

GREATER NANTICOKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District was held Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Greater Nanticoke Area Senior High School.

1.0 ROLL CALL

Mr. Prushinski called the Roll: PRESENT: Tennesen, Landmesser, Smith, Olzinski, Verazin, Prushinski, and Shepanski. Absent: James and Wiaterowski. Also present were Attorney Vito DeLuca, Dr. Ron Grevera, and Mr. Al Melone.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance: Elia Lowe, first grade
7th Grade Girls Biddy Basketball All Stars

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Tennesen, to accept the minutes of the following meeting(s).

2.1 Regular School Board Meeting/Executive Session—January 14, 2016

Upon voice vote, all present voted aye, Motion passes.

3.0 COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

There were no comments.

4.0 TREASURER REPORT

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by, Mr. Shepanski, to accept the Treasurer Report.

4.1 Treasurer Report

Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion passes.

5.0 PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Olzinski, to approve the paying of bills.

5.1 General Account list of bills for January 2016: \$774,863.76

5.2 Family Center list of bills for January 2016: \$9,991.69

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Upon roll call, all present voted yes, Motion passes.

6.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

The Greater Nanticoke Area will be hosting a Career Linking Academy to be held June 20 through June 24th. The Career Linking Academy will be open to students in grades 9-12 interested in careers in the areas of health occupations, business and finance, and manufacturing. The academy is free due to a grant through the Workforce Investment Board. We are currently developing a brochure to be sent home and enrollment will be on a first come, first served basis. Students for the week will be learning interviewing skills, resume writing, and soft skills that employers are looking for. Additionally, students will be taking trips to various businesses to see operations and will hear from various guest speakers about their field of work. I would like to thank Mrs. Baddick, the Weinberg Food Bank and CEO for bringing the Children's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Market to the School District. The next scheduled market will be held on March 3rd from 3:45-6:00 in the Elementary Center Gym. Families in the district must pre-register to receive the fresh fruit and vegetables at our second market. Residents do not need to provide proof of income level.

Court Appointed School Special Advocates for Children (CASA) and the United Way will be sponsoring an Education Summit on March 10th from 8-12 at the Sheehy-Farmer Campus Center on King's College. The title of the summit is called: *Truancy-Understanding the Magnitude of the Problem and Its Lasting Effects*. The Greater Nanticoke Area School District has been participating in a pilot program in an effort to reduce truancy. I will be presenting our PASS Program serving on one of the panel discussions. I would like to thank our Solicitor, Mr. Vito Deluca for initially getting us involved in the program. PASS stands for Parent and Student Success. We initially chose that name because we believe that our truancy problem is a part of our achievement problems. The program stresses working with families and getting them involved with services before filing with the local magistrate. On the agenda for consideration tonight is the school calendar. Pending board approval the first day of school for students will be August 31st and the last day pending no weather related cancelations will be June 5th. Next year Kennedy Elementary will be closed for the renovation project. Second grade students will be educated in the Elementary Center next school year and 5th grade students will be educated in the Education Center. This plan was chosen because it is the best option that is age appropriate for children. Even though 5th grade will be educated in the Education Center, they will still be on the elementary schedule and will be transported home with the elementary students. We will be utilizing every available space to avoid hundreds of thousands of dollars in costs associated with modular classrooms. We are in the process of finalizing this plan for next school year.

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7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

7.1 Mr. Schwenk (***Attachment***)

7.2 Mrs. Baddick (***Attachment***)

Mr. Prushinski voiced his concerns about the location of the children's produce program pickup being held on school property.

7.3 Mr. Gorham (***Attachment***)

Ms. Mullen explained kindergarten registration and what to expect to the PreK parents.

7.4 Mrs. Lipsey (***Attachment***)

8.0 BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. Prushinski made a motion, seconded by, Mr. Smith, to approve the Secretary's Report.

Upon voice vote, all present voted aye. Motion passes.

9.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 **Athletics**

Mr. Landmesser made a motion, seconded by, Mr. Prushinski, to approve the Athletic report.

9.1.1 Athletic Report

9.1.2 Recommend approval to appoint Alfred Michalec as the Assistant III Track Coach for the 2015-2016 school year.

Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion passes.

9.2 **Buildings and Grounds**

Mr. Shepanski made a motion, seconded by, Mrs. Tennesen, to approve the Buildings and Grounds Report.

9.2.1 Building and Grounds Report

9.2.2 Recommend approval to hold the annual spring chorus concert on Wednesday, May 4th, 2016 at 6pm in the HS Auditorium. The HS Auditorium will also be needed on Monday, May 2nd from 3-5 for the Elementary School dress rehearsal and Tuesday, May 3rd from 2-7:30pm for the Ed Center, Elementary Center and HS dress rehearsals.

9.2.3 Recommend approval for the Foreign Language teachers to celebrate Foreign Language Week from March 7th through March 11th, 2016.

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- Tuesday, March 8th Auditorium Foreign Language films
Wednesday, March 9th
(During periods 1-2-3)
- Thursday, March 10th H.S. Cafeterias International Banquet
(5:00 to 8:00 PM)
- Friday, March 11th H.S. Gym French-Spanish Olympics
(4:00 PM to 7:00 PM)

They ask that the cafeteria serve an international menu during this week as they have done in the past.

9.2.4 Recommend approval for State Representative Gerald Mullery to use the bus port and adjacent parking lot for a free document shredding that is open to the public on April 9th, 2016 from 10am to 12pm.

9.2.5 Recommend approval for Amber Grohowski, student, to hold a Zumba-thon on Saturday, April 2nd, 2016 from 10-1 in the HS Gym. All proceeds will benefit the GNA National Honor Society and Blue Chip Farms Animal Refuge.

9.2.6 Recommend approval for the GNA Wrestling Booster Club to use the HS Cafeteria on February 18, 2016 from 6-9pm for their monthly meeting.

Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion passes.

9.3 Education

Mr. Prushinski made a motion, seconded by, Mr. Landmesser, to approve the Education Report.

- 9.3.1 Recommend approval of the GNA Teacher Induction Plan. ***(Attachment)***

Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion passes.

9.4 Finance

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by, Mr. Olzinski, to approve the Finance Report. (9.4.1 to 9.4.4)

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by, Mr. Shepanski, to approve the Finance Report. (9.4.5)

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9.4.1 Recommend approval of the attached list for credit reimbursements.

(Attachment)

9.4.2 Recommend approval of the attached list for increment increases.

(Attachment)

9.4.3 Recommend to approve the resolution of the Local Share Account Grant for the football field renovation. **(Attachment)**

9.4.4 It is recommended that the Board accept the agreement and payment to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for the Department of Education/OCDEL Project MOM/Young Fatherhood Initiative grant. (Payment=\$579.43)

9.4.5 It is recommended that the Board approve the Resolution approving penalty, interest and fee schedule for collection of delinquent real estate taxes. **(Attachment)**

Mr. Verazin: Explained the reason for adding # 9.4.5 to the agenda.

Mr. Prushinski: There are a lot of people living out of state that own the property and are not paying their taxes.

Atty. DeLuca: Explained the Resolution.

Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion passes.

9.5 Negotiations

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by, Mrs. Tennesen, to approve the Negotiation Report.

9.5.1 Motion to approve the contract between the Greater Nanticoke Area School District and the Greater Nanticoke Area Education Support Professionals' Association, ESPA, from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2020 subject to the Solicitor's final review and approval. **(Attachment)**

Mr. Marks asked the Board for the salary increases and benefits given to support staff.

Mr. Verazin: Explained the new contract.

Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion passes.

9.6. Personnel

Mr. Prushinski made a motion, seconded by, Mr. Smith, to approve the Personnel Report.

9.6.1 Recommend approval of all applications. **(Attachment)**

9.6.2 Recommend approval of the attached list of field trips and conferences. **(Attachment)**

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- 9.6.3 Recommend approval to post and advertise a maintenance position.
- 9.6.4 Recommend approval to accept the job description for Elementary Dean of Students. **(Attachment)**
- 9.6.5 Recommend approval to appoint Jennifer Williams as mentor for Kirk Jones.
- 9.6.6 Recommend approval to appoint Jessica Fletcher as Head Teacher in the Kennedy Elementary School effective immediately.
- 9.6.7 Recommend approval for an unpaid leave for Jennifer Nestorick, 12 month secretary, from April 18th to April 22, 2016 for personal reasons.
- 9.6.8 Recommend approval for Michael Wisniewski to take an FMLA effective February 3, 2016.
- 9.6.9 Recommend approval for Brenda Sowa to take an FMLA. This leave will be intermittent.
- 9.6.10 Recommend approval to post five (5) positions for the Career Linking Academy from June 20th to June 24th, 2016 which is paid through the Work Force Investment Board Grant. (Note: Guidance and HS Teachers are encouraged to apply).
- 9.6.11 Recommend approval to appoint Eric Speece as Assistant HS Principal effective January 25, 2016 as per terms and conditions of the Act 93 Agreement.
- 9.6.12 Recommend approval to appoint Rosemary Crisler as a cleaner at the rate and hours stipulated in the Support Staff Contract.
- 9.6.13 Recommend approval to appoint Patricia Englert as a cleaner at the rate and hours stipulated in the Support Staff Contract.
- 9.6.14 Recommend approval to accept Jessica Fletcher for the after school extra help program in elementary math and reading (grades 3-5).

Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion passes.

9.7 Policy

Mrs. Tennesen made a motion, seconded by, Mr. Shepanski, to approve the Policy Report.

- 9.7.1 It is recommended that the Board approve the 180 day expulsion for student 02011316 for violation of board policy #218.1 and #227.
- 9.7.2 It is recommended that the Board approve the 180 day expulsion for student 03011516 for violation of board policy #227.
- 9.7.3 Recommend that the Board accept the revision made to the Greater Nanticoke Area Policy No. 103; Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices-pg.5. Note: Food Service/Cafeteria **(Attachment)**

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9.7.4 Recommend approval to adopt the 2016-2017 school calendar.

(Attachment)

Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion passes.

9.8 Safety

9.9 Transportation

Dr. Grevera explained the reason for adding the new stops.

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by, Mrs. Tennesen, to approve the Transportation Report.

9.9.1 Recommend approval for the following bus stops to be added for the 2015-2016 school year:

- a. Driveway at 113/115 N. Mill St. West Nanticoke
- b. Paradise and Main Street Mocanaqua
- c. 187 Main Street Mocanaqua

9.9.2 Recommend approval to add Tanya Zegarski as a bus driver for White Transit. *(Clearances on file)*

9.9.3 Recommend approval to remove the following Cragle Bus Service drivers and aide from the original approved list:

- a. Bobbi Blair (driver)
- b. Sara Spencer (driver)
- c. Madeline Belles (aide)

9.9.4 Recommend approval to change Clifton Neely from Cragle Bus service driver to an aide.

9.9.5 Recommend approval to add Mark Owen Lewis as a driver for Cragle Bus Service. ***(Clearances on file)***

Upon roll call, all present voted yes. Motion passes.

10.0 TABLED ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

11.0 I.U. UPDATE

12.0 WILKES BARRE CTC UPDATE

Mr. Prushinski said that a meeting will take place to decide what our plans are with the WBCTC.

13.0 SOLICITOR'S REPORT

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Solicitor Vito DeLuca announced that the Board met in Executive Session from 6:00pm to 7:10 pm and discussed personnel matters. Received a report from the Superintendent. No deliberations took place and no decisions were made.

14.0 COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS

Jeremy Blank: Not present

15.0 ADJOURN:

Mr. Olzinski made a motion, seconded by, Mr. Smith to adjourn the meeting.

Upon voice vote, all present voted aye. Motion passes.

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