

*SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Combined COW/Voting Meeting
August 12, 2020 – Virtual
Minutes*

The Board of School Directors of the Shaler Area School District held a Combined COW/Voting Meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2020, on Zoom, a virtual meeting platform, with Mr. Jim Tunstall, School Board President, presiding. This meeting began at 7:40 p.m.

Board Members Present:

- Mrs. Suzanna Donahue
- Mr. James Fisher
- 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
- Ms. Sherri Ludwig, Director of Business Affairs
- Dr. Kathleen Graczyk, Director of Student Services
- Mr. Matt Hoffman, Solicitor

Notice of this meeting was posted as required.

- Mr. Tunstall opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.
- Mr. Tunstall recognized the Public to Speak on Agenda Items.
 - There was none.
- Mr. Tunstall then called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and invited all in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- On a motion by Mr. Fisher and a second by Dr. Kwiatkowski, the following motion was approved by all in attendance:
 - Motion to suspend any applicable Shaler Area School District policies in order to authorize the conduct of this special voting meeting of the Board of School Directors via telephone conference in consideration of the public health concerns and governmental directives arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Notice of such action, along with information as to how members of the public may access the telephone conference meeting, previously was posted at the District Administration office and to the District website.
- Mr. Tunstall then announced items tabled or removed from the agenda:
 - There were none.
- On a motion by Mrs. Petrovich and a second by Dr. Kwiatkowski, the agenda was approved by all Board members in attendance.

Dr. O’Black then presented the following Personnel Items for approval:

<u>ITEM</u> #	<u>PERSONNEL ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</u>	<u>SUP</u> #	<u>ACTION</u> <u>TAKEN</u>
B.1	Approve the following Retirements :		<u>Retirements</u>
a.	Paula Finello, Class II Paraprofessional, Marzolf Primary, effective retroactive to July 31, 2020.		
b.	Suzanne Sperling, Class I, Administrative Secretary, Central Office, effective at the end of the workday August 28, 2020.		
B.2	Approve the following Resignation :		<u>Resignation</u>
a.	Ashley DiCriscio, Special Education teacher, High School, effective retroactive to August 5, 2020.		
B.3	Rescind the following Long-Term Substitute Teacher (LTS) for the 2020-21 school year:		<u>Rescind LTS</u>
a.	Jennifer Ingram, a graduate of University of Alabama and Point Park University, for an extension to her current LTS Contract, Secondary English, for K. Aluise, High School, effective August 18, 2020 to on or about January 19, 2021 (the first semester of the 2020-21 school year), at 85% of a Bachelor’s Steps 1/2 salary level (prorated).		
B.4	Approve the following Long-Term Substitute Teachers (LTS’s) for the 2020-21 school year as follows:		<u>LTS</u>
a.	Jennifer Ingram, a graduate of University of Alabama and Point Park University, for an extension to her current LTS Contract, Secondary English, for K. Aluise, High School, effective August 28, 2020 to on or about November 13, 2020 , at 85% of a Bachelor’s Steps 1/2 salary level (prorated).	B.4a.	
B.5	Approve the following Intern for the 2020-21 school year:		<u>Intern</u>
a.	Samantha Hornyak, St. Vincent College, as a Guidance Intern, with Lezlie DelVecchio-Marks, Burchfield & Reserve Primary Schools, for the 2020-21 school year, at no cost to the District.	B.5a.	
B.6	Approve the supplement contracts for Sponsors for the 2020-21 school year. Compensation will be in accordance with the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Contracts may be prorated to services rendered as a result of potential school closures and activity cancellations related to the COVID-19 pandemic.	B.6	<u>Supplemental</u> <u>Contract –</u> <u>Sponsors</u>
B.7	Approve the following Grade Level Chair Coach-K-3 for the 2020-21 school year:		<u>Grade Level Chair</u> <u>Coach K-3</u>
a.	Amanda Mihalyi, Third Grade ELA/Social Studies		

B.8 Approve the following day-to-day substitute **Clerical** for the 2020-21 school year:

Day-to-Day
Substitute –
Clerical

a. April Gentile

A motion was made by Mr. Fisher with a second by Mrs. Petrovich, to approve Items B.1-8.

Dr. Kwiatkowski said under normal circumstances, the board would have invited the retirees to the board meeting to thank them in person for their service to the district. She acknowledged the work of Ms. Finello and Ms. Sperling. After no further discussion, these items were then approved by a roll call vote.

ACTION:
Approved
Items B.1-8

Motion Carried: 9 aye; 0 nay

Donahue	Fisher	Gapsky	Kwiatkowski	Machajewski	Petrovich	Phillips	Romac	Tunstall
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Ms. Ludwig then presented the following Finance Items for approval:

<u>ITEM #</u>	<u>FINANCE & OPERATION ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</u>	<u>SUP. #</u>	<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>
C.1	Approve ABC Transit, Inc. Bus Drivers for the 2020-21 school year.	C.1	<u>ABC Transit Bus Drivers</u>
C.2	Approve the engagement letter addendum with Maher Duessel CPA’s for additional services related to the 2019-20 audit.	C.2	<u>Engagement Letter with Maher Duessel</u>

A motion was made by Mrs. Petrovich with a second by Mr. Romac, to approve Items C.1-2.

After no further discussion, these items were then approved by a roll call vote.

ACTION:
Approved
Items C.1-2

Motion Carried: 9 aye; 0 nay

Donahue	Fisher	Gapsky	Kwiatkowski	Machajewski	Petrovich	Phillips	Romac	Tunstall
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

August 12, 2020 – Combined COW/Voting Meeting

- Announcement of Past Executive Sessions was made by Mr. Tunstall.

- Mr. Tunstall then announced the following upcoming meetings:
 - Wednesday, August 19, 2020 – Voting Meeting
 - Executive Session – 6:15 p.m.
 - Public Session – 7:15 p.m.

- Mr. Tunstall then asked if there was any other business to come before the board.
 - Dr. Kwiatkowski acknowledged the work of Mr. Aiken and Dr. O’Black with Monday’s Parent Town Hall meetings and reported that she has received nothing but positive feedback on the presentation of the plan.
 - Mr. Tunstall agreed that while it’s been very challenging, everyone has been working very hard. He thanked the administration for everything they are going through.
 - Mr. Aiken thanked the board for their support and said it has been an effective approach during a difficult time.
 - Mrs. Petrovich said she received a letter from a disgruntled parent. Other board members indicated they received the same letter. Mr. Tunstall said he understands the parent’s concerns, and for everyone who thinks the district should be doing what it’s doing, there’s someone who disagrees. Mr. Aiken said he spent time talking to the concerned parent and listening to their concerns.
 - Dr. O’Black acknowledged the entire administrative team as well and their work behind the scenes to prepare and support the teachers.

After no further items were presented, on a motion by Mrs. Petrovich and second by Mrs. Donahue, the Business Meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Mr. Tunstall then recognized the public to speak on any non-agenda item:

- Heather Schneider, of Wimar Circle, said that in talking to another parent, some of the information being shared recently by school counselors served in contradiction to the information that was shared in the Parent Town Halls on Monday. Ms. Schneider acknowledged that information is changing quickly and wanted the administration to be aware of the discrepancy. Mr. Aiken thanked her for the information and shared that he will make sure accurate, updated information is shared with the school counselors. He said that part of the change is that the district is changing the way it has handled the Titan Cyber Academy in the past to provide for more seamless transitions between instructional models. The district is still working through some of the details.

When no one else approached to speak, the meeting’s Final Adjournment occurred at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Baker
Assistant Board Secretary