

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

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

The Baldwin-Whitehall Board of School Directors met on Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. at the Central Administration Office for their Agenda Meeting. There was an Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. to discuss personnel.

THE FOLLOWING BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Ms. Karen Brown
Dr. Anthony DiCesaro
Mr. Dan Knezevich
Mrs. Tracy Macek
Mr. Louis Rainaldi, Jr.
Mr. Martin Schmotzer
Mr. David Solenday
Ms. Janice Tarson

Mr. Rambo was not present.

Administrators in Attendance:

Dr. Randal Lutz, Ms. Denise Sedlacek, Mr. Mark Cherpak, and Solicitor, Ms. Lisa Colautti.

Student Board Representatives present:

Nick Pantelis, Michael Kahwash, Corina Pittman, Nathan Hobson, and Avery Greenaway

1.0 Call to Order

Ms. Karen Brown, 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

Dr. DiCesaro 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

Ms. Greenaway spoke about the upcoming midterms, the success of Mikayla Davic's recent show "Paradise" and the cheerleaders 1st place competition and wished them luck as they go on to States and Nationals.

6.0 Superintendent Report

6.1 Dr. Randal A. Lutz

Dr. Lutz showed a short video of the Polar Plunge from January 1, 2017 that he participated in and thanked everyone who participated and contributed. Dr. Lutz said that the total District enrollment as of January 2017 is 4,228 students.

McAnnulty Elementary School - 384

Whithall Elementary School - 704

Paynter Elementary School - 772

Harrison Middle School - 967

Baldwin High School - 1401

Dr. Lutz said that new development, strong home sales, and parochial school changes may impact enrollment numbers. He said that rebalancing building space and reorganizing school boundaries may be necessary to make the best use of space in all buildings. He said the secondary scheduling process is beginning and the 4-C Your Future Curriculum Night will be held at the high school on February 23, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. He spoke about the Tournament Indoor Association at Baldwin High School on January 14th that showcased students' musical talents. Dr. Lutz said that the District has received the Carnegie STEM Excellence Pathway Grant for \$3,000.00 and this will be used to create a "creation station" at the McAnnulty Elementary School library. He spoke about Lauren Gilbert scoring her 1000th point for girls' basketball team and Anthony Reid scoring 42 points for the boys' basketball team in a game against Upper St. Clair recently. He spoke about the Baldwin Educational Foundation Gala coming up on March 11, 2017 at South Hills Country Club. He said that each building can nominate a "Champion of Character" that will be recognized at the Gala. Dr. Lutz said that January is School Director Recognition Month and recognized the hard work and dedication of the nine School Directors.

7.0 Board President Remarks

7.1 Ms. Karen Brown, Board President

Ms. Brown said that she looks forward to the new year and working together as a team for problem solving and decision making. She said that she would like the entire Board to recognize the leadership of the Board President, support decisions of the majority, and honor the right of the individual to express their point of view.

8.0 Education and Instruction

8.1 Ms. Denise Sedlacek - BWSO Successes

Ms. Sedlacek said that Dr. Peretin and Ms. Huffman were instrumental in obtaining the Carnegie STEM Excellence Pathway Grant and she will join them tomorrow as they receive the grant. Ms. Sedlacek spoke about Family STEAM Night that is coming up on March 16, 2017 at Harrison Middle School. She also spoke about Remake Learning Days that will take place in May 2017. Ms. Sedlacek said that Ms. Debbie Reynolds was selected to be part of the NASA's Space Center Houston - Space Exploration Educator Crew. She explained that Ms. Reynolds was 1 of 36 teachers selected from the country. She spoke about some Baldwin-Whitehall students and alumni that were recognized in the January issue of HIAS for their work with the Refugee Youth Employment Program that operates after school at Baldwin High School. Ms. Sedlacek spoke about Baldwin graduate Adria Zern's work on the Books for Belize project and how the Baldwin High School students donated over 10 cases of books. Ms. Sedlacek also spoke about Mikayla Davic, and her work with Make-A-Wish.

8.2 Agreement - Pressley Ridge School for Autism

Recommendation: The Administration recommends that the Board approve the agreement between the Baldwin-Whitehall School District and Pressley Ridge School for Autism for Special Education Services to any and all students enrolled from August 31, 2016 through June 9, 2017 according to the attached agreement.

No discussion.

8.3 Agreement - The Watson Institute

Recommendation: The Administration recommends that the Board approve the agreement between the Baldwin-Whitehall School District and The Watson Institute for a student to be enrolled in The Education Center - South for the 2016-2017 school year according to the attached agreement at an annual cost of \$44,680, prorated according to the start date of January 3, 2017.

No discussion.

8.4 Out of State Conference

Recommendation: The Administration recommends that the Board approve the following Out of State Conference: HMS Teacher – Debbie Reynolds February 8-11, 2017 Houston, TX Space Exploration Educator’s Conference – N.A.S.A.

Ms. Brown asked if the District would be able to pay for her trip.

Ms. Sedlacek said that about three years ago it was the will of the Board that the District would not pay for National Conferences for teachers, but would pay for a substitute teacher in their absence. She said all other expenses would be paid for by the teacher.

Dr. Lutz said there is no reduction in salary for a teacher who attends a National Conference and the District is not charging the employee any days.

Mr. Schmotzer said that previous Boards had decided that there would not be any reimbursement for Board Member conferences and then it was decided that the Board would not pay for National conferences. He stated, at that time, the Board did want to pay for teachers to attend in-state conferences.

8.5 2017-2018 School Calendar

Dr. Lutz said that Administration will ask for this to be Board-approved in February. Dr. Lutz said the calendar would be posted to the website for community members and parents to provide feedback. Once the feedback is considered, a final calendar will be presented to the Board.

9.0 Business and Finance

9.1 Mr. Mark Cherpak - Operational Update

Mr. Knezevich spoke about cracked seating in the pool area at the high school.

Dr. Lutz said that this is significantly more than just cracked seats. He said that the District has had similar problems with seating in the gym from this manufacturer and the company had agreed to fix them. He said that Mr. Huddart is meeting with the manufacturer and salesperson to see if they can work something out as far as repair costs.

Mr. Knezevich asked if the pool area floor is scheduled to be pressured wash because it looks as though it is dirty.

Dr. Lutz said that the floor area is acceptable at this point, and he will make sure maintenance has it on their schedule to be cleaned in the near future.

Mr. Knezevich asked about the lights in the pool area.

Dr. Lutz said that the lights are in working order and that the swimmers prefer that the down-swept lights be kept off while doing the backstroke.

Mr. Knezevich asked for an update on the Whitehall Elementary steps repair.

Mr. Cherpak said that there have been repairs made to the steps and in the spring those repairs will be assessed to see if they need to be repaired again or replaced.

Mrs. Macek asked if the Board will get a Capital Improvements Plan. Mr. Cherpak said the Board will receive the plan once it is finalized.

9.2 Policy 808.1 Meal Accounts - 2nd Reading

Dr. Lutz said there were significant changes made to this policy to align District practice and policy.

No discussion.

9.3 Transportation Services - Club Sports

Club Sports at Baldwin High School: Ice Hockey, Bowling Inline, Hockey, Slow Pitch Softball. They are allocated \$1,000.00 to be expended toward the costs of transportation service to and from events. The teams submit their request for transportation service following the same procedures as other extra-curricular activities. District vehicles are assigned. An invoice is prepared and sent to the organization. The organization pays any amount in excess of the credit granted by the School District. The Administration is recommending that the Board approve the allowance at \$1,000.00 for 2016-2017 with no increase.

Recommendation: The Administration recommends that the Board authorize the District to provide Transportation Services during the 2016-2017 school year to the Ice Hockey, Bowling, Inline Hockey, and Slow Pitch Softball Club Sports, and that \$1,000.00 for each club be allocated toward this service.

Mr. Knezevich asked if this service has always been provided to Club Sports.

Mr. Cherpak said this service has been offered for the last four years since he has been employed here.

Mr. Knezevich asked if there could be a baseball/softball activity bus available to get student athletes from the high school to Wallace for after-school practices.

Dr. Lutz said he will speak to the Athletic office and Transportation office to see what the possibilities are for this type of bus.

Mr. Schmotzer said that the Transportation Services for Club Sports was started about 10 years ago. He asked Mr. Cherpak if the clubs were spending any more than \$1,000.00.

Mr. Cherpak said no.

Mr. Knezevich asked if clubs utilize this service.

Mr. Cherpak said that the Ice Hockey and Bowling Clubs both utilize this service.

9.4 Donation - State Representative Bill Kortz

Recommendation: Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept a donation of \$200.00 from Representative Bill Kortz.

No discussion.

9.5 Donation - HHSDR, Inc,

Recommendation: Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept the donation of \$3,000.00 from HHSDR, Inc. to be used for the BWSD-MK63444 Fund.

Mr. Schmotzer said that recently there have been 78 students identified as free and reduced and any expenses that they have incurred prior to being free and reduced eligible will be covered by this account.

Mrs. Macek asked why the 78 families are only being identified now.

Mr. Cherpak said that there was a lapse between the time that they incurred the debt and when they submitted their application. Mr. Cherpak said that they were eligible for free and reduced lunch, but submitted their application late.

Mr. Schmotzer thanked HHSDR for their generous donation to the BWSD-MK63444 Fund.

10.0 Unfinished Business

10.1 Resignation - Athletics & Student Activities Committee Chair

Recommendation: Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Mrs. Tracy Macek as the Board's Athletics & Student Activities Committee Chair, effective December 15, 2016.

10.2 Board Committees - 2017

Recommendation: Resolved, that the Board of School Directors appoint the following:

- Ms. Karen L. Brown - Chair of the Audit & Finance Committee
- Mr. Dan Knezevich - Chair Athletics & Student Activities Committee
- Ms. Janice Tarson - Chair Community Development & Advancement Committee

Ms. Brown asked if anyone was interested in joining the Budget Committee or Community Development Committee to please submit your name to the Board Secretary.

Mr. Schmotzer spoke about the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

10.3 Special Board Representatives - 2017

Southeastern Area Special School Representative - Mr. Elliot Rambo
Alternate: _____

Steel Center Vocational Technical School Representative - Mr. Elliot Rambo
Alternate: _____

SHASDA Representative - Ms. Karen Brown

Economic Development South Representative – _____

PSBA Representative - _____

11.0 New Business

11.1 Candidates for the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Board of Directors

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

No discussion.

11.2 AIU - Champions of Wellness

No discussion.

12.0 Solicitor Report

No report.

13.0 Resident Comments**13.1 Name and address should be clearly stated.**

Mike Zgurich, 181 Woodall Drive, spoke about Coach Hayden and the tennis program. He said he did not agree with the Board's decision to open the tennis head coach position.

Linda Davic, 124 Windvale Drive, spoke about the successes of Coach Hayden and how he has positively impacted student athletes.

Cheryl Sukal, 141 McNeilly Road, spoke about Coach Hayden and past positive experiences with his tennis program and coaching.

Susanne Rocke, 3020 Custer Avenue, spoke about concerns that the School Board opened the tennis head coaching position and the chain of command that was followed surrounding grounds to dismiss the coaching staff.

Jennifer Zgurich, 181 Woodhall Drive, spoke in support of Coach Hayden and past positive experiences that she had with his tennis program. She expressed her desire to have him reinstated as the tennis head coach.

Shirley Yokopenic, 282 Jean Drive, spoke about past experiences with Coach Hayden, his past winning records, and concerns about his replacement.

Natalie Zgurich, 181 Woodhall Drive, spoke about past positive experiences with the tennis program under Coach Hayden.

Remy Davic, 124 Windvale Drive, spoke about past positive experiences with Coach Hayden and concerns that he is no longer head coach.

Nadine Khalil, 4936 Curry Road, read a letter on behalf of Bethany Yauch regarding her support of Coach Hayden and past positive experiences she has had with the tennis program.

Elaine Chir, 443 Lucy Drive, spoke on behalf on the Baldwin-Whitehall Education Association. She spoke about teacher, Ms. Dawn McPaul, concerning her kindness and dedication to the students and the many outstanding things she does for students in the District daily.

Kyleigh Schmidt, 676 Jennie Drive, spoke about the tennis program, coaches, and players.

Cindy Schmidt, 676 Jennie Drive, spoke about her personal experiences with the tennis program and coaches.

Kristen Peterson, 1296 Mooreridge Drive, spoke in support of Coach Hayden and past experiences with the tennis program.

Jennifer Goga, 1300 Earlford Drive, spoke about positive personal experiences serving on the Basketball Booster Board.

Melissa Wood, 432 Lucy Drive, spoke about the tennis clinic ending early due to the opening of the Head Tennis Coach position and the future of the program.

Motion by Mr. Schmotzer, with no Second to reinstate Coach Dave Hayden for both the Boys' and Girls' Tennis teams.

14.0 Matters of Information - Superintendent

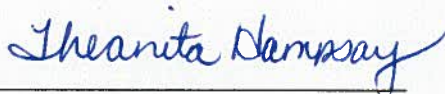
Dr. Lutz spoke about the great things that Ms. McPaul is doing. He also spoke about an early student graduation. Dr. Lutz spoke about the high level Preliminary Budget that Administration will ask the Board to vote on February 8, 2017.

15.0 Adjournment

On motion by Mrs. Macek, which was seconded by Mr. Solenday, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Recognized Visitors

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



Theanita Hampsay
Board Secretary

BALDWIN-WHITEHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS MEETING

VISITOR RECORD

DATE 1-11-17

NAME	ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING IF ANY	ADDRESS
Rita Sustava	BWEA	500 Hidden Ridge South Park, PA 15129
Wanda L. Golden	BWEA	3766 Louisa St Pgh, PA 15227
Clairne Orr	BWEA	443 Luey Dr 15236
Dawn McPaul	BWEA	436 Lummis Lane Bellefonte 15012
Mike Zgurich	BW	181 Woodhall Drive
LINDA DAVIC	BW	124 WINDVALE DR
Cheryl Suttel	BW	141 McNeilly Rd Pott 15226
Marianne P. R. R.	BW	3020 CUSTER AVE 15227
Jennifer Zgurich	BW	181 Woodhall Dr. 15236
Shirley Vokoponic	BW	282 Jean Dr. 15236
Natalie Zgurich	BW	181 Woodhall Dr.
KEMY DAVIC	BW	124 WINDVALE DR
Nadine Khalil	BW	4936 Curry Road
Kathy Hutchins	Resident	5285 Madowssee Dr
Melissa Wood		432 Luey Dr
JEN GOGA	Boys Basketball Boosters	1300 Eastford Dr.