

SHIKELLAMY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Sunbury, Pennsylvania

Special Board Meeting
February 23, 2012

Island Park Administrative Center - 7:00 P.M.

A Special Board Meeting of the Shikellamy School District Board of Directors was held on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the Island Park Administration Center. Mr. Garman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present were: Mr. Garman, Mrs. Garman, Dr. Hartman, Mr. Kerstetter, Mrs. Markunas, Mr. Marshall (present via phone conference), Mr. Michaels, Mrs. Wiest, Mrs. Van Der Pool

Student Board Members Absent: Miss Bowmaster, Miss Pehowic, and Miss Cressinger

Others Present: Attorney Jeffrey Apfelbaum, Solicitor
Mr. David M. Sinopoli, Business Manager
Mrs. Debra McLaughlin, Teacher on Special Assignment
Mr. Michael Hubicki, Shikellamy High School Principal
Mrs. Mary Murphy-Kahn, Shikellamy High School Assistant Principal
Mrs. Susan Giberson, Beck Elementary Principal
Ms. Dixie Barth, Priestley Elementary Principal
Mrs. Bethanne Zeigler, Board Recording Secretary

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was held prior to the Special Voting Meeting for personnel purposes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Sammy Stroh, Northumberland, PA, refuted allegations made by Mr. Cory Fasold at a previous meeting regarding an alleged incident in the football program. Mr. Marshall informed Mr. Stroh that he is not aware of any discussion to not renew Mr. Stroh's contract as Head Football Coach.

TOPICS OF CONSIDERATION

Personnel Committee

A motion made by Mrs. Van Der Pool, seconded by Dr. Hartman carried to appoint David Sinopoli as Administrator in Charge effective February 24, 2012 through March 31, 2012.

Vote: Mr. Garman, yea; Mrs. Garman, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea; Mr. Kerstetter, yea; Mrs. Markunas, nay; Mr. Marshall, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mrs. Wiest, yea; and Mrs. Van Der Pool, yea

Activities Committee

Mr. William Zeigler, Outdoor Education Program Coordinator, reported that through fundraising efforts that began back in the summer, approximately \$51,000.00 has been raised for Fifth Grade Camp. In addition, there is approximately \$3,000.00 in Account #64 - Outdoor Education. Camp

Mt. Luther has designated \$2,300.00 for supplies through a grant they received. There are four more fundraisers scheduled over the next three months. Mr. Zeigler equated the fundraising efforts to a football team; giving each group a position on the team. He said that efforts could not be given to just one person. He shared that without the community, PTA, teacher, and student support, none of this would have been possible. Because of the hard work and efforts of everyone involved, 210 fifth graders and 30 adults will be able to attend camp this year.

Mr. Zeigler asked the Board to consider putting Outdoor Education back in the budget. He shared that Mid-West Superintendent was credited with reporting that the outdoor education program in that district will not be one of the things cut from their budget.

Two stories regarding donations were shared by Mr. Zeigler. One involved a sixth grader who donated \$100.00 of his Christmas money so that his cousin could have the same experience of camp as he did. The second was about a mother who made a donation because her special needs son attended camp and learned how to shower on his own. The mother shared that this was a lesson that she hadn't been able to teach her son in eleven years, but the opportunity to attend camp proved to provide her son with invaluable lessons. Mr. Zeigler stated that these things cannot be measured by a PSSA test score, but are important for children to experience.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Garman thanked Mr. Zeigler and all involved for the hard work. He thanked the community for their outpouring of support. Mr. Garman has spoken to many graduates of Shikellamy who have alluded to the comments that Mr. Zeigler shared this evening. He asked that the school board fall in line with the community by showing their support of this program.

A motion by Mr. Garman, seconded by Dr. Hartman carried to allocate \$25,000 or one half of the cost from 2011/12 district funds for Outdoor Education. In addition, a line item for Outdoor Education will be added in the 2012/13 General Operating Budget to fund half of the cost with the intent to fully fund it in subsequent years.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Kerstetter asked for discussion regarding the additional fee being charged for supporting events, stating that he doesn't believe it fair to continue the increase in prices if the Board is going to fund the camp program. It was agreed that this was a topic for discussion at a later time. Mrs. Garman inquired if funds were available to allocate funds, which was affirmative, as the Board took action at a previous meeting to allocate funds, should it be necessary. Mrs. Garman inquired if students still attend camp during the fall and spring. Mr. Zeigler responded that this year all four groups will go in the spring; however, it is his hope to return to two groups in the fall and two groups in the spring; realizing that this is a discussion for him to have with Mrs. Musto.

Vote: Mr. Garman, yea; Mrs. Garman, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea; Mr. Kerstetter, yea; Mrs. Markunas, yea; Mr. Marshall, yea ; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mrs. Wiest, yea; and Mrs. Van Der Pool, yea

ADJOURNEMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry Marshall
Board Secretary