

CONEMAUGH TOWNSHIP AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Davidsville, Pennsylvania

The regular meeting of the Conemaugh Township Area School Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the board room with Mrs. Saylor-Stahl presiding.

Roll call was taken by Lisa Stevens.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Rocco Mantini, Deanna Maurer, Matthew Phillippi, Earl Sleek, II, Jeremy Sotosky, Christine Troxell, Susan Saylor-Stahl	7
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Jeffrey Alesantrino, Melanie Byer	2
		Quorum present

Others Present: Nicole Dull, Stacy Dabbs, James Foster, Jarod Feathers, Samantha Rosa, Jane Jugan, Brandon Studer, Adam Thomas, David Budash, Meribeth DeBarto, Kelly Digon, Ellen Doyle, Kelly McCall, Bethany Spengler, Lisa Stevens

Mrs. Saylor-Stahl led those present in the flag salute.

Student Council member Grace McCall attended the meeting to thank the Board for their support and brought desserts and beverages for those present in honor of School Director Recognition Month.

There being no objections or corrections stated, Mrs. Saylor-Stahl declared the following previously circulated items approved as submitted:

1. Minutes of the reorganization meeting held December 5, 2023
2. Minutes of the regular school board meeting held December 5, 2023
3. General Fund Revenue/Expenditure Reports as of November 30 and December 31, 2023
4. Tax Collection Reports as of November 30 and December 31, 2023
5. Activity Fund Reports for November and December

MOTION by Mrs. Troxell, seconded by Mrs. Maurer, to approve payment of all general fund bills and payrolls, athletic bills, and cafeteria bills as listed.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Dr. Mantini, seconded by Mr. Phillippi, to approve payment of the capital projects bills as listed.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

Mrs. Saylor-Stahl acknowledged receipt of correspondence as follows:

1. Thank-you card from Pattie Bailey
2. Thank-you cards from Teachers/Staff
3. Thank-you cards from Students

MOTION by Mrs. Troxell, seconded by Dr. Mantini, to accept the report and recommendations of the Committee of the Whole meeting held January 8, 2024 as follows:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE	JANUARY 8, 2024
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The Committee of the Whole meeting of the Conemaugh Township Area School Board of Directors was held on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the board room with Mrs. Saylor-Stahl presiding.

Committee of the Whole continued—

Members Present: Jeffrey Alesantrino, Melanie Byer, Rocco Mantini, Deanna Maurer, Ethan Phillippi, Susan Saylor-Stahl, Earl Sleek, II, Jeremy Sotosky, Christine Troxell

Others Present: Nicole Dull, Stacy Dabbs, James Foster, Jarod Feathers, Samantha Rosa, Jane Jugan, Brandon Studer, David Budash, Adam Thomas, Meribeth DeBarto, Kelly Digon, Lisa Stevens

Mrs. Saylor-Stahl announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting from 6:00 p.m. to 6:50 p.m. to conduct a teacher interview.

The following items are presented for your review and consideration:

1. Megan Miller (Teacher) and Tanner Shroyer (Student Mentor) attended the meeting to give an update on the Tribe Time program which is held at Davidsville Community Church.
2. Student Education
 - A. Recommend approval to revise the 2023-2024 School Calendar by adding an Act 80 three-hour early dismissal on Friday, February 2, 2024.
 - B. Informational items were as follows:
 1. Kindergarten registration is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6, 2024, via pre-scheduled appointments at the Elementary School.
 2. Discipline Reports were included with the agenda.
3. School Activities
 - A. Recommend approval of the following Field Trip/Competition Requests:
 1. Permission for Kimberly Garman/Ashley Kopp’s Substitute to accompany life skills/MDS students (17) to the Westwood Plaza Theatre for a community-based instruction experience on Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at a cost of \$800: \$300/admission; \$400/travel; \$100/substitute nurse (budgeted).
 2. Permission for Ruth Hostetler/Becky Lough/Kelly McCall/Amy Stone to accompany kindergarten students (66) on a field trip to Fort Ligonier on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at a cost of \$200/substitute nurse (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by PTA).
 3. Permission for Jakeb Rising/Kelly Kramer to accompany students (12) to UPJ to participate in the MathCounts Chapter Competition on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at a cost of \$180/registration (budgeted).
 4. Permission for Jakeb Rising/Jodi Forgas to accompany students (8-12) to Somerset High School for the Somerset County Scholastic Quiz Competition on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at a cost of \$495: \$120/registration; \$55/travel; \$320/substitutes (budgeted).
 5. Permission for Jakeb Rising to accompany students (5) to Marion Center High School for a Heritage Conference Math Competition on Thursday, March 14, 2024 at a cost of \$237: \$77/travel; \$160/substitute (not budgeted).

Committee of the Whole continued—

B. Discussion was held concerning Esports. The Board requested that new surveys be conducted of students and parents concerning sports/activities the students would consider leaving to participate in Esports before further discussion takes place on this issue.

C. Informational items were as follows:

1. Elementary and Secondary Newsletters were included with the agenda.
2. The Board's annual yearbook picture has been scheduled for approximately 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16, 2024.

4. Human Development

A. Recommend approval of the following additional Substitute Teachers submitted by Ignite Education Solutions for the 2023-2024 school year: Carol Battaglia (Special Ed.); Riley Hanley (Grades PK-4); Alayna Plaza (Grades PK-4); Rachel Saylor (Emergency); Dale Streletz (Music); Cheyann Warner (Grades PK-4); William Wood (Emergency); Meredith Zorn (Emergency).

B. Recommend approval to change the hours of employment for Scott Smith to eight (8) hours per day for five (5) days per week during the school year and six and one-half (6.5) hours per day for two (2) days per week during the summer and to revise the handbook related to this position accordingly.

C. Recommend approval of revisions to the support staff employee handbooks as follows:

Aide Handbook:

(Under Payroll Section)

Deductions required by law shall be made from the employee's pay; and in addition, the employer, upon receipt of individually signed authorization from each employee, shall make the following payroll deductions available:

C.B.W. Credit Union
Premiums for Disability/Illness/Accident/Life Insurance
Tax Shelter Annuities (not to exceed 12 providers)

Cafeteria Handbook:

(Under Payroll Section)

Deductions required by law shall be made from the employee's pay; and in addition, the employer, upon receipt of individually signed authorization from each employee, shall make the following payroll deductions available:

C.B.W. Credit Union
Employee contributions to approved Health Savings Accounts (HSA)
Premiums for Disability/Illness/Accident/Life Insurance
Tax Shelter Annuities (not to exceed 12 providers)

Committee of the Whole continued—

Buildings/Grounds, District Office, High School Attendance Secretary, and Secretarial Handbooks:

(Under Payroll Section)

Deductions required by law shall be made from the employee's pay; and in addition, the employer, upon receipt of individually signed authorization from each employee, shall make the following payroll deductions available:

- C.B.W. Credit Union
- Employee contributions to approved Health Savings Accounts (HSA)
- Premiums for Disability/Illness/Accident/Life Insurance
- Tax Shelter Annuities (not to exceed 12 providers)

Buildings/Grounds, Cafeteria, District Office, and Secretarial Handbooks:

(Under Medical Insurance Section)

2. District funding of the deductible, if any, will be determined by the Board of Directors.

Aide, Buildings/Grounds, Cafeteria, District Office, High School Attendance Secretary, and Secretarial Handbooks:

Disability/Illness/Accident Insurance - Coverage will be made available to employees with the understanding that the employee will pay in full the premium due thereon.

OVERTIME AND EXTRA PAY

Overtime compensation shall be awarded as defined in the District's Overtime Policy (No. 530).

D. Recommend approval of the following additional volunteers for the 2023-2024 school year:

Mary Louise Donitzen	Elementary School
Rachel Girona	Elementary School
Andrew Kaufman	Music Department
Jordan Lease	Junior High Track
Kimberly Meyers	Track
H. William Miller, Jr.	Musical/Post Prom
Patricia Miller	Musical/Post Prom
Patricia Nancarvis	Elementary School (Good News Club)
Courtney Oakes	Elementary School/Elementary Wrestling
Denise Yourich	Elementary School (Good News Club)

5. Support Services

A. Recommend permission to enter into a contract with Tracy Labreck to transport her child to and from school at the minimum rate of \$25 per day, or to school only at the minimum rate of \$12.50 per day, retroactive to December 13, 2023, and continuing for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

Committee of the Whole continued—

- B. Recommend permission to reimburse the Greater Latrobe School District for half of the daily cost of \$200.69 to transport a homeless student residing in our school district to Greater Latrobe via DMJ Transportation.
- C. Recommend approval to enter into an Educator & Clinician Preparation Field Experience Agreement with Indiana University of Pennsylvania for the placement of student teachers within the district for a term of five years.
- D. Discussion was held concerning the Appalachia Intermediate Unit 08 Board Representatives. None of the Board members indicated an interest in serving in this capacity.

6. District or Business Planning

- A. Recommend approval of new/revised Policies and documents as presented:

Policy 006	Meetings
Policy 216.2	Supplemental Discipline Records
236-AR-0	Student Assistance Program
236.1-AR-0	Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines/Forms (District change—replaces 236.1-AR-0, 236.1-AR-1 and 236.1-AR-2)
Policy 251	Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability
Policy 707	Use of School Facilities (District change)
Policy 800	Records Management; 800-AR-0 Records Management
Policy 815	Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources
Policy 819	Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response; 819-AR-0 Suicide Crisis Intervention/Response Guidelines
Policy 830	Security of Computerized Personal Information/Breach Notification; 830-AR-0 Security of Computerized Personal Information/Breach Notification (New)
Policy 830.1	Data Governance – Storage/Security; 830.1-AR-0 Data Storage and Security (New)

7. Buildings & Grounds

- A. Recommend approval of the following Use of Facilities Requests:

- 1. Ratification of the Superintendent’s decision to permit The Shop 814 Wrestling Club/C. T. Wrestling Boosters to use the High School Field House Wrestling Room, Concession Stand, and Gym Lobby on Sunday, December 17, 2023 at a Rental Fee of \$23.00 per hour and Use of Facilities Fee of \$30.00 per hour.
- 2. Euro Club
High School Library
February 7 & 13, 2024 (5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
Jakeb Rising
- 3. PTA/Elementary Reading Night
Entire Elementary School & High School Parking Lot
Saturday, March 16, 2024 to decorate for event
Thursday, March 21, 2024 (4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.)
Michelle Wozniak

Committee of the Whole continued—

8. Budget & Finance

A. Recommend acknowledgment of receipt of a change in Occupation Valuation Classification as follows:
Kimberly J. Reighard – Retired.

B. Recommend approval to contribute funds to the following organizations (same as last year):

Junior Achievement	\$200
Somerset County Library	\$300
Conemaugh Township EMS	\$300
Fire Companies:	
Conemaugh Township	\$200
Scalp Level (formerly Hollsopple)	\$200
Jerome	\$200

C. Recommend acceptance of the Offer to Purchase Property at Private Sale from Billy W. Fisher for Conemaugh Township Property No. 12-0-056520 at a sum of \$1,085.61.

D. Recommend acceptance of the Offer to Purchase Property at Private Sale from Lorraine J. Fisher for Conemaugh Township Property No. 12-0-017870 at a sum of \$1,058.03.

E. Informational Item – The District received a check from the Greater Johnstown CTC in the amount of \$112,186.34 after the calculation of final costs for the 2022-2023 school year.

9. Other Items

A. Mrs. Troxell noted that the number of students participating in the elementary wrestling program has been increasing.

An executive session was held from 7:58 p.m. to 9:25 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Dr. Mantini, seconded by Mr. Sleek, to approve the following requests:

1. Permission for Jeffrey Marteeny to accompany TSA members (8) to Cambria Heights High School for the Regional Contest on Saturday, February 3, 2024 at no cost to the district.
2. Permission for Kara Duplin/Kellie Hankinson/Erin Stroz to attend a School Counselor Network Meeting at I. U. 8/Altoona on Friday, January 26, 2024 at a cost of \$60/travel (budgeted).
3. Acceptance of the resignation of the following individuals effective as of the date listed:

Scott Thomas	Head Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach	January 10, 2024
Samuel Zambanini, Jr.	Health/Physical Education Teacher	June 30, 2024 (retirement)
4. Additional Substitute Teacher submitted by Ignite Education Solutions for the 2023-2024 school year: Maria Markley (Emergency).
5. Girl Scout Troop 40050/Collect Donations for Humane Society

Elementary School Lobby Area/Front Entrance
February 12 & 23, 2024 (4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)
Brittany Ferpas

6. Permission for the following individuals to serve as volunteers for the 2023-2024 school year:

Thomas Hiravi	Track
Timothy McKenzie	Music Department
Virginia Miller	Elementary & High School Therapy Dog Visits

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mrs. Troxell, seconded by Mr. Phillippi, to appoint Kendall D. Swick as a Middle Level Science Teacher beginning January 18, 2024 at a salary to be prorated based on \$40,099 (Step 1, Bachelor’s Degree), pending receipt of appropriate paperwork.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mrs. Troxell, seconded by Dr. Mantini, to reaffirm the Health and Safety Plan for the 2023-2024 school year.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Dr. Mantini, seconded by Mr. Sleek, to ratify the Superintendent’s decision to agree to a thirty (30) day extension of the Tolling Agreement in a special education matter which was initially approved by the Board on December 5, 2023.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mrs. Troxell, seconded by Mrs. Maurer, to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Kent Brooks (formerly Lonesome Prairie Publications, LLC) to provide services necessary for the research for, development and submission of a 2024 USDA Distance Learning Grant at a cost of \$9,500 (was \$8,500 last year).

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

Financial Report – A Newsletter, Cash Balance/Investment Reports for November/December, Capital Reserve Account Reports for November/December, and Self-Funding Analysis for November were included with the agenda. Discussion was held concerning a report distributed by Mr. Studer on cyber charter school attendance and costs. Mrs. Saylor-Stahl suggested that Rep. Carl Metzgar and/or Sen. Pat Stefano be invited to come to a future meeting to discuss this issue.

Superintendent’s Report – Mrs. Dull reviewed her list of recent meetings/activities and upcoming events. She noted that Kellie Hankinson wrote and received a grant award of \$3,530 to help defray the costs of the Post Prom. She also distributed School Code changes for 2023. Mrs. Rosa spoke concerning the Community Appreciation Breakfast scheduled for February 2, 2024 at the Elementary School.

Greater Johnstown CTC Report – Dr. Mantini reported that the CTC is in the process of purchasing a property for students to renovate and land for construction of home(s) by building trades students in the future.

An executive session was held from 7:48 p.m. to 10:20 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

There being no further business, Mrs. Saylor-Stahl declared the meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl E. Sleek, II, Secretary