Lutz**

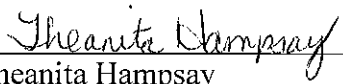
Dr. Lutz said that the Capital Improvements Plan presented this evening addresses the feasibility study, but does not include a plan yet for Paynter Elementary School. Dr. Lutz said there will be a variety of Administrative Committees regarding the remaking concept of education and asked that any Board Member wanting to serve on these committees submit their name to the board secretary.

**15.0 Adjournment**

**15.1 On motion by Mr. Knezevich, which was seconded by Dr. DiCesaro, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 9:54 p.m.**

Recognized Visitors

See "Visitors List" attached to record set of minutes.

  
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Theanita Hampsay  
Board Secretary

