

CONEMAUGH TOWNSHIP AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Davidsville, Pennsylvania

The regular meeting of the Conemaugh Township Area School Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the board room with Mrs. Saylor-Stahl presiding.

Roll call was taken by James Foster.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeffrey Alesantrino, Melanie Byer, Rocco Mantini, Deanna Maurer,
Ethan Phillippi, Jeremy Sotosky, Christine Troxell, Susan Saylor-Stahl 8
MEMBERS ABSENT: Earl Sleek, II 1
Quorum present

Others Present: Nicole Dull, Michael Barbera, Stacy Dabbs, James Foster, Jarod Feathers, Samantha Rosa,
Brandon Studer, David Budash, Adam Thomas, Lorrie Callihan, Kelly Digon, Scott Smith

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

Travis Hutzell attended the meeting to request that the bus travel on Dickey Hill Road for next school year.

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

1. Minutes of the regular school board meeting held February 20, 2024
2. General Fund Revenue/Expenditure Report as of February 29, 2024
3. Tax Collection Report as of February 29, 2024
4. Activity Fund Report for February

MOTION by Mrs. Byer, seconded by Mr. Alesantrino, 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.

Mrs. Saylor-Stahl noted receipt of a letter from the Pennsylvania Department of Education stating that the Single Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 was approved as being substantially in compliance with relevant federal and Commonwealth policy.

MOTION by Dr. Mantini, seconded by Mrs. Maurer, to accept the report and recommendations of the Committee of the Whole meeting held March 11, 2024, with the revision of Item 3.E., as follows:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE	MARCH 11, 2024
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The Committee of the Whole meeting of the Conemaugh Township Area School Board of Directors was held on Monday, March 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the board room with Mrs. Saylor-Stahl presiding.

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

The following items are presented for your review and consideration:

1. Student Education

- A. Recommend approval to conduct a Summer Kindergarten Readiness Program at a cost not to exceed \$6,000. (District funded—two certified teachers, one aide, and one AmeriCorps member will be needed to staff this program for incoming students based on DIAL-4 scores.)
- B. Recommend approval of the 2024-2025 School Calendar.
- C. Recommend permission to enter into an Alternative Education For Disruptive Youth Act 48 Program Agreement for Services with Ignite Education Solutions for two seats located at the Greater Johnstown CTC at a cost not to exceed \$13,561.50 per seat for the 2024-2025 school year. (Was \$13,111.69 per seat last year.)
- D. Recommend approval to administer a School Climate Survey to students in Grades 10-12.
- E. Informational items were as follows:
 - 1. To date, 50 children have been registered for kindergarten (was 62 last year at this time).
 - 2. Discipline Reports were included with the agenda.

2. School Activities

- A. Recommend approval of the following Field Trip/Competition Requests:
 - 1. Permission for Angela Callihan to accompany Life Skills/MDS students (7) to Windber Stadium for an Easter Egg Hunt on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at a cost of \$300/travel (budgeted).
 - 2. Permission for Lorrie Callihan/Seth Keafer/Lori Reese/Audrey Wenger to accompany third grade students (59) on a field trip to the Somerset Historical Society on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at a cost of \$200/substitute nurse (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by PTA).
 - 3. Permission for Lorrie Callihan/Seth Keafer/Lori Reese/Audrey Wenger to accompany third grade students (59) on a field trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at a cost of \$200/substitute nurse (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by PTA).
 - 4. Permission for Emily Del Signore/Kelly Digon/Christine Magistro/Wonda Piskuric/Elyse Uhlig to accompany first grade students (63) on a field trip to the Everett Railroad/Hollidaysburg on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at a cost of \$200/substitute nurse (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by PTA).
 - 5. Permission for Ellen Doyle/Renee Dryer/Deborah McMillan/Alyshia Mock to accompany second grade students (79) on a field trip to the Everett Railroad/Hollidaysburg on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at a cost of \$200/substitute nurse (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by PTA).
 - 6. Permission for Ellen Doyle/Renee Dryer/Deborah McMillan/Alyshia Mock to accompany second grade students (79) on a field trip to the Compass Inn/Laughlinton on Friday, May 17, 2024 at a cost of \$200/substitute nurse (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by PTA).
 - 7. Permission for Kara Duplin to accompany students (45) to the Penn Highlands Career Fest on March 15 (Health Sciences), April 5 (Human Services), and April 19, 2024 (Business/Technology) at a cost of \$200/travel (budgeted—reimbursement available).

Committee of the Whole continued—

8. Permission for Kara Duplin to accompany students (8-10) to the Education Senior Academic Division Day at UPJ on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at no cost to the district.
 9. Permission for Jacqueline Feathers/Eva McDannell/Megan Miller/Rebecca Parker to accompany fourth grade students (63) on a field trip to Lincoln Caverns on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at a cost of \$200/substitute nurse (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by PTA).
 10. Permission for Kimberly Garman to accompany MDS students (7-10) on the following community-based instruction experiences:

Windber Stadium/Easter Egg Hunt,		
Big Lots & Bella's or McDonald's	March 26, 2024	\$550/Travel & Nurse
Hiram Andrews Center/Autism Walk	April 16, 2024	\$500/Travel & Nurse
 11. Permission for Ruth Hostetler/Becky Lough/Kelly McCall/Amy Stone to accompany kindergarten students (66) on a field trip to Vale Wood Farms on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at a cost of \$200/substitute nurse (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by PTA).
 12. Permission for Jamie Kerr/Korinne May/Chelsea Mazzaresse/Michele Roman to accompany fifth grade students (56) to an Altoona Curve game on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at a cost of \$200/substitute nurse (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by PTA).
 13. Permission for Jamie Kerr/Korinne May/Chelsea Mazzaresse/Michele Roman/Michael Buncich to accompany fifth grade students (56) on a field trip to the Flight 93 Memorial on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at a cost of \$200/substitute nurse (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by Friends of Flight 93 Grant/PTA).
 14. Permission for Mari Grace Lingenfelter to accompany one student to Erie Bayfront Convention Center for All-State Vocal A Cappella Choir on April 17-20, 2024 (Wednesday-Saturday) at a cost of \$2,347: \$614/registration; \$300/travel; \$653/lodging; \$300/meals; \$480/substitutes (budgeted).
 15. Permission for Megan Miller/Alan Tresnicky to accompany students (8) to the Scrabble Tournament at Somerset Alliance Church on Friday, May 3, 2024 at a cost of \$420: \$100/registration; \$320/substitutes (budgeted).
 16. Permission for Erin O'Donnell to accompany students (17) to Soluna Café and the National Aviary/Pittsburgh on Monday, April 8, 2024 at a cost of \$928: \$255/registration; \$513/travel; \$160/substitute (budgeted—remainder of costs paid by Spanish Club).
- B. Recommend permission for Stephen Hofecker (Grade 9 cyber-schooled student) to participate in Track and Field, Marching Band, and Wrestling for the 2023-2024 school year in accordance with Board Policy 140.1.
- C. Informational items were as follows:
1. A list of Music Department Spring Events was included with the agenda.
 2. The Elementary and Secondary Newsletters were included with the agenda.
 3. Miss Kasun has reported that the Jazz Band's previously-approved nursing home visits have been changed from May 7 to April 12, 2024.

Committee of the Whole continued—

4. Mr. Rising has reported that the previously-approved Physics Olympics at IUP will be held on April 15, 2024 instead of March 22.

3. Human Development

- A. Recommend permission for Mikayla O'Brien to attend The Heart of Teaching Conference at Saint Vincent College on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at a cost of \$270: \$65/registration; \$45/travel; \$160/substitute (budgeted).
- B. Recommend approval of the request from Jennifer Custer for a leave of absence beginning approximately May 6, 2024 and continuing through the end of the 2023-2024 school year in accordance with the terms of the Professional Agreement.
- C. Recommend permission to enter into an Agreement with Ignite Education Solutions to staff the Elementary Behavior Intervention Classroom, located at Forest Hills Elementary School, to provide a combination of intense, individualized academic instruction and behavior modification to assist students in Grades K-6 to return successfully to the regular classroom at a cost not to exceed \$12,409.06 for the 2024-2025 school year. (Not-to-exceed cost was \$11,798.96 for 2023-24—Other participating districts are Forest Hills, Blacklick Valley, Ferndale, and Conemaugh Valley.)
- D. Recommend approval to enter into an agreement with Ignite Education Solutions to provide a Personal Care Aide to assist a special needs student at the high school for up to eight (8) hours per day at a cost not to exceed \$133.45 per day. (Pay rate of \$12.43 per hour)
- E. Recommend acceptance of the resignation of Clayton Nanassy as a Chemistry Teacher conditioned upon his continued employment in the District for a period of at least sixty (60) days from March 1, 2024 (**actual departure date of May 14, 2024**) in accordance with his Professional Employee Contract and the requirements of Pennsylvania School Code Section 24 PS §11-1121(c). **[AS REVISED]**
- F. Recommend approval of additional Substitute Teachers submitted by Ignite Education Solutions for the 2023-2024 school year: Courtney Hilyer (Grades PK-4/Special Education); Mandi Koontz (Emergency).
- G. Recommend approval of the following additional volunteers for the 2023-2024 school year:

Ethan Black	Track
Dillon Boyer	Junior High Baseball
Brian Byer	Post Prom
Melanie Byer	Post Prom
Daniel Conn, II	Junior High Baseball
Alayna Elliott	Track
Kay Kauffman	Post Prom
Casadie Miller	Music Department
Dianna Miske	Art Club Field Trip
Amy Rouser	Art Club Field Trip
Marjorie Theys	Art Club Field Trip
Angela Turley	Music Department
Erika Winters-Rowe	Music Department

4. Support Services

- A. Recommend approval of the 2024 Extended School Year Agreement with the Alternative Community Resource Program, Inc., for the Autism Spectrum Disorders classroom at the ACRP Center for Achievement, with the deletion of Item #12 on the Agreement.

Committee of the Whole continued—

- B. Recommend permission to enter into a Clinical Mental Health Services Agreement with R.E.A.C.H. for the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 at a cost of \$137,500. (was \$112,500 for last two years—increased from 1.5 to 2 full-time positions)
- C. Informational items were as follows:
 - 1. The Comprehensive Plan for the period from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 was included with the agenda for review prior to Board action, which is scheduled for March 19, 2024.
 - 2. The K-12 Guidance Plan for the period from March 2024 through 2027 was included with the agenda for review prior to Board action, which is scheduled for March 19, 2024.

5. Buildings & Grounds

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

- 1. C. T. Soccer Boosters/Youth Soccer Camp
Elementary School Soccer Fields
Saturday, June 22 through Friday, June 28, 2024 (4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
Erin Sotosky
- 2. Conemaugh Township PTA/Fifth Grade Promotion Party
Elementary School Multipurpose Room/Gym/Hallways/Parking Lots/Pavilion/Grassy Area
Friday, May 24, 2024 (8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
Jessica Claycomb

B. Discussion was held concerning TEN Pre-Authorization for the High School Roof project. This item will be included on the agenda for approval at the regular meeting.

An executive session was held from 7:17 p.m. to 10:12 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal matters.

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mrs. Troxell, seconded by Mr. Phillippi, to approve the following requests:

- 1. Appointment of the following bona fide volunteer coaches with compensation to be as listed for the 2024-2025 school year:

Alexa Fetterman	Head Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach	\$3,362 (credit for C. T. experience)
Nathan Gironda	Co-Assistant Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach	\$1,030 (pending documentation)
Kelly Kramer	Co-Assistant Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach	\$1,123 (credit for C. T. experience)
- 2. Permission for Frederick Mainhart to accompany students (25 per trip) to Somerset for the Courthouse Tour on April 16, 18, and 23, 2024 at a cost of \$480/substitutes (budgeted—Bar Association covers transportation costs).
- 3. Acknowledgment of receipt of a change in Occupation Valuation Classification as follows: Pamela J. Smiach – Retired.

4. Laurel Highlands Futbol Club/Travel Soccer
High School Soccer Fields
Tuesdays/Thursdays, March through April 2024 (5:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.)
Janelle Mowery
5. Travel Basketball Team
High School Gym
Sundays, March through June 2024 (6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.)
Paul Baer
6. C. T. Wrestling Boosters/Elementary Banquet
High School Gym/Lobby/Concession Stand
Thursday, April 18, 2024 (5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
Deanna Maurer

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Dr. Mantini, seconded by Mr. Alesantrino, to grant permission to issue a Request for Proposals for Solicitor services.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mr. Alesantrino, seconded by Mrs. Maurer, to terminate the employment of Brandon A. Shifflett as a custodian with the Conemaugh Township Area School District effective February 21, 2024.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mrs. Byer, seconded by Mrs. Troxell, to approve the revised Cafeteria Employee's Handbook as presented on March 11, 2024.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mrs. Troxell, seconded by Dr. Mantini, to approve the K-12 Guidance Plan for the period from March 2024 through 2027.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Dr. Mantini, seconded by Mr. Sotosky, to approve the Comprehensive Plan for the period from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mr. Alesantrino, seconded by Mr. Phillippi, to approve the Equipment Ordering Authorization for The Efficiency Network (TEN) for the high school roof replacement materials at a cost not to exceed \$325,200.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mrs. Byer, seconded by Mrs. Maurer, to schedule a special board meeting to consider a debt resolution on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. and to advertise that meeting.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mrs. Troxell, seconded by Mrs. Maurer, to adopt the following resolution:

Be it RESOLVED, that the Conemaugh Township Area School District of Somerset County hereby requests a Public School Facility Improvement grant of \$5,000,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for school facility improvements.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant does hereby designate Nicole Dull, Superintendent, and Brandon Studer, Business Manager, as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the Conemaugh Township Area School District and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

MOTION by Mrs. Troxell, seconded by Mr. Phillippi, to approve the Appalachia I. U. 8 General Fund Budget for 2024-2025 as presented.

Recorded vote: All Directors present voted in the affirmative.

Ballots for the election of I. U. 8 Directors were distributed and completed by the board members.

Financial Report – A Newsletter, Cash Balance/Investment Report, Capital Reserve Account Report, and Mawyer Scholarship Fund Report were included with the agenda.

Superintendent’s Report – Mrs. Dull reviewed her list of activities/meetings/upcoming events.

Greater Johnstown CTC Report – Dr. Mantini stated that the CTC is purchasing a house with the goal of using it for the apartment program.

Informational items were as follows:

1. A Public Update/Open House has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 24, 2024 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.
2. Mrs. Dabbs reviewed the Assessment Report that was included with the agenda.

An executive session was held from 7:32 p.m. to 9:20 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

There being no further business, Mrs. Saylor-Stahl declared the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl E. Sleek, II, Secretary