

SHIKELLAMY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Sunbury, Pennsylvania

**Work Session – May, 24, 2016**  
Island Park Administration Center -7:00 P.M.

A Work Session of the Shikellamy School District Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at the Island Park Administration Center.

Members Present were: Mrs. Kellie Cianflone, Mr. James Garman, Mr. C. Scott Karpinski, Mr. Thomas Michaels, Mr. Slade Shreck, Dr. Jeffrey Walter (arrived at 7:10 pm), Mrs. Wendy Wiest

Members absent were: Mrs. Lori Garman & Mr. Michael Stepp

Student Board Members Absent: Miss Murphy & Mr. Roberts

Others Present:       Dr. James P. Hartman, Substitute Superintendent  
                              Mr. David Sinopoli, Business Manager  
                              Mrs. Abbey Walshaw-Wertz, Director of Education  
                              Mrs. Stephanie Michaels, Director of Special Education  
                              Dr. Mary Murphy-Kahn, Middle School Principal  
                              Mr. Todd VanKirk, Chief Shikellamy Elementary School Principal  
                              Mr. Douglas Benick, Director of Buildings & Grounds  
                              Mrs. Bethanne Zeigler, Board Recording Secretary

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**PROSPER PROJECT**

Lynn James of Penn State Extension informed Mrs. Walshaw-Wertz of their intention to apply for the Prosper Project Grant and would like to do so on behalf of the Shikellamy School District. The grant is a rural health and safety initiative grant, which targets sixth and seventh grade after-school programming. Drug education would be provided in the second year, with family education being provided in the first year. Mrs. Walshaw-Wertz will keep the Board posted as more information becomes available.

**GENDER EQUITY**

Dr. Hartman announced direction provided by the United States Department of Justice and Department of Education dealing with gender equity was received by the Director of Special Education first, and later by the Superintendent. It is noteworthy to mention the information was released to school districts after the media received the information. There has been a lot of press concentration dealing with bathroom use. However, out of the eight page letter issued, bathroom use is only a small portion of direction given. Matters related to educational records and compliance with Title IV were addressed. The topic is much more involved than bathroom use. The hammer that has been lowered is a threat not compliance could result in a

loss of federal funding. What that means to Shikellamy School District is approximately \$1.6 million. All administrators have received a copy of the eight page letter and Dr. Hartman provided them with a brief summary from the perspective of what the District needs to do to comply with the directive. To fit the criteria, the policy makers went through a very thorough process of how a student would meet it. It isn't a matter that someone could walk in and decide they want to use a bathroom. There needs to be a clear pattern. This usually involved parents being involved and being aware. A suggestion is to create a unisex type bathroom; however there is a clear line making it purely discretionary of the individual to opt to use it. In his review with the principals, Dr. Hartman advised them to keep the information on file and maintain it as a reference piece and follow the directive until otherwise notified. Nothing has been received from the State level.

**END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES**

Dr. Hartman provided Board Members with a list of end of year activities for both the Middle School and High School.

**BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Mr. Sinopoli reviewed changes to the proposed final General Operating Budget.

1.	May 12 Personnel Action	\$7,450
2.	Reduction to Custodial Substitute Estimate	\$15,500
3.	CS Trust Vision Rate Reduction	\$3,000
4.	Alternative Education Reduced Estimates:	
	Private Placements	\$25,000
	Incarcerated Youth	\$20,000
	CLANCY	\$15,000
5.	CSIU – Social Worker Charges Eliminated	\$90,000
6.	Utilities Estimates Reduced	\$42,700
7.	Insurance Estimates Reduced	\$11,000
8.	Miscellaneous/Other (Various) Reductions and/or Revenue Estimates Increased	<u>\$5,000</u>
		\$234,650

The administration will continue to look at building budgets, as well as at revenue estimates.

Mrs. Wiest asked for confirmation and Mr. Sinopoli responded the amount collected and set aside over the years for the middle school is 7 mills, which equals approximately \$874,000.

### **TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Long requested an agreement for Service Electric Cablevision be added to the June voting agenda to extend the District's fiber-optic cable and install telephone and wide-area network service. It was agreed to add this item to the next voting agenda.

### **OTHER**

There will be a meeting on June 6, 2016 at 8:00 am to discuss the Northumberland Road Construction Project. The location of the meeting has yet to be determined. Mrs. Wiest invited her fellow Board Members to join her at the meeting. Mr. Benick and Dr. Hartman will represent the Administration.

Mrs. Wiest invited Board Members to join her team for the Miles for Macy event on Sunday, August 21, 2016.

Dr. Walter was contacted by Bryan Luden, Jr. High Softball Coach, with a request to build a softball field behind Chief Shikellamy Elementary School. When asked, Mr. Benick shared his concerns. He explained this was a previous discussion and there are concerns with ADA compliance, as well as the cost involved due to the grade of the land. Mr. Luden claims he can get the funding for the project. Dr. Hartman suggested this discussion be held until the first part of July and suggested Mr. Luden be directed to work with Mr. Misavage and Mr. Benick to share his preliminary information. Mr. Michaels, Activities Chairman, agreed requests of this type should start with the administration and go from there.

Last month the Board of Education took affirmative action regarding a student. Dr. Hartman shared a handwritten letter from the student related to that matter.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. and an executive was called for personnel and legal matters.