

Regular School Board Meeting

May 14, 2024

A regular meeting of the Redbank Valley School Board was held on May 14, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Redbank Valley High School. The following members were in attendance: Chris Merwin, Heidi Byers, Chris Adams (Remote), Kevin Johnson, Bill Reddinger, John Kimmel, John Sayers, and Matt Confer. Brent Wile was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by John Sayers and seconded by Kevin Johnson to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting on April 9, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Shirey had nothing to add to her report.

Mr. Hartle had nothing to add to his report.

Mr. Temchulla had nothing to add to his report.

Mr. Rapp had nothing to add to his Maintenance Report. However, Dr. Rupp commented that the new air conditioning unit for the auditorium is currently experiencing issues. It was malfunctioning over the weekend during the Dancer's Studio recital. Mr. Rapp is working to get the unit fixed as quickly as possible. Mr. Sayers questioned if the unit was under warranty. Dr. Rupp replied that it was brand new and just installed so a warranty would still be in place.

Mr. Reitz had nothing new to add to his report.

Mrs. Reitz gave the Business Manager's Report. The audit should be completed by the end of the week. All the journal entries have been made and given to the auditor to make sure that the numbers tie. The AFR will need to be revised and re-submitted. This should be done by the end of the month. Dale Kirsch is coming to Redbank on Monday, 5/20/24. This time will be spent reviewing the 2024-2025 budget, looking at any budgetary transfers that need made, reconciliation of 2023-2024 entries in the accounting system, and help with all tax questions that she may have. Mr. Kirsch is also going to help with the fund balances. The unassigned fund balance is lower than the 8% of the \$22,018,100 expenditure balance so the district is able to raise taxes. She stated that the only balance the Board has to approve is the committed fund balance, which is currently at \$500,000 for capital projects. Discussion ensued with the board regarding a potential raise in taxes. Mr. Johnson asked some questions about the timeline of the approval of the final budget. No further questions for Mrs. Reitz.

Dr. Rupp brought some information to the board concerning the Mahoning property that was discussed in previous meetings. The appraisal that was done in 2021 valued the property at \$12,000. Dr. Rupp discussed the options the district had to sell the property. The board further discussed specifics of the property and potential outcomes. No further questions for Dr. Rupp.

Mr. Confer had nothing to add to the IU6 Report.

Mrs. Byers had nothing to add to the Career Center Report.

Mr. Sayers spoke about the Board Committee Reports. The Building and Grounds Committee is going to have a meeting on Monday at the Primary Building at 4:00. That will be the last meeting of the school year.

Dr. Rupp mentioned that they had an Education Foundation meeting yesterday. The district qualified for EITC Funds. Local businesses can get a tax break if they choose to donate to the district. We are working on getting a mailing out by the end of the month to the businesses. As a fundraising effort, family movie nights will be held on June 10th and July 12th. It will be a free event with donations to the Education Foundation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Kimmel for consideration to approve the second reading of the following policies: 901 – Public Relations Objectives. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by Chris Merwin for consideration to approve the second reading of the following policies: 902 – Publications Program. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Sayers and seconded by John Kimmel for consideration to approve the second reading of the following policies: 904 – Public Attendance at School Events. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve the second reading of the following policies: 906 – Public Complaint Procedures. Motion carries by a 5-3 vote (Byers, Johnson, and Sayers).

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by Chris Merwin for consideration to approve the second reading of the following policies: 907 – School Visitors. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve the membership renewal for PSBA in the amount of **\$5921.10**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve the list of the Graduating Class of 2024 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve a resolution to contribute 25% for the total amount of grant disbursement should Redbank Valley acquire

the \$500,000 grant for parking lot paving and roofing costs. Total cost from designated fund not to exceed \$125,000. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Sayers and seconded by Heidi Byers for consideration to give honors credit for Physics 1 beginning with the 2024-2025 school year with a retro credit given to those seniors who took the course in 2023-2024. This was further discussed and there was a typo in the original agenda item. Seniors should be replaced with "juniors". Therefore, the Agenda item should list "Consideration to give honors credit for Physics 1 beginning with the 2024-2025 school year with a retro credit given to those juniors who took the course in 2023-2024". Motion failed by a 2-6 vote. (Merwin, Adams, Sayers, Confer, Johnson, and Reddinger)

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to continue to offer accidental insurance to students through the Leach Agency at no cost to the district. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Johnson suggested two new motions. The first motion is to hire a full time music teacher for next year. The other motion would have to do with properly funding the Education Foundation with a portion of the district budget. Mr. Reddinger stated that these two motions could be put on the agenda for discussion at the next work session, but no action could be taken tonight about the issue. Mr. Johnson stated that he would provide the motions in writing to the board. Mr. Kimmel also suggested asking the solicitor whether we can funnel public funds into the foundation.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve the April 2024 Treasurer's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve April 2024 General Fund Expenditures in the amount of **\$1,665,429.29**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve April 2024 Cafeteria Fund Expenditures in the amount of **\$41,123.11**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve quarterly 2024 Redbank Valley High School Activities Fund as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Kimmel for consideration to approve up to an additional 10 days over the summer at the discretion of administration for Stephanie Bergman at a daily rate of **\$301.42**, Kyle Hicks at the daily rate of **\$301.42**, and an additional 5 days over the summer (School Physicals and Prep) at the discretion of the administration for Val Steffy at a daily rate of **\$397.59**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Chris Merwin for consideration to hire the following elementary teachers during the month of July at a rate of \$29.00 per hour for 15 days. Total

cost per teacher paid with ESSER fund is **\$1,945.06**: Cassandra Faulk and Heidi Truitt. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Chris Merwin for the consideration to hire the following secondary teachers during the month of July at a rate of \$29.00 per hour for 15 days. Total cost per teacher paid with ESSER funds is **\$1,945.06**: Matthew Hutchinson – English 6,7,8; Julie Aaron – English 9,10,11,12; Kristen Young – Reading 6,7,8; Kira Voris – Math 6,7,8; Ruben Carrillo – Algebra I and II, Geometry, and Consumer Math; Blane Gold – Social Studies 6-12; Barbara Orange – Science 6-8; Corbin Anderson – Physical Science; Greg Campbell – Biology; Megan Harmon – Health 11; Andy Rex – PE 6-12; Tracie Bonfardine – Google Suite; Kyle Hicks – Program Developer and Summer School Lead. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Chris Merwin for the consideration to hire the following special education teachers as Extended School Year teachers during the month of July at a rate of \$29.00 per hour for 15 days. Total cost per teacher paid with ESSER funds is **1,945.06**: Barbara Mitchell – Primary. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Chris Merwin and seconded by Kevin Johnson for the consideration to alter the schedule of Wendy Smith from 80% to 100% to accommodate the increased caseload of students needing Speech/Language Services. Total additional cost to district is **\$12,130.80**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by John Sayers for the consideration to approve Jake Daugherty as the Head Boys Varsity Basketball Coach for 120 points @ 45.50 per point. Total cost to the district of **\$6,083**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by John Sayers for the consideration to approve Evan Pence as the Junior High Assistant Soccer Coach for 40 points @ \$43.50 per point. Total cost to the district if **\$1,938**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by John Sayers for the consideration to approve Chris Edmonds as the Head Junior High Girls Basketball Coach for 70 points @ \$46.50 per point. Total cost to the district is **\$3,626**. Motion carried unanimously.

The chair will entertain a motion made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Sayers for the consideration to advertise the Mahoning parcel for sale. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL BOARD ITEMS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by John Sayers and seconded by John Kimmel to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rochelle Reitz

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Board Secretary