

*SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
C.O.W. Meeting
May 11, 2016 – Middle School auditorium
Minutes*

The Board of School Directors of the Shaler Area School District held a COW Meeting on Wednesday, May 11, 2016, at the Shaler Area Middle School auditorium, Glenshaw, PA, with Dr. April Kwiatkowski, School Board President, presiding. This meeting began at 7:21 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Suzanna Donahue
 Mr. James Fisher (by phone)
 Mr. Tim Gapsky
 Dr. April Kwiatkowski
 Mr. Jason Machajewski
 Mrs. Jeanne Petrovich
 Mrs. Eileen Phillips
 Mr. Steve Romac
 Mr. James Tunstall

Others Present: Mr. Sean Aiken, Superintendent
 Dr. Bryan O’Black, Assistant Superintendent
 Mr. Peter J. Camarda, Acting Director of Business Affairs
 Mr. Gary Mignogna, Director of Human Resources
 Mr. William Watson, Director of Pupil Services
 Ms. Sherri Ludwig, Director of Business Affairs
 Mr. Matt Hoffman, Solicitor
 Mr. James Belany, Student Representative

Notice of this meeting was posted as required.

➤ Dr. Kwiatkowski called the meeting to order at 7:21 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	Request that the Allegheny County Office of Behavioral Health add Pyramid Healthcare, Inc. to their approved drug and alcohol service providers. Pyramid Healthcare Inc. will provide drug and alcohol assessment and counseling for students at Shaler Area High School and Middle School through parents’ insurance.	A.1	_____
A.2	Approve the contract with Glade Run Lutheran Services to provide mental health services to Shaler Area students from August 24, 2016 to June 6, 2017 at a cost of \$69,010 to be paid through ACCESS.	A.2	_____
A.3	Approve the guarantee of 14 seats at Adelphoi Education Services at Millvale Alternative Education Program for the 2016-17 school year.	A.3	_____
A.4	Approve the first reading of the following new policy: a. Policy No. 823 – Administering Naloxone	A.4	_____

- Mrs. Petrovich requested more information regarding Item A.1 and the cost of A.3. Dr. O’Black said the agreement with Pyramid Healthcare, Inc. is similar to the district’s relationship with Mercy, which provides mental health services. He added that the cost for Adelphoi is \$148.50 per seat per day and \$79 for the alt. ed. program per seat. He said the district has used the program for several years. Mr. Watson said the cost represents a 3 percent savings by guaranteeing the seat. Mr. Aiken said the administration can get a breakdown of all the numbers to the school board members.

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

Discussion Items:

1. Student Representatives – James Belany said the district is in the midst of the spring concert series and students at the high school are preparing for final exams.
2. Shaler Area Education Foundation – Dr. Kwiatkowski said the Foundation’s next meeting is June 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Duss Conference Room. The meeting will be a reorganization meeting since it has been two years. The Foundation plans to start working on an event for the fall.

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

Information Items:

1. Remake Learning Days at Shaler Area Elementary School – Dr. O’Black said the event happened that evening and highlighted the Shaler Area STEAM initiative K-6.
 2. Keystone Exams – May 16-27, 2016 – Dr. O’Black wished the middle school and high school students who will be taking the Keystone Exams good luck.
- Dr. Kwiatkowski asked how PSSAs went. Dr. O’Black said the testing wrapped up the previous week and it all went well. There were no security visits this year.

Ms. Ludwig then announced the following Finance Items:

<u>Item #</u>	<u>FINANCE AND OPERATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</u>	<u>Sup. #</u>	<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>
C.1	APPROVE FUND PROFILES:		
A.	General Fund – Schedule of Bills and Addendum	C.1A	_____
B.	Cafeteria Fund – Schedule of Bills	C.1B	_____
C.	Budget Transfers	C.1C	_____
D.	Cafeteria Fund Operating Statement	C.1D	_____
E.	Year-to-Date Financial Reports	C.1E	_____
F.	Fund Profiles and Investments	C.1F	_____
G.	Student Activity Funds & Investments - High School, Middle School, and Elementary School Accounts – January 1, 2016 through March 31, 2016	C.1G	_____
H.	CR&R - Schedule of Bills	C.1H	_____
I.	Bond Fund – Schedule of Bills	C.1I	_____

- C.2 Approval of the A.W. Beattie Career Center 2016-17 Budget. The Shaler Area School District share is as follows: C.2

	2016-17 School Year	Change
Beattie Operating Budget	\$1,244,827	(\$37,453)
Capital Budget	\$3,365	(\$773)
Debt Service	\$212,566	\$360
Total	\$1,460,758	(\$37,866)

- C.3 Recommend the award of the following bids that were opened on March 28, 2016. C.3

Art Supplies	Recommend as submitted
Consumable Products	Recommend as submitted
Lumber	Recommend as submitted
Science Supplies	Recommend as submitted
Physical Education	Recommend as submitted

Total bids awarded are contingent upon the availability of funds within the 2016-17 General Fund Budget.

- C.4 Approval of the Pennsylvania Department of Education’s Division of Food And Nutrition Annual Food Service Management Company (FSMC) renewal year contract with The Nutrition Group to provide the operation of the food service program for the District. Approval of The Nutrition Group’s budget which includes a guaranteed profit to the District in the amount of \$5,000. Approval of the price increases incorporated in the budget as follows:

Breakfast	2015-16 (\$0.10 Increase)	2016-17	Change
Type “A” Breakfast (Primary/Elementary)	\$1.10	\$1.20	\$0.10
Type “A” Breakfast (Secondary)	1.35	1.35	-
Lunch	2015-16 (\$0.10 Increase)	2016-17	Change
Primary/Elementary Lunch	2.10	2.15	\$0.05
Secondary Lunch	2.35	2.40	\$0.05
Adult Lunch	3.85	3.90	\$0.05

- C.5 Approval to appoint Gary Mignogna as District Treasurer effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.
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- C.6 Recommend the award of the following contract through the Keystone Purchasing Network #201203-01 for new synthetic turf construction for the Titan Stadium improvement.

- a. **For Synthetic Turf Construction, to FieldTurf USA, Inc.** in the amount of **\$429,314**, including the following Alternate Bids:

Alt Bid: Extended Maintenance Agreement	\$25,000
Alt Bid: Cryogenic Rubber Infill	<u>\$50,502</u>

Total Alternates	\$75,502	
Base Bid	\$353,812	
Total Bid Award	\$429,314	_____

C.7 Approval Bond/Note Resolution.

- Mr. Romac requested more information about Item C.2 and if it is a one-time amount. Mr. Aiken said the savings to the district would be on a yearly basis and an ongoing savings. Mr. Tunstall said there might be more upfront, but the savings will continue over a number of years, at least 10.
- Mr. Romac asked how could the district get better with Item C.4. He said he has two students in the district who have not bought a lunch once. Janet Connors, regional manager for The Nutrition Group, said new products are how the food program gets better. She said the Nutrition Group does have meetings with students and they have been very positive in all of the buildings. Dr. Kwiatkowski asked what changed in one year when last year the program ran at a deficit and this year it will guarantee a profit. Ms. Connors said the Nutrition Group has included better products and reduced costs and labor. Dr. Kwiatkowski asked if the switch was really healthy. Ms. Connors said they use approved products. The Nutrition Group brings in all new products and sees what sells. Ms. Connors said the kids have come a long way in eating healthier. James Belany asked for more information on the meetings held with students because he never heard of the program. Ms. Connors said it is run my Jenny Pearson, food service director, and Linda Neely Yurasits. Ms. Pearson said she worked with students in the middle school GATE program and has been to student council meetings. She said small groups work best. Mr. Romac suggested they also meet with staff. Mrs. Phillips asked if parents could also be included. Ms. Yurasits said on Wellness Wednesdays they go into the primary level and have kids try something new and it gets the students excited about the food. Ms. Connors said there are other grade level specific things done at the upper grades
- Dr. Kwiatkowski then opened the floor to the public.
- Dorothy Petrancosta, of Skylark Drive, asked how the district reduced the salary and benefits in the 2016-17 budget and if it was by a reduction of 30 FTEs. Mr. Aiken said the reduction is just one fraction of how the district balanced the budget. The reductions were achieved through retirements, part-time work, sabbaticals, parental leaves, etc. While 30 is the target, the district is at 15-20 now but expects to realize additional attrition during the course of the summer. He added that over the next few years, the district would look at the attrition model to analyze each position one-by-one. Ms. Petrancosta then read from a prepared statement reviewing the district’s actions over the past months to review the budget and staffing model and expressed her anger and frustration in how staff acted by leaking information to the media and talking about losing their job to students. She said in the private market there would be disciplinary action taken for those actions. She also said she was serious about raising money and donating money to the district. If the public wants to keep the jobs, fundraise for it.
- Sierra Vogel, a Shaler Area High School student, said she is an advocate of student leadership. She is involved in sports and the musical and her teachers have affected her. She said informing students of what is happening and coming to the meetings has helped her as a student and a person. She said the students came out to help because the teachers have helped them and they are appreciative.
- Ryan Pontzloff, a Shaler Area High School student, said he is a senior and many of his classmates chose to come to the meetings of their own free will. He then asked Mr. Aiken why the aggressive attrition model had not been used in the past. Mr. Aiken said it was used and even used last year. However, he said moving forward it might be more aggressive than the past 5 to 10 years but while maintaining academic excellence.

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- Melissa Ravas, president of the teachers' union, thanked all of the board members. She said it has been a difficult couple of months. She said they realize the work is not done, and the district as a whole will work through it. She also acknowledged that it is a difficult time for many of the members and is looking forward to putting it all behind.
- Colleen Dunn, a Shaler Area High School student, said her teachers did not tell her to come. She said everyone has a right to know what teachers were to be furloughed, and the financial problem did not just happen.
- Amy Glath, Shaler Area teacher, said she was prepared to come and speak on behalf of the teachers who were to be furloughed. She thanked the administration and school board, and said the teachers are prepared to work with them.
- Dr. Kwiatkowski said it has been an interesting six to eight weeks and encouraged everyone to come to all of the board meetings. She said the board makes important decisions on a monthly basis and involvement in the process as well as PTOs and the District Parent Council is at an all-time low. She said if the public can do this much for this situation, they can do that much for the other organizations.

After no further items were presented, Dr. Kwiatkowski adjourned the Committee of the Whole meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Baker
Assistant Board Secretary