

School Board Meeting  
January 8, 2018

A regular meeting of the Redbank Valley School Board was held on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 7:45 p.m. in the Redbank Valley High School Library. The following members were in attendance: Heath Copenhaver, Linda Ferringer, Carrie Adams, Donald Nair, Bill Reddinger, Chad Shaffer and Darren Bain. Dee Bell and Ann Kopnitsky were absent.

The regular school board meeting was called to order by Chad Shaffer, President, at 7:45 p.m.

A motion was made by Donald Nair, seconded by Bill Reddinger, to approve minutes for the Work Session Meeting, Thursday, December 7, 2017, Reorganizational Meeting, Thursday, December 7, 2017, Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, December 7, 2017 and Executive Session Labor Agreement Items, Thursday, December 28, 2017. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Dr. Shaffer asked for public comments. Sally Ryan addressed the Board regarding the nursing situation. Amber Hepler addressed the Board regarding moving sixth grade to the high school.

Mini-Burst presenter was Jill Boyles. She and Tyler Ortz gave a presentation and demonstration on the Robotics Program and the Northwestern Plains BEST Robotics Regional Championships in North Dakota.

The Student Representative Report was presented by Collin Sheffer and Peyton Kirkpatrick. The activities reported on were the AP Government class supported families with Christmas gifts, Student Ed Camp, Future Business Leaders of America attended the regional conference and two students will advance to the state competition, district and community band and winter sports.

The Primary/Intermediate Report was presented by Mrs. Cheryl McCauley. Mrs. McCauley reported on December's elementary events, specifically, Storytelling Night at the Primary School and Tech4s and GEMS Club Showcase at the Intermediate School. Other December events, January's important dates, along with current enrollment and discipline data were included in her written report. She also addressed the nursing concerns and a discussion followed. Mrs. McCauley reported on special education and inclusion at the elementary level.

The Secondary Report was presented by Mrs. Amy Rupp. Mrs. Rupp provided information and reported on inclusive practices at the high school level. She also reported that Keystone Exams are taking place this week, end of semester and the plan for seniors in danger of failing, dropout prevention and literacy at the high school. Mrs. Rupp provided

enrollment numbers and a discipline report for December in her written report. Mrs. Rupp presented test score data from the PVAAS website.

The Maintenance Report was presented by Mr. John Sayers. Mr. Sayers reported on projects completed over Christmas break. He provided a list of maintenance and repairs recently performed at all buildings in his written report.

Mr. Drzewiecki announced that Mrs. Stephanie Smith, Business Manager, would be giving a presentation on the five year projected budget. Along with her presentation, Mrs. Smith provided information to each Board member containing a five year projection, five year scenario and an updated preliminary budget for 2018-19.

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Mr. Michael Drzewiecki. Mr. Drzewiecki reported that the preliminary budget for 2018-19 must be approved at the next meeting in order to meet the Act 1 timeline to apply for exceptions to exceed the index. He also recommended establishing a Finance Committee to provide Board awareness regarding budgeting. Mr. Drzewiecki requested that the February regular Board meeting be held at the Primary School and the March regular meeting held at the Intermediate School. Also, for the work session previously scheduled for May 29 be rescheduled for May 30, due to the Awards Banquet. Mr. Drzewiecki presented an overview of winter delay and cancellation protocol.

Dr. Shaffer recognized the administration's time and effort in preparing for this evening's meeting.

The Intermediate Unit report was presented in writing.

The Career Center Report was presented by Mr. Bill Reddinger. Mr. Reddinger reported that the Career Center is doing well and that Mrs. Linda Ferringer attended her first meeting as a representative. Mrs. Ferringer stated that she was impressed with the meeting.

Dr. Shaffer reported that the Music Committee will meet soon and the Sixth Grade Committee would like to visit a school with a middle school philosophy to see how that could be incorporated.

At 9:58 p.m., Dr. Shaffer announced that an executive session would take place for personnel matters. The meeting resumed at 10:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger, seconded by Heath Copenhaver, to approve the second reading of Redbank Valley School District Board Policies #253, School Wellness and #808, Food Services. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Donald Nair, seconded by Bill Reddinger, to change the work session previously scheduled for May 29 to May 30, same time and location. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger, seconded by Linda Ferringer, consideration of Act 1 Resolution that Redbank Valley School District will increase tax millage at a rate that will exceed the 3.5 index for school year 2018-19. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger, seconded by Chad Shaffer, consideration to submit exceptions for Retirement, Special Education and Debt Service as per PDE timeline. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Donald Nair, seconded by Chad Shaffer, to display the preliminary budget for 2018-19 school year. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger, seconded by Darren Bain, consideration to authorize and direct the Superintendent to: (a) study student enrollment trends for past years, as well as the projected enrollment for the upcoming school year; (b) study past and current curriculum and course offerings of the School District, as well as those for the upcoming school year; (c) study the overall staffing needs of the School District for the upcoming school year; and (d) make recommendations to the Board of School Directors concerning staffing, curriculum and program needs for the upcoming school year. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Donald Nair, seconded by Heath Copenhaver, consideration to engage Stephen Parks & Associates for professional design and construction administration services for a new running track. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger, seconded by Darren Bain, to approve the December, 2017 Treasurers Report, General Fund Expenditures amounting to \$1,818,415.83 and Cafeteria Fund Expenditures amounting to \$49,112.72. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger, seconded by Chad Shaffer, to hire Barbara Sayers as greenhouse aide at 390 hours @ \$7.31 = \$3,068.99, total cost with employer taxes included. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger, seconded by Heath Copenhaver, to hire interim principal Sandra Shirey at the elementary schools, beginning January 22, 2018 through Mrs. McCauley's return date, at per diem rate of \$100.00 per day, in addition to her current salary. Motion Carried 6 Yes, 1 No (Adams).

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger, seconded by Heath Copenhaver, to approve Meagan Hammond and Deborah McElhattan-Singer to attend 2018 Conference for Pennsylvania Kindergarten Teachers in Harrisburg, PA on February 8-9, 2018. Cost to be incurred by Title IIA, \$1,707.57 and Dianna Bain and Kelly Ripple to attend 2018 PDE & Bureau of Special Education Annual Conference at Hershey Lodge and Convention Center on February 26-28, 2018. Cost to be incurred by Title IIA, \$1,363.31. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Darren Bain, seconded by Bill Reddinger, to hire Jamie Minich as a long-term substitute, beginning January 22, 2018 and accept the resignation of Jocelyn Delp, nurse aide, as of January 5, 2018. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Donald Nair, seconded by Bill Reddinger, to approve the Senior Music Trip to Washington, DC on March 15-18, 2018. Approximate substitute cost to District, \$200.00. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A motion was made by Donald Nair, seconded by Bill Reddinger, to temporarily direct the Superintendent to engage staffing agencies and research market value and adjust our substitute nurse rate to address our current nursing substitute shortage. Motion Carried Unanimously.

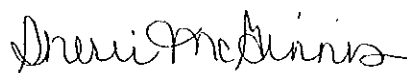
Dr. Shaffer asked for additional Board items. Darren Bain (chairperson) and Linda Ferringer were appointed to the Financial Committee.

Dr. Shaffer asked for public comments. Kristen Landers thanked Mrs. Cheryl McCauley for her support of the Tech4s and GEMS Clubs and Dr. Shaffer, his family and Mrs. Ann Kohnitsky for attending the showcase. Clay Kennemuth from Hawthorn Fire Department addressed the Board to request a meeting in regard to a concern at the Intermediate School.

Dr. Shaffer announced an executive session would take place after adjournment for safety and personnel matters.

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger, seconded by Donald Nair, to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:22 p.m. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri McGinnis  
Board Secretary