

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

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 7, 2022

The South Middleton Board of School Directors met on March 7, 2022. The South Middleton Board of School Directors met in the District Office Board Room. Mr. Group called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

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

School Directors

Mr. Eric Berry
Mr. Terry Draper- Absent
Mr. Brad Group
Mr. William Hartman
Mr. Tony Lucido

Mrs. Robin Scherer
Mrs. Bethanne Sellers
Mrs. Shannon Snyder
Mr. Rodney Wagner

Administrative Staff

Mr. James Estep, Superintendent
Mr. Alex Smith, Director of Student Services
Mrs. Tina Darchicourt, Director of Business & Operations
Dr. Jesse White, YBMS Principal

Student Representatives

Ajla Salkic- Absent
Jacob Sokolofsky

Visitors

See Attached

Board Secretary

Cristeen Beck

Solicitor

Gareth Pahowka

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Sellers made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Scherer, to approve the agenda of March 7, 2022, with all correction as indicated.

The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Snyder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sellers, that the Board approves the minutes of the following meeting:

02/22/2022 – Regular Board Meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS – Mr. Estep recognized Mt. Zion United Methodist Church for their support of the district over the past five years with donations for district students and staff. Mr. Estep highlighted the successful musical.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY) –

Letty McDonough – 1636 Leidigh Drive

Commented on Generation Genius curriculum resource and recent visit to their website. Noted concerns with goals on Generation Genius website and relation to CRT. Social Justice course is being offered. Asked Board to do additional research.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT- Mr. Estep shared update on YBMS roof project. There will be several upcoming meetings on the process and plan is for Board to vote on proposal at April 4, 2022 meeting. Funding for project will be discussed at next budget meeting.

Mr. Estep requested Executive Session to discuss Personnel immediately after this meeting. Legal counsel will attend.

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS & OPERATIONS REPORT-None

YBMS Report- Dr. Jesse White gave presentation on tiered instruction, scheduling, and upcoming YBMS events.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT- None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT –

Jake Sokolofsky- Student Representative, shared an update on winter sports season wrap up. Highlighted bocce championship and musical.

Consent Agenda

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

Mr. Berry made a motion to move Generation Genius to the Itemized Agenda.

Mr. Wagner made a motion to move Spring Athletic Coaches to Itemized Agenda.

Financial Reports

That the Board approves payment of General Fund bills processed from February 23, 2022 through March 04, 2022.

That the Board approves payment of General Fund bills processed March 07, 2022.

That the Board approves payment of Activity Fund bills processed from February 16, 2022 through March 01, 2022.

That the Board approves payment of Athletic Fund bills processed from February 16, 2022 through March 01, 2022.

That the Board approves payment of Cafeteria Fund bills processed from February 16, 2022 through March 01, 2022.

No payments were disbursed from Construction Fund from February 16, 2022 through March 01, 2022.

No payments were disbursed from Capital Reserve from February 16, 2022 through March 01, 2022.

No payments were disbursed from Trust Fund from February 16, 2022 through March 01, 2022.

Personnel- Retirements

That the Board approves the following Personnel- Retirements:

- Patricia Alichwer - BSHS Counselor, effective August 5, 2022 (28 Years of Service at SMSD)
- Stephen Lockhart- BSHS Science Teacher, effective June 30, 2022 (32 Years of Service at SMSD)

Staff Evaluation Forms

That the Board approves the revised Staff Evaluation Forms.

Curriculum

World Language Curriculum Maps

That the Board approves the World Language Curriculum Maps.

https://smsd-public.rubiconatlas.org/Atlas/Browse/View/Calendars?BackLink=Atlas_Browse_View_Calendars&Page=1&SubjectFilter%5B%5D=8&NowViewing=Atlas_Browse_View_Calendars

Curriculum Resources

Epic

That the Board approves the Epic resource.

BSHS Book Weeding/Disposal

That the Board approves the list of BSHS Library Books for weeding/disposal, in accordance with Policy #711.

TSA Overnight Field Trip

That the Board approves the TSA Overnight Field Trip to Seven Springs, PA, per Board policy #121.

Personnel- Acting HVAC Tech Stipend

That the Board approves the following stipend of \$155.00 per week for Rod Harmon for Acting HVAC Tech duties, effective January 31, 2022-TBD.

Revised Job Description- Administrative Assistant to the Supervisor of Special Education

That the Board approves the revised job description- Administrative Assistant to the Supervisor of Special Education.

Personnel- Position Change

That the Board approves the following Personnel- Position Change:

- Laurie Strayer - Administrative Assistant to Counseling Department to Administrative Assistant to Supervisor of Special Education, effective March 8, 2022, no salary change.

The motion passed unanimously.

Itemized Agenda:

Charter School Resolution

Mrs. Sellers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartman that the Board approves the Charter School Resolution.

Mr. Berry inquired if it's for a specific bill.

Mr. Estep confirmed it's not for a specific bill.

Mrs. Sellers noted that money is also used in advertising and marketing.

Mr. Lucido commented on charter school formula and should have same standards of public schools.

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

Mr. Berry- Yes Mrs. Scherer- Yes

Mr. Draper- Absent Mrs. Sellers- Yes

Mr. Group- Yes Mrs. Snyder- Yes

Mr. Hartman- Yes Mr. Wagner- Yes

Mr. Lucido- Yes

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

Generation Genius

Mrs. Sellers made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Snyder that the Board approves the Generation Genius resource.

Mrs. Sellers noted that this resource was vetted by the Curriculum Committee.

Mr. Lucido commented on earlier public comment and concerns with certain components.

Mr. Estep responded that organization's overall goals may not translate directly to content but must be mindful of what organization is supporting. Noted these are supplemental resources and not a textbook.

Mrs. Sellers explained process with Curriculum Committee review of textbooks and resources.

Mrs. Snyder inquired about relation to lesson plan and resources.

Mr. Estep confirmed that teachers typically note resources in lesson plans.

Mr. Lucido commented on different Board perspectives and inquired how parents can know what is in resources.

Mr. Estep responded that parents could reach out to their student's teacher on questions and concerns.

Mr. Berry commented on resources and connection.

Mrs. Sellers explained connection to Chapter 4 Standards.

Mr. Lucido inquired about having additional time to review this resource.

Mr. Lucido amended the motion to remove the Generation Genius resource from the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Scherer.

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

Mr. Group- No	Mrs. Snyder- No
Mr. Hartman- No	Mr. Wagner- Yes
Mr. Lucido- Yes	Mr. Berry- Yes
Mrs. Scherer- Yes	Mr. Draper-Absent
Mrs. Sellers- No	

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

Back to the original motion made by Mrs. Sellers and seconded by Mrs. Snyder that the Board approves the Generation Genius resource:

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

Mr. Hartman- Yes	Mr. Wagner- No
Mr. Lucido- No	Mr. Berry- No
Mrs. Scherer- No	Mr. Draper- Absent
Mrs. Sellers- Yes	Mr. Group- Yes

Mrs. Snyder- Yes

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

Spring Athletic Coaches

Mr. Wagner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lucido that the Board approves the Spring Athletic Coaches list.

Mr. Wagner inquired about how stipends were determined.

Mrs. Darchicourt responded that these salaries have not changed in a few years.

Mr. Hartman noted the formula was from past Athletic Director – Karl Heimbach.

Mr. Wagner inquired if coaches were paid last year if they opted out.

Mrs. Sellers confirmed they were not paid if they did not coach in 20-21.

Mr. Estep commented on other districts processes to determine salary.

Mr. Group commented on multiple extra duty contracts within district.

Mr. Wagner inquired about longevity and opted out coaches.

Mrs. Darchicourt noted that the numbers have not changed for about four years.

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

Mr. Lucido- Yes

Mr. Berry- Yes

Mrs. Scherer- Yes

Mr. Draper- Absent

Mrs. Sellers- Yes

Mr. Group- Yes

Mrs. Snyder- Yes

Mr. Hartman- Yes

Mr. Wagner- Yes

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

Planning/Discussion- for Approval at 03/21/2022 Meeting

2022-2023 CAIU Budget

That the Board approves the 2022-2023 CAIU Budget.

Mr. Estep noted the CAIU is working to expand program offerings.

Committee Reports

Safety & Security Committee – Mr. Wagner

Met on February 28 at 5:30pm. Discussed Test to Stay program ending. New business from Mr. Hartman included public use of track and opening with guidelines. Recommendation to Board to re-open in future to public. Next meeting is May 23 at 6:00pm.

Advisory Reports

Bubbler Foundation- Mr. Group: Foundation is having annual recognition dinner on May 6 at Allenberry. Tickets will be on sale soon.

CPACTC: Mr. Draper: Absent

PSBA- Mr. Berry: No report

South Middleton Township- Mr. Wagner: Attended recent meeting and noted growth in South Middleton and upcoming development of 55 plus living community.

Mr. Group commented on recent meetings with township and administration.

Mr. Estep noted impact on student population.

South Middleton Parks & Rec- Mr. Lucido: Attended recent meeting and shared news of lake project and downtown project with construction starting in June. Noted that tennis facilities are in progress.

BOARD COMMENTS-

Mr. Hartman recognized Mr. Kyle Weary and the successful musical performance. Mrs. Sellers commented on location of board committee minutes. Noted that diversity and equity do not equal CRT. Board members job is governance, budget, and policy. Mrs. Snyder congratulated Mr. Weary on musical and athletes who are moving on to state level competitions.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION-

Gene Yanity – 17 Sheely Lane

Commented on career as science teacher and cannot imagine any resource related to science being intertwined with CRT. Encouraged Board to watch videos and read through resources.

Email from Katrina Scavone – 13 Meadowood Place

Question about staff considered going back to homogenous grouping for math and ELA instruction. Has the district as a whole considered that? What data is being used to determine which instructional grouping method works best?

Mr. Estep inquired about next steps for resource approval.

Mrs. Sellers requested that policy be reviewed to determine if resource approval is required.

Mr. Pahowka clarified that administration can bring back to Board.

Mr. Lucido commented on request for more time to revisit.

Mrs. Scherer noted hypervigilance on this topic.

Mr. Berry commented on numerous catchphrases on Generation Genius website.

Mr. Estep commented on parental knowledge. There has been increased spotlight on curriculum. Parents should review syllabi, contact teachers, and review chapter 4.

Mr. Hartman commented on recent curriculum mapping and goal of transparency.

Noted that concerns should be brought to individual teachers first before contacting the Board.

Mrs. Sellers commented on website and curriculum tab to access curriculum maps and information.

Mr. Estep noted quality of instruction in SMSD. Does not want message to teachers of distrust.

Mr. Lucido commented on past parent concern of DEI.

Mr. Berry noted violation of trust in other communities that is seen on the news.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

Board Calendar – March 2022

Facilities Committee Meeting- Monday, March 14, 2022- 6:00 pm

Regular Board Meeting- Monday, March 21, 2022- 7:00 pm

Technology Committee Meeting- Monday, March 28, 2022- 5:30 pm

Budget Committee Meeting- Monday, March 28, 2022- 6:30 pm

Enrollment Report

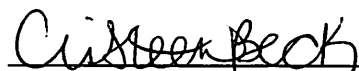
Informational- FMLA

- Nadia Tipiana-Cam – February 15, 2022- March 7, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Snyder made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Scherer, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cristeen Beck
Board Secretary

Public Attendance

Collin Harris

Owen Metz

Matthew Whare

Letty McDonough

Gene Yanity

Julie White

Anna Foster