

March 7, 2023

**HANOVER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

MINUTES

March 7, 2023

**Hanover Area Junior/Senior High School
Hanover Township, Pennsylvania
March 7, 2023**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Hanover Area School District was held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 6:08 PM. The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Mr. John J. Mahle, Jr.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESENT: John J Mahle, Jr, Board President; Joyce Potsko, Treasurer; Rick Stevens, Secretary; Stacy Bleich, Paul Holmgren; Michael Masur; and Rick Oravic, and Matthew Redick.

ABSENT: Dr. Vic Kopko, Vice President

Rick Stevens, Secretary, stated a Quorum was established for the meeting.

OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT: Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent; Attorney Mark Bufalino, District Solicitor; Mrs. Lynn Vitale, Administrative Assistant; several District Administrators, and several citizens.

Mr. John J. Mahle, Jr., Board President, provided the following Executive Session Report: "Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act, the Board President wishes to announce that at its Regular Meeting on Tuesday March 7, 2023, the board of education of the Hanover Area School District held an Executive Session to discuss matters of employee relations, labor negotiations, threatened or actual litigation and went into a closed executive session at 5:00PM and began the public meeting at 6:08PM. The subjects discussed in executive session related solely to matters of employee relations, labor negotiations and threatened or actual litigation."

Mr. Mahle asked if any members of the public wished to address the Board on Agenda Items.

Mike Potsko from Hanover Township asked regarding Item #5 under Financial Recommendations. He stated that he understood that the item was posted and questioned if the Exhibit was held in the office and made available for public review. He noted, like everything else, that if the Board was going to vote on it, it should (the Exhibit) be made available for public review.

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Mary Ann Potsko, Hanover Township, questioned Exhibit F-1 stating that it looked like a grant and does not understand how a grant can become a payment. Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent, explained that this was under the safety grant. He noted that during the 2021-2022 school year (during COVID) we had shut down here. We had funded the Hanover Township Police Department for an SRO, but did not utilize that service, so the Township cut the check back to us and we had to return it to the Department of Crime and Delinquency from the PA Department of Education.

Ms. Potsko then called attention to the Ed Modified data services proposal, stating that she had met with Mr. Barrett who had graciously taken the time to discuss the platform with her. She understands the contract is for 3 years but is disturbed that it seems to her that there are many unanswered questions regarding the documentation of student data into this system. She clarified that parents must give permission for student information to be entered, but the agreement does not make clear how long the information will be kept, exactly who is privy to this information and according to the contract it seems that any third party (whom the district deems appropriate) would have access. She noted that parents should be aware before they sign permission, citing this might be a paper trail that would follow their children with ramifications that "could be mind-boggling" and that more work into the process should take place.

Tom Williams and Brian Stahl, representing North Point Development, then made a brief presentation to the public on the proposed LERTA proposed in Financial Item #5 and described in Exhibit A. Main Points included:

- North Point Development has been working on projects within the district for the last 7 years
- Showed an aerial photo of developed properties within district boundaries that converted former abandoned coal properties into tax-generating properties for the district.
- Building 10 represents an additional building site that is on the evening's agenda for a LERTA agreement. This building would represent the 14th project within district boundaries.
- A tenant has not yet been identified for this property, but noted that as the building nears completion, an occupant will be found. This, he noted is standard procedure, noting North Point has an outstanding track record of bringing quality names, business and jobs to the region.
- Requested a LERTA abatement program for this site, noting that the agreement would be incredibly impactful for attracting a quality tenant for the site.
- Noted that the property (like other properties the Board has granted LERTAs on previously) is currently a non-tax generating property. Once the agreement is made, the land goes back on the tax rolls immediately and begins generating revenue immediately. The LERTA would work the

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- same as previous LERTA agreements made between the Board and North Point in the past, as it phases in over time.
- They then opened the floor for questions from the Board or the Public.

Mike Potsko, Hanover Township, asked for the percentage of properties they (North Point) have in Hanover right now that are currently occupied. Mr. Stahl replied that all of the buildings are currently occupied with tenants. This building (10) is on a speculative basis and does not have a tenant yet. Potsko asked if any of the occupied buildings have reached end of lease. Mr. Stahl noted that the first cluster (Chewey and Adidas) were in year 7 (possibly year 8), but they were a little different as they started as KOZ lands. As the lease comes up, North Point remains long term holders as the tax bill come due, regardless of whether the tenant "shops around" for a new lease. He noted that with interior specialty equipment, which is often 2 or 3 times more than the value of the actual building itself, often ties tenants to these locations. He used Adidas as the example to illustrate the point.

APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES/REPORTS:

It was moved by Rick Oravic and seconded by Rick Stevens: To approve the following minutes and accept the following reports:

- Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2022
- Luzerne Intermediate Unit Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2023

BOARD VOTE:

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Mahle, Masur, Oravic, Potsko, Redick, and Stevens

NO: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Kopko

Chair declared the motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent, offered his report, which noted the following:

- February Student of the Month, Brett Martinez
- Encouraged public to follow our social media for recognition of Women in Leadership features for this month
- Honored for Bravery and Courage
 - Bus Drivers: Bill Flowers and Megan Modolewski

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- Student at Hanover Green: Jayce Presto
- Student at Lee Park Elementary: Swuareem Dublin

It was moved by Paul Holmgren, seconded by Matt Redick: To accept the Report of the Superintendent.

BOARD VOTE:

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Mahle, Masur, Oravic, Potsko, Redick and Stevens

NO: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Kopko

Chair declared the motion carried.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

GENERAL:

It was moved by Mike Masur seconded by Paul Holmgren: To approve the following Motions 1 and 2:

1. Approve the Unified Champion Schools Memorandum of Understanding Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) and Hanover Area Jr./Sr. High School for the development of a Unified Champion Schools (UCS) program. The length of the agreement is from the date of the signing of this MOU through June 20, 2023.

(Exhibit G-1)

2. Approve the request of Alec Ryncavage, State Representative District 119, to hold a Shredding Event at the Hanover Area Jr./Sr. High School parking lot on Saturday, April 15, 2023.

BOARD VOTE:

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Mahle, Masur, Oravic, Potsko, Redick and Stevens

NO: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Kopko

Chair declared the motions carried.

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FINANCIAL:

It was moved by Rick Oravic seconded by Rick Stevens: To approve the following motions 1 through 5:

1. Ratify the following PNC check register(s): (Exhibit F-1)
February 4, 2023 to March 1, 2023
2. Approve the PNC check register(s): (Exhibit F-2)
March 2, 2023
3. Law Office of Mark W. Bufalino \$2,905.50
Attorney Mark Bufalino
February 2023
4. Pugliese, Finnegan, Shaffer & Ferentino, LLC \$702.00
February 6, 2023
Invoice #268584
5. Motion to approve Resolution #3-7-23 establishing a Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) designated areas within Hanover Township, Luzerne County as described in Exhibit A to the Resolution.

BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 TO AND INCLUDING #4 ABOVE):

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Mahle, Masur, Oravic, Potsko, Redick and Stevens
NO: Redick on #5
ABSTAIN: Masur on #1 and #2
ABSENT: Kopko

Chair declared the motions carried.

PERSONNEL:

It was moved by Rick Stevens seconded by Mike Masur: To Table Motion #7 on the Agenda.

BOARD VOTE: On Motion to Table Item #7

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Mahle, Masur, Oravic, Potsko, Redick and Stevens
NO: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Kopko

Chair declared the motion carried.

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It was moved by Stacy Bleich seconded by Mike Masur: To approve the following Motions 1 through 6, and 8 through 11 with **Motion 7 TABLED**.

1. Ratify the request of Employee #32307 for UNPAID Maternity Leave from 2/7/23 with a return date of 5/1/23. (Exhibit P-1)

2. Accept the resignation of Brianna Butkiewicz, Personal Care Aide, effective December 2, 2022. (Exhibit P-2)

3. Accept the resignation of Kandyce Wilcox, Personal Care Aide, effective February 3, 2023. (Exhibit P-3)

4. Approve Frank Nowakowski, "Nowakowski Driving School" as a non-exclusive provider for End of Course Skills Test (EOCST).

5. Approve the February 2023 Salary Adjustments as per the HAEA Union Contract. (Exhibit P-5)

6. Approve the February 2023 Tuition Reimbursements as per the HAEA Union Contract. (Exhibit P-6)

7. (TABLED) Approve (blank), Dean of Discipline, at a salary of (blank), effective (blank).

8. Approve Marisa Tosi, as Behavior Specialist, at a salary of \$31.00/hour (5-10 hours per week). Salary is paid through PreK Counts, effective March 8, 2023.

9. Appoint Shantel Grohowski, as Confidential Secretary, with a salary of \$15.00/hour, per HAESPA Contract, effective immediately.

10. Approve the request of Employee #31785 to take May 17, May 18 & May 19, 2023, as UNPAID Days off for personal reasons.

11. Approve the following Extra Curricular personnel for the 2022-2023 school year:

Samantha Williams	Head Jr. High Softball Coach	\$2,574.00
Dakota Zyskowski	Asst. Jr. High Softball Coach	\$1,774.00

BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 through #6 and #8 through #11 Above)

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Mahle, Masur, Oravic, Potsko, Redick and Stevens

NO: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Kopko

Chair declared the motions carried.

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NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

FUTURE MEETINGS:

April Work Session:

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

April Regular Meeting:

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

President Mahle then called for Adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Paul Holmgren, seconded by Rick Stevens, to adjourn the Regular School Board Meeting at 6:31PM.

ATTEST:



, Secretary

Rick Stevens
Hanover Area School Board