

School Board Meeting June 8, 2015

The regular meeting of the Redbank Valley School Board was held, Monday June 8, 2015, 7:00 P.M., Redbank Valley High School Library. The following members were in attendance: Adam Barrett, Dee Bell, Brian Dougherty, Tina Kennemuth, Ann Kopnitsky, Donald Nair, Shirley Pastor and Chad Shaffer. It is to be noted that Wendy Heeter attended via webcam.

The regular school board meeting was called to order by President Chad Shaffer at 7:05 p.m.

A motion was made Donald Nair seconded by Tina Kennemuth to approve the Regular meeting minutes on May 4, 2015 and the amended Work Session Meeting minutes on May 4, 2015. Motion Carried Unanimously

Mr. Shaffer then asked if the public had a concern to address. Lacy Minich spoke to the school board as to classroom sizes and the use of Alice Training by the school district that she is employed by. Mrs. Minich approved of the school board placing the motion to advertise an additional elementary position. Kara Raybuck commented on classroom sizes and agreed with the school board decision to advertise for an additional elementary position. Andrew Rex spoke to the school board for requesting funds to attend the National Track Championship in Greensboro N.C. Mr. Rex commented that this is the first time a Redbank Valley student has been invited to attend the championship. Mr. Rex is asking the school board for funds in defraying cost of expenses for travel and lodging.

The Student Representative report was unavailable.

The Primary /Director of Education report was presented by Mrs. McCauley. Mrs. McCauley informed the school board on Title I and Title IIA allocations having been released for 2015-16 school year. The district will receive \$24,230 less in Title I funding of \$309,738 and an increase in Title IIA funding of \$177 to \$81,741. Mrs. McCauley commented that teachers in K-5 have selected the adoption of a new math program Go Math! The books are available for review and a memo is attached for a recommendation for adoption. Mrs. McCauley then thanked the PTO for its continued support in funding field trips for elementary students this current school year.

The Intermediate Report was given by Mrs. Sue Ann Boyles. Mrs. Boyles thanked the PTO for honoring the teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week and SpringFest. Mrs. Boyles commented on the wonderful musical productions by the students on May 21st which was combined with the Intermediate Art show.

The Secondary Report was presented by Mrs. Amy Rupp. Mrs. Rupp informed the school board that she has met with each department after school to get to know the teachers and content area specifics. Mrs. Rupp commented on the graduation ceremony held May 29th with 76 students graduating and 2 students eligible to receive diplomas upon completion of requirements by the end of summer. Mrs. Rupp then explained the need to add 2 curriculum planning days for

the summer to fulfill the goals outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. Mrs. Rupp informed the school board that up to date curriculum maps need to be in place, complete with assessments to work on the goal of data driven decision making in all classes. This will lead to students taking ownership of their academics and monitoring their progress. Teachers working the 2 days over the summer would be able to complete, at minimum the first semester units with uninterrupted and collaborative time to work.

The Maintenance Report was presented by Mr. Sayers. Mr. Sayers reported that summer work on the classroom have begun in all buildings. Mr. Sayers informed the school board that with the equipment sale at the end of June a basketball rebounder can also be placed for sale because it has not been used for a number of years. Board members questioned if the item was donated or purchased by the booster club. Mr. Sayers could not answer the question because it has been not used or removed from the storage closet for a number of years and the basketball coaches presently have no use for it.

The Superintendent Report was presented by Mr. Drzewiecki. Mr. Drzewiecki informed the school board that the legislature is looking to delay by two years a requirement that high school students pass Pennsylvania's Keystone exams to graduate. Under the plan, the proficiency tests - in algebra 1, biology, and literature - will not go in effect for incoming freshmen until the 2018-19 school year. Mr. Drzewiecki informed the school board that the facility use fee charge last month will be reinvested in the auditorium to upgrade equipment. Board members questioned the administration addressing the calculation for salutatorian and valedictorian and reasoning behind co-students hold these honors. Mr. Drzewiecki and the administration would provide an explanation at the next board meeting on the selection process. Mr. Drzewiecki also informed the school board that a 2015 Graduate Statistics Survey will be available as to recent graduates. More information will be supplied at a later date.

The IU Report was presented by Ann Kopnitsky. Mrs. Kopnitsky stated that IU ballots have been provided for school board members to vote for new board members from the surrounding districts.

The CCAVTS Report was presented by Dee Bell. Mr. Bell reported for a lack of quorum the CCAVTS meeting was cancelled.

At this time 7:54 p.m. Dr. Shaffer announced that an executive session will take place for personnel matters. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:58 p.m.

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Chad Shaffer to approve the second reading of the following tax rates for 2015-16 school year: Armstrong Co. 21.56 Mills; Clarion Co. 31.00 Mills. Rates are changed due to equalization formula for each county. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Tina Kennemuth to approve the second reading of the tax rates for the 2015-16 school year. Section 511 Per Capita rate for the following township/municipalities \$10.00 per head; Redbank Twp.-Armstrong, Madison Twp., Mahoning Twp. and Monroe Twp. Section 511 Per Capita rate for the following township/municipalities \$5.00 per head; Hawthorn Boro, New Bethlehem Boro, Porter, Twp., Redbank Twp.-Clarion and South Bethlehem Boro. Section 679 Per Capita \$5.00 per head; Occupational Tax, \$10.00 per head; Earned Income Tax, .05%; Real Estate Transfer Tax 1%. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Tina Kennemuth to approve the General Fund Budget for 2015-16 school year in the amount of \$16,974,394.00. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Shirley Pastor to approve the resolution for General Fund Designation for school year 2015-16. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Dee Bell to approve the Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion Resolution for school year 2015-16. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Tina Kennemuth seconded by Shirley Pastor to approve the second reading of the following policy: #815.1 Operations, Social Media. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Adam Barrett to approve textbooks for grades K-6 math classes. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Tina Kennemuth seconded by Ann Kopnitsky to approve two (2) curriculum planning days for the high school staff during the summer 2015. Motion Carried 8-Yes, 1-No (Dougherty)

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Dee Bell to approve a site lease agreement with USA Choice for a term of 10 years at \$125.00 per month. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Tina Kennemuth to approve the May 2015 Treasurer's Report. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Donald Nair to approve May 2015 General Fund Expenditures amounting to \$1,297,353.42. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Shirley Pastor to approve the May 2015 Milk and Cafeteria Fund Expenditures amounting to \$64,311.23. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Ann Kopnitsky seconded by Dee Bell to hire Brittany Gauger, Valerie Jacobson, Jessie Brocious, Jaylene Smith and Cassandra Faulk as Pre-K thru Pre-6th summer school teachers. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Adam Barrett seconded by Ann Kopnitsky to hire Joan McCauley, Lisa Bowersox and Courtney Harmon as Pre-K thru Pre-6th summer school aides. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Dee Bell to advertise for vacant administration/professional/support/extra-curricular position(s) as they may arise during the summer vacation break. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Ann Kopnitsky seconded by Shirley Pastor to compensate Sue Ann Boyles for additional administrative duties for the school year 2014-15 at a rate of \$3,500.00. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Ann Kopnitsky to approve an additional 10 per diem days for Amy Switzer, Guidance at the discretion of the administration. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Adam Barrett to approve an additional 10 per diem days for Roddy Hartle, Athletics Director duties at the discretion of the administration. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Adam Barrett seconded by Dee Bell to approve an additional 7 per diem days for Thomas Logan, Dean of Student duties at the discretion of the administration. Motion Carried 7-Yes, 2-No (Kopnitsky, Pastor)

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Dee Bell to retro approve Laura Heasley and students attending the Pennsylvania Envirothon on May 19-20, 2015 at University of Pitt at Johnstown. Cost incurred by district \$200.00. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Ann Kopnitsky to approve Jamie Bowersox and Mary Jane DiPippa to attend KTI Star Summit on July 27-31, 2015 at Shippensburg University Pa. Cost to be incurred by Title II \$200.00. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Ann Kopnitsky to approve maternity leave for Meagan Hammond starting September 1, 2015 until December 23, 2015 with 41 unpaid days. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Ann Kopnitsky to hire Mike Fricko as the Head Girls' Track coach at 90 points @ \$42.50=\$3,825.00. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Shirley Pastor to approve increasing Dana Rudesyle, Tech. Maintenance Tech. hours from 4 hours to 5 hours daily. Motion Carried 7-Yes, 2-No (Kopnitsky, Pastor)

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Adam Barrett to approve Julie Smith request for unpaid leave for the 1st semester of 2015-16 school year.

A motion was made by Dee Bell to amend the previous motion to approve Julie Smith request for unpaid leave for the 1st semester of 2015-16 school year with the stipulation from the R.V.E.A. that this request would not serve as a precedent for future requests. Motion Failed due to no second.

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Adam Barrett to approve Julie Smith request for unpaid leave for the 1st semester of 2015-16 school year. Motion Failed 2-Yes, 7-No (Barrett, Dougherty, Kennemuth, Kopnitsky, Nair, Pastor, and Shaffer)

A motion was made by Adam Barrett seconded by Shirley Pastor to approve Michael Drzewiecki, Cheryl McCauley, Sue Ann Boyles and Amy Rupp to attend the PA Literacy Conference in Harrisburg, Pa., on June 23-25, 2015. Cost to be incurred by Title II \$2,931.63. Motion Carried 8-Yes, 1-No (Nair)

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Shirley Pastor to retro approve Emily Fields as Elementary Musical Director at 69 points @ \$42.50=\$2,932.50. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Shirley Pastor to advertise for an additional dual certified teaching position including Elementary/Special Education certifications. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Tina Kennemuth seconded by Dee Bell to approve payment of \$400.00 towards attending National Track Championship expenses in Greensboro, N.C. Motion Carried 7-Yes, 2-No (Dougherty, Nair)

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Tina Kennemuth to approve Act93 Agreement for the years of 2014-2018 as presented. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Chad Shaffer seconded by Adam Barrett to authorize the Administration to present options for a Security Review of all buildings. Motion Carried Unanimously

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Mr. Shaffer then asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Dr. Darylann Fink spoke on behalf of Dr. Annette Rosati. Dr. Fink made the statement questioning the school board's non-responsiveness to rumors of sexual harassment. Mr. Shaffer thanked Dr. Fink for her comments and explained that school board is not required to respond during the public comment section.

Mr. Shaffer then announced that following adjournment that the school board would meet for an executive session for a personnel matter.

A motion was made by Brian Dougherty seconded by Donald Nair to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:38 P.M. Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack E. Loughner, Jr.
Board Secretary