

Union City Area School District
SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING
Administrative Conference Room
October 5, 2017

President George Trauner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The salute to the flag and a moment of silence were observed.

Roll Call by the Secretary

Blain Blakeslee, David Fox, Stephen Gilbert, Brian Gregor, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, Loretta Price, David Robinson and George Trauner were present.

Others Present

Dr. Sandra Myers, Joan Quickle, Tara Lineman, Ann Sill, Steve Thompson, Adam Shrout, Melissa Tomcho, David Swanson, Stacey Mulson, Amy Webber, Timothy Brown, Natalie Wilmoth, Chris Wilmoth, Denise Kochanczyk, Kelly J. Knauff, Kristen Murosky, Teresa Pacileo, Racquel Gray, M. (Maureen) Williams, Cathy Dobrzynski, Dan Ferretti, Adam McNulty, Martha Blair, Wendy Mangol, Cheryl Taylor, Edie Leute, Tricia Young, Jackson Froman, Jeannette Boyd, Denise Benedict, Linda Duncan, Amy Mumau, Michelle Flaherty, Christine Williams, Marlene Kuzma, Randy Hurlburt, Chris Coughlin, Tom Valerio, Shawn Thompson, Steve Yovich, Kim Dawson, Sharon Reagle, Doug Hopson, Rose M. Hoffman, Brian Patten, Kim DeSimone and Dan Keefer were present.

Presentation

Mrs. Lineman gave a presentation entitled "Renovation Review." [See Supplemental enclosed in the Minutes Book] Steve Thompson, Chris Coughlin (Architect from Hallgren, Restifo, Loop and Coughlin Architects), and Tom Valerio (from Tower Engineering) added clarification and all responded to questions from the Board. Mr. Coughlin and Mr. Valerio left the meeting following the presentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee A Report

Mrs. Lewis had nothing to report.

Committee B Report

Mr. Blakeslee had nothing to report

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors

Mr. Trauner had nothing to report.

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Erie County Technical School Joint Operating Committee

Mr. Fox reported that tablets were purchased for the new math program. Four District students from last school year received awards for having achieved a 95% or more for all four quarters of 2016/2017. Mr. Fox shared some personal insight regarding a few of the great features of our District – the pool, upcoming greenhouse, laser machine and FFA, and he encouraged all to move forward.

Administrative Reports [See Supplementals enclosed in the Minutes Book]

Mrs. Lineman received a suggestion to hire four or five new maintenance employees and install the needed windows and doors rather than to hire a company. It was also brought up that under the Common Benefits Agreement a certain percent of labor and supplies has to be awarded to local businesses. Mrs. Lineman replied that school law requires that any project over \$19,000 requires that bids must be sought. It was also mentioned that regulations for PA public school districts are different from a household or a private business where the laws in the school code must be followed. It was suggested to make use of displaced General Electric workers. Mr. Trauner asked that an (ad hoc) committee of the Board be developed to bring ideas together on renovations. Any Board member interested in serving should inform Mr. Trauner. Mr. Gregor expressed interest.

Mr. Shroul was asked how he is adjusting to the Elementary school to which he replied it's going very well.

Mrs. Tomcho and Mr. Swanson were asked if everything was ready for Homecoming. Mrs. Tomcho stated everything was ready except the tent was not up yet.

Mrs. Mulson added that Middle School Life Skills teacher Kim Lenart received the Golden Apple award this week. The broadcast will be aired on WJET at 6:00 p.m. on October 11. Applause was given.

Mrs. Quickle added that there was a bid opening for the greenhouse project on Monday. No bids were received except for the fence so it will have to be rebid. She also reminded the Board of the solar panel project done last year and stated the panels will be operational in the concession stand on Friday evening.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Myers had nothing to report.

Other Business

Mr. Trauner stated that it's the Board's job to seek a new Superintendent. There are a couple of options available. PSBA offers a Superintendent Search at a cost of \$5,000 plus an extra \$1,000 to perform reference checks for each finalist. The IU can also conduct a search at a cost of less than \$500. The IU Board of Directors hired PSBA when seeking an Executive Director. He doesn't feel it was very successful and recommends the Board utilize the help of the IU rather than PSBA. He suggests requesting candidates only from Pennsylvania, and they utilize several state-wide

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advertising sites. He asked that the Board give him direction next week. He distributed the Board's "Hiring of a Superintendent" policy, "PSBA Search Service Options, and "IU 5 Superintendent Search" documents. [See Supplementals enclosed in the Minutes Book] Anyone interested on serving on the search committee should let him know. All Board members will be part of the interview process which the IU can assist with narrowing down candidates that meet District criteria. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to contract with the IU. A motion is to be placed on next week's agenda. Further discussion continued regarding that if there are no desirable candidates, what happens, to which Mr. Trauner replied that the position can be re-advertised. It was asked why we should pay for the service rather than conducting the search ourselves. Mr. Trauner replied that if we do it in-house, we have pay for the advertising and gather the applications. By hiring the IU, they will take care of all of the advertising, gather the applications and record them, and it's a set of outside eyes to review the applications. It was asked if the "Hiring of a Superintendent" policy can be revised to require that the superintendent reside within the District as proximity is an important consideration. Responses included that it can hinder good candidates from applying and that moving might be detrimental to the spouse's employment. Finally, if the person hired is unable to leave their current position when needed, Mr. Trauner stated that an interim/retired superintendent can be hired temporarily until the new superintendent can begin.

Before reviewing the draft agenda, Mr. Trauner asked that if there were any personnel-related questions to hold them for Executive Session. There were no questions on the draft agenda. He asked that if there are any questions prior to next week's meeting, Board members are to contact Mrs. Lineman as soon as possible.

Mr. Trauner asked that Committee B set up a meeting to review the supplemental coaching positions and review setting thresholds for the assistant coaches.

It was mentioned that at the football game against General McLane, our team did a fabulous job. It was also requested that the Board be given the number of aides and volunteers the District has.

Finally, Mr. Robinson stated that he spoke with the Erie County Planning Office regarding packaging Union City to investors and employers. He said the best thing in Union City is the school district. We are solid and stable and do a lot with what we have.

Presentation

Mrs. Quickle showed a PowerPoint of the "Teacher Workday" as requested by the Board. [See Supplemental enclosed in the Minutes Book] The hours are set per the professional contract. The hours per building were displayed and are set per the professional contract. An hourly rate is paid for after-school and summer events. Dr. Myers responded to questions from the Board. Scheduling is complex; some classes with small numbers still need to be held for students to meet graduation requirements. Mr. Trauner stated that the Board has to be financially responsible with the District's money and wants to be sure the teachers are being utilized to the best of their talents. Dr. Myers stated that it is their plan

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to work on scheduling earlier for next year with hopes to reduce or eliminate gaps or open classes. Mrs. Tomcho explained how she fills in gaps with various duties. It's a balance to meet the student needs, teacher availability and taxpayer dollars and open spots are not cost effective.

Note: Several members of the audience left the meeting at various times before adjournment.

Executive Session

Mr. Trauner stated that an Executive Session for the purpose of Personnel and Legal discussion would follow adjournment.

Adjournment

Mr. Gregor moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Price. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

Mr. Trauner declared the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Sill
School Board Secretary