

January 9, 2024

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

MINUTES

January 9, 2024

Hanover Area Junior/Senior High School
Hanover Township, Pennsylvania
January 9, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Hanover Area School District was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 7:00 PM. The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Brian C. McDermott.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESENT: Stacy Bleich, Paul Holmgren, Jacob Hyder, Dr. Vic Kopko, Michael Mazur, Brian C. McDermott, Richard Oravic, Matthew Redick, Rick Stevens

ABSENT: NONE

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

OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT: Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent; Attorney Mark Bufalino, District Solicitor; Mrs. Lynn Vitale, Administrative Assistant; several District Administrators and several citizens.

Brian McDermott, Board President, provided the following Executive Session Report: "Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act, the Board President wishes to announce that at its Regular Meeting convened for general purposes on Tuesday January 9, 2024, the Board of Education of the Hanover Area School District held an Executive Session to discuss matters of employee relations, labor negotiations, threatened or actual litigation and went into a closed executive session at 5:30PM and began the public meeting at 7:00PM. The subjects discussed in executive session related solely to matters of employee relations, labor negotiations and threatened or actual litigation. Is there any public input on the Board Agenda Items Only?"

No one from press or public volunteered input on Board Agenda Items.

APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES/REPORTS:

It was moved by Paul Holmgren and seconded by Stacy Bleich to approve the following minutes:

- Regular Board Meeting minutes of December 5, 2023
- Reorganization Meeting minutes of December 5, 2023
- Special Meeting minutes of December 20, 2023

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- Luzerne Intermediate Unit Board of Directors Regular Meeting minutes of November 15, 2023
- Wilkes-Barre Area Career & Technical Center Board of Education-Joint Operating Committee Reorganization Meeting minutes of December 18, 2023

BOARD VOTE:

YES: YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Hyder, Kopko, Oravic, Mazur, McDermott, Redick and Stevens

NO: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

Chair declared the motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Nathan Barrett, Superintendent, offered his report, which noted the following:

- Recognized and thanked all members of the Hanover Area Board of Education for their service to the district and community in recognition of PSBA's School Board Director Month
- Recognized Gavin Thomas as the December Student of the Month for the Junior/Senior High School
- Recognized Rusther Fabian Ramirez as the December Student of the Month for the Wilkes-Barre Area CTC
- Shared that prior to the public meeting, 2 committees met for the first time: the building and grounds committee and the athletic committee.
- Shared that from the sub committees Goals were created for 2024 by Mr. Barrett and it was requested that these goals be shared with the public. As a result, the goals will be posted on the district's webpage. Progress on these goals will be shared with the public on a "state of the district" report in the future.

It was moved by Rick Oravic and seconded by Rick Stevens: To accept the Report of the Superintendent.

BOARD VOTE:

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Hyder, Kopko, Oravic, Mazur, McDermott, Redick and Stevens

NO: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

Chair declared the motion carried.

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

GENERAL:

No General Items this month

FINANCIAL:

It was moved by Michael Mazur and seconded by Rick Oravic: To approve the following motions #1 through #4:

1. Ratify the following FNCRB check register(s): (Exhibit F-1)
December 1, 2023 to January 3, 2024
2. Approve the FNCRB check register(s): (Exhibit F-2)
January 4, 2024
3. Law Office of Mark W. Bufalino
Attorney Mark Bufalino
December 2023 (November Services) \$1,111.50
January 2024 (December 2023 Services) \$3,015.73
4. Approve the annual request of \$5,000.00 to the Yearbook Staff to help defray costs of the yearbook debt.

BOARD VOTE: (ON MOTIONS #1 TO AND INCLUDING #4 ABOVE):

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Hyder, Kopko, Masur, Oravic, Redick and Stevens
NO: None
ABSTAIN: McDermott on #1
ABSENT: None

Chair declared the motions carried.

PERSONNEL:

It was moved by Dr. Vic Kopko seconded by Rick Strvens: To approve the following Motions 1 through 11.

1. Accept the resignation of Quatavia Blake, as Paraprofessional, effective December 22, 2023. (Exhibit P-1)
2. Accept the resignation of Gina Passetti, as Certified School Nurse, effective December 27, 2023. (Exhibit P-2)

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3. Accept the resignation of Scott Kaminski, as a School Police Officer, effective January 2, 2024. (Exhibit P-3)

4. Ratify Kelly Beierle, as Substitute Nurse, effective November 13, 2023.

5. Ratify Bruce Dembowski, as Part-Time Cleaner, at a rate of \$15.00/hour, effective December 21, 2023.

6. Ratify Aleigha Parnell, as a Part-Time Paraprofessional, at a rate of \$15.00/hour, effective January 4, 2024.

7. Approve the FMLA request for Employee #20386, effective January 19, 2024, and will end approximately March 1, 2024. Employee is requesting to use their accumulated sick/personal time during this leave.

8. Approve the FMLA request for Employee #32257, effective approximately April 26, 2024, and will end 6 to 12 weeks after start date.

9. Approve the following Extra-Curricular personnel for the 2023-2024 school year:

Todd Kolbicka	Head Varsity Baseball Coach	\$4,420
Steward Caladie	Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach	\$2,831
Sean Hart	Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach	\$2,244
John Kilheeny	Varsity Volunteer Coach	UNPAID
Garrett Schiel	Assistant Jr. High Baseball Coach	\$1,951
Catherine Nicole Hoskins	Head Coach Softball Coach	\$4,420
Dakota Zyskowski	Assistant Varsity Softball Coach	\$2,831
Al Weston	Head Varsity Track & Field Coach	\$4,420
Carl Daubert	Assistant Varsity Track & Field Coach	\$2,654
John Prapota	Assistant Varsity Track & Field Coach	\$2,555
Ken Daubert	Head Jr. High Track & Field Coach	\$2,654
Brandon Chafin	Assistant Jr. High Track & Field Coach	\$1,951
John Garnett	Boys Head Volleyball Coach	\$4,123

10. Appoint Claudia Joaquin, as a Paraprofessional, at a rate of \$15.00/hour, effective February 1, 2024.

11. Appoint Amber Trathen, as a Per Diem Cleaner, at a rate of \$15.00/hour, pending all clearances.

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BOARD VOTE (on items #1 through #11 above):

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Hyder, Kopko, Oravic, Mazur, McDermott, Redick and Stevens
NO: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Chair declared the motions carried.

It was moved by Matthew Redick, seconded by Stacy Bleich to **TABLE Item #12:**

12. Appoint -----, as the Certified School Nurse, at Step ---- with a salary as per the HAEA Contract, pending solicitor agreement.

BOARD VOTE (on Motion to Table Item #12):

YES: Bleich, Holmgren, Hyder, Kopko, Mazur, Oravic, McDermott, Redick and Stevens
NO: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Chair declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mike Potsko, Hanover Township, questioned whether the committee meetings would allow for public participation. Attorney Bufalino responded that the committee meetings were not open to the public but could be open to public participation if they had any decision-making authority, however that is not the case. Mr. Potsko stated that for certain topics, it would be nice if the public were allowed to provide input at the committee level. Mr. Bufalino replied that the committees would be providing detailed reports at the work sessions and that is where public input would occur. He also asked if there were minutes to be made available from the committee meetings. Mr. Bufalino stated that minutes are not required for these committee meetings. He did note that if

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there were any ways "to weave in" any participation by the public, he was certain that "this board would not be opposed to that". Mr. McDermott stated that the committees were designed to include only two board members so that a quorum could not be established. It was more of an "organizational effort to streamline agenda topics so that the board was not caught up on 18 different topics" on the night of a meeting. He noted that tonight's meetings were "a good start on that".


FUTURE MEETINGS:

February Work Session: Tuesday February 13, 2024
February Regular Meeting: Tuesday February 13, 2024

President McDermott then called for Adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Paul Holmgren, seconded by Rick Stevens to adjourn the Regular School Board Meeting at 7:12PM.

ATTEST:  _____, Secretary
Rick Stevens
Hanover Area School Board