

TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
Minutes of the Planning Meeting
June 19, 2014
High School Auditorium

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by President, Jennifer Morgan followed by the pledge of allegiance and roll call.

Board members present: Penny Caleffe, Henry Clemens, Thomas Durbin, Frances Eates, Kerrin McIlvaine, Jennifer Morgan and Edmund B. Trapuzzano

Others present: Michael P. Lucas, Substitute Superintendent; David G. Roussos, Director of Fiscal Services/Board Secretary; and Judy Walz, recording secretary.

Absent: Frank Golsky and Joseph LaBella

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Morgan read the following statement:

“Trinity Area School District finds itself in a financially vulnerable position due to lack of foresight and planning. Appropriate tax increase and spending controls were not implemented in the past that resulted in the depletion of a once healthy general fund balance. Increased costs in charter schools, special education and teachers’ salaries, benefits and pensions have been major contributors to the increased expenditures. With limited options, the administration and the school board have had to take a hard look at all expenses and have had to make significant cuts to the budgets until such time as fiscal stability can be restored.

Cypher and Cypher’s prior audit reports have indicated to the school board that the fund balance has been utilized to meet operational needs for 3 consecutive years.

The Auditor General reported that Trinity Area School District is in a financially declining position, which may lead to distressed status due in part to previous over spending in the past.

We know the time ahead will not be easy budgetarily, but we will continue to work together to make responsible financial decisions while providing quality educational opportunities to our students.”

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Lucas reported that enrollment in the pre-school being facilitated by Community Action Southwest at Trinity North continues to rise. He also congratulated the Class of 2014, and Trinity East staff and Mr. Minnick for receiving a proclamation from the Governor’s office. He noted that 18 students are enrolled in the vo-ag program begin offered in the fall. A meeting with the North Franklin police chief produced a renewal of the current contract. Dr. Lucas also welcomed the law firm of Peacock Keller as the district’s solicitor. He noted that Trinity Area will be offering college level courses taught by Robert Morris University professors and that student teachers from Waynesburg University will be accepted. A professional development day in collaboration with Canon Mac is being planned. Dr. Lucas also noted that the policy manual is currently under review by administrators, with the adoption of new policies targeted for September. Board members and administrators have met regarding cyber school options. The curriculum has been updated and adoption by the Board is scheduled for August.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Kathy Pienkowski, South Strabane Township, and Stephanie Komorowski, Canton Township, addressed the board regarding the elimination of the district’s contribution to Citizens Library.

Pattiann Berton, South Strabane Township, commended the board for recent decisions.

FINANCE/TRANSPORTATION

Mrs. McIlvaine gave the Finance Committee Report (Item 3.1)

1. Motion by Mrs. McIlvaine, seconded by Mr. Trapuzzano, to approve the Treasurer's Report for April 2014 (Item 3.2)

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion by Mr. LaBella, seconded by Mr. Durbin, to approve payment of bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$1,010,395.02, and from the Extracurricular Account in the amount of \$210. (Item 3.3)

Motion carried unanimously

3. Motion by Mrs. Eates, seconded by Mr. Clemens, to award I.U. bids for Athletics and High School Industrial Arts (Item 3.4)

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion by Mr. Trapuzzano, seconded by Mrs. Eates to adopted the 2014-2015 General Fund Budget (Item 3.5)

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion by Mrs. McIlvaine, seconded by Mrs. Caleffe, to approve the Homestead Exclusion Resolution (Item 3.5)

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion by Mr. Trapuzzano, seconded by Mr. Clemens, to name banking institutions for 2014-2015 (Item 3.6)

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Motion by Mrs. Caleffe, seconded by Mr. Durbin, to authorize the Director of Fiscal Services to make the necessary budget transfers following the June 30, 2014 closing and to provide a list of those transfers at a subsequent meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Motion by Mr. Trapuzzano, seconded by Mr. Clemens to authorize the Director of Fiscal Services to pay all bills found to be true and correct for the month of July 2014.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Motion by Mrs. Eates, seconded by Mrs. McIlvaine, to approve the quote for General Liability, Errors & Omissions, Workers Compensation and School Police Insurance in the amount of \$335,634 from Chambers Insurance. (Item 3.9)

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Motion by Mr. Trapuzzano, seconded by Mr. Durbin, to approve the agreement with Community College of Allegheny County for the 2014-2015 schoolyear, as attached. (Item 3.10)

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion by Mrs. Caleffe, seconded by Mrs. McIlvaine, to approve Group Life Insurance Coverage for 2014-2015 as attached (Item 3.11)

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Motion by Mr. Durbin, seconded by Mr. Trapuzzano, to approve the agreement between the district and the North Franklin Police Department as attached (Item 3.12)

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Motion by Mrs. McIlvaine, seconded by Mrs. Eates, to approve the Harris School Solutions Software maintenance agreements (Prosoft Financial and Prosoft Student Information System) for the 2014-2015 school year (Item 3.13)

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Motion by Mr. Durbin, seconded by Mr. Clemens, to approve the proposal and resolution for a tax anticipation note (TAN) for the 2014-2015 school year (Item 3.14)

Motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL/ATHLETICS

Dr. Lucas announced that the following teachers have been granted tenure: Samuel Guarino and Susan Crawford

15. Motion by Mr. Clemens, seconded by Mr. Durbin, to name Penny Caleffe Board Treasurer for 2014-2015.

Motion carried unanimously.

16. Motion by Mrs. McIlvaine, seconded by Mr. Trapuzzano, to approve the following Department Representatives for 2014-2015:

English – Kristen Shaw, High School; Elisabeth Perry, Middle School; Jennifer Yim, Elementary
Math – Alicia Richey, High School; Christina White, Middle School; Dana Ledger, Elementary
Science – Melissa Monteleone, High School; Judith Basey, Middle School; Mary Bertsch, Elementary
Social Studies – Larry Myers, High School; Darlene Biernesser, Middle School; Jeannette Hartley, Elementary

Art – Sharon Knight	Family and Consumer Science – Brittay Aliveto
Business Education – Andrew Migyanko	Industrial Art – John Husk
Guidance – Cynthia Garda	Library – Debra Zewe
Health and Physical Education – Sherrie MacKinney	Music – John Turek

17. Motion by Mr. Durbin, seconded by Mrs. Caleffe to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the Trinity Education Support Professionals (Item 4.4)

Motion carried unanimously.

18. Motion by Mr. Durbin, seconded by Mr. Clemens, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the Trinity Area Education Association to implement a summer cyber school program effective July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Motion carried unanimously.

19. Motion by Mr. Durbin, seconded by Mrs. McIlvaine, to approve the following substitute employees: Custodians – Michael Rutherford, Nancy Wyland, David Wittnebert (Policy 304.1 applies), Sam Hall (Policy 304.1 applies), and Tracy McDermott for summer employment; Clerical/Cafeteria – Tamara Johnson (Policy 304.1 applies); Teachers – James Comunale for ESY, Amy Joyce, and Natalie Naser .

Motion carried unanimously.

20. Motion by Mr. Trapuzzano, seconded by Mrs. Caleffe, to eliminate the 207 day Clerical Aide position in the Transportation Department and create and post a 260 Day Secretarial position in the Transportation Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

21. Motion by Mr. Clemens, seconded by Mr. Durbin, to contract with Nicole Bazant-Pleil as Food Service Director for a three year period, effective June 23, 2014, at a salary of \$70,000. (Item 4.8)

Motion carried unanimously.

22. Motion by Mrs. Eates, seconded by Mrs. Caleffe, to employ Matthew McCartney as Head Varsity Baseball Coach at the 5th step salary of \$4,245 for a one year agreement, effective 2014-2015
Motion carried unanimously.

23. Motion by Mr. Durbin, seconded by Mr. Trapuzzano, to employ Caitlin Deep as Head Varsity Girls Volleyball Coach effective the 2014-2015 school year, at the base step salary of \$2,653 pending receipt of Act 151 clearance.
Motion carried unanimously.

24. Motion by Mr. Durbin, seconded by Mrs. Caleffe, to employ Greg Mittleider as JV Assistant Football Coach at the 5th step salary of \$3,184 for a one year agreement, effective 2014-2015
Motion carried unanimously.

25. Motion by Mrs. McIlvaine, seconded by Mr. Trapuzzano, to accept the resignations of:

- Fay Scott, Food Service Department, effective June 10, 2014 – for retirement purposes
- Raynor E. Hale, Facilities Department, effective June 30, 2014
- Craig Uram, 9th Grade Head Football Coach
- Steve Polansky, 9th Grade First Assistant Football Coach
- Ron Gasper, JV Assistant Football Coach

Motion carried unanimously.

26. Motion by Mrs. Eates, seconded by Mr. Durbin, to extend the contract of Leaders in Learning for Special Education supervision at a cost of \$500 per day, plus mileage, effective July 1, 2014 through December 19, 2014. The agreement may be cancelled upon thirty days notice or upon mutual agreement between Leaders in Learning, LLC and Trinity Area School District. (Item 4.13)
Motion carried unanimously.

27. Motion by Mr. Trapuzzano, seconded by Mr. Clemens, for the following volunteer (non-compensated) positions: Football Coaches – Ryan Daloia and Bill Spencer; Band – Elisabeth Karnes, Rachel Kauffman, Kaley Kilpatrick, Jason Miller, and George Palton
Motion carried unanimously.

EDUCATION

Mrs. Morgan gave the Education Committee Report from the June 9 meeting.

28. Motion by Mrs. Eates, seconded by Mr. Clemens, to form a Guidance Advisory Committee as attached (Item 5.2)
Motion carried unanimously.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

29. Motion by Mr. Clemens, seconded by Mrs. McIlvaine, to dispose of surplus and obsolete items via e-bay as per attachment (Item 6.1)
Motion carried unanimously.

POLICY

30. Motion by Mr. Durbin, seconded by Mrs. Caleffe, to add Trinity West Football Booster Club, Inc., Trinity North East Football Booster Association, Inc., and the Trinity North East Cheerleading Booster to the list of Board Reorganized Groups as per Administrative Regulation 707.4 (Item 7.1)
Motion carried unanimously.

WESTERN AREA CAREER & TECHNICAL CENTER – Penny Caleffe, Representative/Joseph LaBella, Alternate Representative

No report.

NORTH FRANKLIN BUSINESS & RECREATION AUTHORITY – Henry Clemens and Frances Eates, Representatives

Mrs. Eates reported that the hiking trail is scheduled for completion mid August.

PSBA LIAISON – Tom Durbin

No report.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mrs. Morgan announced that executive sessions were held Monday, June 16 at 2:00 p.m. and Thursday, June 19 at 5:00 p.m. for personnel purposes.

31. Motion by Mrs. McIlvaine, seconded by Mr. Durbin, to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.

David G. Roussos, Secretary
Trinity Area School District Board of Education