

*SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Committee of the Whole Meeting
September 11, 2019 – Administration Building
Minutes*

The Board of School Directors of the Shaler Area School District held a Committee of the Whole Meeting on Wednesday, September 11, 2019, at the Shaler Area Administration Building, Glenshaw, PA, with Mr. James Tunstall, School Board President, presiding. This meeting began at 7:17 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Suzanna Donahue
 Mr. James Fisher
 Mr. Tim Gapsky
 Mr. Jason Machajewski
 Mrs. Jeanne Petrovich
 Mrs. Eileen Phillips
 Mr. Steve Romac
 Mr. James Tunstall

Not Present: Dr. April Kwiatkowski

Others Present: Mr. Sean Aiken, Superintendent
 Dr. Bryan O’Black, Assistant Superintendent
 Ms. Sherri Ludwig, Director of Business Affairs
 Mr. Matt Hoffman, Solicitor

Notice of this meeting was posted as required.

➤ Mr. James Tunstall called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

Dr. O’Black then announced the following Educational Items:

<u>ITEM</u>		<u>SUP</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
#	<u>EDUCATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</u>	#	<u>TAKEN</u>
A.1	Approve the date of the Shaler Area School District Kennywood Picnic for Saturday, May 2, 2020.	A.1	_____
A.2	Approve the second reading of the following revised policy: a. Policy No. 214 – Class Rank Index	A.2	_____

Dr. O’Black then announced the following Discussion Items:

Discussion Items:

1. Student Representative – No report.
2. Shaler Area Education Foundation – Mr. Aiken reported that the Foundation would not host the 5K before Homecoming this year, however, they will have a booth at Homecoming. The Foundation is promoting grant opportunities, and Mr. Aiken thanked the other school board members who are involved. Mrs. Phillips added that it was nice to hear from the teachers about how the grant money is benefitting the students.

Dr. O’Black then announced the following Information Item:

Information Item:

1. The PA Department of Education has determined that Shaler Area School District has met the requirements and is in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for the fiscal year 2017.
- Dr. O’Black said, regarding Item A.1, that some school board members questioned changing the date of the Kennywood Picnic due to concerns about weather and rides being open. The only other date available is Tuesday, June 9. Dr. O’Black said the May 2 date is on the school calendar the board approved in February and it has always been on the first Saturday of May. Therefore, the administration’s recommendation is to look at next year if the board is interested in changing the date. Mr. Gapsky said he would be interested in having it on a Monday or Friday. Mr. Romac said he would be in support of moving the date to a summer day, but is not in support of moving it to a different day in May. Dr. O’Black verified that the district no longer sends school buses to Kennywood for the school picnic day. Ridership was down and Kennywood no longer reimbursed school districts for the buses.

Ms. Ludwig then announced the following Finance Items:

<u>ITEM</u>		<u>SUP</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
#	<u>FINANCE AND OPERATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</u>	#	<u>TAKEN</u>
C.1	APPROVE FUND PROFILES:		
A.	General Fund – Schedule of Bills and Addendum	C.1A	_____
B.	Cafeteria – Schedule of Bills	C.1B	_____
C.	Bond Proceeds – Schedule of Bills	C.1C	_____
D.	Year-to-Date Financial Reports	C.1D	_____
E.	Fund Profiles and Investments	C.1E	_____
C.2	Approve the attached list of Bus Stops for the 2019-20 school year.	C.2	_____
C.3	Approve an agreement with Consolidated Communications (CCI) for the three-year period until June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$1,962.10 per month. <i>(This agreement has been reviewed by the solicitor.)</i>	C.3	_____
C.4	Approve the purchase of six (6) treadmills and one (1) stepmill from Advantage Sport and Fitness, Inc. in the amount of \$28,725 which is using the COSTARS equipment pricing and includes all shipping and installation of equipment. These items will be leased to own from Laurel Capital Inc. for a four- year annual payment of approximately \$7,628. The lease agreement will be finalized upon Solicitor approval.	C.4	_____
C.5	Approve the Tri-COG Land Bank’s (TCLB) Notice of Intent to Acquire REO Properties through the National Community Stabilization Trust (NCST) REO Acquisition Program and does not object to such future acquisitions.	C.5	_____

Background:

The National Community Stabilization Trust is a non-profit organization that works to restore vacant and abandoned properties. Through the NCST REO Acquisition Program, the TCLB has the opportunity to obtain properties that are not tax delinquent or liened and before they are marketed more broadly.

- Ms. Ludwig explained that the real estate owned property in Item C.5 are owned by the bank. Mr. Fisher said the Land Bank is approved by the organization for acquisitions.
- Mr. Ludwig explained that the purchases in Item C.4 are for the Fitness Center to replace machines that are 18 to 22 years old. She added that Clint Rauscher, athletic director, identified the lease to own option as the best to obtain all of the equipment. Mr. Romac asked about the lease rate. Ms. Ludwig said she was able to get 3.5 percent from Laurel Capital. Mr. Romac asked if it was better to lease or purchase one piece of equipment each year. Mr. Gapsky said he questioned keeping the Fitness Center open to the public. Mr. Aiken said if the district eliminates membership, it would still need staff to supervise students and maintain the equipment, but it is a good discussion to have. Mr. Fisher said when the Fitness Center first opened, it was all for the students, then the superintendent at the time suggested opening it to the public. It was decided to consolidate to one Fitness Center and people started to come because it was better. Mr. Aiken said the center is large but a lot has changed, and today there are many more affordable options for fitness memberships. If the board wants to consider closing it to the public, he suggested doing so at the end of the school year—memberships are renewed on a quarterly basis. Mr. Aiken said the administration can look at it and come up with a plan. Mr. Romac asked if the administration can confirm the need to lease the equipment.

Ms. Ludwig then announced the following Discussion Items:

Discussion Items:

1. Biles repair construction update – Mr. Kaib, supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, said he will work on a price to come up with a motion for next week. Ms. Ludwig said next week there would be a motion for a do-not-exceed amount for actual construction and materials for the following week. Mr. Kaib added that it is hard to work with a do-not-exceed number when you have a hole that needs to be filled. Mr. Romac asked if there would be quotes for the remaining work. Ms. Ludwig said the board could approve a contractor the following week. Mr. Hoffman said that it didn't matter at this point in the project whether the board approves the work this month or next. He suggested just waiting for a final bill.
 2. Vehicle Quotes Update – Mr. Kaib said the transmission blew on the 1995 food truck, and the district has been looking for a used van to get food to the primary schools. He reported that Mr. Romac found a van just down the road with 13,000 miles on it, a 2012 van for \$15,000. Mr. Kaib said it is hard to find comparables with mileage that low. Currently, the district is renting a truck from U-Haul. Mr. Hoffman said the district will take the lowest priced vehicle, but it will require finding comparables. Ms. Ludwig said the item would appear on the following week's agenda if they have the quotes.
- Mr. Tunstall then invited the board to speak on any other business.
 - Mr. Aiken commended the bus driver who was driving the school bus that was hit by a car that morning. He said the driver responded exactly how the district would want a bus driver to respond. The situation went as well as could be expected. The minute the incident occurred, the driver was checking on the students.
 - Mr. Gapsky asked for an update on the cross country trail at the high school. Mr. Aiken said parts of the trail are not useable, so the trial had to be amended. He explained the rain over the summer caused washouts that set the district back.

September 11, 2019 – COW Meeting

- Mr. Tunstall then recognized the public to speak on any other item:
 - Jodi Poniewaz, of Iola Street, gave her support of the van purchase and said she felt the district could do better on the price of the gym equipment.
 - Sue Cook, food service director, gave her support of the van purchase.

After no further items were presented, final adjournment occurred at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Baker
Assistant Board Secretary