

SHIKELLAMY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Sunbury, Pennsylvania  
[www.shikbraves.org](http://www.shikbraves.org)

Regular Board Meeting  
Thursday, October 9, 2014

A regular meeting of the Shikellamy School District Board of Directors was held on Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 7:00 pm at the Island Park Administration Center.

Members Present were: Mrs. Garman, Mr. Garman (via telephone), Mr. Karpinski, Mr. Michaels, Mr. Stepp, Dr. Walter, & Dr. Hartman

Members Absent were: Mrs. Cianflone & Mrs. Wiest

Student Members Present were: Miss Hummel & Miss Murphy

Others Present: Attorney Michael Apfelbaum, District Solicitor  
Mr. David Sinopoli, Business Manager  
Mrs. Abbey Walshaw-Wertz, Director of Education  
Mrs. Stephanie Michaels, Director of Special Education  
Dr. Mary Murphy-Kahn, Shikellamy Middle School Principal  
Mr. Ernie Jackson, Shikellamy High School Principal  
Mrs. Angela Farronato, Oaklyn Elementary School Principal  
Mr. Michael Egan, Priestley Elementary School Principal  
Mr. Doug Benick, Director of Buildings and Grounds  
Mrs. Bethanne Zeigler, Board Recording Secretary

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An executive session to discuss personnel matters was called at 7:09 pm and the meeting reconvened at 7:39 pm.

**MINUTES**

A motion by Mr. Karpinski, seconded by Mr. Michaels carried to approve the following minutes:

Minutes of Regular Meeting held on September 11, 2014  
Minutes of Special Meeting held on September 24, 2014  
Minutes of Work Sessions held on September 4, 2014

An executive session was held on September 4 & 11, 2014 for personnel matters.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion by Mr. Stepp, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to adopt the agenda including additions and deletions.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Mr. Sinopoli reviewed the reports and bills.

<u>Questioned by:</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Explanation</u>
Dr. Walter	41989	Selinsgrove Area School District	\$70,470.96	Tuition of special education students attending SASD.

A motion by Mrs. Garman, seconded by Mr. Karpinski carried to approve the payment of bills and budget transfers as presented.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Walshaw-Wertz shared correspondence received from the Pennsylvania Department of Education of notification the District has been awarded the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Cohort 7 grant. The monies will be used to target middle school students for an after school program. This will require more teachers and more students will be served.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sherri Scholl of Sunbury, PA expressed concern with the lack of discipline and poor climate at the Shikellamy High School.

Noah Fenstermacher, Shikellamy High School student, addressed the equality, inconsistencies and lack of discipline at the high school. He suggested a resource officer as a solution.

Dr. Hartman responded to both individuals providing comment and thanked them for their candor and thoroughness. As a group of Board Directors, it is expected there be good and fair discipline in each school in the district. The Board of Education has begun to hone in on matters they believe, if they follow through, would address the topic raised. The Board of Education has adopted a revised set of goals regarding safety and violence. There has also been discussion related to a school resource officer. The in-school suspension is one of the things eliminated a number of years ago due to budgetary constraints. The Board of Education is in a position to work with the Superintendent and staff employed in order for students to receive an education and have every student administered discipline when necessary. The Board of Education has worked and will continue to work diligently to stay within budget. The topics raised this evening will require budgeting and, in some instances, agreements. Dr. Walter echoed Dr. Hartman and stated the topic is number one on his radar and in his mind it will be addressed. Dr. Hartman explained it is important for everyone to know, School Directors do not carry day-to-day authority, but rather carry authority when they meet in session and do work in meetings, such as this one. Although they carry some standing, School Directors are not the people to go into schools and enforce rules. If you read written policies in Pennsylvania and in the region, the will of the Board is carried out by the Superintendent and the employees. This district will continue to operate in this manner.

Dr. Hartman announced there is a Shikellamy School District Facebook page. There is staff working with the City of Sunbury and Sunbury Community Hospital to provide the community with positive feedback from each group.

### **STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS**

Miss Hummel expressed a shared student concern regarding backpack and purses and suggested consideration to permit clear backpacks or bags.

After meeting with students, teachers and staff regarding vo-tech English, Miss Murphy shared concern regarding the instruction of the course. In response to the concern, Miss Murphy and all in attendance were informed each student will be approached and given an opportunity to either continue with the online programming or attend a class with a live teacher. Dr. Hartman made it clear reasonable expectation will not be waived. However, students who put forth an effort will graduate.

Dr. Hartman thanked the student representatives for their comments, adding they have a voice. He asked them to reflect about positive activities, as well as concerns. He urged everyone on staff to keep that in mind, as well.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

There was no report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Activities Committee**

A motion by Mr. Michaels, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to amend the agenda and separate a motion for the appointment of coaches and take action on the appointment of Dr. Walter as a volunteer coach as a standalone motion.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Mr. Michaels, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to approve the following trips and/or conferences:

- a. Mr. Scott Carey and band students to attend PMEA District 8 Band Festival on January 7-10, 2015 at Troy High School at an estimated cost of \$800.00, which will be paid through the music department budget.
- b. Mr. Scott Carey and band students to attend PMEA District 8 Orchestra on February 4-7, 2015 at Williamsport High School at an estimated cost of \$470.00, which will be paid through the music department budget.
- c. Mr. Scott Carey and band students to attend PMEA Region IV Band Festival on February 11-14, 2015, at Williamsport High School at an estimated cost of \$465.00, which will be paid through the music department budget.
- d. Mr. Carey and band students to attend PMEA Region Orchestra on March 11-14, 2014 at Dallastown High School at an estimated cost of \$750.00, which will be paid through the music department budget.
- e. Mr. Carey and band students to attend PMEA All State Band on March 25-28, 2015 in Hershey, PA at an estimated cost of \$890.00, which will be paid through the music department.

- f. Mrs. Colleen Epler-Ruths, Ms. Kelly Concini and students to attend a ski trip to Lake Placid and Whiteface on March 13-15, 2015 at an estimated cost of \$300.00, which will be paid through student activities.
- g. Mrs. Cynthia Purdy to attend ASPP Fall Conference in State College, PA on October 22-23, 2014 at an estimated cost of \$410.00, which will be paid through the psychologist budget.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Mr. Michaels, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to accept the resignation of James Bell as Head Boys Track & Field Coach effective October 1, 2014. Dr. Walter thanked Coach Bell for his service in this capacity.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Mr. Michaels, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to appoint the following coaches for the 2014/15 school term \*pending receipt of clearances:

Benjamin Attinger	7th Grade Boys Basketball	\$1,488.00
Scott Hoffman	Volunteer Ivy League Boys Basketball	\$0
Mark Hoffman	Volunteer Ivy League Boys Basketball	\$0
Derek Alex	Boys Ivy League Basketball Coordinator	\$550
*Mark Forbes	Volunteer Ivy League Boys Basketball	\$0
Macy Minnier	Volunteer Ivy League Boys Basketball	\$0
Jeff Balestrini	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Mike Reid	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
James Doug Hallman	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Dan Bottiger	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Mark Rebuck	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Scott Young	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Brian Sempko	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Josh Wetzel	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Jeremy Wetzel	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Ryan McDonald	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Brian Derr	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Mike Kisner	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Jesse Scholl	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
*Justin Lerner	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Mike Egan	Volunteer Ivy League Wrestling	\$0
Justin Dunkelberger	Ivy League Wrestling Coordinator	\$550

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Mr. Michaels, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to appoint Dr. Jeff Walter as a volunteer ivy league wrestling coach at a stipend of \$0.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, abstain; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Mr. Michaels, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to appoint Alicia Differ as tenth grade class advisor for the 2014/15 school term at a stipend of \$320.00

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

#### Education Committee

A motion by Mrs. Garman, seconded by Mr. Michaels carried to approve the following placements:

1. Student #1526530716 at PATH, Milton, Pa effective September 22, 2014 and through the remainder of the 2014/15 school term.
2. Student #1549605003 at PATH, Milton, PA effective October 20, 2014 and through the remainder of the 2014/15 school term.
3. Student #5090127948 at PATH, Milton, PA effective October 10, 2014 and through the remainder of the 2014/15 school term.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

#### Finance Committee

A motion by Mrs. Garman, seconded by Mr. Stepp carried to approve 0 permanent, 0 temporary and 7 denied exonerations from the 2014 occupation and per capita taxes.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Mrs. Garman, seconded by Mr. Stepp carried to add one copy machine in the school district under the terms of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania state bid contract with Xerox. Printers are being removed to better suit the educational needs of the building. Mr. Garman inquired if this bid was opened up to everyone. Mr. Sinopoli explained this is done through state contract and matches up in conjunction with current printers. The district is year one of a five year contract.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Mrs. Garman, seconded by Mr. Stepp carried to approve the following resolution as discussed:

Resolved: The Board of School Directors of the Shikellamy School District (the "School District") does hereby authorize the Administration to work with Public Financial Management, as Financial Advisor, Mette Evans & Woodside, as Bond Counsel and the local Solicitor in conjunction with the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series A of

2014, for the purpose of funding the Middle School project in the amount of \$9,955,000 via a competitive internet auction.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

Personnel Committee

A motion by Dr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Michaels carried to appoint Drew Fatool as a long term substitute sixth grade teacher at a pro-rated salary of \$45,800 retroactive to August 21, 2014 through the absence of the regular teacher and for a minimum of 45 days.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Dr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Michaels carried to appoint Penny Salter as a part time cook 3 hour per day at an hourly rate of \$13.75 effective October 10, 2014. Her initial assignment will be Shikellamy High School.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Dr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Michaels carried to appoint Oriana Long as a Class Size Reduction Intervention Specialist up to five hours per day, at an hourly rate of \$20.50 for the 2014/15 school term.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Dr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Michaels carried to appoint Shannon Kersetter as a cafeteria aide 4 hours per day at an hourly rate of \$10.85 effective October 27, 2014 and pending receipt of clearances. The initial assignment will be Shikellamy High/Shikellamy Middle Schools.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Dr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Michaels carried to grant, as certified by the superintendent, professional contracts for the following individuals for satisfactory completion of three years of teaching as temporary professional employees:

Joshua Beddell                      Bria Felmy                      Kathy Stettler

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Dr. Walter, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to approve a leave without pay for Employee #9900353 effective October 5, 2014 through November 7, 2014.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Dr. Walter, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to approve a resolution as follows:

- The agreement reached between Dr. James P. Hartman as President of the Shikellamy School Board and Superintendent, Pat Kelley is hereby adopted and incorporated herein by reference and dated October 9, 2014.
- David Sinopoli shall serve as Acting Superintendent for a period running from October 10, 2014 through November 6, 2014. Compensation for this additional job responsibility shall be \$50.00 per day.
- Abbey Walshaw-Wertz shall be responsible for academic issues for a period running from October 10, 2014 through November 6, 2014. Compensation for this additional job responsibility shall be \$50.00 per day.

Dr. Walter stated he would be voting in support of the difficult personnel matter because he believes it would be beneficial to the district. Through discussion, Mr. Kelley was honest, transparent, and remorseful. He added he does not believe the situation reflects Mr. Kelley's character, as Dr. Walter knows it to be and added he is of the opinion it is in the best interest of everyone to support the Superintendent through this matter.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

#### Policy Committee

A motion by Dr. Hartman, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to approve Board Policy 141 – Digital Learning, as approved on the first reading of September 11, 2014.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

#### Property/Cafeteria Committee

A motion by Mr. Michaels, seconded by Mrs. Garman to enter into the minutes of October 9, 2014 acknowledgment of PDE approval of PlanCon Part F, Construction Documents, for the Shikellamy Middle School PDE Project #3788.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

A motion by Mr. Michaels, seconded by Mrs. Garman carried to approve the submission of PlanCon Part G – Project Accounting Based on Bids for the Shikellamy Middle School Project as prepared by the architect McKissick Associates.

Vote: Mrs. Garman, yea; Mr. Garman, yea; Mr. Karpinski, yea; Mr. Michaels, yea; Mr. Stepp, yea; Dr. Walter, yea; Dr. Hartman, yea

#### Public Communications/Legislation/Grant Committee

Mr. Karpinski requested Mrs. Zeigler share a press release with the local media regarding action taken at this Board meeting.

#### Safety/Security/Transportation Committee

Based on comments made at this meeting, Mr. Stepp is confident that matters will be addressed.

#### CSIU

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15, 2014.

## **INFORMATION**

The next work session is scheduled for October 23, 2014.

Relative to action taken earlier and addressed by Dr. Walter under the Personnel Committee, Dr. Hartman shared that Dr. Walter is not unique with his comments. This matter needs to be handled in the proper context and in the situation of each individual. Dr. Hartman personally spoke with the Superintendent and there a chain of command to be followed. As Board President, Dr. Hartman consulted with the solicitor. Dr. Hartman read aloud the following press release:

*The Shikellamy School Board President Jim Hartman announced today that Superintendent Pat Kelley made full and immediate disclosure of a driving incident in New York State. The incident did involve a New York violation known as a DWI.*

*Mr. Kelley explained the facts to the School Board. Board President James Hartman stated that "Mr. Kelley has agreed to a suspension for a period of 20 work days which includes weekends running from October 10, 2014 through November 6, 2014. This suspension is directed as a penalty appropriate for a professional employee in the district"*

*The day to day duties at the Shikellamy School District will be coordinated by Dave Sinopoli as Acting Superintendent and Abbey Walshaw-Wertz will be responsible for all academic issues.*

*Doctor Hartman and the remaining members of the School Board have no further public comment on this matter. A public vote on the issue took place on October 9, 2014.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion by Mr. Garman, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, carried and was unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Garman  
Board Secretary