

**SOUTH MIDDLETON SCHOOL DISTRICT
4 Academy Street, Boiling Springs, PA 17007**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 1, 2021**

The South Middleton Board of School Directors met on February 1, 2021. The South Middleton Board of School Directors met via Zoom. Mrs. Knouse called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Secretary called the roll with all members present except as designated:

School Directors

Mr. John Greenbaum
Mr. William Hartman
Mrs. Stacey Knavel
Mrs. Elizabeth Knouse
Mrs. Denise MacIvor

Mrs. Elizabeth Meikrantz
Mrs. Edith Rob
Mrs. Bethanne Sellers
Mr. Jonathan Still

Administrative Staff

Dr. Matthew Strine, Superintendent
Mrs. Nicole Weber, Directors of Business/Operations
Mrs. Melanie Shaver-Durham, Director of Curriculum/Instruction
Mr. Joel Hain, BSHS Principal

Student Representatives

Gibran Varahrami – Absent
Ajla Salkic – Absent

Visitors

Board Secretary

Cristeen Beck

Solicitor

Gareth Pahowka

INTRODUCTIONS AND RECOGNITION

Dr. Strine introduced Mr. Justin Bruhn from CPAVTS and informed the Board that Mr. Joel Hain will be speaking later this evening.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Mrs. Knouse announced that the public comments submitted to schoolboardcomment@smsd.us will be read and citizens may speak. Please use reaction in the Zoom screen to notify the Board to speak.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz, that the Board approves the minutes of the following meeting: 1/19/21 – Regular Board Meeting. **The motion passed unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz that the Board approves the following financials in a block motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS/OPERATIONS, DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS SERVICES AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. Strine reported about update on 2 COVID cases in district. Due to students not being in building due to snow days, it assists with building clean up, and resets 14-day building average. Tomorrow evening is first Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting. Shared information that admin team is “tweeting” and to follow on Twitter. Shared that at the last Board meeting, auditors gave report and wanted to clarify that one finding was found in accounting measures. Have already corrected it and will work towards goal of zero findings in future. Nicole can give details on finding.

Mrs. Rob inquired about contract tracing. Dr. Strine responded that we are always working to improve and added some additional efforts, including revised COVID response protocol.

Mrs. Shaver-Durham, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, reported on purchase recommendation for math textbooks. Proud of elementary task force for their work in this process. In the future there will be middle school math and algebra textbooks. English Language Arts taskforce continues to work on curriculum mapping. Remote learning surveys were sent to staff, families, and also BSHS students. Goal is to find ways to make

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improvements to remote learning plan and work with teachers to adjust the plan. Thanked families for feedback.

Mrs. Nicole Weber, Director of Business/Operations, clarified finding during 2019-2020 audit. Worked very closely with auditors with monthly closing schedule. New business software has assisted in this process. Met with Representative Barb Gleim to discuss current cyber school situation and impact of cost. Representative Gleim is part of the Education Committee. As discussed prior about the 1.1 million increase in cyber school costs. Highlighted PASBO webinar about budgeting. Working on planning vaccine clinic for staff and continuing work on budget. Completed preliminary budget report for PDE. She and Dr. Strine met with South Middleton Township and discussed new developments and projects coming up. Thanked maintenance staff for snow clean up.

Mrs. Maclvor inquired about other districts and cyber school costs and impacts. Mrs. Weber responded that its hard to say the percentages overall with certain areas included in those numbers. Cyber school costs are always a topic amongst other districts.

Mrs. Knouse inquired about who is 1a were vaccinated. Mrs. Weber responded that a survey was sent out and the individuals who were identified in 1a participated in the clinic. Will be pushing out for all district staff as soon as they can. Dr. Strine commented that 27 employees were part of the 1a clinic.

Mrs. Knouse noted that Mr. Smith, and the Student Representatives, would not be in attendance at the meeting tonight.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS – None

BOARD REPORTS-

Curriculum & Instruction – Mrs. Sellers – shared report from meeting on January 26. Mr. Hain presented BSHS Course Guide, noted changes to English Course guidelines. ELA Keystones will be taken in 10th grade. Some new elective courses. Shared overview of course guide changes. Highlighted updates from Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Committee, will focus on academic diversity for remainder of school year. Outlined K-5 envision math textbooks. Next Curriculum Meeting on March 26 at 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. Knavel inquired if teachers have been pulled for curriculum mapping and number of days. Mrs. Sellers and Mrs. Shaver-Durham responded that the days have not been completed. Mrs. Shaver-Durham confirmed there were days in October and three days last week and today. Mrs. Knavel inquired about the course guide and changes to dual enrollment, and not appearing on report card.

Mr. Hain responded they will appear on the report card and count towards graduation.

Mrs. Sellers outlined that counselors are responsible for including it for graduation requirements. Mrs. Knavel inquired about yearbooks moving from English to Business due to teacher change. Mr. Hain responded the yearbook will change slightly. Mrs. Sellers responded that has happened in another class as well.

Mr. Still inquired about age of previous math textbooks and program. Mrs. Shaver-Durham responded they aged out at the end of last year, believes it was 6 years old.

Mrs. Rob inquired about math curriculum mapping. Mrs. Shaver-Durham responded that k-12 was completed for most classes, some of the high school math classes still need completed.

Facilities Committee- Mrs. Rob -

Reported on meeting held January 27. At the meeting Mr. Gump shared updates on projects over the past year. Highlighted meetings with pandemic taskforce. Presentation by Trane HVAC for assessment of HVAC equipment. The committee decided not to bring to Board based upon scientific uncertainty and cost. Crabtree & Rohrbaugh presented five-year plan for YBMS with renovations and classroom additions. Next committee meeting scheduled for March 8 at 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. Knouse shared that Board and district admins will be trained on committee norms.

TOPIC DISCUSSION – 2021-2022 CPAVTS Budget – Mr. Justin Bruhn, Administrative Director- CPAVTS

Mr. Justin Bruhn thanked district administrative staff for their assistance during this year. Thanked Mr. Greenbaum for serving on JOC. Over 1160 students enrolled at beginning of school year, one of the highest years for enrollment. Highlighted renovation of cafeteria and health occupations with project projected to start at end of school year and be completed over summer break. This project is split over next two years in 21-22 and 22-23 budgets. Will need additional instructor with expanded health occupations program. South Middleton's contribution is 6.021% of budget. This is based upon attendance. 2.19% increase from last year. South Middleton's amount for next year is \$434,620. JOC approved budget at December meeting.

Mrs. Knouse inquired about last building renovation. Mr. Bruhn responded that 2002 was last major renovation.

Mr. Greenbaum inquired about students being able to tour vo-tech.

Mr. Bruhn responded that nothing replaces the students visiting in person. There is a virtual tour available on the website.

Mrs. Rob inquired about programs for students after graduation and career opportunities.

Mr. Bruhn responded that there are different career paths to follow graduation. Students can graduate and seek employment or post-secondary ed.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz, that the Board approves the agenda of February 1, 2021, with all corrections as indicated. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Property Purchase – 16 Forge Road

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartman, that the Board approves the purchase of the property located at 16 Forge Road, Boiling Springs, and authorizes the Administration and Board President to sign the purchase agreement and take all necessary steps to acquire the property.

Mrs. MacIvor asked for discussion, inquired to Mrs. Weber about if 16 Forge Road purchase were within the current year 20-21 Capital Expenditure Approved Budget.

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Mrs. Weber responded that other 20-21 Approved Budgeted Capital Expenditure items would need to be shifted for this land purchase.

On a roll call vote, the motion passed as follows:

Mrs. Knavel – Yes	Mrs. Sellers - Yes
Mrs. Knouse – Yes	Mr. Still - Yes
Mrs. Meikrantz – Yes	Mr. Greenbaum - Yes
Mrs. MacIvor – Yes	Mr. Hartman – Yes
Mrs. Rob - Yes	

Yes –9, No – 0, Abstentions- 0, Absent - 0

Citizen Advisory Committee Members

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz, that the Board approves the list of Citizen Advisory Committee members. (see attached)

Mrs. MacIvor inquired to clarify that the members are approved for one year. Mrs. Knouse affirmed.

Mrs. Sellers inquired if employees serving on the committee would be a conflict of interest. Dr. Strine responded that they are citizens of the district and will balance committee.

Mrs. Sellers inquired about balance of 6 women and 12 men.

Dr. Strine responded he can review gender makeup of list, but recalls more men applying for committee.

Mrs. Rob commented on group size, suggestion of breaking group into two.

Dr. Strine responded that is something to consider.

Mrs. Meikrantz thanked everyone who will serve on that committee.

The motion passed 8-1 with Mrs. Sellers stating a no vote.

Planning/Discussion: Regular Board Meeting

a. Act 1 Resolution Approving Preliminary Budget and Authorizing Referendum Exception

That the Board approves the Act 1 Resolution Approving Preliminary Budget and Authorizing Referendum Exception.

Mrs. Weber outlined that this gives district option to increase tax amount outside of index of 3%. Outlined budget gaps.

b. First Reading - Policy 200 - Enrollment in District

That the Board approves the First Reading of revised Policy 200 - Enrollment in District.

c. First Reading - Policy 233 - Suspension and Expulsion

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That the Board approves the First Reading of revised Policy 233 - Suspension and Expulsion.

d. Second/Final Reading - Policy 218.3 - Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of new Policy 218.3 -Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault.

e. Second/Final Reading - Policy 103 - Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 103 - Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students.

Dr. Strine outlined updates to the policies.

Mr. Greenbaum inquired about details on new policies.

Mr. Pahowka responded with details about the new Policy 218.3 and how it impacted other policies.

Mrs. Rob commented that she appreciates Mr. Pahowka' s work.

f. Personnel - Extra Duty - Athletics - Resignation

That the Board approves the following Personnel - Extra Duty - Athletics- Resignation:

- Dwayne Lawrence – Assistant JH Girls' Soccer Coach, effective 1/12/2021

Dr. Strine shared that Mr. Lawrence is taking this season off but may return next season.

g. Personnel - Classified - Retirement/Resignation

That the Board approves the following Personnel - Classified- Resignation:

- T. Georgann Bailey - (Building Secretary - Rice) for retirement purposes, effective 2/19/2021.

Dr. Strine noted that Mrs. Bailey will be greatly missed.

h. Personnel - Extra Duty - Mentor Teacher

That the Board approves the following Personnel - Extra Duty - Mentor Teacher:

- Mandi Abernathy (Mentoring Traci Barnhart-Stirkey) half year of SY 20-21 - \$257.50

Dr. Strine noted that Mrs. Abernathy will be mentoring new teacher Traci Barnhart-Stirkey.

i. Purchase of Math Textbooks

That the Board approves the purchase of EnVision Math Textbooks.

j. Boiling Springs High School Course Guide

That the Board approves the 2021-2022 Boiling Springs High School Course Guide.

Dr. Strine noted that a lot of time and effort was put into revising the course guide. Will review and update Board with any changes.

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Mrs. Shaver-Durham asked Mrs. Knavel to clarify question and will follow up with Mr. Hain. Mrs. Maclvor inquired if the course guide had been through a Curriculum Committee review. She also asked who was performing the final review of documents before they are sent to the board for vote, because she had already found two errors in the course guide credit breakdown page.

Mrs. Shaver-Durham is working on finalizing proofreading now and send information about any needed edits to her and Mr. Hain.

Mrs. Knavel inquired if middle school course guide also goes to Board for approval.

Mrs. Knouse responded that both middle and high school course guides are approved.

Mr. Hartman inquired about coach resignation. Dr. Strine clarified it was for this season.

Mrs. Rob commented about policy updates and committee structures and that she can provide outline of committee structure.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Katrina Scavone – 13 Meadowood Drive Boiling Springs

Emailed in comment about Citizen Advisory Committee and who is serving, expressed importance of diversity.

Jennifer Askey- 45 Briarwood Lane Carlisle

Has child that attends Rice Elementary. Shared concerns about snow day schedule and kids virtual learning.

Sheri Bock – 3 Matthew Court Carlisle

Asked if there are any snow days built into the calendar this school year?

Dr. Strine responded that this year snow days are not built into calendar due to late start to school year. In the years to come, there are at least two possible days for snow make up if needed. Rules from PDE also impact flexible instructional days.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cumberland Perry ATVS - Mr. Greenbaum – Complimented CPAVTS for their work during this difficult year. Shared story of vo-tech nursing student who is now in college getting her nursing degree.

PSBA Legislative Report - Mr. Still – General assembly is back in session.

South Middleton Township – Mrs. Maclvor – Attended Board of Supervisors meeting on 21st. Approval of the master plan for Cambria Place, with 60 townhomes and 363 apartments in phase one. South Middleton Township recently increased compensation to their outside grant writer after they had raised \$4.1 million for the Township. Mrs. Maclvor is working with Cory Adams to get more information.

Mrs. Knouse noted that township and district may work together in the process.

Mrs. Rob commented that there is training for grant writing available.

South Middleton Parks & Recreation - Mr. Greenbaum – No meeting.

Bubbler Foundation - Mrs. Meikrantz – No report

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

Enrollment Report

February Board Calendar

February 8, 2021 - Athletics & Student Activities Committee Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

February 10, 2021 - Safety & Security Committee Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

February 16, 2021 - Regular Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

February 22, 2021 - Policy Committee Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

DIRECTORS' DISCUSSION

Mrs. MacIvor – thanked everyone for patience during snowstorm.

Mrs. Sellers – thanked for reports from vo-tech. Thanked all volunteers for Citizen Advisory Committee.

Mr. Hartman – thanked coaches and assistant athletic director for stepping forward. Has seen athletes doing well.

Mrs. Rob – commented on high school debate team attended tournament last weekend. Highlighted students- Gibran, Emma Chamberlin.

Mr. Still - thanked Mrs. Bailey for her years of service.

Mr. Greenbaum – recognized Mrs. Bailey.

Mrs. Knavel inquired about agenda for Citizen Advisory Committee. Dr. Strine noted these meetings will not be public as per policy. Outlined meeting agenda for tomorrow night – virtual snow day will be main topic, with meet and greet, and establishing norms. Will report after first meeting.

Mrs. MacIvor inquired about measuring student performance. Dr. Strine responded that data collection was moved back a week but will have information by next Board meeting with that information.

Mrs. Knavel inquired about how data was collected. Mrs. Shaver-Durham responded that they would use benchmark assessments and compare to last year's data.

Mrs. Sellers inquired about timeline. Mrs. Shaver-Durham responded those subjects will be reintroduced this year.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Sellers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Greenbaum to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cristeen Beck
Board Secretary