

SMETHPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION  
JUNE 8, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dan Wertz, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. in the Smethport Area Elementary School.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Davis, Learn, McKean, O'Day, Tronetti, Wertz. (All attended virtually.)

Members Absent: Okerlund, Shonts, Stratton.

Administrators Present: Benson, Jordan, London, Zona (virtually).

Mrs. Woodard also attended in-person and Mrs. Anderson attended virtually. Mr. Eric Petrazio of McClure Company also attended virtually to provide the Board with a presentation.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Wertz

IV. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – None.

Allegations regarding students or employees are to be provided to the Administration. They are not to be discussed in public. Speakers may be held liable for untrue statements.

V. REPORTS

**Mrs. Anderson** reported that she has been doing IEP Evaluations and Re-evaluations virtually in order to prepare or update the student IEPs. She also mentioned that discussions are occurring on whether to proceed with Extended School Year (ESY) for Special Education students virtually or in-person. Based on her discussions with the families 18 students plan to attend if held in-person, while 8-10 students have committed if the program is run virtually. Of those 10 students five have internet availability and five would get packets to participate. She thanked all of the teachers for their hard work and creativity during this pandemic.

**Mr. Benson** reported that participation in the on-line learning during the closure at the high school level ran about 70% of the students and the grades were quite good. He mentioned that not one parent contacted him to report that their child was not being educated. He told the Board that the Keystone Exam courses are being handled differently this year, since students can opt out of taking the test next year. He said that Keystone Exams are part of the Graduation Requirements, but that there is a “walk around” option. Many staff members made the Class of 2020 graduation very special with a very nice ceremony and Academic Awards program, both done virtually. He recognized Theresa Harris, the Senior Class Advisor, and said that she deserves a lot of credit for her work on these programs.

**Ms. Zona** reported that her teachers and paraprofessionals worked very hard to help the students learn a lot using the Google Hangout software in grades K-3 and Google Classroom software for grades 4-6. The Elementary participation in the on-line learning was 96%, for which she was very pleased. She said that parents were very supportive. She mentioned to the Board that she held a faculty meeting to congratulate Mrs. Mack on her retirement. Ms. Zona then introduced two representatives from Pearson to present the recommended math series, enVision and how it could help students with its digital presence of on-line components that are aligned with the PA Standards. This Math series will benefit the K-6 grade Math Program. It provides us with a 6-year contract with strong on-line and assessment components.

**Mr. London** introduced Mr. Eric Petrazio of McClure Company who presented a report to the Board showing the District's energy savings. He explained that the \$5.9 million project was very successful and has saved 209,000 kWh of electricity and about \$44,000 in annual energy savings. This savings included an excess savings of about \$10,500 above their estimated savings levels.

Mr. London applauded the District staff for a wonderful Graduation ceremony that could not have been any better than it was. He thanked Mr. Benson and his team for their hard work to make this very personalized and something not expected by the students or parents of the graduates. Mr. London recognized several members of this team including: Mr. Benson, Mrs. Harris, Mr. Locke, Ms. Housler, Mr. Davis and his wife, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Colley, Mrs. Cox, Mr. Rounsville and his staff. It was a great effort by all. Each graduate received a gift bag, a zip drive of the virtual ceremony, and a picture of themselves in their cap and gown in front of the High School.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS – None.

VII. OLD BUSINESS – None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

The following items were discussed:

1. To consider allowing administration to appoint personnel required for the beginning of the school year pending subsequent Board approval.
2. To consider authorizing administration to process a July Bill List and to pay the bills that come due between scheduled summer Board meetings with subsequent Board approval in August.
3. To consider allowing administration to complete the necessary budget transfers for the 2019-20 fiscal year as needed.
4. To consider approving the roof “warranty” replacement by Tremco, at no cost to the district.
5. To consider resolutions on Per Capita Tax, Wage Tax, and Realty Transfer Tax rates.
6. To consider the Real Estate Tax rate at 19.27 mills for the Smethport Area School District for the 2020-21 school year (Current rate is 19.27 mills – No Increase.)
7. To consider adopting the Smethport Area School District General Fund Budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year.
8. To consider adopting a resolution implementing the Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion for 2020.
9. To consider approving the Cafeteria Budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year.
10. To consider the Cafeteria prices for the 2020-21 fiscal year. No changes are being recommended.
11. To consider approving the following supplemental position(s) for the 2020-21 school year: *The following stipulations shall apply to all supplemental positions and hires for the summer of 2020 and the 2020-2021 School Year. If the temporary work position, extra hours, season or activity is not completed, these positions will be paid on a pro-rated basis from the first date of student-involved activities/work until the end of the activity/work. SASD will consider any future guidance on supplemental pay that clarifies an appropriate direction related to paying supplemental positions for activities not completed.*
  - Assistant Boys’ Basketball Coaches (2).....
  - Assistant Girls’ Basketball Coaches (2) .....
  - Assistant Cheerleading Coach – Winter.....
  - Elementary Boys’ Basketball Coach .....
  - Elementary Girls’ Basketball Coach .....
  - Band Front Advisor .....
  - Varsity “S” Advisor .....
12. To consider approving a School Solicitor for the 2020-21 fiscal year.
13. To consider a donation to the Smethport Fire Department in the amount of \$200.
14. To consider a contract with UPMC Cole for Athletic Training Services for 2020-21 school year.
15. To consider resolutions to use some of the District’s Designated Fund Balances to fund the 2020-21 General Fund Budget.
16. To consider approval of the Act 93 Agreement for July 1, 2020 to June 30, \_\_\_\_\_.
17. To consider approval of a Resolution Regarding Compensation of Business Manager, Technology System Specialist, and Central Office Staff.

18. To consider approval of the 2020 School Safety Report as presented in Executive Session.
19. To consider approving a Jr. High Soccer Co-op agreement with Port Allegany High School.
20. To consider approving a Medical Leave of Absence for Ms. Sarah Cheatle from August 24, 2020 to approximately October 16, 2020.
21. To consider the adoption of a new elementary math series and related text books and materials.
22. To consider the replacement installation of an electric transformer in Smethport Elementary School by Pure Tech, Inc. at a cost of \$11,067 to be paid out of the Construction Fund.
23. To consider approval of the SASD Health and Safety Plan (Green Phase Plan A) for returning to school in the 2020/2021 school year.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- The following have met all requirements and have attained the status of Tenure:
  - Emily Mix (as of January 2017)
- McClure report on energy savings – Eric Petrazio
- Math Series presented by Ann Pahl.
- Ms. Sherry Kemick will be transferred to the Title I Intermediate Level Interventionist position.
- The following policies have been given to the Board of Education for first reading with possible adoption in August, 2020:
  - Policy #006.1 – Attendance at Meetings Via Electronic Communications
  - Policy #209 – Health Examinations / Screenings

**COMMENDATIONS:**

- Congratulations to Aaron Stuck who was nominated Student for Outstanding Performance by the SHCTC

**NOTE:** Executive Session may be held between tonight's meeting and the next board meeting.

**Mr. Wertz** announced that the Board met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Wertz also commented on the presentation of diplomas as Board President. He was very pleased and surprised of the amount of time and attention to detail put into the ceremony. It was a job well done. He said that a lot of heart and soul went into pulling off a program like this under the pandemic circumstances to make it a very nice and memorable ceremony for our graduates and their families. Good job to all that helped!

- IX. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD – GENERAL ITEMS – None.  
Allegations regarding students or employees are to be provided to the Administration. They are not to be discussed in public. Speakers may be held liable for untrue statements.
- X. ADJOURNMENT  
Moved by Davis, seconded by Learn and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan M. Jordan  
Secretary of the Board