

School Board Meeting February 1, 2016

The regular meeting of the Redbank Valley School Board was held, Monday February 1, 7:00 P.M., at the Redbank Valley High School Library. The following members were in attendance: Dee Bell, Heath Copenhaver, Brian Dougherty Wendy Heeter, Tina Kennemuth, Ann Kopnitsky, Donald Nair, Bill Reddinger and Chad Shaffer.

The regular school board meeting was called to order by President Chad Shaffer at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Shaffer announced that an executive session would take place immediately at 7:02 p.m. for personnel matters. The regular meeting reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Wendy Heeter to approve the minutes for the Regular meeting on January 4, 2016 and the Work Session meeting January 4, 2016. Motion Carried Unanimously

Mr. Shaffer asked if anyone wished to address the school board under public concerns. Brent Register spoke to the school board on a matter that has appeared on facebook concerning the school district and a grievance filed by a faculty member. Others in the crowd asked if the school district had sought independent counsel to investigate the allegations. Mr. Shaffer replied that counsel has responded to the complaint formally and our counsel will make a statement through our local news outlets.

The Student Representative Report was presented by Peyton Kirkpatrick. Mr. Kirkpatrick reported that planning has begun for this year's junior/senior prom and that "The Sound of Music" rehearsals have begun this month with the performance to take place in April.

The Primary /Director of Education report was presented by Mrs. Cheryl McCauley. Mrs. McCauley reported that surveys to identify students for next year's kindergarten class have been conducted via current students and local preschools. Pre-registration parent meeting will be held the evening of March 2nd and kindergarten registration will be held March 15-17, 2016 with makeups on March 18, 2016. Board members expressed their approval of the AIMS Web benchmarking data presented in Mrs. McCauley report. Board members would also like to see goals by administration to improve these benchmarks at a later period.

The Intermediate Report was given by Mrs. Sue Ann Boyles. Mrs. Boyles reported that the Intermediate school spelling bee was held at the High School on January 28th. Mrs. Boyles also reported that a student team took first place for "Best Overall" at the Invention Convention and second team took second place for overall scoring. Mrs. Boyles commented that the 6th grade classes created a history dioramas. The scene depicts the 1920's.

The Secondary Report was presented by Mrs. Amy Rupp. Mrs. Rupp presented the recommendation to the school board for the addition of a new class Organic Chemistry. Board members questioned the need for such an advance course and if the student numbers warranted it for 2016-17 school year. Mrs. Rupp explained that the students need prerequisites of Chemistry I & II which will keep the numbers down but the student numbers do show a need such a course offering. Mrs. Rupp also presented a proposal for track meet workers to receive compensation. Redbank Valley provides no compensation for workers and that Redbank Valley is the only D9 School that doesn't pay its track workers. Problems have arose through the years as to a timing operator official(s), position workers for the various pit events during a track meet. As well as an announcer. The proposal is presented for the board consideration.

The Maintenance Report was presented in by Mr. John Sayers. Mr. Sayers reported about inspection and repairs to the boiler at the intermediate school.

The Superintendent Report was presented by Mr. Drzewiecki. Mr. Drzewiecki presented most of his report at the work session. Mr. Drzewiecki commented that the school district has received 45 percent or \$5.8 million of its state funding for 2015-16 school year even though no state budget has been approved. Mr. Drzewiecki reported that P.S.E.R.S. is looking for nominations for a representative school board member. Mr. Drzewiecki asked the board members to contact him if interested. Mr. Drzewiecki also commented that the Comprehensive Plan needs to be reviewed and updated for submission. Mr. Shaffer asked for 3 school members to serve on the committee. Tina Kennemuth, Wendy Heeter and Chad Shaffer volunteered.

The IU#6 Report was presented by Ann Kopnitsky. Mrs. Kopnitsky commented that no report is available due to no meeting in January, but an agenda from the December meeting was enclosed in the school board member's packet.

The CCAVTS Report was presented by Dee Bell and Wendy Heeter. Mr. Bell commented that the Career Center tractor is in need of major repairs and if the repairs cannot be done the Career Center will need to replace it. Wendy Heeter commented that the Career Center purchased 10 HP Notebooks from Perkins funding and they were on display for board members use during the meeting with their board agenda and packet online instead of paper packets.

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Bill Reddinger to approve the 2016-17 Redbank Valley School calendar with 3 ½ Act 80 days including the following Section 1502 five district holidays; November 25, 2016, November 28, 2016, December 26, 2016, December 27, 2016 and April 14, 2017. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Ann Kopnitsky seconded by Dee Bell to approve the Organic Chemistry course for 2016-17 school year. As proposed under the course outline enclosed. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger seconded by Donald Nair to approve the Redbank Valley Travel Club as outlined in the enclosed presentation.

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger seconded by Brian Dougherty to amend the previous motion and remove item #4 from the Participation and Fundraising Guidelines and By-Laws form. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Bill Reddinger to postpone the approval of the Travel Club as amended until the next school board meeting. Motion Carried 7-Yes, 2-No (Bell, Shaffer).

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Wendy Heeter to approve the request of Joseph Harmon to conduct a research study between middle school students playing digital game-based learning tasks with and without supports of autonomy and structure. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Heath Copenhaver to approve the transporting of students at no cost to the district within the 1 ½-2 mile walking distance in the South Bethlehem attendance area if a present bus stop exist . Motion Failed 1-Yes, 8-No (Copenhaver, Dougherty, Heeter, Kennemuth, Kopnitsky, Nair, Reddinger, and Shaffer)

A motion was made by Tina Kennemuth seconded by Wendy Heeter to approve contracting 24/7/365 answering service for after-hours transportation inquiries/emergencies with a startup fee of \$75 along with a monthly fee of \$59 for 60 minutes. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger seconded by Tina Kennemuth to approve January, 2016 Treasurers Report. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger seconded by Wendy Heeter to approve the January, 2016 General Fund Expenditures amounting to \$10,603,030.05. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Wendy Heeter to approve the January, 2016 Milk and Cafeteria Fund Expenditures amounting to \$45,404.06. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger seconded by Brian Dougherty to accept the 4th Quarter 2015 Redbank Valley High School Activities Fund as presented. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Bill Reddinger to approve the request from Kathy Sturgeon to be reassigned to the 230 day ½ time secretary position. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Tina Kennemuth to retro-approve Dan Ion as a volunteer Boys Basketball coach. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger seconded by Dee Bell to accept the resignation Rob Lawrence as Assistant Varsity Boys Basketball coach effective January 27, 2016. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made Dee Bell seconded by Wendy Heeter to hire Dan Ion as Assistant Varsity Boys Basketball coach effective January 28, 2016 stipend prorated to the end of the season. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Tina Kennemuth to hire Cassandra Faulk as a Reading Specialist at BS Step 1 ½ of \$41,057 pro-rated based on the remaining days in 2015-16 school year. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Chad Shaffer to hire Dana Rudesyle as a 200-day secretary at \$11.00 per hour. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger seconded by Wendy Heeter to hire Grace Bish as a 182 day custodian at \$10.00 per hour. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Tina Kennemuth seconded by Dee Bell to hire Sarah Williams from part-time status to full time status. Motion Carried 8-Yes, 1-No (Reddinger)

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger seconded by Tina Kennemuth to hire Brenda Hetrick to the substitute bus/van driver list. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Wendy Heeter to approve the proposal for Track Meet workers to receive compensation as outlined in the enclosed presentation. Motion Carried Unanimously

Mr. Shaffer then asked if anyone wished to address the school board under public concerns. Mrs. Lisa Goth spoke to the school board on the educational welfare and the welfare of the present staff at Redbank Valley. Mrs. Goth commented that she is seeing an

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reduction of quality performance by students graduating from Redbank Valley and that the safety of our staff feeling secure are not being met. Leanne Schrengost comment under public concerns as to sexual harassment allegations she has seen on face-book and news articles published.

Mr. Shaffer then announced that an executive session would take place immediately following adjournment for personnel matters.

A motion was made by Donald Nair seconded by Wendy Heeter to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:00 p.m. Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack E. Loughner, Jr.
Board Secretary