

September 12, 2011

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bradford Area School District was held in the Floyd C. Fretz Large Group Instruction Room, 140 Lorana Avenue, Bradford, Pennsylvania at 7:00 p.m.

Present

Directors: Timothy Bean, President; Pat Vigliotta, Vice President; Paul Ridley, Treasurer; Keith Hatch, Secretary; Carla Manion, Shane Oschman and Joseph Troutman

Absent: Helen Cummiskey and Dave Feely

Administrators: Sandra Romanowski, Superintendent; Katy Pude, Sam Johnson, Kathy Boyd, Ken Coffman, Jennifer Morgan, Dave Jones, Marianne Carrico, Tina Slaven, Dara Signor, Sarah Tingley, Erin Waugaman, Kelly Compton, Candice Saquin, Sarah Schreiber, Gene Woodmansee, and John Petruzzi

News Media: Pam Gaffney -*The Bradford Era*

Visitors: Pamela Price, PSBA; Jeannine Schoenecker, American Refining Group; Al Catanzarite, PIOGA; Douglas Kuntz, Pennsylvania General Energy Co., LLC; Kay Hoyt, Chuck Hoyt, Blake Tyger, Student Council President; Andrew Amacher, Sue Lee, Jennifer Larson, Rebecca Hilzinger, Benjamin Walter, Kara McDivitt, Roberta Green, Heather Freeman, Celia Reiley, Barry Bryan, and Marsha Dowd

Timothy Bean, President, called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. A moment of silence was also taken in recognition of the tenth anniversary of September 11th. Melanie Bizzaro sang the National Anthem.

Recognition of Visitors

None

Approval of Board Agenda

Motion by Carla Manion, seconded by Keith Hatch, to approve the Board agenda as presented.

Unanimously carried.

Presentations

- 1) PSBA Presentation – Pamela Price, Director for Development Services for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, presented Bradford School District with the 2011 Schools of Excellence in Technology Award. “As part of PSBA’s commitment in helping school boards in their efforts to prepare our children for an evolving technological society. PSBA, for the last several years, has worked to identify those districts who can serve as models for their efforts to create efficient and sustainable technology programs and initiatives,” said Ms. Price. Applications were evaluated through a tier process based on several criteria. Districts were asked to show that the use of their technology is in alignment with the district’s educational goals, is supported at the district level, and has shown evidence of improvement of student achievement. There is also shown a demonstrated long-term commitment on the part of the board of school directors, as well as the community as reflected from moral and financial support. This has had a positive impact on the educational

outcomes and instructional practices, administrative operations, increased parental involvement, and community support.

For 2011, there were 39 school districts who submitted applications which made it difficult to rate the districts. "Bradford was one who rose to the top. In fact, Bradford rose all the way to the top of the top, as the top vote-getter," said Ms. Price. As one of three Pennsylvania Schools of Excellence in Technology recipients, the district is going to have an opportunity to present at the 2011 PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference on Wednesday, October 19, at the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center in Hershey, PA.

- 2) Oil and Gas Industry Presentation – Ms. Jeannine Schoenecker on behalf of the American Refining Group, Minard Run Oil Company, Pennsylvania General Energy Company, and Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Association presented the funds necessary to hire an instructor for the Bradford Area High School's Oil & Gas Program for the 2011-2012 school year. "The future of jobs in the oil and gas industry is bright," said Ms. Schoenecker. We recognize the importance of this curriculum which is an excellent training program which prepares students for entry level positions. This program also provides a career path for those choosing additional educational opportunities for more specialized jobs in the oil and gas industry.
- 3) Owl STARS AYP Presentation – As you know, Pennsylvania was not selected to participate in the Race to the Top Initiative. However, the Bradford Area School District chose to continue developing its own version of Race to the Top entitled Owl STARS (Students and Teachers Accepting Responsibility for Success). This evening we are pleased to have Sue Lee, BAEA President and Owl STARS member join us to make our first AYP Building Recognitions for achieving Adequate Yearly Progress on the PSSA test.

There are four sub-committees of Owl STARS: the Professional Growth Committee, Accountability Committee, Resource Development Committee and the Recognitions Committee. Ms. Lee represented the Recognitions Committee which also held the first End-of-Year function held at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford last spring. Tonight they are recognizing the schools that made AYP. Presented were two \$2,500 awards to purchase resources within each school. Those resources will be chosen by committees made up of members of each building. The first award went to George G. Blaisdell and the second to School Street Elementary School.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting – August 8, 2011

Motion by Shane Oschman, seconded by Carla Manion, to approve the minutes as presented.

Unanimously carried.

Business Office and Financial Affairs

A. Treasurer's Report for the period ending July 31, 2011

Motion by Joseph Troutman, seconded by Shane Oschman, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Unanimously carried.

B. Payment of Bills (General, Capital Reserve, and School Lunch)

Motion by Carla Manion, seconded by Joseph Troutman, to approve the payment of bills as presented.

Unanimously carried.

C. Tax Exonerations/Additions and Homestead Adjustments

Motion by Joseph Troutman, seconded by Keith Hatch, to approve the Tax Exonerations and Homestead Adjustments/Additions as presented.

Unanimously carried.

D. Permission to Sell Property from the County Repository

Michael Madore has requested to buy 115 E. Main Street, Control #95-0040807, Bradford, Pennsylvania from the County Repository for \$250.

Motion by Carla Manion, seconded by Paul Ridley, to grant consent to the Tax Claim Bureau to sell the property to Mr. Madore as presented.

Unanimously carried.

E. Bus Routes for the 2011-12 Academic Year

Motion by Shane Oschman, seconded by Keith Hatch, to approve the routes as presented.

Unanimously carried.

Policies

- A. Policy #248, Unlawful Harassment, revised
- B. Policy #249, Bullying, revised
- C. Policy #113.1. Discipline of Students with Disabilities, revised
- D. Policy #233, Suspension and expulsion, revised
- E. Policy #219, Student Hearing Process, revised
- F. Policy #226, Searches, revised
- G. Policy #218, Student Discipline, revised

Motion by Joseph Troutman, seconded by Carla Manion, to approve the policies as presented.

Unanimously carried.

Students and Curriculum

A. Overnight Trips – 2011-12

Motion by Paul Ridley, seconded by Shane Oschman to approve the possible Athletic Department Overnight Trips as presented.

Unanimously carried.

B. Curriculum Update

Mrs. Pude reported that the 4sight assessments have been completed for all students who will be taking the PSSA. Local benchmark assessments have been given to students in those grades in which the PSSA is not a requirement. Intervention and enrichment groups are being formulated based on these grade level assessments and student needs.

Building administrators at all levels have begun the process of doing short (under three minute) classroom walkthroughs to offer immediate feedback to teachers on targeted instructional strategies that should be occurring at all levels. The data gathered will be individualized but will also be used to formulate building instructional decisions and will be shared with the faculty to determine strengths and needs in overall instruction within the buildings.

On October 10th, our neighboring school districts from the IU9 will join us at the BAHS auditorium for a common in-service day. The presenter will be Nan Henderson, a nationally known speaker on resiliency. She will be presenting information on helping students overcome adversity and promoting positive relationships in the school setting.

C. Student Representative – Blake Tyger, Student Council President

Blake thanked the oil and gas people for providing the funds to reinstate the oil and gas programs and announced that plans are underway for Homecoming.

Personnel**A. Resignations**

1. Crystal Galsick, Math Teacher at Bradford Area High School, effective September 16, 2011.

Recommendation: To approve the resignation of Ms. Galsick, as presented above, with regrets and appreciation for her 5 years of service to the staff and students of the District.

2. Robert Farnsworth, Bus Driver, effective September 1, 2011.

Recommendation: To approve the resignation of Mr. Farnsworth for the purpose of retirement, as presented above, with regrets and appreciation for his 5 years of service to the students and staff of the District.

3. Natalie Marasco, as the Assistant Girls' Varsity Basketball Coach for 2011-2012, effective August 16, 2011.

Recommendation: To approve the resignation of Ms. Marasco, as presented above, with regrets and appreciation for her service to the staff and students of the District.

4. Lori Nuzzo, as the Assistant Girls' Varsity/JV Basketball Coach for 2011-2012, effective August 16, 2011.

Recommendation: To approve the resignation of Ms. Nuzzo, as presented above, with regrets and appreciation for her service to the staff and students of the District.

Motion by Joseph Troutman, seconded by Carla Manion, to approve the resignations as presented.

Unanimously carried.

B. Employment

1. Ryan McGinnis, Elementary Education Teacher at School Street Elementary School, B.S. Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Certified: Elementary Education Teacher. Salary will be at Bachelor Step 1, \$38,883, effective September 13, 2011.

Motion by Carla Manion, seconded by Paul Ridley, to approve the employment of Mr. McGinnis, for the position, as shown above, pending completion of all necessary paperwork, pre-employment drug test, and in accordance with Board Policy and the current agreement between the Board and BAEA.

7 Yeas 0 Nays

2. Julia Hubbard, Special Education Teacher at Bradford Area High School, B.S. Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Certified: Special Education. Salary will be Bachelor Step 2, \$39,658, effective September 13, 2011.

Motion by Paul Ridley, seconded by Carla Manion, to approve the employment of Ms. Hubbard, for the position, as shown above, pending completion of all necessary paperwork, pre-employment drug test, and in accordance with Board Policy and the current agreement between the Board and BAEA.

7 Yeas 0 Nays

3. Misty Antonioli, Math Teacher at Bradford Area High School, B.S. University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. Pennsylvania Certified: 7-12 Mathematics. Salary will be Bachelor, Step 2, \$39,658, effective September 16, 2011.

Motion by Paul Ridley, seconded by Carla Manion, to approve the employment of Ms. Antonioli, for the position, as shown above, pending completion of all necessary paperwork, pre-employment drug test, and in accordance with Board Policy and the current agreement between the Board and BAEA.

7 Yeas 0 Nays

4. Karen McCartney, Instructional Coach at Bradford Area High School, M.S. Gwynedd-Mercy College. Pennsylvania Certified: Special Education, Reading Specialist, and ESL. Salary will be Masters +12, \$52,633, effective October 17, 2011.

Motion by Keith Hatch, seconded by Joseph Troutman, to approve the employment of Ms. McCartney, for the position, as shown above, pending completion of all necessary paperwork, pre-employment drug test, and in accordance with Board Policy and the current agreement between the Board and BAEA.

6 Yeas 1 Nay (Vigliotta)

5. Theresa Potter, Part-Time Nurse Aide/LPN at George G. Blaisdell Elementary School for 2.5 hours per day at a rate of \$19.28 per hour, effective September 16, 2011.

Motion by Keith Hatch, seconded by Joseph Troutman, to approve the employment of Ms. Potter for the position, as shown above, pending completion of all necessary paperwork, pre-employment drug test, and in accordance with Board Policy and the current agreement between the Board and BAESPA.

Unanimously carried.

C. Lead Teacher (2011-2012)

Stephanie Whitney, High School English

Recommendation: To approve the Lead Teacher for the 2011-2012 school year as presented.

D. Advisors (2011-2012)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Assistant Cheerleader Advisor at BAHS | - Stephen Herrmann |
| 2. Student Council Advisor | - Sabrina Piaschyk |
| 3. Student Council Advisor | - Jennifer Snow |
| 4. Freshmen Advisor | - Jerry Pattison |
| 5. Sophomore Advisor | - Melissa Krepp (replacing Jennifer Snow and Sabrina Piaschyk) |
| 6. Prom Co-Advisor | - Sue Lee |
| 7. Prom Co-Advisor | - Adria Stitt |

Recommendation: To approve the advisors for the 2011-2012 school year as presented.

E. Mentor Teachers (2011-2012)

1. Ashley Fox for Julia Hubbard at Bradford Area High School
2. Christina Downey for Ryan McGinnis at School Street Elementary School

Recommendation: To approve the mentor teachers for the 2011-2012 school year as presented.

Motion by Shane Oschman, seconded by Paul Ridley, to approve Items C. Lead Teachers, D. Advisors, and E. Mentor Teachers as presented.

Unanimously carried.

F. Transfer

Andrea Kelly from Assistant Cheerleading Advisor to Head Cheerleading Advisor, effective September 13, 2011.

Motion by Carla Manion, seconded by Joseph Troutman, to approve the transfer as presented.

Unanimously carried.

G. Leaves of Absence

1. Shannon Olson has requested a Childbearing/Childrearing Leave of Absence under FMLA Guidelines, District Policy, and the current agreement between the Bradford Area School District Board of Education and BAEA, beginning November 3, 2011 through January 20, 2012.

2. Rachel Kuhn has requested a Childbearing/Childrearing Leave of Absence under FMLA Guidelines, District Policy, and the current agreement between the Bradford Area School District Board of Education and BAEA, beginning November 29, 2011 through February 24, 2012.
3. Keri Baldwin has requested a Childbearing/Childrearing Leave of Absence under FMLA Guidelines, District Policy, and the current agreement between the Bradford Area School District Board of Education and BAEA, beginning October 3, 2011 through November 16, 2011.

Motion by Carla Manion, seconded by Shane Oschman, to approve the leaves of absence as presented.

Unanimously carried.

H. Teacher Tenure

1. Heather Marchek
2. Jennifer Slotter
3. Janelle Sykora
4. Janelle Turk

Motion by Joseph Troutman, seconded by Carla Manion, to approve tenure to the above-listed staff members in accordance with the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949 as amended.

Unanimously carried.

I. Tutor

Temporary part-time tutor position for the 2011-2012 school year from October 3, 2011 through March 23, 2012. Schedules are under the direction of the respective building principals. Tutors will work with special education students and/or small groups of students with specific needs to provide intervention services in addition to regular classroom instruction. All special education positions are supported with grant funds. They will only continue if needed as long as the grant funds are available. Tutors are approved for up to 4.5 hours per day.

Lenore Augustine – Bachelor Degree Tutor at \$17.00 per hour.

Motion by Carla Manion, seconded by Joseph Troutman, to approve the employment of Ms. Augustine for the supplemental position for the 2011-2012 school year, as shown above, pending completion of all necessary paperwork, pre-employment drug testing (where applicable), and in accordance with Board Policy.

Unanimously carried.

J. Coaching – 2011-2012

1. Girls' Track

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| a. Head Varsity Girls' Track Coach | - Larry Stillman |
| b. Assistant Varsity Girls' Track Coach | - Ashley Fox |
| c. Assistant Varsity Girls' Track Coach | - Matt Teribery |
| d. Head Middle School Girls' Track Coach | - Natalie Marasco |
| e. Assistant Middle School Girls' Track Coach | - Bart Simpson |

2. Boys' Track

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| a. Head Varsity Boys' Track Coach | - Tom Tessena |
| b. Assistant Varsity Boys' Track Coach | - Mark Kelley |
| c. Assistant Varsity Boys' Track Coach | - Scott Mealy |
| d. Head Middle School Boys' Track Coach | - Charles Bell |
| e. Assistant Middle School Boys' Track Coach | - Dave Emerson |

3. Baseball

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| a. Head Varsity Baseball Coach | - Brian Fox |
| b. Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach | - Steve Schiappa |

4. Softball

- | | |
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| Head Varsity Softball Coach | - Geraldine Lacney |
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5. Tennis

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Volunteer Tennis Coach | - Mark Sherman |
|------------------------|----------------|

Motion by Joseph Troutman, seconded by Carla Manion, to approve the employment of the above-listed individuals for the coaching positions for the 2011-2012, school year, as shown above, pending completion of all necessary paperwork, pre-employment drug testing (where applicable), and in accordance with Board Policy and the current agreement between the Board and BAEA.

7 Yeas 0 Nays

K. Substitutes

1. Substitute Teachers

- a. Heather Wright, Substitute Teacher, Emergency Certified, effective September 13, 2011.
- b. Ryan McGinnis, Substitute Teacher, Elementary Certified, effective August 23, 2011.

2. Substitute Aide

Lori Guthrie, Substitute Aide, effective September 13, 2011.

3. Substitute Bus Drivers

- a. Michael L. Price, Substitute Bus Driver, effective September 13, 2011.
- b. Anthony Krumroy, Substitute Bus Driver, effective September 13, 2011.

Motion by Joseph Troutman, seconded by Carla Manion, to add the above-listed individuals to the District's approved substitute/volunteers listing, in accordance with Board Policy, pre-employment drug testing (where applicable), and pending completion of all necessary paperwork.

Unanimously carried.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Romanowski reported on the achievements for the 2010-11 school year. Among the numerous topics listed were the creation of an academic vocabulary list to standardize the descriptions of various skills over all the various grade levels and buildings; the introduction of the "College in the Classroom" program to provide students with the opportunity to earn credit from the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford for courses taken at BAHS; the hiring of a Spanish language instructor for School Street; the addition of benchmark assessments for Pre-K students; the introduction of a new reading series in the elementary and middle schools; the addition of piloted document cameras at GGB, which enable students to view books as they are being read to them by teachers; the addition of reading assistance software to aid struggling readers; the addition of 12 new welding stations at Bradford High for Career Tech students; the addition of many new surveillance cameras at the school buildings to improve student safety and security; and the conversion of the entire bus fleet to bio-diesel fuel.

In addition the attendance rates for GGB, School Street, and Fretz were well above the state average, and that the graduation rate at the high school was 96 percent.

Other Business

Mr. Bean commented on the presentation on 911 that was done at the High School on Friday, September 9th. There were state and county representatives, emergency responders, and police in attendance. A powerpoint presentation was shown that portrayed the roles of the responders and others during that time. Mr. Bean thanked Mr. Coffman for the nicely done presentation.

Announcements

- A. An executive session was conducted prior to this meeting at 5:00 p.m. personnel reasons.
- B. An executive session may be conducted for the reason stated in Section 8 of the Sunshine Law between now and the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Recognition of Visitors

None

Adjournment

Motion by Carla Manion, seconded by Keith Hatch, that the meeting be adjourned.

Unanimously carried.

Keith Hatch
Board Secretary