

*SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Committee of the Whole Meeting
May 10, 2023 – Hybrid
Minutes*

The Board of School Directors of the Shaler Area School District held a Committee of the Whole Meeting on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, in a hybrid format, in person at the Shaler Area Administrative Offices, Glenshaw, PA and on Zoom, a virtual meeting platform, with Mr. James Tunstall, School Board Vice President, presiding. This meeting began at 8:05 p.m.

Board Members Present: Ms. Elizabeth Dunn
 Mr. James Fisher
 Mr. Tim Gapsky
 Mr. Edward Kress
 Dr. April Kwiatkowski
 Mr. Jason Machajewski
 Mrs. Eileen Phillips
 Mr. James Tunstall

Board Members Absent: Mrs. Jeanne Petrovich

Others Present: Dr. Sean Aiken, Superintendent
 Dr. Bryan O’Black, Deputy Superintendent
 Mrs. Sherri Jaffee, Director of Business Affairs
 Mr. John Vogel, Solicitor
 Avery Gallant, Student Representative
 Isabelle Dutkovic, Student Representative

Notice of this meeting was posted as required.

➤ Mr. Tunstall called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m.

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

<u>ITEM</u>		<u>SUP</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
#	<u>EDUCATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</u>	#	<u>TAKEN</u>
A.1	Approve a services agreement with The Day School, Pittsburgh, to provide related services to students pursuant to approved alternative educational placements for the 2023-24 school year.	A.1	_____
A.2	Approve the concurrent enrollment agreement with the University of Pittsburgh to offer college in high school courses for the 2023-24 school year.	A.2	_____
A.3	Approve the concurrent enrollment agreement with Carlow University to offer college in high school courses for the 2023-24 school year.	A.3	_____
A.4	Approve an addendum to the high school course description guide for the 2023-24 school year to include College in High School Advanced Pre-K Lab.	A.4	_____
A.5	Approve the services agreement with St. Stephen’s Lutheran Academy to provide special education services for the 2023-24 school year.	A.5	_____

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| A.6 | Approve a memorandum of understanding with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit mutual assistance group to coordinate interagency disaster and emergency support for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 1, 2026. | A.6 | |
| A.7 | Approve an agreement with the Highmark Caring Foundation to provide school-based peer support group for grieving children and adolescents for a twenty-four-month period effective May 17, 2023. | A.7 | |
| A.8 | Approve a resolution in support of SB180 and HB180 whereby the legislator is seeking to provide school meals for all K-12 students throughout the state. Offering universal school meals benefits all students and their parents, teachers, and schools. Multiple studies show that students with access to free breakfast have improved attendance rates, better attendance in school, improved participation rates, fewer behavioral incidents, lower suspension rates, and better health outcomes. | A.8 | |
- Mr. Tunstall asked if there were any questions from the board.
- Mr. Fisher asked about the organization in item A.5. Dr. O’Black explained that this was formerly Glade Run.
 - Ms. Dunn explained to the board that the resolution in item A.8 was brought to our attention by another school district. During the pandemic, school meals were free. Dr. Kwiatkowski stated that it is terrible that it took a pandemic to realize that food insecurities are a problem for students. Dr. Kwiatkowski also stated that college in high school courses are fantastic for students, and she asked if we track the students taking these courses. Dr. O’Black said that we do track internally and can make that information available to the board.

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

1. Student Representatives –Avery Gallant and Isabelle Dutkovic reported on the following building activities:
 - High School – The Senior Dinner was held on Thursday, May 4 on the Gateway Clipper. Students had a good time. The Senior Awards Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, May 18. The Prom will be on Friday, May 26 at the Sheraton Station Square. This year’s theme is Hollywood and ticket sales are strong. Finals will take place during the next two weeks as well as the Keystone exams.
 - Elementary School – Third grade students from Burchfield, Marzolf, Reserve and Scott Primaries visited SAES on May 8 & 9 and went on building tours. Students were greeted and toured by the Student Ambassadors. The SAES musical “Aristocat” was performed on May 5. The 11th annual “Run for the Titan Trail” was held on April 29. It was the biggest yea to date with 220 registered runners and walkers.
 - Marzolf – PTO meeting on May 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the library. May 9 – third grade will visit the elementary school. May 12 – third grade Geode Jeff Principal and the Pea School Show at 2:00 p.m. Field Day is scheduled for May 19. Kindergarten celebration program on May 31st at 10:00 a.m.
 - Scott – Students have gone on field trips to the Children’s Museum, Carnegie Science Center, and Camp Guyasuta, and have enjoyed visits from Miss Ing and Miss Rebbekah from the SNHL. Students participated in a personal health care supply drive for the North Hills Community Outreach Center and donated \$500 of supplies. Twenty-nine parents are scheduled to visit on Career Day. Kindergarten screenings are being held the week of May 15.
2. Shaler Area Education Foundation – Mrs. Phillips reported that the Taste of Shaler Area was a huge success and hit their fundraising goal of \$6,000. Grant requests are still coming in and being evaluated by the committee. The Alumni Relations committee is building momentum. They will be sending cards and a gift to all graduates. SAEF will also have a presence at the end of the year celebration. The next meeting will be June 5.

3. Superintendent’s Report

- Dr. Aiken reported that the high school band performance was a great success and the student gave a high-level performance.
- On Thursday, May 11, the district will host a Drug Awareness/Drug Education night sponsored by the District Parent Council. Dr. Tom Brophy, the local magistrate and law enforcement will be participating. During the day, Dr. Brophy and Mr. Demore will meet with middle school students. Mr. Gapsky reminded the board and the public that no one will be trying to sell anything, this is to make children and parents aware of the dangers.
- 51 Bridge Street – Dr. Aiken will be speaking to Matt Cypher tomorrow. He has indicated that he has some very exciting news to share with the district.
- Teacher Appreciation Week was celebrated the first week of May. Over 350 cards of appreciation were sent to our teachers.
- 143 Day is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23 at the middle school. The target audience is K-6. Entertainment, crafts and activities are being planned by staff and high school will be volunteering to help. Kindness and respect will be emphasized.
- End of Year Celebration will be held on Sunday, June 4 from 1:00-4:00. DPC is planning an event similar to last year.
- Dr. Aiken reminded the board that this will be the last meeting for student representative, Avery Gallant. Avery came at a unique time during the pandemic and embraced the opportunity to speak for students. She was a valuable connection for the students and the school board. Avery plans to attend Seton Hill University majoring in secondary English education and hopes to be an English teacher. Mr. Tunstall stated that he can’t thank Avery enough and the board really relied on the information that she shared with the board. Dr. Kwiatkowski stated that she was sorry to not be here in person but that it has been an honor and privilege to watch you grow and she’s very proud of you.

Mrs. Jaffee then announced the following Finance Items:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>SUP</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
#	#	TAKEN
<u>FINANCE & OPERATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</u>		
C.1		
A.	C.1A	_____
B.	C.1B	_____
C.	C.1C	_____
D.	C.1D	_____
E.	C.1E	_____
F.	C.1F	_____
G.	C.1G	_____

C.2	C.2	_____
C.3	C.3	

	2023-24 School Year	Change
Beattie Operating Budget	\$1,210,492	(\$61,805)
Debt Service	\$ 189,526	(\$360)
TOTAL	\$1,400,018	(\$62,165)

C.4 Recommend the award of the following bids that were opened as listed: C.4

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

C.5 Approve the appointment of Jeanne Hohlweg as District Treasurer effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. C.5

C.6 Approve the following insurance policies for the 2023-24 fiscal year: C.6

Type of Policy	Compa ny	2023-24
Property	Utica	\$83,562
Liability	Utica	\$61,912
Crime/Terrorism	Utica	\$12,109
Total Package		\$157,583
Automobile	Utica	\$7,530
Package & Fire Loss, B&M		\$165,113
Flood-Butler Plank	Utica	\$3,883
Umbrella	Utica	\$11,798
Student Accident Insurance	Utica	\$28,319
Cyber	Utica	\$26,522
Property Total		\$235,634
Worker’s Compensation	UPMC	\$198,014
Total Property & Worker’s Compensation		\$433,649

C.7 Approve additional ABC Transit personnel C.7

C.8 Approve the 2023 Resolution Authorizing the Shaler Area School District’s Participation in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit #3 Joint Purchasing Board for 2023 and forward, until the Board no longer wishes to use this service. C.8

C.9 Approve the disposal of Building & Grounds surplus equipment as per attached list. C.9

C.10 Approve the rejection of all bids received for the Asphalt and Concrete Replacement contracts at Shaler Area Middle and Reserve Primary schools C.10

➤ Mr. Tunstall asked if there were any questions from the board.

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- Mr. Fisher asked about the cost of insurance from last year. Mrs. Jaffee explained that our broker goes to the market and looks for the best policies. Our worker's compensation went down as we have less claims. Dr. O'Black explained that the district's Safety Committee meets every month and we get a discount. He further explained that preventive training practices are put in place based on what injuries we're receiving and explains the significant reduction in our claims.
- Mr. Tunstall invited the board to speak on any other business.
 - There was none.
- Mr. Tunstall then recognized the public to speak on any other items:
 - Gina Dayieb, 110 DeAngelo Drive, asked about accessing the district's annual report. Dr. Aiken said that we will begin using *In Shaler Area* magazine to post our annual report. Ms. Dayieb also asked about the resolution in A.8. She believes that there is a lot of sugar in the breakfast foods and wondered if Nutrition will address this. Mr. Tunstall explained that there are strict guidelines and we are meeting those guidelines.
 - Dorothy Petrancosta, 148 Skylark Drive, stated that we are educating less students, and North Hills, North Allegheny and Pine Richland all have millages under 20. She also asked about C.10. Do we have any amount due to HHS DR? Mrs. Jaffee will get the information for next week's meeting. Mr. Gapsky stated that we still have to pay the 6% fee.
- Mr. Tunstall then invited the remote public to speak on any other items:
 - There was none.

After no further items were presented, final adjournment occurred at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri M. Jaffee,
Board Secretary