

McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
November 22, 2011

Executive Session Held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel and potential litigation.

Presiding Steve Kondrosky, Vice President

Date, Time, Place Tuesday, November 22, 2011, 7:30 PM, Board Room,
Administration Building, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard,
McKeesport, PA 15132.

Opening Exercises Mr. Holtzman called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM,
followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

Present Jim Brown
Chris Halaszynski
Mark Holtzman
Steve Kondrosky
Joe Lopretto
Tom Maglicco
Patricia Maksin

Excused. Joseph Chiaverini

Others Present Dr. Timothy Gabauer, Superintendent
Dr. Rula Skezas, Assistant Superintendent
David Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary
James G. Humanic, Director of Human Resources/
Assistant to the Business Manager
Gary Matta, Solicitor

Board President's Remarks – At this time the Board would like to thank everybody for attending this meeting and wishing everybody a safe and happy Thanksgiving. Not just the Administration and Staff, but all of the communities that make up the McKeesport Area School District. So, enjoy!

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Superintendent's Report – Mrs. Giran has taken the time once again to give us some beautiful pictures of many things happening around the district and if we can direct our attention to the boards here, we'll take a look at some of those photos. Thank you Mrs. Giran. And in response to the last slide we have right there, this is the final evening for two of our Board Members, Mr. Chiaverini not present, but Mr. Brown being here and it will be his final evening with us, we would like to recognize him for his years of service. Being a Board Member is much more than coming here once or twice a month and sitting, I can tell you, the committee meetings, the research, a lot of the homework that you need to do to make sure you understand what is happening within the district, to understand what is needed for the students of the community. When you are out and about being responsive to the community members. There is an awful lot that goes with this position and Mr. Brown you have done a fine job for four years and we commend you for your service and we are really going to miss you. If you wouldn't mind, I would like for you to come up here and reward you with a plaque for your service. McKeesport Area School District awards this Certificate of Recognition to James Brown for selfless dedication to the students of McKeesport Area School District from December 2007 until November 2011. Thank you Mr. Brown. Before I move on, some of those pictures that you noticed, just a small sampling of what's happening and you can see there is an awful lot going on throughout the district. One of them that happened lately was the Veterans' Day program that we had up there. And I'll tell you, if you have not had a chance to see that, and it is done every year, Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Cole and Ms. Panza from our music department put on an absolutely fantastic show for our Veterans. It was about an hour and it is really a wonderful way to celebrate those that have given so much to the country and what a wonderful job they did again this year. When it comes up next year, we will give you some forewarning that it's coming and let you know so you can plan. It is an event that is truly worth being at. It is quite a spectacular event. Also, you see many other things happening in the elementaries, high school everything else around the district. A lot of tremendous things happening in McKeesport Area School District. Mr. Vice President.

Treasurer's Report – Mr. Lopretto moved to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2011. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

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Hearing of Citizens –

Robert DeTorre, 1500 Monongahela Boulevard, White Oak, PA 15131.

Mr. DeTorre addressed the Board on the issue of his question not being recorded in the minutes of last week's meeting. I think I have to ask Gary Matta, is it possible to re-ask the question, receive an answer, and have it as part of the minutes so it is documented, recorded, and it's permanent. Mr. Matta – It is was discussed at last week's meeting and as you are aware, I was not here, we can amend the minutes to reflect that discussion took place. I'm just not aware of what the discussion was. Mr. DeTorre – May I repeat, it's simple. Mr. Matta – yes. Mr. DeTorre – Will the McKeesport Area School District admit to owning 68 acres at the Francis McClure area minus the eleven and a half acres that Francis McClure sits on? Mr. Matta – Again, I wasn't here. I know there is property owned up there. I believe it's approximately 68 acres and I don't believe that there has ever been a question if it was owned by the McKeesport Area School District. I don't know what the answer was last week, but that would be my answer as the solicitor here tonight. Mr. DeTorre – It contradicts previous statements. Mr. Matta – That were made last week? Mr. DeTorre – No, October 1st newspaper article. Dr. Gabauer – I will be honest with you, I don't recall a conversation with you saying we did not have or did not own or October 1st article, so I can't comment because I don't recall what you are referring to. Mr. Matta – Mr. DeTorre, here is the thing, there is property owned there, it clearly has been reviewed, the property is not buildable for what we need. And that's been the position of this Board and the architect and construction manager since the inception of the project. It's just the grading of it. The cost of it to do that, it's not a buildable lot. And that's really why it wasn't look at. Mr. DeTorre – Is there a formal report on that? Mr. Matta – I believe that there probably was. That was reviewed while I was not the solicitor here, but my understanding that there is and I have the architect shaking his head in the back towards me so I am assuming there is a report there. Mr. DeTorre – Was it reported to the PlanCon that you own. Mr. Matta – All of the PlanCon was reported appropriately, Mr. DeTorre. Again, that would be my response. Mr. DeTorre – Was 68 acres reported? Mr. Matta – The PlanCon report was reported appropriately. Mr. DeTorre – Thank you.

Scott Smith, 1507 Kansas Avenue, White Oak, PA 15131.

Mr. Smith addressed the Board on a request for an update on the Cornell project.

Minutes – Mr. Halaszynski moved to approve the minutes of the Open Agenda Meeting of October 19, 2011 and Regular Meeting of October 26, 2011. Seconded by Mr. Holtzman.

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Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Bills – Mr. Halaszynski moved to approve the list of bills. Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Refunds – Mr. Maksin moved approve a property tax refund as presented. Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Policy – Mr. Halaszynski moved for second reading and Board adoption of Board Policy #217. Seconded by Mr. Maksin.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Calendar – Mr. Lopretto moved to approve the following calendar changes:

- A. December 22nd – from a Winter Break to a school day.
 - B. January 2nd – from a school day to a Winter Break day.
- Seconded by Mrs. Maksin. Discussion followed.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

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Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Resolution – Mr. Halaszynski moved to approve Resolution #1020 – AIU Joint Purchasing.
Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Change Orders – Mr. Halaszynski moved to approve change orders for Francis McClure as presented. Seconded by Mr. Holtzman.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Resolution – Mr. Lopretto moved to approve Resolution #1019 – student discipline. Seconded by Mr. Holtzman.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Bids – Mr. Halaszynski moved to accept the bid from J.B. Mechanical Inc. for hot water heaters at the high school in the amount of \$26,450. (Paid from Capital Reserve Account.) Seconded by Mr. Lopretto. Discussion followed.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

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Services – Mr. Lopretto moved to subcontract with Donna Maguire to provide Nurse Liaison Services for the UPMC/McKeesport Area School District Allied Health Partnership effective October 4, 2011 through May 10, 2012. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Green Sheets – Mr. Halaszynski moved to approve personnel recommendations (green sheets). Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

PROFESSIONAL:

Retirement: Effective 11/30/11: Retirement is requested under Year 2 of the Retirement Incentive for Professional Employees adopted 5/18/11 (amended 6/22/11). This retirement under the Incentive is an exception to the requirement that retirements under the Incentive be at the end of the school year and, in addition, is contingent upon the requirements for Year 2 being met (minimum of five (5) employees electing to participate.)

James Eckels Health and Physical Education Teacher, High School

Resignation: Effective 9/23/11:

George Toney Permanent Day to Day Substitute, East End Academy

Leave of Absence:

Heather Amey Elementary Teacher, McClure Intermediate School, maternity leave of absence effective approximately 1/2/12 to an undetermined date.
Unpaid leave will commence at the expiration of sick and personal days.

Julie Tomich English Teacher, Founders Hall, unpaid maternity leave of absence effective approximately 3/19/12 to an undetermined date.

Jennifer Petrick Special Education Teacher, McClure Intermediate School, maternity leave of absence effective approximately 2/3/12 to an undetermined date.
Unpaid leave will commence at the expiration of sick and personal days.

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Lee Smith Science Teacher, High School, sabbatical leave of absence effective the second semester of the 2011/2012 school year.

To be hired: Long Term Substitute: Rate of pay will be \$80/day + benefits and increase to \$125 on the 61st day.

Nicole Kumer Elementary Teacher, McClure Intermediate School effective
(Amey) approximately 1/2/12.

To be hired: Long Term Substitute: Rate of pay will be \$100/day + benefits and increase to \$125 on the 61st day:

Davis Roddy Health and Physical Education Teacher, High School, effective 11/30/11.
(J. Eckels)

Ashley Godich Science Teacher, High School, effective 1/18/12.
(L. Smith)

To be hired: Extra Curricular Athletics for the 2011/2012 school year: (salary reflects current contractual rates):

John Harper	7 th Grade Boys Basketball Coach	\$1,730.40
William Starry Jr.	Assistant Football Coach	\$2,991.60

Resignation: Extra Curricular Athletics for the 2011/2012 school year:

John Saras Volunteer Assistant Girls Basketball Coach
Marcus McCullough Assistant Football Coach

Conference Requests:

Dr. Lobaugh Early Childhood Summit. Sponsored by the PACCA/Pre-K Advisory
At Penn State University November 30, 2011 through December 2, 2011
(Paid for by Pre-K Counts Grant) \$902.71

Vicki Redmond SAP Training for Middle and Secondary School Personnel. Sponsored
Kim Moore by the UPMC Student Assistance Professionals at the North-Greenway
Professional Development Center December 8, 2011, December 13, 2011
Through December 14, 2011 (Paid for by Title I Funds) \$350/each

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Ralph Brinkman PETE & C Technology Conference. Sponsored by PETE & C in Hershey, PA
February 12, 2012 through February 15, 2012 (Paid for by EETT Grant)
\$1,050.30

Dr. Coughenour PETE & C Technology Conference. Sponsored by PETE & C in Hershey, PA
February 12, 2012 through February 15, 2012 (Paid for by EETT Grant)
\$1,079.62

Changes to the substitute teacher list:

Additions:

*Corey Winters Health and Physical Education

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Salary Increase: Effective 1/1/12 to be cost of living increase of 3.2%:

David M. Seropian Business Manager

SUPPORT STAFF:

Resignation: Effective 11/10/11:

Monica Krammer Special Education Assistant, Founders Hall, effective 11/10/11.

Desiree Jefferson Nurse Assistant – 5 days/week, effective 11/3/11.

To be hired: effective immediately:

Angela Walsh Special Education Assistant, placement to be determined. \$16,043 (pro-rated)

Changes to the substitute lists:

Additions:

Margaret Rowe Custodian

*David Mathews Custodian

*Gragory Patil Custodian

*Sheryl Likar Nurse Assistant

*Rosemary Gasperin Nurse Assistant

*Pending receipt of Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances, T.B. Tine Test and Drug Test results.

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ADDENDUM:

Resignation: Effective 11/30/11:

Marc Mayer Reading Teacher, Founders Hall

To be hired: Long Term Substitute: Rate of pay will be \$80/day + benefits and increase to \$125 on the 61st day:

Kathleen Adamek Reading Teacher, Founders Hall, effective date to be determined.
(M. Mayer)

To be hired: Effective 11/29/11 through the remainder of the 2011/2012 school year. Rate of pay will be either \$95/day + benefits or \$105/day without benefits:

Denise Szepesi Title I Facilitator, White Oak Elementary School
(K. Adamek)

SUPPORT STAFF:

Changes to the substitute lists:

*Jason Bierema Custodian

*Mark Korinko Custodian

*Pending receipt of Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances, T.B. Tine Test and Drug Test results.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Resolution – Mr. Lopretto moved to approve Resolution #1021 – bond issue. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

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Reconvened 8:06 PM

Grievance – Mr. Holtzman moved to deny MAEA Grievance 1-11-12. Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

PlanCon – Mr. Lopretto moved to authorize the architect to submit PlanCon Part D – Project Accounting Based on Estimates – for the new McKeesport Elementary/Intermediate School. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Holtzman, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin

Voting no. Mr. Maglicco

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini

Committee Reports –

Athletic – James Brown – No report.

Buildings & Grounds – Mark Holtzman – They were very busy this month. Repaired wall in room 162 at South Hall and replaced all ceiling tile. Installed floor mounted door stops outside all classrooms on the first and second floors at Founders. The low water cutout control on the #2 boiler at White Oak was cleaned and flushed in accordance with the Pennsylvania Boiler Code. Proper burner shutdown was confirmed and the unit fired cleanly and efficiently. The gauge glass on the #1 boiler at White Oak was cleaned and inspected. Ultraviolet response tests were completed. Limit safety and operating controls were confirmed. Replaced 2 inch single relief valve on #1 boiler at White Oak, and cleaned the combustion chamber. Replaced 2 inch single relief valve on #2 boiler at White Oak, cleaned the combustion chamber and the safety and operating controls were confirmed. Completed patching and painting all restrooms and hallways at Founders. Winter snow removal: bag and bulk salt has been delivered and all

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snow equipment is fully operational.

Cultural Diversity – Tom Maglicco – The committee and I would like to look at adding to the mission statement but keeping the main intent of the mission statement. This would allow the committee to keep working on programs such as the Olweus Bullying Program, the 7 Up Program and the National Alliance of Black School Educators that started in this committee (just to name a few). The committee will be working on the mission statement at our next meeting. Other updates – Olweus Bullying Program: Assistant Superintendent Dr. Skezas had high remarks about the Olweus program from the instructors, teachers and students. Marty Allen is a member of the committee and an employee at Founders Hall, also had high remarks about the program and said that the kids really seem to enjoy the program when Olweus is scheduled for a particular day. We also looked at an article about Face the New Bully dealing with cyber bullying, and we had an update on the progress of a new program by the National Alliance of Black School Educators. This program is still in the process of starting. That completes my report, thank you.

Education/Technology/Grants & Outside Funding – Pat Maksin – Yes, we did meet on the 16th. There were two items that were brought to our attention. Mrs. Tkacik our Director of Special Ed met with us about the opportunity that we may be getting involved with a research study with the University of Pittsburgh for Down Syndrome students, specific ways of teaching Down Syndrome students to read. She gave us to information to look over and that may be coming down the road. We also, Dr. Skezas brought to our attention that there will be Celebrate the Gift of Reading at Barnes & Noble on Sunday, December 11th through the week of the 16th. Our high school students will be singing, playing musical instruments and a percentage of the proceeds will become MASD if the customers mention the school district some of the percent of your purchase will come back to the school district. You might want to mark that on your calendars and hopefully we'll get that out on the web site if anybody wants to be involved with that. Barnes & Noble December 11th through the 16th.

Financial Affairs – Tom Maglicco – No report.

Legislation/Policy – Pat Maksin – We did meet again on the 16th and we're continuing to discuss a dress code.

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Personnel – Joe Lopretto – Yes, we did meet. The green sheet as usual reflects it all. Again, Dr. Skezas, Mr. Humanic do a fantastic job of getting everything together.

Safe Schools – Joe Lopretto – No we did not meet, but we stay in touch on these issues all the time. Walkie talkies are now in, they are labeled, the clips are attached. They have been distributed to all of the schools. New camera system that we're putting in the high school they started installation of that last week and things are going as planned and we should have everything up an running hopefully by Christmas.

Solicitor's Report – No report.

Correspondence – None.

New Business – None.

Adjournment - 8:12 PM – Mr. Loprettp moved for adjournment. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

Voting aye. All Members present.

ATTEST: _____


David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary

McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Open Agenda Meeting
November 16, 2011

Presiding Steve Kondrosky, Vice President

Date, Time, Place Wednesday, November 16, 2011, 8:40 PM, Board Room,
Administration Building, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard,
McKeesport, PA 15132.

Roll Call James Brown
Chris Halaszynski
Mark Holtzman
Steven Kondrosky
Joe Lopretto
Tom Maglicco
Pat Maksin

Excused. Joe Chiaverini

Others Present Dr. Tim Gabauer, Superintendent
Dr. Rula Skezas, Assistant Superintendent
David Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary
James Humanic, Director of Human Resources/
Assistant to the Business Manager
Lynn Finnerty, Solicitor

Hearing of Citizens Robert DeTorre, 1500 Monongahela Blvd, McKeesport, PA 15132.
Mr. DeTorre addressed the Board on the number of petitions received.

Emil Burak, 149 Carmella Drive, White Oak, PA 15131.
Mr. Burak addressed the Board on the issue of money question.

Items Discussed The agenda items discussed are attached.

ATTEST:



David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary