

*SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Committee of the Whole Meeting
November 9, 2022 – Hybrid
Minutes*

The Board of School Directors of the Shaler Area School District held a Committee of the Whole Meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, in a hybrid format, in person at the Shaler Area School District Administrative Offices, Glenshaw, PA, and on Zoom, a virtual meeting platform, with Dr. April Kwiatkowski, School Board President, presiding. This meeting began at 7:34 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Mrs. Elizabeth Dunn
Mr. James Fisher
Mr. Tim Gapsky
Mr. Edward Kress
Dr. April Kwiatkowski
Mr. Jason Machajewski
Mrs. Jeanne Petrovich
Mrs. Eileen Phillips
Mr. James Tunstall

Others Present:

Dr. Sean Aiken, Superintendent
Dr. Bryan O'Black, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Sherri Jaffee, Director of Business Affairs
Mr. John Vogel, Solicitor
Isabelle Dutkovic, Student Representative

Notice of this meeting was posted as required.

➤ Dr. Kwiatkowski called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

Dr. O'Black announced the following Education Items:

<u>ITEM</u>		<u>SUP</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
<u>#</u>	<u>EDUCATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>TAKEN</u>
A.1	Approve a Letter of Agreement with the Human Services Administration Organization to provide services for the Student Assistance Program throughout the 2022-23 school year.	A.1	

Dr. O'Black then announced the following Information Items:

Information Items:

1. Student Representative – Isabelle Dutkovic reported on the following building activities:
 - Scott Primary – Future Teachers of America visited the school on October 25. This visit was well received by the teachers and students. The teachers are hosting a family evening event on November 11 entitled “Scott Gives Back”. Over 300 school community members have signed up to come and spend an evening of service. The Battle of the Books is scheduled for November 4. Scott Primary celebrated

Hispanic Heritage Month through activities focusing on art and music. There are currently 15 different languages spoken at Scott.

- Marzolf Primary – Second graders will be performing a brief Veteran's Day music program on Friday. Also, this Friday evening the PTO is sponsoring an evening of fun activities for families. We are proud of the outstanding efforts of our students, parents, and staff in achieving a very high building level score on our yearly School Performance Profile.
 - Middle School – The Veterans' Day breakfast hosted about 300 veterans. Students read speeches and the chorus students performed.
 - High School – The school will be hosting a blood drive on November 18. Future Teachers of America will be visiting Burchfield on November 15. National Honor Society had their initiation ceremony on November 3 welcoming 28 new students. The results of the graduation gown survey were announced, 350 voted, and the plain blue gown with the Titan logo received 77% of the votes. The Powderpuff football game is scheduled for November 22. Seniors are planning a bake sale in December. The junior class will work with FTA on hosting a Holidays with Kids where kids can be dropped off for a few hours on a Saturday so that parents can shop for Christmas gifts. Sophomores are planning on doing candy-grams for Christmas.
2. Shaler Area Education Foundation – Mrs. Phillips reported that the foundation will be meeting next Monday. Foundation members have been attending faculty meetings to explain to the teachers their mission. Dr. Aiken reported that these meetings have been very successful – the teachers are asking lots of questions and there has been an increase in the number of grant applications.
 3. Mr. Jason Purring, High School Social Studies teacher, is planning a trip for students to travel to Egypt, June 11-20, 2024. Estimated cost per student is \$4,064.
 4. The Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Committee will meet on Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Duss Board Room.
 5. The Education Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Duss Board Room.
 6. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Aiken thanked Isabelle for her building reports. The middle school hosted a breakfast for veterans. The veterans are so appreciative of this event and the middle school students are very helpful and polite. The district is sponsoring a holiday card district. Carrie on Communications is partnering with our art teachers to encourage submissions from their students. Four athletic signings were held this morning – 2 lacrosse students (including Cami Kwiatkowski) 1 basketball student and 1 softball student. The district is hosting a parent education night tomorrow from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the middle school library. Childcare will be provided. Mr. Ian Miller, elementary school principal, will lead a group in his school's Parents as Allies program; Dr. Aiken will present Learner Centered Education; and Dr. O'Black will present Portrait of a Graduate. Last Friday approximately 40 students participated in the Career Fair at the Convention Center. Mr. Craig Wells, high school teacher, was amazed at how many were Shaler Area graduates. Shaler Area is sending more students to trades than any other district in Allegheny County.
- Mr. Kress stated that several females from the class of 2024 want to wear white gowns instead of the new blue gown. He asked if this could be possible. Dr. Aiken said that this is not a gradual change. He believes that a decision has been made and we need to move forward.
 - Mrs. Petrovich asked why the pie eating contest was discontinued. Isabelle Dutkovic believes it was discontinued because of Covid and parents informed Mrs. Thiel that they were concerned that this practice was a possible choking hazard. Mrs. Petrovich also believes we should do something else besides the sack race.

Mrs. Jaffee then announced the following Finance Items:

<u>ITEM</u> #	<u>FINANCE & OPERATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</u>	<u>SUP</u> #	<u>ACTION</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.	2019 Bond Fund – Schedule of Bills	C.1C	_____
D.	Budget Transfers	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 – July 1, 2022 and September 30, 2022	C.1G	_____
C.2	Cafeteria Operating Statements (September)	C.2	_____
C.3	Approve additional ABC Transit personnel.	C.3	_____
C.4	Approve a resolution due to ACT 57 of 2022 regarding the waiving of taxpayer’s additional fees if there was a failure to receive a tax notice.	C.4	_____
	<i>Background: Act 57 is a resolution that directs Tax Collector’s to waive additional charges for real estate taxes when a taxpayer requests a waiver of additional charges due to a failure to receive a tax notice when the taxpayer’s property or mobile home is purchased within the prior twelve months.</i>		_____
C.5	Approve the disposal of technology surplus equipment.	C.5	_____
C.6	Approve the contract with Debra Kriete for e-rate submissions in the amount of \$2,500 upon solicitor approval.	C.6	_____
C.7	Approve the authorization to participate in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program.	C.7	_____

- Mr. Fisher asked for an explanation of C.4. Mr. Vogel explained that if a taxpayer purchases a new home, they may not receive a tax notice. Act 57 allows a tax collector to waive additional charges if the new home is purchased within the prior twelve months.
- Dr. Kwiatkowski then invited the board to speak on any other business.
 - Mr. Kress inquired about the cost for a new press box at Titan Stadium and asked if a quarter million dollars is in line with other cheaper units. Dr. Aiken will speak with Matt Franz to get more details and will provide an update on Friday.
 - Mrs. Jaffee reported to the board that free breakfasts were being offered starting October 1st. The average number of breakfasts per day increased to 853 from 600 last year.
 - Dr. Aiken reminded the board that the administration is collecting \$25 grocery store gift cards to distribute to our families in need of Thanksgiving help.

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- Dr. Kwiatkowski then recognized the public to speak on any other items:
 - There were none.
- Mrs. Phillips informed the board that the Glenshaw Century Club will not be having their open house this year. The holiday craft fair was very successful and helps raise money for scholarships.
- Mrs. Petrovich asked the administration why the IKS Titan at the elementary school was not working. Dr. Aiken and Dr. O'Black will reach out to the teacher to get more information.

After no further items were presented, final adjournment occurred at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri M. Jaffee
Board Secretary