

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Homer-Center School Board  
Homer City, PA 15748

Central Office Board Room

September 18, 2008

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Gerald Bertig  
Mr. James McLoughlin  
Mrs. Joy Sasala  
Mrs. Vicki Smith

Mr. Timothy Taddie  
Mrs. Kimberly Thomas  
Mr. Michael Yurky

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Frank Galasso  
Mr. Ethan Sorbin

### SCHOOL EMPLOYEES PRESENT

Dr. Vincent Delconte, Superintendent  
Mr. Jody Rainey, HS Principal  
Mr. Michael Stofa, Elem. Principal  
Mrs. Beverly Gardner, Bus. Mgr.  
Mrs. Carol Black, Board Secretary  
Ms. Jane Mastro, HCEA President  
Mr. Tom Dixson, HS Renovation Clerk  
of the Works

### OTHERS PRESENT

Dan Flickinger, Renda Radio  
Chauncey Ross, Indiana Gazette  
Jared Stoudt, The Dispatch  
Julie & Len Rado, Residents

The board held an executive session for personnel reasons from 6:30 – 7:45 p.m.

President Vicki Smith called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. Seven members were present at Roll Call to comprise a quorum.

### MINUTES

On a McLoughlin/Taddie motion the minutes of the August 14, 2008 regular meeting were approved. Voice vote; unanimous.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Sasala, board treasurer, gave the treasurer's report dated August 30, 2008. On a Bertig/Taddie motion the treasurer's report was approved. Voice vote; unanimous.

## BILLS

On a Taddie/Thomas motion the general fund, cafeteria and bond fund bills were approved. Poll vote; motion carried 7-0.

## BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

The business manager reported that as of August 30, 2008 investments held by the district were \$976,958.63. Interest earned in August 2008 was \$4,785.18.

On a McLoughlin/Thomas motion the proposed settlement regarding the 2008 Real Estate Assessment Appeal of Crown Communications (for cell phone towers) was accepted. As a result, the assessed value of \$51,420 will be reduced to \$35,120. Poll vote; motion carried 7-0.

On a Sasala/Yurky motion, per recommendation of the District's 403(b) Committee, Henderson Brother, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pa. was appointed to act as the District consultant in the formulation and implementation of the IRS-required Employee 403(b) Plan Document, upon review and approval by the solicitor and administration. This appointment is for an indefinite term with a 90-day notice of Intent to Terminate by either party. Poll vote; motion carried 7-0.

## REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT PERSONNEL

The superintendent announced that Homer-Center High School will be honored at an awards ceremony for being named a 2008 No Child left Behind-Blue Ribbon School in Washington, DC on October 20-21.

On a Taddie/Sasala motion the attached (see appendix 1) press release from the U.S. Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings, was entered as an official record of the minutes. Voice vote; unanimous.

On a Taddie/Bertig motion the following were approved as substitutes: Lisa Renz, cafeteria; Aaron Allen, Sarah Brown, Marie Buggiey, Justin Perman (retroactive to Sept. 5), Breannan Reeger, Rachel Wood and Kate Yancy, elementary. Voice vote; unanimous.

On a McLoughlin/Sasala motion the resignation of Eric Ball, technology specialist, effective September 23, 2008, was accepted with regret. Voice vote; unanimous.

On a Bertig/Sasala motion, the resignation of Thomas Dixson, maintenance supervisor, due to retirement, was accepted with regret, effective January 2, 2009. Voice vote; unanimous.

On a McLoughlin/Taddie motion the request of Patricia Ferra, crossing guard, for a leave of absence from her duties for the 2008-09 school year, was granted, effective retroactive to August 25, 2008. Voice vote; unanimous.

On a Sasala/Thomas motion, Jean Adamsky, was employed as a substitute crossing guard for the 2008-09 school year at \$7.60 per hour, retroactive to August 25, 2008. Voice vote; unanimous.

## EDUCATION

On a Taddie/Sasala motion approval was granted to:

- (1) Nicole Iezzi and Lauri Shoup to attend the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Regional Conference and Exposition, Oct. 15 (pm)-Oct. 17, 2008. District cost is \$1,158.90 plus \$350 for two substitutes for 2.5 days. Voice vote; unanimous.
- (2) Mark Pangonis and Robert Stossel to attend SAP (Student Assistance Program) Training, Armstrong-Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission, Shelocta, Sept. 22-24. District cost is \$550.

Voice vote; unanimous.

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Before voting, Mr. Bertig questioned the cross country trips.

On a McLoughlin/Taddie motion the following student trips were approved:

- (1) District cost is transportation for:
  - (a) Kristen Curci, Tammy Buffone, Sarah DeVivo, Suzanne Parfitt and students, IUP College/Career Fair, IUP Field House, October 7. transportation.
  - (b) Suzanne Mateer and all six graders, tour Homer City Power Plant, October 21 and October 22.
- (2) District cost is transportation and \$70 for a substitute for the day for:
  - (a) Greg Hartnett and Elementary Art Club, Carnegie Museum Scafe Gallery, May 6.
  - (b) Mark Shopland and students, conduct water testing on three area streams, six (6) times during the school year.
  - (c) Brenda Seigh and Students, Faraday Lecture, Soldiers & Sailors Hall, Pittsburgh, November 19.
- (3) District cost is \$70 for a substitute for a day for:
  - (a) Mark Pangonis and Varsity Club members, "Caring Team Kick-Off Luncheon", Pittsburgh, October 7.
  - (b) Christine Yurky and students, Youth and Government Servant Leaders Training, Washington, DC, October 5-6.
- (4) Patricia Zimmer and students, Monroeville craft/fabric store for supplies, September 22. No district cost.
- (5) Michael Gentile and Cross Country Team members;
  - (a) 2nd Annual PIAA Foundation Cross County Invitational, Hershey, September 19-20. District cost is \$963.
  - (b) 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Carlisle Invitational, Carlisle. District cost is \$868.

Voice vote; unanimous.

## BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

On Thomas/Sasala motion the request of Vicki Shaffer/Homer-Center Football Parents, was approved to use the elementary gym for dances following home football games, September 5 and 12, October 3 and 10, 2008. Voice vote; unanimous.

On a Bertig/Taddie motion retroactive approval was granted to Vicki Shaffer/Homer-Center Football Parents, to use the elementary gym for a spaghetti dinner, August 23, 2008. Voice vote; unanimous.

Tom Dixon, high school renovation project clerk of works, reported that Phase 4 and Phase 5—kitchen, gym, large group room, nurse's suite and upper junior high classrooms—is 95 percent complete. Phase 6—library, faculty room, band/choral rooms, family consumer science areas—are 70 percent complete. October 20 is the completion date for Phase 6. Phase 7A is way ahead of schedule; original date was February 1 and now has been moved up to November 1. Phase 7B, the auditorium, is scheduled to begin November 1, with a February 9 completion date. The patio area is taking shape with planting of trees and shrubs.

## CAFETERIA

No report at this time.

## POLICY

On a McLoughlin/Taddie motion Policy No. 3035, Food Services Line of Credit (Grades 4-12), was revised. Poll vote: motion carried 7-0.

## TRANSPORTATION

No report at this time

## BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

No report at this time.

## OTHER REPORTS

Mr. Stofa, elementary principal, reported that this year's elementary enrollment is 485 compared to 460 last year. Also, this was the second year that a grant was received from Dominion People's. This year's amount, \$4,800, allows fourth, fifth and sixth graders to meet PSSA science test environmental standards at Lutherlyn Environmental Center. Finally, over 500 people were at the Elementary Back-to-School Night held Tuesday evening, September 16.

Mr. Rainey, high school principal, told the board the High School's Back-to-School Night was also well attended on Wednesday, September 17. He announced that the band will be participating in two Bandfests on Saturday, September 20. They will appear at 2:50 p.m. at the Heritage Bandfest at Purchase Line, and in the evening at the Indiana County Bandfest at Indiana High School. The senior class play, "Our Town", will be held Wednesday, October 22. The performance for senior citizens will be held that day, with the main performance that same evening. No Christmas concerts will be held in the auditorium since the renovations will begin on the auditorium November. Instead, a combined band and chorus fall concert is scheduled for Thursday evening, October 30.

Jane Mastro, HCEA president, spoke about how great the high school looks as the renovation stages are completed.

On a Bertig/Taddie motion it was voted to adjourn the meeting for an executive session for personnel reasons at 8:33 p.m. Voice vote; unanimous.

Submitted for board approval,

Carol N. Black, Board Secretary

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Vicki L. Smith, President