

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dan Wertz, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Smethport Area Elementary School.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Davis (Virtual), Learn, McKean, O'Day (Virtual), Okerlund (Virtual), Wertz.

Members Absent: Shonts, Stratton, Tronetti.

Administrators Present: Benson, Jordan, London, Zona.

Mrs. Woodard and Mr. Kolivoski were also present.

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

Ms. Zona reported that the mobile dentist is scheduled to come at the end of this week and there was a Family Engagement Night sponsored by the After School Program in the evening on 9/3, which was attended by 25 families. She also announced her enrollment numbers and Pre-K numbers and told the Board that about 30 Elementary students are working with us from on-line. She said that all students in grades K-6 have devices and are using Google Classroom, Google Meet, and/or Seesaw and it is going quite well with everyone. She thanked the custodial staff for the amazing sanitation efforts they have made in the elementary school. She also mentioned that the After School Program will begin at the end of the month.

Mr. Kolivoski announced that he has received 305 Help Desk tickets since August 21st which is a new record. They have closed 184 of them. He reported that some of the device distribution was delayed slightly due to the last 80 Chromebooks on backorder. All students have devices, but he had to give them older ones to start the year and then will swap them out once the new ones get delivered. The 6th grade is getting the new devices when they arrive. He told the Board that over the summer he did some major wireless upgrades at the HS. He said that he often is seeing that over 500 devices are being accessed during school at the same time, which is a good sign that they are being used in the classrooms. He reported that he had a server failure on the first day of school that he got back up and running that evening at 8 p.m.

Mr. Benson told the Board that it has been a good start to the school year. He said that the students have been doing a great job with the lunchtime changes, masks, and social distancing. He reported that he is gaining more in-person students that had originally chosen to be on-line with us. He said that the students and teachers have adapted very well. He announced that some points of emphasis include the use of teaching with differentiated instruction and he is planning a book study for faculty to facilitate student engagement. With the more flexible delivery of instruction options it provides for possibilities for homebound and transitioning from alternate placements back to us. He is also researching the possible platforms available for livestreaming sporting events.

- VI. COMMUNICATIONS – None.
- VII. OLD BUSINESS - None.
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS - The following items were discussed:
1. To consider approving the Substitute Teacher's rate of pay at \$100 per day starting Day 1 of Substituting, retroactive to August 26, 2020.
 2. To consider approving the following addition(s) to the Substitute Teacher's list for the 2020-21 school year (pending proper paperwork):
Judy Kessler, Kane
 3. To consider approving the following addition(s) to the Substitute Support Staff list for the 2020-21 school year (pending proper paperwork):
Regina Dudley, Smethport, Cafeteria / Custodial
 4. To consider approving a Special Education Teacher for the 2020-21 school year.
 5. To consider approving Temporary Year-Long Substitute Teachers for the 2020-21 school year.
 6. To consider approving Temporary Year-Long Substitute Aides for the 2020-21 school year.
 7. To consider approving a Temporary Year-Long Substitute Custodian for the 2020-21 school year.
 8. To consider retracting the hire of Kelly Foltz as Mentor for Haley Geis for the 2020-21 school year.
 9. To consider re-assignments of Mentors.
 10. To consider hiring Mentors for Special Education Teachers.
 11. To consider approving a Clerical / Instructional Aide at the High School.
 12. To consider approving Judy Kessler to substitute in the HS English position, created by Ms. Cheattle's Medical Leave of Absence, from approximately September 8, 2020 to October 16, 2020 at Category I Bachelors, Step 1 per diem.
 13. To consider the appointments of the following supplemental positions 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.

- Head Baseball Coach
- Head Softball Coach.....
- Head Track & Field Coach.....
- Varsity "S" Advisor
- Volunteer Assistant Boys'/Girls' Basketball Coach
- Volunteer Assistant Cheerleading Coach (Fall)

- 14. To consider approving meal delivery for At Home Distance Learning students and Extension of Seamless Summer Option.
- 15. To consider approving Policy #815.1 Livestream Video.
- 16. To consider approving changes to the 2020-2021 school calendar.
- 17. To consider the slate of PSBA Candidates for 2021.
 - President - Elect
 - Vice President.....
 - Treasurer
 - PSBA Insurance Trust Trustees (2)
 - Sectional Advisor for Section 2

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- The Board of Education will be given the following policies for first reading with subsequent approval in October, 2020:
 - #103 – Discrimination / Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students
 - #104 – Discrimination / Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff
 - #203 – Immunizations and Communicable Diseases
 - #209 – Health Examinations / Screenings
 - #247 – Hazing
 - #249 – Bullying / Cyberbullying
 - #252 – Dating Violence
 - #309.1 – Telework
 - #314 – Physical Examination
 - #317.1 – Educator Misconduct
 - #318 – Attendance and Tardiness
 - #331 – Job Related Expenses
 - #332 – Working Periods
 - #334 – Sick Leave
 - #340 – Responsibility for Student Welfare
 - #705 – Facilities and Workplace Safety
 - #803 – School Calendar
 - #824 – Maintaining Professional Adult / Student Boundaries
 - #904 – Public Attendance at School Events
 - #907 – School Visitors

COMMENDATION: None.

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 tonight's meeting to discuss personnel matters.

IX. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD – GENERAL ITEMS

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.

Marla McKeirnan, a community member, asked about a student's flexibility to move from in-school instruction to on-line instruction and vice versa over the course of the year. Mr. London relayed that students will be able to change, but several changes back and forth during the year will not be allowed. She also asked some questions about families traveling to "Hot Spots" with high cases of the Coronavirus and how the quarantining will be enforced.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Learn, seconded by McKean and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan M. Jordan
Secretary of the Board