

Claysburg-Kimmel School Board
Minutes of February 3, 2016
Work Session Meeting

The Board met in work session at 7:06 pm on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, with the following present: Mona Eckley, Cathy Barnes, Joe Musselman, Craig Burket, Rich Gergely, Roger Knisely, Shelda Repko, Jeremy Knott, Johnathan Burkett, Ryan Brown (Altoona Mirror), Erin Thompson (Bedford Gazette), Elizabeth Benjamin (Andrews & Beard), Matt Hall, Stephen Puskar, Royce Boyd, and Michelle Smithmyer.

Ms. Boyd explained that the administration will recommend additions to the non-instructional substitute list for the official meeting. The administration also expects to receive a few retirement letters before the meeting next week.

Mrs. Smithmyer explained the Computer Consortium Services group. A recommendation to approve the renewal of the Agreement among Claysburg-Kimmel School District, Bellwood-Antis School District, Hollidaysburg Area School District, and the Greater Altoona Career & Technology Center to continue the Computer Consortium Services will be included on the agenda for the February 10th meeting.

Ms. Boyd provided an update regarding the funding for the STEM after-school program; a recommendation to approve the budget for this program will be included on the February 10th agenda.

Ms. Boyd discussed the graduation date scheduled for May 29, 2016. There has been some discussion in the community that the graduation date presents a conflict with scheduled Memorial Day community events. The consensus was to move the time of graduation to after 3:30 pm, and not to change the date of graduation.

Ms. Boyd explained that the administration will bring recommendations for Spring Coaching positions to the official meeting next week. Coaching positions are contracted annually.

The Board reviewed and discussed recommended changes to the following policies: 004 – Membership; 006 Meetings; 115 – Career and Technical Education; 317 – Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures; 806 – Child Abuse; 916 – Volunteers; 011 – Principles for Governance and Leadership; and 824 – Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries. A recommendation to approve the second reading of all with the exception of Policy #824 will be included on the agenda for next week. A recommendation will be made to postpone the second reading of Policy # 824 – Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries will be included on the agenda. The Board would like to postpone the second reading of this policy and to put this policy on our website for public comment/review prior to considering it for a second reading.

The Board discussed Policy #201 – Admission of Students. This is the first year of the move of the date for admission of kindergarten aged students from the first day of school to July 1st; there was some discussion regarding making exceptions to the date for this first year. The consensus was that the District should not make exceptions to the kindergarten age requirement.

There was discussion regarding the request from PAST regarding possible placement of Hall of Fame plaques. Ms. Benjamin will provide sample policies from other Districts regarding such requests. The Board plans to review and discuss this issue further.

There was discussion regarding the Backpack Program. Ms. Benjamin made a few recommendations based on her research. A recommendation to approve continuing the partnership with the Bulldog Backpack Program as it is currently operating through the end of the school year will be included on the agenda.

Mrs. Smithmyer reported that First Commonwealth Bank indicated they are no longer interested in serving as Board Treasurer. There was some discussion regarding the position and responsibilities. Mr. Musselman agreed to serve as Board Treasurer as he is the Chair of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Burkett reported that he had received requests from community members to investigate the possibility of installing railings for the cement bleachers as well as designating handicapped seating there as well. Ms. Boyd responded that the administration will investigate both.

The Board adjourned at 9:37 pm.


Board Secretary