

JANUARY 7, 2020

**HANOVER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

MINUTES

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**Hanover Area Junior/Senior High School
Hanover Township, Pennsylvania
January 7, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Hanover Area School District was held in the Hanover Area Junior/Senior High School on Tuesday, January 7, 2020, at 7:13 P.M. The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Mr. John J. Mahle, Jr.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG

ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS:

PRESENT: John J. Mahle, Jr., President; Stacy Bleich, Vice-President; Joyce Potsko, Treasurer; Rick Stevens, Secretary; Frank Ciavarella, Jr., Dr. Vic Kopko, Michael Mazur, and Matthew Redick

ABSENT: Paul Holmgren

Mr. Rick Stevens, Board Secretary, stated a Quorum was established for the meeting.

OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT:

Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent; Mr. Robert Kachurak, Business Administrator; Attorney Jack Dean, School Solicitor, and a number of citizens.

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APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES/REPORTS:

It was moved by Stacy Bleich, seconded by Rick Stevens: To approve the following minutes and accept the following reports:

- Regular School Board Meeting minutes of December 3, 2019
- School Board Reorganization Meeting minutes of December 3, 2019
- Special School Board Meeting minutes of December 19, 2019
- Luzerne Intermediate Unit Board of Directors Regular Meeting minutes of November 20, 2019.

BOARD VOTE: YES: Bleich, Ciavarella, Kopko, Mahle, Mazur, Potsko, Redick, Stevens. NO: None ABSENT: Holmgren ABSTAIN: None Chair declared the motion carried.

Attorney Jack Dean, School Solicitor, stated there was also an Executive Session held before this board meeting to discuss personnel matters.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent, thanked everyone for coming to this month's meeting. This month is recognition of the Pennsylvania School Boards. I would like to thank everybody for their continued support to the students and myself of the Hanover Area School District. And just report on some of the positive things that have been going on within the district that President Mahle does quite frequently.

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So I thank everybody for recognizing the positive direction we are moving in and for your continued support. Thank you.

Mr. John J. Mahle, President, stated we will now have Mr. Daniel Malloy, Principal of the Hanover Area Junior/Senior High School, recognize the "Student of the Month" for December.

Mr. Daniel Malloy, Principal of the Hanover Area Junior/Senior High School, stated it is always a pleasure to be here to introduce you to our "Student of the Month"; and even more so for our December's "Student of the Month", Abby Korba. Abby, academically, ranks second in her class, she has been a member of our Honor Society since she arrived here in seventh grade, she has been a member of our Gateway Program; taking college courses while still in high school, extra-curricularly she has been a member of our Key Club, Yearbook, currently our Leo Club, and served as Treasurer of both her Junior and Senior Class. She has also served as Treasurer of the Honor Society. On the athletic fields, she serves as Captain of our Field Hockey Team, in Cheer she has been named All-American four times and has served as Captain of that team as well. On the Track, she has received medals from our District Competitions and has received Gold in our District Competitions. She is a two-time State Qualifier and came in 17th last year in the State Triple Jump; and has been named the 2018 and 2019 All-Star in Track and Field. When she is not doing all of that, you can find her at Michael Mootz Candy Store where she works and in the summer you can find her scooping ice-cream at the store. And while all of those things are nice to gleam on in her bio; sometimes the things you find out when you are doing your rounds in the school from the teachers and the coaches really goes a lot farther. From the people I have spoken to today, their opening comment with regard to Abby, two words have always come up: hard working. If you walk around the halls during the day, you would see her working hard in the classrooms and if you came into the school in the evening, you would see her working hard on the track field. What you would also find is before that practice, Abby is working on her Cheer before practice or after practice. It is not a surprise to me that that is the first thing that came out of everybody's mouth. And I will go a step farther, one particular coach made the comment that he has never had an athlete who has been as tough or resilient as Abby: now if I told you that it was a coach who has only been here for two years, that would be impressive; but if I told you it was from a coach who has been here about thirty years, that goes a lot farther. Couple that with the fact that this particular coach has also coached athletes who have won Gold Medals at the State Level. She is

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an impressive athlete. It gives me great pleasure to introduce you tonight to our December "Student of the Month", Abby Korba.

Abby Korba, December "Student of the Month", speech can be found in Exhibit S-1.

Mrs. Krista Kota-Langdon, Representing the Leo Club and Student Council, presented Abby Korba with tokens of appreciation for being chosen as the "Student of the Month" for December and wished her the very best in her future plans.

It was moved by Frank Ciavarella, seconded by Michael Mazur: To accept the Report of the Superintendent.

BOARD VOTE: YES: Bleich, Ciavarella, Kopko, Mahle, Mazur, Potsko, Redick, Stevens. NO: None ABSENT: Holmgren ABSTAIN: None Chair declared the motion carried.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

GENERAL:

It was moved by Frank Ciavarella, seconded by Matthew Redick: To approve the following motions:

1. Approve the continued merger of the Hanover Area and Greater Nanticoke Area Girls Varsity Tennis Programs for the 2020-2022 seasons pending final approval by the PIAA and Greater Nanticoke Area School District. Hanover Area will continue to serve as the host school for the joint athletic program.

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2. Approve the 2019-2020 PA Partners in the Arts (PPA) Grant for the partnership with Simple Gifts, LLC, in the amount of \$1,508.

BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 TO AND INCLUDING #2 ABOVE): YES: Bleich, Ciavarella, Kopko, Mahle, Mazur, Potsko, Redick, Stevens. NO: None
ABSENT: Holmgren ABSTAIN: None Chair declared the motions carried.

FINANCIAL:

It was moved by Frank Ciavarella, seconded by Rick Stevens: To approve the following motions:

1. Ratify the following PNC check registers: (Exhibit F-1)

November 23, 2019 to December 18, 2019

2. Approve the PNC check register of: (Exhibit F-2)

December 19, 2019

3. Approve the following Treasurer Report:
General Fund

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4. Approve the following 2019 Tax Refunds:

Donna Rae Sapak	\$219.84
Ricky L. Mancini	
Michael & Erik Woychio	\$68.07
Harvey Associates III	\$20,422.68

5. Elliott Greenleaf & Dean
November, 2019
Invoice #153434

\$2,713.27

6. Motion for the 2020-2021 Budget, not to exceed index and exceptions,
as performed by the Commonwealth.

7. Approve the 5-year contract with PenTeleData for the Dark Fiber Internet
Connection at a cost of \$945.00/month. PenTeleData was the lowest bidder.

8. Motion to prepare and post RFP for guaranteed energy savings related to
lighting.

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BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 TO AND INCLUDING #8 ABOVE): YES: Bleich, Ciavarella, Kopko (No on Motion #2 and yes on everything else); Mahle, Mazur, Potsko, Redick, Stevens. NO: Kopko (on Motion #2 only). ABSENT: Holmgren ABSTAIN: None Chair declared the motions carried.

PERSONNEL:

It was moved by Stacy Bleich, seconded by Joyce Potsko: To approve the following motions:

1. Approve the resignation of Patricia Brennan, Paraprofessional, effective December 31, 2019. (Exhibit P-1)

2. Approve the request of Kelly Rine to take Wednesday, February 26, 2020 off as an unpaid day, with the understanding that this will not set a precedent or establish a past practice. (Exhibit P-2)

3. Approve the request of Kristen Sanders to take February 14th and February 18, 2020 off as unpaid days, with the understanding that this will not set a precedent or establish a past practice. (Exhibit P-3)

4. Approve the following Mentor Teachers:

Michael Griffith
Dawnette Dreyfus

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5. Approve the Act 93 Salaries, per attached schedule.
(Act 93 Salary Schedule can be obtained from the Superintendent's Office.)

6. Approve the request of Shelby Ranieli to carry-over 25 sick days from the Luzerne Intermediate Unit, as per the PA School Code. (Exhibit P-6)

7. Appoint Angela Millikin as a Substitute Per-Diem Cleaner, at a rate of \$10.00/hour, effective January 8, 2020.

8. Appoint Anthony Marcincavage as Food Service Coordinator, at a rate of \$37,500.00 (prorated), effective immediately. This is paid out from the Food Service.

9. Appoint Karen McHale as Special Education Supervisor, at her current salary of \$83,293.00. This is an act 93, Category I position.

10. Appoint Debra Sherman as Special Education Supervisor, at a salary of \$75,000.00, prorated. This is an Act 93, Category I position.

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11. Appoint Olivia Allegrucci as Special Education Teacher, at a salary of B, Step 1, \$46,773.00, prorated.

BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 TO AND INCLUDING #11 ABOVE): YES: Bleich, Ciavarella, Kopko, Mahle, Mazur (I abstain on Motion #5, on Diane Mazur, she is my wife; yes on all the rest of them and yes for everything else), Potsko (yes on everything except on Motion #5, I have to abstain on Russel Davis, he is a family member; and yes for everything else), Redick, Stevens (Yes on Motions #1 through #4, No on Motion #5, Yes on Motions #6 through #11). NO: Stevens (On Motion #5 only). ABSENT: Holmgren ABSTAIN: Mazur (On Motion #5 on Diane Mazur only), Potsko (On Motion #5 on Russel Davis only). Chair declared the motions carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. John J. Mahle, Board President, stated effective immediately, no backpacks will be allowed at any sport functions; for the fans only. That will pertain to football, girls' basketball, boys' basketball, volleyball, and girls' softball and boys' baseball.

Dr. Vic Kopko, Board Member, stated I think it is important to point out on some of the personnel hires, particularly #8, I want to emphasize the point that that position is at no cost to the Hanover Area School District or the taxpayers whatsoever. It is coming out of the Food Service Account. And the two hires in #9 and #10 are actually funded by Medicaid and will not be charged to the Hanover Area School District as well.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

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PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A gentleman in the audience stated that the Board should have received a letter from his attorney regarding his son who plays 7th grade basketball. He went on to say that his son was not an academic problem, or a behavioral problem, but because of the new Attendance Policy that was adopted by the School Board on, he believes, November 22nd, with regard to school attendance and sports participation, his son was suspended from playing basketball. He said when he spoke with the Superintendent; he was told that everything was done on a case by case situation regarding attendance and sports participation. He wanted to know if his son starts becoming an academic or behavioral problem, who does he blame, the educators or the board; because you have taken away something from him; playing basketball, which was the only thing that he had to look forward to. He said he believes that the students need to be held accountable for their absences to make them better students, but he said this policy should have been done in increments.

Attorney Jack Dean, School Solicitor, replied he had received the letter from his attorney. We don't go into statistics because of the nature of the situation, but I will consult with the administration and we will respond appropriately.

A woman in the audience asked about the 7th Grade Math Class at the Junior/Senior High School. She said she was never given any information regarding where the students stand at this point in time.

Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent, replied just before the school break, on December 19th, we did appoint a teacher. As you know we had a teacher walk out abruptly at the end of the year, which is something that we had not planned for. At that point we began preparing for the new teacher's arrival and the placement test for the beginning of the year which you referred to; and we never got to finish that process. Being that we are just back now, this process is going to begin within the week. This is something that we are well aware of and we made sure that we had a Special Meeting Thursday night so that the families did not see another lapse in the education of their children in 7th grade. At this point what they are going to do is, when we do a placement test to see where your child is, the teacher is going to formulate a plan that is going to be child-specific. As far as the communications, I will make sure to see that

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happens and I will assure that you will get some form of communications as to where your child does place. You will know what the formula will be for your child at that time.

She replied so you are saying by the end of next week.

Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent, replied the process will begin next week. So whether she has every student placed by the end of next week, I can't say that for certainty, but we want to make sure that the process is done with fine tooth detail. So I know that time is something that we don't have and I am mindful of that, but I want it to be accurate.

The woman stated she doesn't want to come back here for the next monthly meeting and ask all this again, so what is the timeline.

Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent, replied we do have a guide but like I said the inconsistency of the first seventy days without a teacher, I don't have the answer for you right now; because we don't even know where the kids are. So it's not the best answer. He stated the placement tests will begin next week. So they will be administered next week but the time she gets the results back isn't an exact date, but it will be within the next few weeks.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

February Work Session

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 5:30 P.M.

February Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 immediately following the Work Session

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ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Rick Stevens, seconded by Frank Ciavarella: To adjourn the Regular School Board Meeting at 7:48 P.M.

BOARD VOTE: YES: Bleich, Ciavarella, Kopko, Mahle, Mazur, Potsko, Redick, Stevens. NO: None ABSENT: Holmgren ABSTAIN: None
Chair declared the motion carried.

ATTEST: _____, Secretary

Rick Stevens
Hanover Area School Board