

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR WORK MEETING  
JUNE 11, 2013

The Board of Directors of the Hopewell Area School District met in regular session on Tuesday, June 11, 2013, in the Board Room, Administration Building, 2354 Brodhead Road, Hopewell Township.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by David Bufalini, Board President.

Prayer and flag salute was led by Mr. Santia. Roll call by the secretary followed. Those Directors in attendance were:

David Bufalini  
John Bowden  
David Ciccone  
Rob Harmotto  
Lori McKittrick  
Daniel Santia  
Jeffrey Winkle

Members Absent:

Lesia Dobo  
Michael Johnston

Also in attendance were: Dr. Charles M. Reina, Superintendent; Johannah Robb, Business Administrator; John Salopek, Solicitor; Nancy Barber, Secretary; Michael Allison, Principal; Judy Mihok, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; and citizens.

Mr. Bufalini welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Dr. Reina announced that the following items would be voted on later in the meeting.

**Education/Curriculum/Instruction**: Mr. Ciccone, Co-Chair

1. Questeq to provide wireless infrastructure capability to Hopewell, Margaret Ross and Independence Elementary Schools and Hopewell Junior High School at a cost of \$141,573.00.

Mrs. Robb briefly explained the process for the Request for Proposal. Thirteen packages were sent to prospective bidders. There was a mandatory on-site review of the facilities. The District received four proposals.

2. Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Hopewell Area School District and the police departments of Hopewell Township, Independence Township and Raccoon Township. The purpose of the Memorandum is to establish procedures to be followed when specific incidents occur on school property, at any school sponsored activity or on any public conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school sponsored activity.

**Transportation:** Daniel Santia, Chair

1. Sale of the following buses at the 422 Auction on June 22, 2013:

Bus #49	2000 Carpenter	VIN 1HVBBABN6YH301154
Bus #52	2000 Carpenter	VIN 1HVBBABNBYH301155
Mini Bus #2	1997 Blue Bird	VIN 1GBHG31F9V1063624
Mini Bus #14	2001 Thomas	VIN GDJG31F311192140

Dr. Reina reviewed the items that would be voted on during the June 25, 2013 Business Meeting.

**Education/Curriculum/Instruction**

1. Adoption of Reading Wonders, McGraw-Hill Publishers, copyright 2014, as the language arts textbook effective the 2013-2014 School Year, grades kindergarten through grade 5, as recommended by the department chairperson, colleagues and principals. Further, approximate cost for purchase is \$200,000 (including shipping & handling) with funding source being the 2013-2014 District budget.
2. Adoption of PH Literature Common Core, Pearson Publishers, copyright 2012, as the literature textbook effective the 2013-2014 School Year, grades 6-8, as recommended by the department chairperson, colleagues and principal. Further, approximate cost for purchase is \$50,137.70 (including shipping & handling) with funding source being the 2013-2014 District budget.
3. Shannon Carter, a student at Robert Morris University, to fulfill a student teacher placement at Hopewell Elementary School under the guidance of Erin Kamerer.
4. Laura Kaupinis, a student at Robert Morris University, to fulfill at student teacher placement at Independence Elementary School for eight weeks under the guidance of Linda Cecela, and Hopewell Junior High School for eight weeks under the guidance of Aubrey Lindner.
5. Tara Mann, a student at Robert Morris University, to fulfill at pre-student teacher placement at Hopewell Elementary School under the guidance of Cathy Radford, and a student teacher placement at Hopewell Elementary School under the guidance of Kristen Nan.

6. Tyler Lanciotti, a student at Robert Morris University, to fulfill at pre-student teacher placement at Margaret Ross Elementary School under the guidance of Kelly Pratte, and a student teacher placement for eight weeks at Hopewell Elementary School under the guidance of Rob Kartychak, and eight weeks at Independence Elementary School under the guidance of Karen Watts.
7. Cassandra Gaylik, a student at Robert Morris University, to fulfill at pre-student teacher placement at Hopewell Elementary School under the guidance of Kelly McHugh, and a student teacher placement for eight weeks at Independence Elementary School under the guidance of Margie Patton, and eight weeks at Hopewell Junior High School under the guidance of Susan Harcar.
8. Anthony Reda, a student at Slippery Rock University, to fulfill a student teacher placement for eight weeks at Hopewell High School under the guidance of Jeff Hack and eight weeks at Hopewell and Margaret Ross Elementary Schools under the guidance of Lisa Morell.
9. Meagan Deniziak, a student at Robert Morris University, to fulfill at pre-student teacher placement at Hopewell Elementary School under the guidance of Karen Gartley, and a student teacher placement for eight weeks at Hopewell Elementary School under the guidance of Nicole Ozimok, and eight weeks at Independence Elementary School under the guidance of Joan Potts.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

1. Request from National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation to conduct survey work on District property Tax ID #662130185001.
2. Dr. Reina said that one of the District's top priorities continues to be security. Vulnerability and risk assessments have been made as well as community discussions on school violence. Principals are in the process of developing an "All Hazard's Plan" for their buildings. Copies of which should be available for review later this summer. The District continues to make capital improvements to each building, including securing entrance ways and school cameras. The next step in the process is to develop a plan to train staff on how to respond in a crisis situation.

### **Finance and Budget**

Mrs. Robb said that the final budget and associated Resolutions would be voted on June 25, 2013.

1. Resolution #8-2013, a Resolution providing for adoption of the Final General Fund budget for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year, which projects revenues of \$34,207,618 and appropriations of \$35,113,007.

2. Resolution #9-2013, a Resolution levying a tax during the 2013-2014 School Fiscal Year upon real estate within the territorial limits of the School District and fixing the rate thereof at 68.5 mills.
3. Resolution #10-2013, a Resolution requesting the Chief County Assessor to direct the inspection and reassessment of all taxable property within the territorial limits of the School District to which major improvements were made after September 1, 2012, and not included in the tax duplicate certified to the Treasurer of the School District for the School Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014.
4. Resolution #11-2013, a Resolution authorizing rates of discounts and penalties on real estate taxes for the 2013-2014 School Fiscal Year.
5. Resolution #12-2013, a Resolution providing for the installment payment of real estate taxes during the School Fiscal Year 2013-2014.
6. Resolution #13-2013, a Resolution reenacting for the 2013-2014 School Fiscal Year the tax upon transfers of real estate situated within the territorial limits of the School District, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act.
7. Resolution #14-2013, a Resolution reenacting for the 2014 Calendar Year the tax upon salaries, wages, commissions, compensations, net profits, and other earned income of residents, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act.
8. Resolution #15-2013, a Resolution reenacting for the 2013-2014 School Fiscal Year the tax upon natural persons engaging in an occupation within the territorial limits of the School District, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act.
9. Resolution #16-2013, a Resolution reenacting for the 2013-2014 School Fiscal Year the mercantile tax upon the gross receipts of wholesale and retail business activity performed or rendered within the territorial limits of the School District, the same heretofore imposed pursuant to the authority contained in the Local Tax Enabling Act.
10. Resolution #17-2013, a Resolution authorizing the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion real estate assessment reductions for the Hopewell Area School District's Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013, under the provisions of the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006).

**Personnel**

1. Reappointment of John F. Salopek, Esquire, Solicitor, effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.
2. Fall and winter coaches and salaries.
3. Baseball and Track coaches pay beyond the regular season.
4. 2013-2014 recreation program.
5. Substitute custodian and cleaning persons roster

**Visitors**

Dave McMullen spoke of his concern for class size at Independence Elementary School. He was concerned that the large kindergarten class size this year would carry over to first grade for 2013-2014. Dr. Reina informed him that there would be three first grade classes at Independence for 2013-2014. Mr. Bowden addressed his concern over the set aside for future pension and healthcare costs.

At this point in the meeting Mr. Bufalini returned to Education/Curriculum/Instruction.

**Education/Curriculum/Instruction by David Ciccone****MOTION #1**

By David Ciccone, seconded by Daniel Santia, to approve Questeq to provide wireless infrastructure capability to Hopewell, Margaret Ross and Independence Elementary Schools and Hopewell Junior High School at a cost of \$141,573.00. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**MOTION #2**

By David Ciccone, seconded by John Bowden, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Hopewell Area School District and the police departments of Hopewell Township, Independence Township and Raccoon Township. The purpose of the Memorandum is to establish procedures to be followed when specific incidents occur on school property, at any school sponsored activity or on any public conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school sponsored activity. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

**Transportation by Daniel Santia**

**MOTION #3**

By Daniel Santia, seconded by David Ciccone, to approve the sale of the following buses at the 422 Auction on June 22, 2013. MOTION carried unanimously by an affirmative vote of all Directors in attendance.

Bus #49	2000 Carpenter	VIN 1HVBBABN6YH301154
Bus #52	2000 Carpenter	VIN 1HVBBABNBYH301155
Mini Bus #2	1997 Blue Bird	VIN 1GBHG31F9V1063624
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**Executive Session**

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Bufalini announced that an Executive Session would be held following the meeting to discuss personnel matters. This announcement is being made to be in compliance with Act 84 of 1986, Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law, as amended.

**Adjournment**

There being no further discussion or recommendations to come before the Board of Directors, Mr. Bufalini asked for a motion for adjournment.

MOTION by John Bowden that the meeting be adjourned. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Bufalini adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL BOARD

David Bufalini, President

Nancy Barber, Secretary