

EAST PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF THE
MARCH 9, 2015 BOARD MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Earnshaw called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present: K. Bacher, C. Ballard, L. Donches, A. Earnshaw, F. Fuller, Z. Munson,
S. Rhodes, III, W. Vinovskis

Absent: R. Heid

Present: Marc S. Fisher, Esq., Worth, Magee & Fisher, Solicitor
Debra Surdoval, Treasurer
Janine L. Allen, Board Secretary
Dr. Michael Schilder, Superintendent of Schools

Press Present: Peter McConnell, East Penn Press
Dan Sullivan, The Morning Call
Randy Kraft, WFMZ

2. STUDENT RECOGNITION

a. Math 24 Finalists Recognition

Dr. Linda Pekarik, Director of Special Education, provided an overview of the district-wide Math 24 tournament which was held on February 11th at CLIU #21. Dr. Pekarik introduced the gifted teachers, Steve Neikam, Nicole Wukitch, Justin Phillips and Julia Dweck. Each teacher announced their respective school finalists and winners. Dr. Pekarik, Dr. Schilder and President Earnshaw congratulated each student and presented them with their certificates.

3. There were no Requests To Address The Board

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Ballard, Seconded by Vinovskis
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the minutes of the February 23, 2015 Board meeting.

This resolution was unanimously adopted by voice vote.

5. PRESENTATIONS

a. EPSD Foundation

- Nicole Bloise, Community Liaison, presented the EPSD Foundation PowerPoint. During the discussion, the following was noted:
 - Utilize district website and social media to recruit a Board of Trustees (volunteers) to ensure sufficient community support
 - Based on research, every person that is a district representative serving on Foundation Board is a non-voting member
 - Foundation decides on categories and their stipulations of funds
 - Funds can be used to either support district initiatives or to create endowments through fundraisers or scholarships
 - Scholarships have individualized specifications
 - Board and administration approves the allocation of funds
 - As a 501(c)3, the Foundation will be able to apply for EITC funds, clubs are not permitted to do so
 - Foundation is outside the Boards of Directors functionality
 - No motion is necessary to approve a Foundation
 - Personnel volunteer their time
 - No expense on behalf of the taxpayers
 - Board accepts or denies donations

- President Earnshaw expressed his appreciation of the research and information provided by Ms. Bloise and agreed it is positive to move forward in pursuing community interest.

6. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- a. Dr. Schilder reported on the following:
 - Capital Reserve Expenditures
 - Proposed 2015/16 projects totaling \$885,500
 - 6 year view of proposed projects (2015-2016 through 2020-2021) was provided
 - Historical analysis (1998 – 2015) was provided
 - Steve Onushco, Facilities Director, confirmed energy audits were performed on all facilities with the exception of Lower Macungie ES
 - Light sensors installed free of charge
 - Act 129 – Replacement of lights were reimbursed through PPL
 - Act 39 – In cooperation with McClure Energy, all costs will be replenished through guaranteed energy savings. If not, McClure Energy will reimburse the district the difference.
 - In order to move forward with the heating conversion at Eyer MS, district has to be guaranteed a 20 year or less return on investment
 - Bids will be obtained and brought back to the Board for consideration
 - As requested by Mr. Ballard, Dr. Schilder will provide a graph showing flow of additional funds into capital reserve
 - Mr. Onushco will obtain pricing to replace the artificial turf and add to the six year plan.
 - School/Student Recognition:
 - Fourteen students participated in the District Orchestra, nine students participated in the Region Orchestra, thirty-four students participated in the District Chorus and twenty-three students participated in the Region Chorus.

- The Pennsylvania Newspaper Association named eight winners from The Stinger staff who will be moving onto the annual convention on April 1st in Hershey.
- EHS Boys Swimming won their 8th consecutive District XI 3A Championship. Girls earned the silver medal.
- Seventh grade students at Eyer MS participated in the “Women’s History Month Bookmark Contest” sponsored by The Business and Professional Women’s Club of the Lehigh Valley. One student received 1st place overall, one received 3rd place overall and 11 students qualified for Honorable Mention.
- A group of Eyer MS students won the “Outstanding Educational Value” award for their entry as a team in the “What’s So Cool About Manufacturing?” competition.

b. 2015-16 East Penn School District Calendar

Motion by Ballard Seconded by Bacher

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the 2015-16 East Penn School District Calendar, as per Exhibit #1.

- Kristen Campbell, Assistant Superintendent, provided an overview of the historical development of the calendar
 - Mr. Ballard requested an explanation on the calendar as to how snow days are allocated and utilized
 - Dr. Munson suggested potential make-up days be designated as potential holidays and four built in snow days rather than two, bringing required student days from 182 to 180
 - Dr. Schilder suggested the Board table the motion
 - A revised calendar based on the Board’s recommendations will provided at the next Board meeting

Motion by Donches, Seconded by Munson

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors table the motion to approve the 2015-16 East Penn School District Calendar.

This resolution was duly adopted and motion was tabled based on the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Munson, Rhodes – 7

Nay: Vinovskis-1

Absent: Heid -1

7. PERSONNEL

- President Earnshaw announced the new Gymnastics Club at Eyer MS is being removed from Item f. Co-Curricular Appointment(s) – Schedule B (Exhibit #3). This club has not finished going through the vetting process.

Motion by Ballard, Seconded by Vinovskis

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the following amended personnel items, recommended by the Superintendent:

a. Resignation(s) (Exhibit #2)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Eric Bednar	Field Hockey Coach	LMMS	10/18/14
Sara Diefenderfer	Remedial Assistant	Lincoln ES	3/6/15
Akila Shankar	Staff Assistant	Willow Lane ES	3/7/15
Michelle Knecht	Instructional Assistant	Eyer MS	3/7/15
Michele Sovia	Remedial Assistant	Alburtis ES	3/16/15
Karen Kemp	Confidential Assistant	Administration	5/27/15

- Dr. Schilder recognized Karen Kemp who is retiring after 40 plus years of excellent service at EPSD. She began as a Secretary in the Business Office working in the area of real estate taxes and was later promoted to Confidential Secretary in the Business Office and added employee benefits and insurance to her duties. Ms. Kemp also attended EPSD for grades K-12.

b. Leave of Absence(s) as Per Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Date</u>
Lindsay Landis	Grade 3 Teacher	Macungie ES	Extended through 2015/16
Megan Sly-Schueck	Grade 1 Teacher	Wescosville ES	Extended through 2015/16
Kelly Faisetty	Grade 5 Teacher	Shoemaker ES	Extended through 2015/16

c. General Leave of Absence(s) – Board Policy 439

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Date</u>
Tammy Nassry	Special Ed. Teacher	EHS	3/27/15 – 5/7/15
Caitlyn Shuttle	Grade K Teacher	Macungie ES	3/17/15 – 6/9/15

d. Change in Employment Status

<u>Name</u>	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
Carole Limar	Part-time Staff Assistant – Willow Lane ES Effective: 3/16/15 20.5 hrs./wk. Transfer of hours – Denise Edelman	Part-time Staff Assistant – Willow Lane ES 29 hrs./wk.
Denise Edelman	Part-time Staff Assistant – Willow Lane ES Effective: 3/16/15 29 hrs./wk. Transfer of hours – Carole Limar	Part-time Staff Assistant – Willow Lane ES 20.5 hrs./wk.

e. Support Staff Appointment(s)

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Heather Harrington	Instructional Assistant – Shoemaker ES	\$14.22/hr. 29 hrs./day
Effective: 3/10/15	Resignation of Kayla Tillman	

f. Co-Curricular Appointment(s) - Schedule B (Exhibit #3)

g. Additions to the 2014-15 List of Per Diem Substitutes (Exhibit #4)

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Munson, Rhodes, Vinovskis – 8

Absent: Heid - 1

8. BUSINESS OPERATIONS

a. Approval of Bill List

Motion by Rhodes, Seconded by Ballard

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the attached bill list and that the Treasurer be authorized to issue checks and vouchers in the amounts indicated, as per Exhibit #5.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Munson, Rhodes, Vinovskis – 7

Nay: Donches – 1

Absent: Heid – 1

b. Contracts

Motion by Ballard, Seconded by Vinovskis

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the following contract, as per Exhibit #6:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Type of Agreement</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PSBA	Policy Review Service	\$5,500

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Munson, Rhodes, Vinovskis – 8

Absent: Heid – 1

9. CURRICULUM

Motion by Ballard, Seconded by Vinovskis

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve Items 9. a. and 9. b. below:

a. Educational Conferences

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the estimated expenses for the individual(s) attending educational conference(s), as per Exhibit #7.

b. Chapter 339 Plan, K-12 Career Education Guidance Services

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the Chapter 339 Plan, K-12 Career Education Guidance Services.

- Dr. Mirabella explained the following:
 - Student Assistance Program (SAP) - Anyone having a concern regarding a student can submit a form in the SAP box. Reporting is anonymous. State certified team goes through an identification process and provides assistance if needed.
 - Secure Course Override – A review to determine if student qualifies for a course which is necessary when students are registering for courses.
 - Teen Screening Program – Used to identify at risk students with regard to behavior, done at select times with select level of students.

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Munson, Rhodes, Vinovskis – 8

Absent: Heid – 1

10. OTHER EDUCATIONAL ENTITIES

a. Lehigh Career & Technical Institute - Report

- JOC Members: Mr. Earnshaw, Ms. Fuller, Ms. Heid, Mr. Rhodes
 - Ms. Fuller reported that LCTI announced Camp Innovation; a STEM based day camp held during the summer for 5th through 8th grade students.

b. Appoint LCTI JOC Member

- President Earnshaw announced there were no volunteers. Dr. Munson stated he would be willing to serve, however at the present time he is not available on Wednesday evenings, when committee meetings are held. Mr. Ballard agreed to serve as a substitute until Dr. Munson would become available.
- President Earnshaw stated no motion is required for a substitute. He asked the Board Secretary to provide name and address of Mr. Ballard to LCTI.

Motion by _____, **Seconded** by _____

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors appoint new JOC member to succeed Mr. Sandy Rhodes.

c. Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Report

- Board Member, Ms. Fuller, reported there was no meeting during the month of February.

d. Nominee for the CLIU Board of Directors

- Ms. Fuller announced she will be happy to continue serving. President Earnshaw asked the Board Secretary to submit Ms. Fuller's name as candidate for a position on the CLIU Board of Directors.

11. LEGISLATIVE

- a. Mr. Ballard reported on the following:
 - State allocation will not be known by the time the district has to approve final budget.

- State law allows districts to have another meeting to vote on a new budget after the State announces its allocation.
- District needs to interlink the increase in education spending, pension reform, sale of state liquor monopoly and tax increases into the budget.
- EPSD's proposed property tax reduction is 21%.
- House passed Charter Reform Bill placing increased accountability on charter school board members and administration.
- PDE presentation on ACCESS; program that pays for medical bills for special education students. PDE submitted RFP's for new contractors.
- Senate adopted resolution on Purely Public Charity.
- Youth Vaccination Bill referred to appropriation committee with recommendation to remove exemption based on philosophical reasons with only religious and medical exemptions being allowed.
- Career Training Program study.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Executive Session: Monday, March 9, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. (real estate and negotiations)
- b. Next Board Meeting: Monday, March 23, 2015 - 7:30 p.m.
- c. LMMS Spring Musical "Crazy For You" – Show dates and times area as follows:

March 26 & 27, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
March 28, 2015 – 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

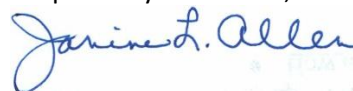
- d. EHS Spring Musical "Mary Poppins" – Show dates and times area as follows:

March 18, 19 & 20, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
March 21, 2015 – 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
March 22, 2015 – 2:00 p.m.

13. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, Motion to adjourn was made by Ballard, Seconded by Bacher at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janine L. Allen
Board Secretary
East Penn School District