

Tunkhannock Area School District
Board Minutes – Public Work Session/Board Meeting
March 10, 2016

The Tunkhannock Area School District Board of Directors met on the above date at the Central Administration Building. The following members were present:

Board Member:	Present	Absent
Philip Farr, President	✓	
Bill Weidner, Vice-President	✓	
John Burke, Treasurer	✓	
Holly Arnold	✓	
Lori Bennett	✓	
Randy Greenip	✓	
Rob Parry	✓	
Bill Prebola		✓
Bill Swilley	✓	

There were interested citizens present.

Mr. Farr called the meeting to order at 7:30PM and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Farr announced that the Board had met in Executive Session just prior to this meeting to discuss legal and personnel issues.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

Mr. Baker commented on the title of Heather McPherson as Chief Executive Officer.

Student Spotlight

Mr. Galicki turned the floor over to Mrs. Felker who recognized the Mill City student peer tutors who volunteer their time to help other students within the building.

Enrollments

Enrollments were provided for information.

Superintendent's Report

Resolution # 1: A motion was made by Mr. Parry and seconded by Mrs. Bennett to approve the items from the Superintendent's Report contained on the regular agenda and supplemental agenda listed below. Voting: Motion carried unanimously - see resolution number one in the minute book.

Regular Agenda Items

1. Recommended that a resolution be adopted to approve the resignation of Ashlie Lewis as Varsity Head Field Hockey Coach.
2. Recommended that a resolution be adopted to approve the appointment of Nadine Cali as a day to day substitute from approximately 4/12/16 to approximately 6/1/16 as Middle

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School Guidance Counselor at a rate of \$85.00/day. Act 34, Act 114 and Act 151 clearances are on file in the Superintendent's Office. TB testing is pending.

3. Recommended that a resolution be adopted to approve Aaron Publik as a Work Study student for the 2015-16 school year in the Administration Center. Employment will be 4 hours/week while school is in session.
4. Recommended that a resolution be adopted to approve the appointment of Cody Deboer as 2015-16 Junior High Track Coach at a salary of \$2,710.00. Act 34, Act 114 and Act 151 clearances and TB testing are on file in the Superintendent's Office.
5. Recommended that a resolution be adopted to approve volunteers as presented. All candidates have on file in the Superintendent's Office clearances and TB testing as required by district policy. (see Exhibit A attached)
6. Recommended that resolution be adopted to approve field trip/conference attendance as listed:
 - a. Tara Kasperowski PMEA Annual Conference/ 3/30-4/2 Total Cost \$1,365.55*
All-State Festival Up to 9 Students Attending
 - b. Kenneth Luckey/ Performance at Magic 5/11-16 No cost to district
Kevin Kreinberg Kingdom (Overnight Trip) 77 Students Attending

*Includes teacher substitute

7. Recommended that a resolution be adopted to approve conference attendance as listed:
 - a. Joe Kormis PDE Data Quality Summit 5/22-25 Total Cost \$ 882.97
 - b. 27 TASD Staff SAP Training 5/2016 Total Cost \$11,200.00
Members

Supplemental Agenda items

- I. Recommended that a resolution be adopted to approve Heather McPherson as Chief Executive Officer of the Tunkhannock Area School District effective April 20, 2016 through June 30, 2016 at the prorated salary of \$130,000.00 per year.
- II. Recommended that a resolution be adopted to approve the employment contract, as reviewed by the School Solicitor of Heather McPherson, approved as Tunkhannock Area School District Superintendent at the February 25, 2016 Work Session/Board meeting of the Tunkhannock Area School District Board of School Directors.
Contract to be effective July 1, 2016.

<u>Committee Reports</u>

Curriculum Committee: Mrs. Arnold reported that the committee met last night and will be recommending the new Social Studies curriculum. She also mentioned a new writing initiative in the Middle School and a summertime K-1 program.

Extra-Curricular Committee: Mrs. Bennett commented in Dr. Prebola's absence. She advised that the committee met and reviewed the proposed extra-curricular coaches handbook. Mr.

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Janisewski added that most of the meeting was spent going over the coaches evaluation and taking comments on the proposed extra-curricular coaches handbook.

Mr. Galicki announced that he had just received notice that a Mr. Frank Wadis, a retired teacher and wrestling coach, will be inducted into the wrestling hall of fame in a ceremony on April 24th. Mr. Galicki suggested that it would be appropriate for the District to place an ad in the program for this event honoring Mr. Wadis.

Resolution #2: A motion was made by Mr. Swilley and seconded by Mrs. Bennett to approve that the Tunkhannock Area School District enter into a contract to sponsor a full-page ad in the program for Mr. Wadis. Voting: Motion carried unanimously - see resolution number two in the minute book.

Building & Grounds Committee: Mr. Farr asked that the committee set a date for a meeting to take up the idea of interviewing some architectural firms to complete a feasibility study on the District's buildings and configuration. Mr. Weidner recommended and the committee agreed to set a meeting for March 22nd at 7:30PM.

Policy Committee: Mrs. Arnold suggested that the next committee meeting be scheduled after Heather McPherson comes on board.

Budget & Finance Committee: Mr. Burke announced that the committee and Mr. O'Shea have begun working towards a potential refinancing of the District's 2010 and 2011 bonds. Mr. Burke said that the recommendation to refinance will be put on the agenda for the next Board meeting at the end of this month.

Mr. Farr asked about the timeline for the District's 2016-17 Budget. Mr. O'Shea responded that that a proposed final budget will have to be presented and adopted by the end of May and a final budget by the end of June.

Mr. Galicki commented on the meeting he went to today at the Luzerne Intermediate Unit (LIU#18) where the main topic of discussion was the budget stalemate and the situation at many of the districts in LIU #18.

Mr. Burke added that the District's audit had just been completed and that the District's portion of the PSERS retirement liability is in excess of \$51 million dollars. He went on to say that this liability continues to drain funds from education and that pension reform is needed to stem this tide.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Resolution #3: A motion was made by Mr. Parry and seconded by Mr. Weidner to approve the Bus/Van Contracts as presented. Voting: Motion carried (7 – Yes, 1 – Abstain) - see resolution number three in the minute book.

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Resolution #4: A motion was made by Mr. Parry and seconded by Mr. Greenip to change the date of the second Work Session/Board Meeting in March from March 14 (Holy Thursday) to March 31. Voting: Motion carried unanimously - see resolution number four in the minute book.

Mrs. Arnold asked about the water situation at Mehoopany Elementary and if we are using bottled water until it is cleared up. Mr. Franko confirmed that bottled water is being used.

Mr. Swilley asked how often the water is tested. Mr. Franko confirmed that it is currently tested quarterly but as of April, the DEP will require monthly testing.

<u>Public Comment</u>

Mr. Baker commented on a statement posted on the website about using the 29th as a snow day and a notice on the Middle School website about whooping cough.

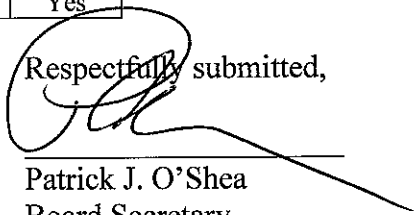
Mr. Farr announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session immediately following this meeting to discuss personnel matters and would not be returning.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:17 pm by Mr. Parry and seconded by Mr. Greenip. Motion carried on all ayes.

ROLL CALL VOTE

RESOLUTION #:	1	2	3	4
Holly Arnold	Yes	Yes	Abstain	Yes
Lori Bennett	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Randy Greenip	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rob Parry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bill Prebola	Absent			
Bill Swilley	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
John Burke	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bill Weidner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Phil Farr	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Respectfully submitted,


 Patrick J. O'Shea
 Board Secretary

Attachments: Exhibit A and a Conflict of Interest memo from Mrs. Bennett

Board Meeting Date: 3/10/2016

Volunteers - Extra Curricular
2015-16

Volunteer(s) NAME	ACTIVITY	YEAR	CLEARANCES
Mary Daley	Parent Volunteer - EF/MS	2015-16	Complete
Theresa Berklimer	Parent Volunteer - MC/EF	2015-16	Complete
Jennifer Kochan	Parent Volunteer - EF	2015-16	Complete
EXTRA-CURRICULAR			
Cody Deboer	JH Track - \$2710	2015-16	Complete

EXHIBIT A

Conflict of Interest Abstention Memorandum

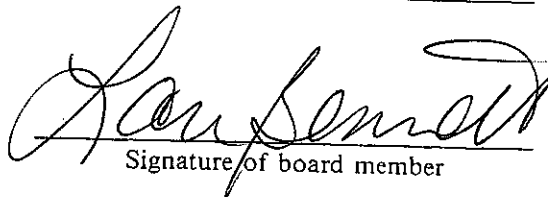
TO: Board Secretary, TUNKHANNOCK AREA School District
FROM: Lori Bennett board member
DATE: 3/10/16

Pursuant to Pennsylvania's "Public Official and Employee Ethics Law" I hereby declare that I am required to abstain regarding the following issue/motion:

BUS/VAN CONTRACTS

My conflict/reason for abstaining is as follows:

FAMILY member is a Bus/VAN
Contractor.



Signature of board member

NOTE: Section 3(J) requires the following procedure:

"Any public official or public employee, who in the discharge of his official duties, would be required to vote on a matter that would result in a conflict of interest shall abstain from voting and, prior to the vote being taken, publicly announce and disclose the nature of his interest as a public record in a written memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes for the meeting at which the vote is taken" (emphasis added)

This memorandum does not have to be utilized when a conflict is defined "by any law, rule, regulation, order or ordinance," for example the School Code (Section 1111) prohibits voting to hire certain relatives.