

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

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 20, 2021**

The South Middleton Board of School Directors met on September 20, 2021. The South Middleton Board of School Directors met in the District Office Board Room. Mr. Greenbaum called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**School Directors**

Mr. John Greenbaum

Mr. Brad Group

Mr. William Hartman

Mrs. Stacey Kavel

Mrs. Elizabeth Knouse- Absent

Mrs. Denise MacIvor

Mrs. Elizabeth Meikrantz

Mrs. Bethanne Sellers

Mr. Jonathan Still

**Administrative Staff**

Mr. James Estep, Superintendent

Mrs. Melanie Shaver-Durham, Director of Curriculum/Instruction

Mr. Alex Smith, Director of Student Services

Mr. Joel Hain, Principal – Boiling Springs High School

Mrs. Trisha Reed, Principal- Iron Forge Elementary School

Mrs. Jessica White, Supervisor of Special Education

Mr. David Bitner, Assistant Principal- YBMS

Mrs. Rachel Boyle, Athletic Director

**Student Representatives**

Ajla Salkic- Absent

Jake Sokolofsky

**Visitors**

See attached

**Board Secretary**

Cristeen Beck

**Solicitor**

Gareth Pahowka- Absent

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

### **Approval of Agenda**

Mrs. Knavel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz, to approve the agenda of September 20, 2021, with all correction as indicated and

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Knavel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz, that the Board approves the minutes of the following meeting: 09/07/2021 – Planning/Regular Board Meeting.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS** – Mr. Estep recognized Mrs. Cindy Bailey, French Teacher, who was this year's recipient of the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association's Outstanding K-12 World Language Educator Award.

Mr. Greenbaum congratulated Mrs. Bailey and Foreign Language department.

Mr. Estep thanked administrative team for their assistance hiring key positions.

### **CITIZENS PARTICIPATION (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY) –**

Mr. Estep clarified that Citizen's Participation that public comment and not Q&A with the Board. Please feel free to email him or his assistant with any questions and will follow up.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS/STUDENT REPORTS –**

**Athletics & Student Activities Committee – Mr. Hartman** – met on September 13, highlighted report from Mrs. Boyle- Athletic Director, that included information about Assistant Athletic Director and Fall sports. Dave Yinger shared report on band and theatre programs. Dr. White and Mr. Hain reported on programs at YBMS and BSHS. Thanked administrative team for their work last week with schedule changes.

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT –**

Jake Sokolofsky- Student Representative, reported on fall sports and recent football game. Homecoming game is October 1 with the dance is October 2 and will be held at IFES. Created flyers to promote Student Representative Instagram account.

### **DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS – None**

Mr. Greenbaum thanked Nicole and commented that he has enjoyed working with her. She is professional, has a great attitude, and will be missed. Has successfully helped the district refinance bonds.

**SUPPORT SERVICES REPORTS – None**

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT-** Mr. Estep requested an Executive Session with the Board meeting. Noted upcoming change to format of the agenda. Inquired to Board about preference about administrators attending meetings.

Mrs. Knavel noted that in past there has been rotating reports.

Mrs. MacIvor agreed with the rotating reports.

Mrs. Sellers commented that the principals should be seeing their students and families.

Mrs. MacIvor commented it would be nice to see them at committee meetings.

Mr. Estep thanked Cristeen Beck for her work over the past few weeks.

Mr. Greenbaum announced Executive Session to discuss Personnel on September 7, 2021 after Board meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Knavel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz, to approve the consent agenda.

**Financial Reports**

10.1 That the Board approves payment of General Fund bills represented by checks 61815 to 61875 in the amount of \$809,320.28, as represented in the attached summary.

10.2 That the Board approves payment of Activity Fund bills represented by checks 16751 to 16755 in the amount of \$2,090.50, as represented in the attached summary.

10.3 That the Board approves payment of Athletic Fund bills represented by check 22517 in the amount of \$1,500.00, as represented in the attached summary.

10.4 That the Board approves payment of Cafeteria Fund bills represented by check 7297 in the amount of \$20.00, as represented in the attached summary.

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

10.6 That the Board approves payment of Construction Fund bills represented by check 1295 in the amount of \$153.32, as represented in the attached summary.

10.7 That the Board approves payment of Scholarship Fund bills represented by check 19 in the amount of \$500.00, as represented in the attached summary.

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

**UPMC MOU**

That the Board approves the UPMC MOU for Health Screenings.

**CAIU Title I and II Non-Public Agreements**

That the Board approves the CAIU Title I and II Non-Public Agreements.

**Special Education Consortium Agreement**

That the Board approves the Special Education Consortium Agreement.

**Revised 2021-2022 School Calendar.**

That the Board approves the revised 2021-2022 School Calendar.

**Weeding of BSHS Library Books**

That the Board approves the disposal of the attached books, in keeping with Policy #711.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Estep commented that he will be reviewing the 2022-2023 calendar and build in snow days.

**Itemized Agenda:**

**Social Justice English Elective Course**

Mrs. Knavel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz that the Board approves the Social Justice English Elective Course.

Mrs. Knavel commented on her vote. She is concerned from a community perspective. Mrs. Sellers commented that this course is about social issues and literature. Mrs. Meikrantz that this course is a part of the course guidebook and students are currently signed up.

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

<b>Mrs. Knavel-No</b>	<b>Mr. Still-Yes</b>
<b>Mrs. Knouse-Absent</b>	<b>Mr. Greenbaum-Yes</b>
<b>Mrs. MacIvor-No</b>	<b>Mr. Group- Yes</b>
<b>Mrs. Meikrantz-Yes</b>	<b>Mr. Hartman- Yes</b>
<b>Mrs. Sellers-Yes</b>	

**Yes –6, No – 2, Abstentions- 0, Absent - 1**

Mrs. Knavel made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz approve items 11ab-11e in a block motion:

**Resources**

That the Board approves the following Curriculum Resources:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-pOA7pfqdp00NUjqypf4EhSG-a2TGe22?usp=sharing>

- My Antonia by Willa Cather
- The Library of Fates by Aditi Khorana
- Flocabulary
- Scholastic Scope
- Newsela
- Readworks

**Personnel - Employment - Supervisor of Building & Grounds**

That the Board approves the Employment of Ryan Frey- Supervisor of Building and Grounds - \$70,000/year - anticipated start date October 11, 2021

**Personnel - Employment- Athletics**

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

Alex Berzowski - Assistant Athletic Director for 2021-2022 School Year - \$6,600 (prorated) - anticipated start date September 21, 2021

**Personnel - Employment- Director of Human Resources**

That the Board approves the Employment of Carlesha Halkias - Director of Human Resources - \$91,000/year - anticipated start date October 11, 2021

**Personnel - Position Change**

That the Board approves the position change for Sara Long - Rice: Part-Time Health Aide at \$14.41 to Part-Time Licensed Practical Nurse at \$17.15/hour, retroactive to August 25, 2021.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**Appointment of Board Treasurer**

Mrs. Meikrantz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Still to nominate Mrs. Knavel for Board Treasurer.

That the Board appoints Mrs. Knavel as Board Treasurer through November 15, 2021 to replace Chelsea Hranica.

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

**Mrs. Knavel-Yes**

**Mr. Still-Yes**

**Mrs. Knouse-Absent**

**Mr. Greenbaum-Yes**

**Mrs. MacIvor-Yes**

**Mr. Group- Yes**

**Mrs. Meikrantz-Yes**

**Mr. Hartman- Yes**

**Mrs. Sellers-Yes**

**Yes –8, No – 0, Abstentions- 0, Absent - 1**

Mr. Estep thanked Board for support of employment recommendations.

#### **CITIZENS PARTICIPATION-**

Tony Verenna 3 Mulberry Court

Mrs. Shaver-Durham has this info but I wanted to put this out. She also has the registration forms or I can provide. The VFW is taking entries for both Middle School and High School student scholarships for 2021/2022. For 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Graders: Patriot's Pen with the Theme "How Can I be a Good American?" Requirement 300-400 word essay For High School: Voice of Democracy with the theme " America: Where do We Go from Here? Requirement 3-5 minute (+- 5 seconds) audio recording with an essay Scholarships are awarded at the following for both Middle School and High School. 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$250, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$150, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$100. We only had 3 high school students provide essays last year. Winners will go to District VFW and then State then Country. Winnings could add up to over \$30,000. Please ensure all teachers and students know this. Mr. Hartman could add input if there are any questions

Mr. Hartman noted that they are also looking for a teacher to enter this year.

Mr. Estep commented that it could be pushed out through email, inquired if Mrs. Shaver-Durham could follow up.

Mrs. Shaver-Durham agreed.

Mr. Greenbaum thanked Mr. Verenna for his comment.

#### **BOARD COMMENTS-**

Mrs. Meikrantz commented on gold out field hockey game.

Mrs. MacIvor welcomed Mr. Estep and noted Board Policy #910 that the Board shall evaluate community engagement annually.

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Mr. Still shared information about PSBA video series.

Mrs. Knavel thanked administrators for their work over the past 18 months.

Mrs. Sellers agreed with Mrs. Knavel and commented that kids are happy to be back.

Mr. Greenbaum agreed.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **September/October Board Calendar**

September 27, 2021 - Policy Committee Meeting - 6:00 pm

October 4, 2021 - Planning/Regular Board Meeting - 7:00 pm

October 12, 2021 - Facilities Committee Meeting - 6:00 pm

October 18, 2021- Regular Board Meeting - 7:00 pm

October 25, 2021 - Policy Committee Meeting - 5:00 pm

October 25, 2021- Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting - 6:00 pm

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Meikrantz made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sellers, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Cristeen Beck  
Board Secretary

Public Attendance

Tanya Morret

Tina Gutshall

Thomas Kennedy

Anna Foster

Julie White