

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

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 2, 2021

The South Middleton Board of School Directors met on August 2, 2021. The South Middleton Board of School Directors met in the District Office Board Room. Mrs. Knouse called the meeting to order at 7:01 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 – Absent
Mrs. Bethanne Sellers
Mr. Jonathan Still

Administrative Staff

Mrs. Nicole Weber, Directors of Business/Operations
Mrs. Melanie Shaver-Durham, Director of Curriculum/Instruction
Mr. Alex Smith, Director of Student Services
Dr. Jesse White, Principal – Yellow Breeches Middle School
Mr. Joel Hain, Principal – Boiling Springs High School
Mrs. Trisha Reed, Principal- Iron Forge Elementary School

Student Representatives

Ajla Salkic-Absent

Visitors

See Attached

Board Secretary

Cristeen Beck

Solicitor

Gareth Pahowka

Mrs. Knouse acknowledged the passing of Board member Edyie Rob and held a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Knavel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sellers, to approve the agenda of August 2, 2021, with all corrections as indicated.

The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Still made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Knavel, that the Board approves the minutes of the following meeting: 6/21/21 – Regular Board Meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Knouse announced Executive Sessions on July 16 and July 22, 2021 to discuss Personnel.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS –

Dr. Strine recognized three employees for the Excellence in Education Award event held in July: Supervisor of Special Education- Jessica White, Teacher- David Robinson, and Football Coach- Brad Zell.

Mrs. Knouse commented on the history of the event.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY) –

Doug Miller – 130 Sunset Drive Mount Holly Springs
Commented on agenda item 11b – Health & Safety Plan on masking. Asked Board to not mandate masks for children this school year. Decisions on masks and vaccines should be up to parents.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS/STUDENT REPORTS

Committee Reports

Curriculum & Instruction- Mrs. Sellers – Held two meetings – July 27 and August 2. Reviewed briefing forms for ELA and FCS courses. Committee recommends FCS courses and 6-12 ELA Curriculum Maps. Mrs. Sellers highlighted the classes. Noted public comment from July meeting – questions about diversity and its effect on

curriculum. Committee will review additional resources for classes at August 30 Curriculum Committee meeting.

Advisory Committee Reports

Cumberland Perry AVTS – Mr. Greenbaum – Reported on meeting with Dr. Strine and Mr. Bruhn to discuss new initiatives, including the possibility of new funding sources.

PSBA Legislative Report – Mr. Still – Noted the Governor Wolf passed budget at end of June and payroll change for some staff.

South Middleton Township- Mrs. MacIvor – Waiting to meet with Superintendent’s office and Township representatives.

South Middleton Parks and Recreation- Mr. Greenbaum – June and July have been very active. Bicycle and Pedestrian route plans to increase safety.

Bubbler Foundation- Mrs. Meikrantz – Absent/No Report

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - None

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

Nicole Weber – Director of Business & Operations, reported that office has been busy with end of fiscal year. Highlighted transportation – utilizing 19 busses with all but one driver returning this school year. Average number of students is 55 for secondary busses and 44 for elementary routes with these numbers subject to change. Increased need of van drivers for non-public routes. Applauded Robin Biggs and Joan Myers for work done behind the scenes. Information will be pushed out to families on Sapphire Parent Portal.

Mrs. MacIvor inquired about families getting information without technology.

Mrs. Weber responded that those families are contacted alternatively.

Mrs. MacIvor inquired about possibility of “activity bus”.

Mrs. Weber responded that a bus for activities would be an additional budget expenditure.

Mrs. Knouse asked Mrs. Weber to research cost.

Mrs. Sellers noted it was to a location versus door to door.

Mrs. Knavel noted calls were received about transportation information last week.

SUPPORT SERVICES REPORTS- None

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT- None

Consent Agenda

Mr. Still made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sellers, to approve the Consent Agenda.

The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

10.1 That the Board approves payment of General Fund bills represented by checks 61578 to 61643 in the amount of \$286,218.24, as represented in the attached summary.

10.2 That the Board approves payment of Activity Fund bills represented by checks 16740 to 16741 in the amount of \$205.53, as represented in the attached summary.

10.3 That the Board approves payment of Athletic Fund bills represented by checks 22509 to 22514 in the amount of \$6,554.00, as represented in the attached summary.

10.4 That the Board approves payment of Cafeteria Fund bills represented by check 7291 in the amount of \$47,407.82, as represented in the attached summary.

10.5 No checks disbursed from Capital Reserve Fund bills during this time period.

10.6 No checks disbursed from Construction Fund bills during this time period.

10. No checks disbursed from the Trust Fund bills during this time period.

10.8 That the Board approves the Treasurer's Report for June 2021.

Partnership for Career Development 2021-2022

That the Board approves the Career Development 2021-2022 agreement.

Child Rearing Leave

That the Board approves the following Child Rearing Leave:

- Anne Hoffman – Social Studies Teacher, YBMS, effective following end of FMLA for the duration of SY 21-22

Textbook Disposal

That the Board approves the following textbooks for disposal, in keeping with Board policy #711.

BSHS Textbooks:

Architecture: 25, Woodworking: 25, Engineering: 25, Graphic Communications: 25, and Photography: 25

Library Resources Disposal

That the Board approves the following library resources for disposal, in keeping with Board policy #711. (list attached)

Personnel- Resignations

That the Board approves the following Personnel - Resignations:

- Megan Sager - HR Generalist
- Michelle Long- Learning Support Teacher- YBMS
- Emily Mellinger- 3rd Grade Teacher- IFES
- Rebecca Streletz - 6th Grade Teacher - YBMS
- Nicole Weber - Director of Business & Operations
- Zachary Gump- Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds

Personnel- Professional- Employment

That the Board approves the following Personnel- Professional- Employment:

- Abby Wiseman -Learning Support Teacher- Rice, Masters, Step 6 - \$57,725
- Sabrina Giaquinto - Guidance Counselor- YBMS, Masters, Step 2- \$54,325
- Rachel Chronister - Elementary Art Teacher - IFES - Bachelors, Step 2 - \$51,160
- Angelina Romano- School Social Worker (210 days) - Masters Step 2- \$60,361
- Kim Nickle -Social Studies Teacher- BSHS - Bachelors, Step 1 - \$50,310
- Tiffany Hunter - Elementary Teacher - IFES - Masters, Step 6 - \$57,725
- Margaux Brandt - Elementary Teacher - IFES - Masters, Step 5 - \$56,875
- Cherie Darhower - Elementary Teacher- IFES - Bachelors, Step 1 - \$50,310

Crossing Guards/School Police for 2021-2022 School Year (list attached)

Personnel- Retirement

That the Board approves the following Personnel - Retirement:

- George Hing, BSHS

Personnel - Classified - Employment

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

- Randall Dorman - FT Custodian - \$14.05/hour - Start Date August 3, 2021 (Replacing Steve Cameron)
- Paige Miedrich - PT Secretary - BSHS - \$16.50/hour - Start Date August 25, 2021

- Elaine Engle- PT Secretary- BSHS - \$15.00/hour - Start Date August 25, 2021

River Rock 2021-2022

That the Board approves the River Rock Academy student agreements for 2021-2022.

Itemized Agenda:

Board Vacancy

Mrs. Knavel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sellers to acknowledge a Board Vacancy, and appoint a new School Director to serve through the Board reorganization meeting in December 2021.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Knouse read off the list of applicants: Darren Asper, Tricia Cherchuck, Terry Draper, Brad Group, Chris Hart, Lucy Johnston-Walsh, Jason Mathis, Christopher Morgan, Tanya Morret, Joseph Salisbury, Taren Swartz, and Bruce Watkins.

Mrs. Knavel thanked all the applicants, noted the Board received a number of great resumes. Encouraged applicants who are not selected to run for Board in future. Appointing someone to serve for seven Board meetings.

Mrs. Knavel made a motion to nominate Terry Draper. Mr. Still seconded this motion.

Mrs. Knavel made a motion to nominate Chris Morgan, seconded by Mrs. Sellers.

Mr. Still commented on service to Board, agreed with Mrs. Knavel.

Mr. Still nominated Brad Group, seconded by Mr. Greenbaum.

Mr. Hartman made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sellers, to close nominations.

Mr. Pahowka clarified that this appointment ends in December. This position will be on November ballot for two-year term.

Motion to appoint Mr. Draper:

On a roll call vote, the motion was defeated as follows:

Mr. Greenbaum – No Mrs. Meikrantz- Absent

Mr. Hartman- No Mrs. Sellers- Yes

Mrs. Knavel – Yes Mr. Still – No

Mrs. Knouse-No

Mrs. MacIvor- Yes

Yes –3, No –4, Abstentions-0, Absent -1

Motion to appoint Mr. Morgan:

On a roll call vote, the motion was defeated as follows:

Mr. Greenbaum – No Mrs. Meikrantz- Absent

Mr. Hartman- No Mrs. Sellers- Yes

Mrs. Knavel – Yes Mr. Still – No

Mrs. Knouse-Yes

Mrs. MacIvor- No

Yes –3, No – 4, Abstentions-0, Absent -1

Motion to appoint Mr. Group:

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

Mr. Greenbaum – Yes Mrs. Meikrantz- Absent

Mr. Hartman- Yes Mrs. Sellers- Yes

Mrs. Knavel – No Mr. Still – Yes

Mrs. Knouse-Yes

Mrs. MacIvor- No

Yes –5, No –2, Abstentions-0, Absent – 1

Mrs. Knouse thanked the applicants.

Health and Safety Plan 2021-2022

Mr. Still made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sellers that the Board approves the Health and Safety Plan for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Mr. Greenbaum commented that this plan was developed a month ago and some information has rapidly changed. Health and Safety Committee will meet next week to discuss. Dr. Strine will meet with other superintendents. Have heard from community on both sides of masking. Plan may be approved this evening but is subject to change based upon changing health conditions.

Mr. Still commented that Board represents entire district. Hears from opposite ends of community. Board is working to meet the requests and needs of majority.

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

Mr. Greenbaum – Yes Mrs. Meikrantz- Absent

Mr. Hartman- Yes Mrs. Sellers- Yes

Mrs. Knavel – Yes Mr. Still – Yes

Mrs. Knouse-Yes

Mrs. MacIvor- No

Yes –6, No –1, Abstentions-0, Absent – 1

Bus Routes and Bus Drivers for 2021-2022 School Year

Mrs. Sellers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartman

Mr. Greenbaum inquired about history of approving bus routes.

Mrs. Knavel commented the Board has approved them previously.

Mrs. Weber noted that PA law requires approval of drivers.

Mrs. Sellers recognized Robin Biggs for her work on bulletin board.

That the Board approves the Bus Routes and Bus Drivers for the 2021-2022 school year. That the board allows for Administration to make minor changes to routes as necessary.

The motion passed unanimously.

Contracted Payroll Specialist Service Agreement

Mrs. Knavel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartman that the Board approves the Contracted Payroll Specialist Service Agreement.

Mrs. MacIvor commented on concerns with contracted payroll and should be performed by permanent staff due to responsibility.

Mrs. Knavel clarified that position is currently vacant.

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

Mr. Greenbaum – Yes Mrs. Meikrantz- Absent

Mr. Hartman- Yes Mrs. Sellers- No

Mrs. Knavel – Yes Mr. Still – Yes

Mrs. Knouse-Yes

Mrs. MacIvor- No

Yes –5, No –2, Abstentions-0, Absent – 1

PLANNING & DISCUSSION

First Reading - Policy 246 - School Wellness

That the Board approves the First Reading of revised Policy 246 - School Wellness.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Letty McDonough 1636 Leidigh Drive Boiling Springs
Commented on Diversity and Inclusivity matter. Attended last information session and ready through past year's Board minutes. Highlighted some comments from past Board minutes and noted that "pause" was noted in April 2021 and now full steam ahead. Parents should be involved.

Mrs. Knouse thanked her for her comments.

Crystal Deitch 105 Hilltop Drive Boiling Springs
Here as parent, not as a spouse. Spoke to recent history of South Middleton School District's reputation. Has two children in district, noted high turnover of teaching staff for older child. Spoke against virtual snow days. Concerned about administration's decision to promote every child.

Mrs. Knouse commented that the Board voted against Virtual Snow Days.

Meagan Snook 18 Pin Oak Drive Boiling Springs
Commented on masks in schools and decision should be up to parents.

Andrew Fisher 41 Shughart Road Carlisle

Board Meeting Minutes, 08/02/21, Page 10

Parent of 4 children in district. Has pulled 2 children out of district due to lack of education throughout pandemic and how district has handled it. Commented on JEDI initiative. Noted that Mrs. Sellers spoke about Social Justice program. Commented that Brad Group is not inclusive, did not allow students to read with him while working at Rice due to his beliefs.

Eric Berry 144 Red Tank Road Boiling Springs
Commented on mask situation. Has seen adults doing stupid things and its affecting children.

Rodney Wagner 185 Pine School Road Gardners
Congratulated Mr. Group. Prayers to Mrs. Rob's family. Disappointed in Board Director appointment. People are getting upset about transparency, should have held interviews. Thanked Board for service.

Chris Hart 216 Shirley Lane Boiling Springs
Congratulated Mr. Group. Commented that he is from community like Boiling Springs and training from military in diversity and inclusivity helped him. Commented on masking.

Frank Neumayer 207 Red Tank Road Boiling Springs
1995 graduate. Commented on JEDI initiative, history of working in diverse environment in Harrisburg. Parents taught him how to accept other people and that should be parent job, not school's role.

Emailed comment from Paula Michalik 40K East Gate Drive Carlisle
As you are preparing to inform the community of your plan on how the district will proceed with the diversity and inclusion initiative, it is my hope that teachers will be given a seat or two on the steering committee. Teachers are on the front line in the classroom and they are the first resource for parents. It only makes sense that we would be included on your steering committee to provide insight and guidance alongside parents and community members. During the facilities committee meeting in May, Zach Gump stated that his biggest concerns were the YBMS roof & HVAC which need to be done together and recommended using Essers II & III grant monies up to \$1,880,618 for that project & window replacement at the High School. The minutes stated that the committee, although not by vote, ended up recommending that the 21/22 capital upgrades budget be approved, that the Essers II & III monies of \$1.8 be earmarked for capital upgrades. Since the Health and Safety plan is up for discussion tonight, and the importance of proper ventilation as a covid prevention strategy, will these projects be scheduled to start at the beginning of the 21-22 school year? There was nothing specifically noted about ventilation in the Health and Safety Draft Plan.

Mrs. Knouse noted that Dr. Strine and his team can review these questions and discuss at next Safety and Security Committee meeting.

Emailed in comment from Kim Ronan 214 Evergreen Drive Boiling Springs

I would like to take the time to express with the deepest regret of the retirement of George Hing. I'm not sure if many know what a huge impact this man had in our high school. He was always the silent person that took care of all us. He saw if your paper towel roll in your room needed replaced and he would just do it because "the custodial team had bigger jobs to do" He would refill the copier with paper when it was empty. Your coffee pot needed washed he was the one that did it. Or for me, if I had special jars that were needed for crafts and the labels had to be removed they secretly were gone and then returned cleaned and label free. Last year during covid he would be at the HS early morning and helped out with food service getting the food bags ready to hand out to the families that signed up. This is just a few things he has done over the years. He also worked with some of our high school students helping them with their schoolwork. So with this being said, the retirement of George is going to leave a huge void with us. I wish George the best on his retirement for this man was and will continue to be a dear friend of mine.

Mrs. Knouse noted that he put up the bike memorial for Mrs. Rob at BSHS.

Julie White 207 Forge Road Rear Boiling Springs

Grew up in White Rock, graduated from CV. Moved away and was eye opening. Does not think its school's responsibility to teach diversity and inclusion. Disturbing that children get what they want. Inquired about status of Comprehensive Plan. Noted that CDC is reporting the PCR testing is faulty. Doesn't seem that JEDI has been put on pause. Concerns with contracted payroll and cost.

Sophia Bounds 327 Allen Street Carlisle

Inquired about what will happen to students if they will not listen to teacher. If student is not disrespectful but is not listened too. Kids are still being bullied. Racism is not an issue, but bullying is. Agrees that both sides are not being listened to. Understands that some students may not be taught how to treat people. Don't put diversity into curriculum, make it a class.

Danielle Archulet 10 Summerbride Drive Carlisle

From Boiling Springs and moved back recently. Was excited to see the amount of diversity that has grown in recent years. Indicator that community is not racist has portrayed. Pulled both students from SMSD this year. Concerns over diversity and inclusion. Disappointment over the board appointment. Parents should have choice in education and medical decisions. Daughter's learning gap developed and request to hold back child was denied. Child was bullied.

Joe Salisbury 18 Arlington Drive Carlisle

Thanked members of community who showed up and applied for Board vacancy. Offered condolences for loss. Announced he will be running on ballot for school board.

Katrina Scavone 13 Meadowood Place Boiling Springs

Commented on previous role as moderator and impact on family. Spoke about Aron Christopher's husband, David Christopher who is the Superintendent of CV and the transparent information available on their website. Inquired when Board was notified of plagiarism, first Board member notified, when evaluation was completed and raise. This should be public information on website. Noted that Mr. Group looks handsome – asked if he knew ahead of time of appointment. Asked other attending applicants if they were notified. Commented on plan to keep kids in school.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Still commented on nomination of Mr. Salisbury and that he had no chance of his vote. He noted Mr. Salisbury was a previous neighbor and referenced past legal issue. Mrs. MacIvor commented that she had read the resume of every school board applicant and considered all applicants equally. Mrs. MacIvor corrected Mr. Still's previous statement that every board member had been made aware of a legal issue between the Still Family and Mr. Salisbury.

Mrs. Sellers commented that she is a teacher, parent of two students, one who just graduated in wheelchair. Thanked the community members for speaking. Board members represent all taxpayers and students. Commented that she always prepares for meetings with best interests of students.

Mrs. Knavel inquired if standard policy was to promote all students.

Dr. Strine responded that information was communicated on promoting students.

Mr. Hartman commented on new Athletic Director, Rachel Boyle preparing for upcoming sports season. Homecoming is Friday, October 1st.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

August Board Calendar

Facilities Committee Meeting - August 9, 2021 - 6:00 PM

Safety & Security Committee Meeting - August 11, 2021 - 6:00 PM

Regular Board Meeting- August 16, 2021- 7:00 PM

Policy Committee Meeting - August 23, 2021- 6:00 PM

Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting - August 30, 2021 - 6:00 PM

Informational- FMLA

- Helen Bailey - 8/10/2021 through 8/24/2021
- Rebecca Kramer - 8/26/2021 through 11/18/2021
- Lisa Cromer - 6/28/2021 through TBD

- Michael Freese - 7/30/21 through 12/3/21

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Sellers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartman, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cristeen Beck
Board Secretary

Public Attendance

Carrie Evans

Randy Evans

Letty McDonough

Terry McDonough

Julie White

Eric Berry

Shannon Snyder

Sophia Bounds

Lead Hovis

Andrea Crum

Karen Henry

Mike Maclvor

Rodney Wagner

Frank Neumayer

Brad Group

Crystal Deitch

Vicki Clepper

Dean Clepper

Mike Lubinsky

Chris Hart

Tanya Morret

Mackenzie Morret

George Lindsey

Jamie Berrier

Michelle Furlong

Douglas Miller

Andrew Fisher

Molly Sias

Jim Sias

Danielle Archulet

Jennifer Salisbury

Joseph Salisbury

Katrina Scavone

Joy Bowman

Meagan Snook

Laura Eckert

Ron McKeehan

Gene Heyman

Sydney Hemler

Peggy Hemler

Mandy Doyle

