

December 5, 2023

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

MINUTES

December 5, 2023

**Hanover Area Junior/Senior High School
Hanover Township, Pennsylvania
December 5, 2023**

A Reorganization Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Hanover Area School District was held in person on Tuesday, December 5, 2023. The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Dr. Vic Kopko, Jr. at 6:30PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESENT: Stacy Bleich, Paul Holmgren, Jacob Hyder, Dr. Vic Kopko, Michael Mazur (by phone), Brian McDermott, Richard Oravic, Matthew Redick, and Rick Stevens

ABSENT: NONE; Michael Masur participated by phone

Mr. Rick Stevens 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.

Dr. Kopko asked District Judge Joseph Halesy to come forward for the swearing in of newly elected and reelected members of the Board. The following individuals were reelected and sworn in for an additional term:

Paul Holmgren
Matthew Redick
Michael Mazur (by phone)

The following individuals were sworn in as newly elected members:

Jacob Hyder
Brian McDermott

Dr. Kopko announced that the Executive Session ran over time, so at this time, the Board would move directly to the Work Session.

Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent, then shared with the press and public each motion scheduled for a vote on the agenda. Dr. Kopko then asked for public input on any of those items.

There was no public input.

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Dr. Kopko then adjourned the work session and resumed the Reorganization Meeting.

Appointment of Temporary Chairperson:

It was moved by Rick Oravic, seconded by Stacy Bleich to appoint a Temporary Chairperson.

Dr. Kopko accepted nominations for Temporary Chairperson.
Mr. Oravic nominated Paul Holmgren. There were no other nominations.

Dr. Kopko closed nominations and announced: It was moved by Rick Oravic, seconded by Stacy Bleich to appoint Paul Holmgren as Temporary Chairperson.

Election of President:

Mr. Holmgren accepted nominations for President of the Board.

Mr. Holmgren made a motion to close the nominations for Board President.
Motion was seconded by Mr. Oravic.

Mr. Holmgren then nominated Brian McDermott for Board President. Mr. Oravic seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations for President.

Mr. Holmgren then declared Mr. Brian McDermott as President of the Hanover Area School Board. Mr. McDermott assumed the Chair of the President.

Election of Vice President:

Mr. McDermott accepted nominations for Vice President of the Board.

Rick Stevens made the motion to nominate Stacy Bleich as Vice President of the Hanover Area School District Board of Directors. Mr. Oravic seconded the motion. Mr. Stevens asked if there were any other nominations. There were not.

Mr. Stevens congratulated Mrs. Bleich on her election to Vice President of the Hanover Area School Board.

**Appointment of Pennsylvania School Boards Association
Legislation Representative:**

President McDermott accepted nominations for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association Legislation Representative from December 2023 to December 2024.

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Mrs. Bleich made the motion to nominate Matthew Redick to serve as the Hanover Area School Board's Pennsylvania School Boards Association Legislation Representative. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holmgren. President McDermott called for a roll call.

Board Vote:

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Hyder, Kopko, Oravic, Mazur, McDermott, Redick and Stevens

NO: None:

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Chair declared the motion carried.

SETTING OF DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MONTHLY WORK SESSIONS:

It was moved by Mr. Redick seconded by Mr. Stevens to set the Work Sessions of the Board of Education as follows:

That the Work Sessions of the Board of Education shall be held the Second Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM, prevailing time, at the Hanover Area Junior Senior High School.

Board Vote:

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Hyder, Kopko, Oravic, Mazur, McDermott, Redick and Stevens

NO: None:

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Chair declared the motion carried.

SETTING OF DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING:

It was moved by Brian McDermott, seconded by Matthew Redick to set the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Education as follows:

That the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Education shall be held the second Tuesday of each month immediately following the business meeting each month at 6:30PM, prevailing time, at the Hanover Area Junior/Senior High School.

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Board Vote:

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Hyder, Kopko, Oravic, Mazur, McDermott, Redick and Stevens

NO: None:

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Chair declared the motion carried.

USE OF FACIMILE SIGNATURES:

It was moved by Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mrs. Bleich, to approve use of facsimile signatures and to authorize the President, Vice President, and Secretary to enter into transactions on behalf of the Hanover Area School District and in accordance with Board Policy.

Board Vote:

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Hyder, Kopko, Oravic, Mazur, McDermott, Redick and Stevens

NO: None:

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT:

Chair declared the motion carried.

STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT:

President made the following statement:

Mr. McDermott thanked the Board of Education for his appointment as he "is humbled and honored by their confidence". He recognized that he is "kind of new to this and will need all their expertise and experience" to help him. McDermott thanked Dr. Vic Kopko and the family of the late John J. Mahle, Jr. for "setting the bar so high for this particular role". He commented that with all of the new challenges since 2023 and beyond that "they have handled everything with such grace and professionalism" that it was hard to imagine reaching such a standard. McDermott continued stating that "School Directors are elected to represent the taxpayers and residents of Hanover Area. We are trusted to run this District on their behalf" and that he hoped that "we would always maintain that confidence on their behalf, noting it is the same with the assignment of our staff and our administrators", noting that "we all pull from the same way. There is nothing to be gained from two different sided pulling against each other. That we

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can't move forward with. So hopefully we have some very good open debates that it's all handled behind closed doors or open doors in this setting, but nobody holds any grudges based on what's decided on all that." McDermott remarked that he would talk to Mr. Barrett about reforms on committees and meetings and that he had some ideas on how to make some of these meetings more understandable and accessible for people at home.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Holmgren: To adjourn the Reorganization Meeting at 6:46PM.

BOARD VOTE:


YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Hyder, Kopko, Oravic, Mazur, McDermott, Redick and Stevens

NO: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Chair declared the motion carried.

ATTEST:  _____, Secretary

Rick Stevens
Hanover Area School Board