

CARLYNTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Voting Meeting January 27, 2016 Carlynton Jr.-Sr. High School Library – 7:30 pm

MINUTES

The Carlynton School District Board of Education held its regular voting meeting January 27, 2016 in the library of the junior-senior high school. Those in attendance included President Jim Schriver, Vice President Joe Appel, Treasurer Marissa Mendoza and Directors Monica Dugan, Antrice Hart, George Honchar, Nyra Schell and Kelly Zaletski. Also present at the meeting was Superintendent Gary Peiffer, Solicitor Anthony Giglio and Administrators Marsha Burleson, Brian Durica, Michael Loughren, Ed Mantich, Dennis McDade and John McAdoo. The audience was comprised of 14 individuals and one member of the press.

CALL TO ORDER – *The meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm by President Schriver; senior Stephanie Bonifield led the pledge. The roll was called by recording secretary Michale Herrmann; Director Leeanne O'Brien was absent.*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: *President of the Carlynton High School Robotics Club, Stephanie Bonifield talked about the club, its focus and goals. By way of a PowerPoint, she illustrated the different types of robots and talked about their participation at the Pittsburgh Maker Faire at Carnegie Mellon University. Stephanie said as the club expands, she would like to offer summer camps for younger students by teaching coding and robotics.*

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD: *Parent and cheerleader booster Beth Huddart asked the board's permission to repurpose five former cheer uniforms to make mementos for graduating seniors. Dr. Peiffer said there is not a policy or procedure for old uniforms but he would be happy to research the situation and get back to Mrs. Huddart within a week. Mrs. Huddart said the boosters fundraised and purchased warm up suits for the cheerleaders at a cost of \$3000.*

PRESENTATION – *Steve Niedenberger, a representative from Hosack, Specht, Muetzel and Wood, reviewed the 2014-2015 school year audit with board members, citing specific pages to reveal use of revenues and expenditures. He noted that the audit was "unqualified" or a clean audit with no findings. The presentation led to discussion about the pension increase and the challenges it is presenting to school districts.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Director Hart moved, seconded by Director Zaletski, to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2016 Agenda Setting/Committee/Voting Meeting as presented. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

REPORTS:

- **Executive Session** – *President Schriver said student matters, personnel and real estate issues were discussed in the closed session held before the meeting.*

Minutes of January 4, 2016
Meeting

- Administrative Reports
- Superintendent's Report – Dr. Peiffer announced that the Parent Focus Groups have been discussing many topics including the expansion of the curriculum and bringing back club day at the high school. The Diversity Committee met recently with plans to conduct a survey; and the Safety Committee has been meeting regularly to address safety concerns throughout the district. Dr. Peiffer said Principal John McAdoo will be attending a Crisis Response training and will be sharing the information with other administrators.
- Principals – High school Principal Michael Loughren said he emailed the course selection book to all board members and he addressed the changes and additions to the course selections, specifically fundamental courses related to the Keystone exams, more electives and a Pre-AP English expansion. Mr. Loughren said the high school held a practice lockdown and he will be reviewing feedback from the Robinson Police Department regarding the lockdown. Crafton Elementary Principal Marsha Burleson distributed a newsletter and agendas from recent staff meetings. She said she spoke with staff about SOLE, a Self-Organized Learning Environment, and it was well received. Building staff are preparing for PSSAs and students have enjoyed recent assemblies by the Crafton Police, Fire Department and the Kids of Steel marathon program.
- Maintenance and Grounds – Dennis McDade said he is working to prioritize a capital project list. He and staff are making repairs to the chiller systems. Mr. McDade said the weight room has received a number of updates which has made marked improvements. At Carnegie, staff is replacing the bi-fold doors in the hallways and painting specific areas; at Crafton, a Healthy Hands assembly will incorporate a system for students to sanitize their hands and even their desk tops on a regular basis.
- Technology – Brian Durica said he is piloting active Google accounts with 60-70 high school students. He is beginning to file Erate paperwork and the process is going smoothly with the new Erate company. Renewal for Allegheny Connect will be available soon and the district will see a savings. Mr. Durica said he will be meeting with the Project Manager for the new Student Information System on February 11. He hopes to have the software installed and he will begin configurations to export data in the weeks ahead.
- Committee Reports
- Pathfinder Report – Director Mendoza said the school is maintaining enrollment. The ventilation system is in need of repair and the policy for facilities rental is being reviewed. Additionally, a Community Expo will be held April 30, catering to special needs families.
- Parkway West CTC Report – Director Appel reported the budget will be increased by three percent. The school is adding programs and enrollment is up. Dr. Peiffer said the school is entering into a partnership with the Community College of Beaver County for a dual enrollment aviation program. The program offers a high career potential in the area.
- PSBA Legislative – Director Schell said the Keystone Exam graduation requirement has been postponed until 2019 with a plan to

improve the project-based assessment as well as meeting the requirements for vocational-technical students. Director Schell also shared that PSBA is offering a webinar on February 12 about the 2016-2017 state budget.

I. Miscellaneous

Director Honchar moved, seconded by Director Appel, to approve the additions to the 2015-2016 Conference and Field Trips Requests as submitted. (Miscellaneous Item #0116-01 REVISED) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Conference and Field Trip Requests

II. Finance

Director Mendoza moved, seconded by Director Zaletski, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of December 2015 as presented;

Treasurer's Report – December 2015

The December 2015 bills in the amount of \$2,438,881.02 as presented;

December 2015 Bills

Adopt the 2016-2017 Proposed Preliminary Budget as presented with the intent to request approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for a referendum exception up to the maximum permitted by law. The superintendent is directed to give the public notice of this motion through publication in the newspaper;

Proposed Preliminary Budget 2016-2017 School Year

Director Schell noted that the exception is to allow flexibility for budget planning, adding the board may not need to use the referendum exception if it is granted by the state. Director Appel said the referendum exception was sought because of increases to PSERs and benefits.

The January 2016 Real Estate Tax Refunds for the Borough of Carnegie as submitted; (Finance Item #0116-01)

January 2016 RE Tax Refunds – Carnegie

The January 2016 Real Estate Tax Refunds for the Borough of Crafton as submitted; (Finance Item #0116-02)

January 2016 RE Tax Refunds – Crafton

And accept the independent Audit Report of Hosack, Specht, Muetzel and Wood LLP for the school year ending June 30, 2015 as submitted.

Audit Report

By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.

Director Appel moved, seconded by Director Dugan, to authorize the Carlynton School District to participate in the Western Pennsylvania Electricity Consortium Extension for the purchase of electricity from Direct Energy *only* if the price is *at* or *below* our current price. The extended agreement will begin after the final meter read date in January 2018 under our current agreement for a period of 12 months and the price will include all costs except distribution, sales taxes and other local utility charges as contained in the original agreement;

Electricity Consortium Extension

The December 2015 Food Services Report as presented by Aramark Educational Services; (Finance Item #0116-03)

December 2015 Food Services Report

The December 2015 Athletic Fund Report with an ending balance of \$19,241.38 as submitted; (Finance Item #0116-04)	December 2015 Athletic Fund Report
The December 2015 Activities Fund Report with an ending balance of \$73,196.48 as submitted; (Finance Item #0116-05)	December 2015 Activities Fund Report
The change order submitted by Lugalia Mechanical, Inc. for the removal and installation of air conditioning units on the roof of Carnegie Elementary School in the amount of \$87,791.87;	Change Order – Lugalia Mechanical, Inc.
<i>And</i> the Service Order Authorization at a cost not to exceed \$27,800 to Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering, Inc. for the Glaser property. By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.	Service Order Authorization-LSSE, Inc.
III. Personnel	
Director Hart moved, seconded by Director Zaletski, to approve the additions to the 2015-2016 Day-to-Day Substitute List as presented; (Personnel Item #0116-01 REVISED)	Additions to the 2015-2016 D-D Sub List
The additions to the 2015-2016 Athletic Supplemental List as presented: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Baseball, Head Varsity Coach – Patrick McPherson (<i>returning</i>)▪ Baseball, Assistant Varsity Coach – Kirk Evanov (<i>returning</i>)▪ Baseball, Junior Varsity Coach – Frank Zebrasky▪ Baseball Volunteer – Kevin Pope (<i>returning</i>) (Personnel Item #0116-02)	2015-2016 Athletic Supplemental Additions
Award a Temporary Professional Employee Contract to high school nurse Holly Kosanovich, effective to the date of hire of July 1, 2015;	TPE – Holly Kosanovich
The Leave of Absence Requests for employees CFT1516-12 and SCA1516-13; (Personnel Item #0116-03)	Leave of Absence Requests – CFT1516-09
<i>And</i> the addition of Tyler Valentine to the Custodian Substitute List per the recommendation of Dennis McDade, Director of Maintenance and Custodial Services; (Personnel Item #0116-04) By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.	Substitute Custodian – Tyler Valentine
IV. Student Matters	
Director Hart moved, seconded by Director Zaletski, to approve the adjudication agreement for Student #1516-01 as presented; (Student Item #0116-01)	Student Adjudication
<i>And</i> the adjudication agreement for Student #1516-02 as presented. (Student Item #0116-02) By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.	Student Adjudication
OLD BUSINESS: <i>Dr. Peiffer said he and Mr. Christy will continue to review budget to determine needs or discretionary cutbacks. The goal is to get as close to a balanced budget as possible. There will be more discussion at the February 16th meeting.</i>	

President Schriver said it is a great time to determine if the district is making efficient savings. He made several observations: In 2004-2005, the district millage rate was 24.15. It remained the same, with no increases, through 2011 when the rate was dropped to 23.15. In 2008-2009, the district's contribution to the pension fund was \$430,000. Today, the contribution rate is \$3 million and next year it will grow to \$3.7 million. President Schriver said every school district in Pennsylvania is struggling with this issue.

OPEN FORUM: *Parents Frank and Sharon Stengel spoke of a situation with their daughter involving scheduling and the process it took to reach a solution. They expressed frustration in the way in which the matter was handled.*

Director Schell reminded everyone to complete the Statement of Financial Interest included in the board packet.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss, Director Mendoza moved, seconded by Director Zaletski, to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 pm. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kirby Christy, Board Secretary

Michale Herrmann, Recording Secretary