

JANUARY 16, 2014

The Freedom Area School Board held their Regular Board Meeting on January 16, 2014, in the Middle School Library. President Barbara Heyman called the Business Meeting to order at 7:00 pm, EST.

Board Members Present:

Lorraine Rocco
Harry Gilarno
Dawn Greene
Barbara Heyman
Lori Pail
Mary Ann Petcovic
Jennifer Sayre
Dennis Sharpless

Board Members Absent:

School Staff Present:

Dr. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent
Noriene Plate, Business Manager
Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Timothy Dadich, Principal, High School
Darlene Corris, Middle School Principal
Richard Edder, Elementary Principal

Solicitor:

Matt Hoffman, Esq.

Beaver County Times:

Bill Utterback

Guests: **Public sign-in sheet is attached to the minutes in the minute book.**

COMMUNICATIONS:

Dr. Jeffrey Fuller, Superintendent, recognized the Board for their service as January has been designated by PSBA as School Director Recognition Month for 2014. Certificates were presented to the Board Members.

Invitation:

1. 2013 Freedom Area Varsity Football and Cheerleader Banquet, Saturday, January 18, 5:00 P.M., The Club at Shadow Lakes, Aliquippa
2. 2013 Freedom Lil' Bulldogs Football and Cheerleader Banquet, Saturday, January 25, 5:00 P.M., The Fez, Hopewell Township; RSVP to John Patterson at (724) 417-3227 by Saturday, January 18

Other:

1. BVIU School Directors' Workshop:
 - Session 1:
 - Tuesday, January 21, 5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
 - or
 - Saturday, February 1, 8:15 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
 - Session 2:
 - Tuesday, March 18, 5:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.
 - or
 - Saturday, March 22, 8:15 A.M. – Noon
2. The Board was provided with a State Ethics Commission Statement of Financial Interests Form for 2013 to complete by May 1, 2014 (Handout)
3. February 2014 Board Meetings to be held on February 6 and February 13

Use of School Facilities is scheduled according to policy. (Enclosure)

MINUTES:

Motion by Petcovic, seconded by Pail, to approve the following minutes:

Reorganization/Regular Board Meeting December 5, 2013

Roll Call Yea Votes – Gilarno, Greene, Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

ENCLOSURES:

- A. Use of School Facilities Schedule (According to Policy) (Communications – Item D.)
- B. Smith Butz LLC Engagement Letter for Representation of Freedom Area School District in Connection with a Potential Oil and Gas Lease (Superintendent Report – Item A.)
- C. Resolution indicating District will not raise the Rate of any Tax for the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year by more than the Adjusted Index Established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education – Adjusted index for District is 2.9% (Finance – Item F.)
- D. Free-Reduced Lunch Report as of January 13, 2014 – District at 43.18%
- E. In/Out Migration Report as of December 2013 – 1,480 (-3 from November 2013, -11 from Third Day Enrollment)
- F. Cyber/Charter School Enrollment as of January 8, 2014 – Current projected annual cost for 2013-2014 School Year \$644,386.02; 42 Cyber/Charter Students, 30 Brick and Mortar Students – Total No. of Students - 72

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Fuller, Superintendent, updated the Board on the Polar Plunge held Saturday, January 11, 2014, saying Team Freedom raised \$6,270.13 in support of the Special Olympics.

Motion by Rocco, seconded by Petcovic, to approve Smith Butz LLC, Engagement Letter for representation of the Freedom Area School District in connection with a potential oil and gas lease (Enclosure).

Note: Penn Energy Resources, based in Pittsburgh, has made an offer of \$3,000 per acre for the districts 43-acre parcel encompassing the Big Knob Elementary School in New Sewickley Township. Smith Butz, LLC will represent the district in negotiations.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

FINANCE:

Motion to approve the following finance items was made by Heyman, seconded by Rocco, and unanimously approved through consent agenda: **(Copies of items CA:1 – CA:5 are attached to the minutes in the minute book)**

CA:1 Bills in the amount of \$1,243,729.64 (Second Check Run for December 2013)

CA:2 Bills in the amount of \$451,622.96 (First Check Run for January 2014)

CA:3 Capital Improvement Check Run for January 2014 - \$96,510.42

CA:4 Approve November 2013 and December 2013 Treasurers Reports

	<u>November 2013</u>
Money Market, Huntington Bank	\$ 791,624.44
General Fund, Huntington Bank	\$ 384,709.75
Payroll, Huntington Bank	\$ 979.90
PA Treasury Invest	\$ 3,466,350.63
Premier Savings – Huntington	\$ 2,359,818.17
PSDLAF – Regular Account	\$ 3,090.59
PSDLAF Max - General Fund	\$ 842,193.54
Huntington – Capital Improvement	\$ 131,532.34
Student Activity Account	\$ 53,324.31
Huntington – Bodkin Scholarship	\$ 246,479.84
PA Treasury-Invest Capital Projects	\$ 912,878.58
PSDLAF CD - Capital Projects	\$ 1,335,000.00
PSDLAF Max – Capital Projects	\$ 3,184,786.97
PSDLAF/ESB Bank CD - General Fund	\$ 2,215,000.00

	<u>December 2013</u>
Money Market, Huntington Bank	\$ 1,572,573.43
General Fund, Huntington Bank	\$ (78,339.50)
Payroll, Huntington Bank	\$ 1,162.10
PA Treasury Invest	\$ 4,166,510.21

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| Premier Savings – Huntington | \$ 1,909,836.47 |
| PSDLAF – Regular Account | \$ 3,090.60 |
| PSDLAF Max - General Fund | \$ 1,336,108.82 |
| Huntington – Capital Improvement | \$ 143,698.78 |
| Student Activity Account | \$ 57,730.63 |
| Huntington – Bodkin Scholarship | \$ 246,490.31 |
| PA Treasury-Invest Capital Projects | \$ 212,898.97 |
| PSDLAF CD - Capital Projects | \$ 735,000.00 |
| PSDLAF Max – Capital Projects | \$ 3,784,940.79 |
| PSDLAF/ESB Bank CD - General Fund | \$ 1,975,000.00 |
- CA:5 December 2013 Cafeteria Report
- CA:6 Resolution indicating District will not raise the rate of any tax for the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year by more than the Adjusted Index Established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education – Adjusted Index for District is 2.9% (Signatures Required) (Enclosure)
- CA:7 Release of 2013 Delinquent Real Estate Taxes from Tax Collectors to County (Signatures Required)
- CA:8 Formal Action Constituting a debt ordinance under the Local Government Unit Debt Act
- CA:9 Proposal For and Agreement Respecting \$12,750,000 Maximum Principal Amount for Freedom Area School District General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2014, with Janney Montgomery Scott LLC (Signature Required)
- CA:10 Assured Guaranty Municipal Corp.’s Commitment Letter in Respect to Freedom Area School District’s Not to Exceed \$10,000,000 Aggregate Principal Amount of Freedom Area School District General Obligation Bonds, Series 2014, at a Cost of .20% of Total Debt Service (Decrease in Estimated Cost from \$51,363.88 to \$34,242.58) (Signature Required)
- Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

EDUCATION:

Motion to approve the following Education items was made by Petcovic, seconded by Gilarno, and was unanimously approved through consent agenda according to Act 48:

CA:1 **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

1. **Special Education:**

- a. Jessika Fontaine, High School Learning Support Teacher, Best iPad Apps to Enhance Content Instruction, March 24, Four Points by Sheraton-Airport, Cost \$229 Registration Fee Plus Substitute

2. **Other:**

- a. Ryan Smith, Middle School Lead Teacher/Math Coach, Math 24 Competition, January 27, Midland School District, No Cost to District
- b. Amy DeChellis, Big Knob Elementary Kindergarten Teacher, Transition to Kindergarten Meeting, January 29, BVIU, Cost Substitute
- c. A Closer Look at Poverty & Homelessness, February 7, BVIU, Cost \$20 Registration Fee Plus Substitute:
- i. Gena Tokar, Big Knob Elementary Kindergarten Teacher
 - ii. Lori Sacco, Conway Elementary Kindergarten Teacher
- d. Student Learning Objective (SLO) Pilot Training, January 28 and April 8, BVIU, Cost Substitute Plus Mileage:
- i. Misty Slavic, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
 - ii. Tim Dadich, High School Principal
 - iii. Bill Saludis, High School Chemistry Teacher
 - iv. Kelly McNees, High School Social Studies Teacher
- e. PVAAS Roster Verification Training, January 21 (PM Session), BVIU, Cost Substitute Plus Mileage:
- i. Darlene Corris, Middle School Principal
 - ii. Tina Boyd, Middle School 5th Grade Teacher
 - iii. Ken McLaughlin, Middle School Learning Support Teacher
 - iv. Randy Perkins, Middle School Counselor
 - v. Angela Post, Middle School 7th Grade Teacher
 - vi. Cindy Zeigler, Middle School 6th Grade Teacher
 - vii. Rich Edder, Big Knob/Conway Elementary Principal

- viii. Susan Camp, Big Knob Elementary 4th Grade Teacher
- ix. Linda Haffner, Big Knob Elementary 4th Grade Teacher
- x. Amanda Whitworth, Big Knob Elementary 4th Grade Teacher
- xi. Kristine Ricci, Conway Elementary 4th Grade Teacher
- xii. Jennifer VanDeCar, Conway Elementary 4th Grade Teacher
- f. Launch Your Freshmen Toward High School and College Completion, February 4, Doubletree Hotel-Moon Township, Cost \$79 Registration Fee Plus Substitute:
 - i. Barb Martz, High School Prevention Specialist
 - ii. Maria Porter, High School Social Studies Teacher
 - iii. Andrea Niedbala, High School English Teacher

STUDENTS AND STAFF TRAVEL:

1. Gifted:
 - a. Sara Miller, K-8 Gifted Coordinator, Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Contest, February 11, Pittsburgh Public Theater, No Cost to District (Transportation Paid by the Pittsburgh Public Theatre)
 2. Other:
 - a. Keith Kovalic, High School Music Teacher, Beaver County Chorus Festival 2014, January 22-23, Beaver Falls Middle School, Cost \$280 Registration Fee, Substitute, Transportation
 - b. Beth Majors, High School Marketing Teacher, State DECA Conference, February 26-28, Hershey, Cost Not to Exceed Board Limits
 - c. Katie Gigl, High School Social Studies Teacher, Academic World Quest Trivia Competition, February 7, Soldiers & Sailors Museum-Pittsburgh, Cost Substitute (Will Use School Van)
- CA:2 Alicia Cersosimo as Middle School Instructional Aide, Salary \$11.60 Per Hour (Not to Exceed 29.5 Hours Per Week) (Clearances on File, Pending Receipt of New Employee Drug Screening Test)
- CA:3 Kayla Clear as Day-to-Day Industrial Arts Substitute Teacher retroactive to December 11, 2013, Salary \$85 Per Day (Clearances on File)
- CA:4 Tyler Chapala as High School Industrial Arts Substitute Aide, Salary \$9.82 Per Hour (Clearances on File)
- CA:5 Submission and Acceptance of Target Field Trip Grant in the Amount of \$200 (Student Transportation/Entrance Fees) by Big Knob Elementary Second Grade Teacher Joy Crouch for Around the World Field Trip to University of Pittsburgh Nationality Rooms
- CA:6 Request from Tricia Schink, Conway Elementary 2nd Grade Teacher, for Four Unpaid Days, February 14 and February 18 thru February 20, 2014 (February 17 as Unpaid Day if not a Snow Day), According to Policy No. 439
- CA:7 Electronic Rights License Agreement with World Trade Press for Middle School Digital Media Website Access to A to Z The World, Cost \$249 (Signature Required)
- CA:8 The Following Field Trip Request:
 - High School Freedom Fortune 500 Club (Kristen Milanovich, Sponsor), Visit to Roo-Tees, Friday, January 24, Carnegie (Observe workflow of screen printing business) – No Cost to District
- CA:9 Program Articulation Agreement with The Art Institute of Pittsburgh for High School (Administrative Report)
- CA:10 Kelly Senkoski as Big Knob Elementary Student Aide, Salary \$11.60 per hour (Not to exceed 29.5 hours per week) (Clearances on file, Pending receipt of New Employee Drug Screening Test)
- CA:11 Acceptance of \$1,000 from Communities In Schools of Pennsylvania for District to Participate in the Collaboration through Positive Messaging, “My Life, My Choice Campaign (Funds to support youth led projects through the end of the 2013-2014 School Year)
- CA:12 Homebound Instruction, according to policy, for High School student
- CA:13 Agreement with The Watson Institute Behavior Support Academy for one district special education student effective October 17, 2013, thru end of School Year, Tuition \$42,599 for 2013-2014 School Year (to be Prorated)
- CA:14 Accept resignation of Suzanne Schlack as Middle School Learning Support Aide effective January 31, 2014

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

OPERATIONS:

Motion to approve the following Operations items was made by Gilarno, seconded by Rocco, and unanimously approved through consent agenda:

- CA:1 Hilda Eaddy as permanent part-time Custodian at Big Knob Elementary (Clearances on File, Pending receipt of New Employee Drug Screening)
- CA:2 Three Year Managed Print Services Agreement with ComDoc, Cost \$678 Per Month (Administrative Report)
- CA:3 Release Time for Dawn Fronius, Food Service Director, to Attend PA Meals Training, January 20, North Hills High School, Cost Mileage

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Note: No Action taken on the Part-Time Administrative Assistant (12 Month Position) to Director of Buildings and Grounds, Salary \$12.50 Per Hour. Position on hold at this time.

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN:

Dan Engen, Principal, VEBH, reported that a lot of activity has been taking place with the building project since the last report. He has met with the New Sewickley Township Water Authority regarding service to the building saying discussion will be on-going regarding the water line connection. Legal documents are being developed for signature in February; color schemes were also provided.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR:

Motion to approve the following Extra-Curricular items was made by Sharpless, seconded by Rocco, and were unanimously approved through consent agenda:

- CA:1 Establishment of the Following (Administrative Report):
 - 1. High School DECA Club
 - 2. High School Photography Club
- CA:2 Brian Wargo as Volunteer Physics Club Sponsor (Clearances on File)
- CA:3 Rob Henderson as Jr. High Baseball Coach, Salary \$1,000 (Clearances on File)
- CA:4 Resignation of Chris Coennen as Varsity Assistant Football and Baseball Coach
- CA:5 Chris Coennen as Volunteer Varsity Assistant Football and Baseball Coach (Clearances on File)
- CA:6 Creation of Strength and Conditioning Coach Position to monitor fitness room at High School
- CA:7 Three one-year contracts for the following:
 - 1. Ed Shephard as Cross-Country Head Coach, Salary according to contract
 - 2. Aaron Fitzpatrick as Golf Head Coach, Salary according to contract
- CA:8 Release Time for Tim Dubovi, Head Football Coach, plus staff, to attend the Glazier Football Coaching Clinic, January 31 thru February 2, Sheraton Station Square Hotel-Pittsburgh, Cost \$369 Registration fee
- CA:9 Release Time for Jim Covert, Head Wrestling Coach, Plus Staff and Qualified Wrestlers, to attend the following, costs to be determined:
 - 1. PIAA Southwest Regional Wrestling Tournament, February 28 thru March 1, Cambria County War Memorial-Johnstown
 - 2. PIAA Southwest Regional Wrestling Tournament, March 5-8, Giant Center-Hershey
- CA:10 Release Time for John Rosa, Athletic Director, to Attend WPIAL Wrestling Steering Committee Meetings, January 23, February 11, February 18 and February 24, Cost substitute

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Motion by Sharpless, seconded by Rocco, to approve Patty Donaldson as High School Gym Supervisor for Girls' JV and Varsity Basketball Games, Salary According to Contract (Clearances on File)

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail. No
 Vote Vote – Greene. Motion carried – 7 Yeas

POLICY:

Motion by Rocco, Seconded by Petcovic, to approve the following Board Policies:

1. Policy No. 610 – Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
2. Policy No. 611 – Purchases Budgeted

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
 Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Sayre, for the Board to go into executive session at 7:30 pm to discuss the following matter:

- Personnel Matters

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
 Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Rocco, to adjourn executive session at 7:55 pm.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
 Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Rocco, to approve utilizing Kelly Services to provide substitute Aides for the school year. Cost will be Freedom's hourly rate plus 1.4%.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
 Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Sharpless, to approve opening of the Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach position.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
 Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Motion by Rocco, seconded by Petcovic, to approve two hours per day for Wanda Murray to continue to assist Gary Mortimer as support staff in Buildings & Grounds. Position is through February.

Roll Call Yea Votes – Petcovic, Heyman, Sharpless, Gilarno, Greene, Sayre, Rocco, and Pail.
 Vote Motion carried – 8 Yeas

Adjourn Motion by Gilarno, seconded by Sayre, to adjourn. All members voting Yea.
 8 Yeas. Adjourned at 7:57 pm, EST.

Submitted by:

Lorraine Rocco, Board Secretary