

**McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**February 24, 2010**

**Presiding** Wayne Washowich, President

**Date, Time, Place** Wednesday, February 24, 2010, 7:30 PM, Board Room,  
Administration Building, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard,  
McKeesport, PA 15132.

**Opening Exercises** Mr. Washowich called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM,  
followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

**Present** James Brown  
Joseph Chiaverini  
Mark Holtzman  
Steve Kondrosky  
Joe Lopretto  
Tom Maglicco  
Patricia Maksin  
Wayne Washowich

Excused. Chris Halaszynski

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

**Board President's Remarks** – No remarks.

**Superintendent's Report** – I do have a few things to comment on. I would like to remind the community and also the Board that we will be celebrating Reading Across America on Sunday, March 7, 2010 from 2-4 at Barnes & Noble. We will have representatives from the district. Students will be there reading poetry and we will have musical quartets down there. It is important for the community to understand that if you go down to Barnes & Noble at that time and purchase anything, there is a percentage of the returns that will come back to the district. As a result of the efforts last year, each of the school buildings got \$1,000 that they were able

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to spend on their reading programs within the schools. So it is a great opportunity and we ask the entire community to come out. Also, I would like to report that we are in the midst of celebrating Black History Month and activities are happening in each of the buildings. In the elementary and intermediate schools we have hallway displays, poetry contests, guest speakers, door decorations, interactive games and biographies that are taking place to celebrate Black History Month and at the high school we have discussions taking place, guest speakers, hallway displays, cooperative learning activities, quilt making, along with research projects at the middle school and the high school so I am very pleased to report that. The only other thing I have under the Superintendent's Report, I would like to welcome Peter Vancheri to the district who will be providing the Board with an Audit Report presentation.

Peter Vancheri – Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood – Audit Report presentation.

**Treasurer's Report** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2010. Seconded by Mr. Chiaverini.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Hearing of Citizens** – none

**Minutes** – Mrs. Maksin moved to approve the minutes of the Open Agenda Meeting of January 21, 2010 and the Regular Meeting of January 27, 2010. Seconded by Mr. Brown.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Bills** – Mr. Chiaverini moved to approve the amended list of bills. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

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**Refunds** – Mr. Brown moved to approve property tax refunds as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Maksin.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Bids** – Mr. Lopretto moved to advertise bids for the 2010/2011 school term as follows: General, Art, Office, Industrial Arts, Vocational/Technical, Custodial, Athletic and Athletic Medical Supplies. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Audit Report** – Mr. Maglicco moved to acknowledge receipt of the 2008/2009 Audit Report. Seconded by Mrs. Maksin.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Tax Collectors** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to appoint the following real estate tax collectors effective January 1, 2010:

- A. Charles Gross – Dravosburg
- B. Carol Haines – South Versailles
- C. Robert Hart – White Oak

D. Lisa Fleckenstein – Versailles

Seconded by Mr. Brown.

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

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Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Proposal** – Mr. Chiaverini moved to accept the proposal from Phillips & Associates, Inc. for providing topographic surveying work in the amounts as follows:

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Cornell                   | \$13,580.00 |
| McClure                   | \$8,770.00  |
| New McKeesport Elementary | \$22,700.00 |

Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Proposal** – Mr. Brown moved to accept the proposal from Garvin Boward Beitko to provide geotechnical services in the amounts as follows:

|         |             |
|---------|-------------|
| Cornell | \$78,950.00 |
| McClure | \$18,323.75 |

Seconded by Mr. Chiaverini.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Proposals** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to authorize the Business Manager to advertise for proposals for food service management for the 2010/2011 school year. Seconded by Mr. Brown.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Transfer** – Mr. Maglicco moved to authorize the Business Manager to transfer the remaining balance in the 2005 construction fund to the current Capital Projects fund. Seconded by Mrs. Maksin. Discussion followed.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Evaluation** – Mr. Brown moved to approve Expect Respect pre/post evaluation for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students for Spring 2010 with the established pre conditions. Seconded by Mrs. Maksin. Discussion followed.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Equipment** – Mrs. Maksin moved to approve the disposal of obsolete computer equipment. Seconded by Mr. Brown. Discussion followed.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Agreement** – Mr. Chiaverini moved to approve the settlement agreement with Steel Center Area Vocational Technical School. Seconded by Mr. Maglicco.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

**Software** – Mr. Lopretto moved to authorize the purchase of a curriculum mapping software from Sungard Public Sector in the amount of \$33,400. (Paid by EETT Funds) Seconded by Mrs. Maksin.

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



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Nicole Stagl Family and Consumer Science Teacher, High School, maternity leave of absence effective 4/19/10 to an undetermined date. Unpaid leave will commence at the expiration of 14 sick days.

Megain Tomain Reading Teacher, Founders Hall, maternity leave of absence effective approximately 3/1/10 to an undetermined date. Unpaid leave will commence at the expiration of 15.5 sick days and 4.5 personal days. FMLA

To be hired: Long Term Substitutes: rate of pay will be \$80/day + benefits and increase to \$125 on the 61<sup>st</sup> day:

Elaine Hrinda Family and Consumer Science Teacher, High School,  
(Stagl) effective 4/19/10.

William Flow Reading Teacher, Founders Hall, effective approximately  
(Tomain) 3/1/10.

To be hired: Head Football Coach for the 2010/2011 school year:

|          |                        |            |
|----------|------------------------|------------|
| Jim Ward | Varsity Football Coach | \$7,063.50 |
|----------|------------------------|------------|

Resignation: Extra Curricular Athletics/Activities for the 2009/2010 school year:

Sharyn Bertoty Stage, High School (shared) effective 1/19/10

Steven Guydo Assistant Track Coach (shared)

Steven Guydo 7/8 Grade Track Coach (shared)

Change in pay schedule: extra curricular athletics for the 2009/2010 school year:

|               |                          |            |
|---------------|--------------------------|------------|
| John Debes    | Assistant Baseball Coach | \$805.14   |
| Dale McCall   | Assistant Baseball Coach | \$805.14   |
| Eric Anderson | Assistant Baseball Coach | \$1,400.41 |
| Dana Brown    | 7/8 Grade Baseball Coach | \$1,298.69 |
| Craig Slafka  | 7/8 Grade Track Coach    | \$1,586.20 |

To be hired: extra curricular athletics/activities:

|                 |                               |            |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Chris Capozzoli | Weight Lifting Coach (shared) | \$1,371.15 |
| Todd Blackwell  | Weight Lifting Coach (shared) | \$1,371.15 |
| Mark Bacco      | 7/8 Grade Track Coach         | \$1,586.20 |
| *Sam Bostic     | Assistant Baseball Coach      | \$1,097.62 |
| Beth Murphy     | Stage, High School            | \$415.50   |

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Conference Requests:

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Marc Mayer    | PA Middle School Association State Conference |
| Tia Wanzo     | Sponsored by the PA Middle School Association |
| Harry Bauman  | at Penn State University                      |
| Brianne Adams | February 28, 2010 through March 2, 2010       |
|               | (Paid for by Title I) \$2,672.44              |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Chris Kastronis  | 2010 Promising Practices – Proven Strategies             |
| Mary Ann LaFever | Sponsored by the PDE/Center for Schools and              |
| Chris Starry     | Communities Harrisburg, PA                               |
| Kerry Ochap      | March 8, 2010 through March 11, 2010                     |
|                  | (Paid for by the 21 <sup>st</sup> CCLC Grant) \$2,580.34 |

Changes to the substitute teacher list:

Additions:

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| *William Flow    | English     |
| *Kayla McCormley | Elementary  |
| *Doug Deckert    | Elementary  |
| *Ashley Morchied | Mathematics |

Deletions:

|             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| Lauren Bell | Elementary |
| James Kumf  | Elementary |

Support Staff:

Retirement: Effective 1/27/10:

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Luis Bana | Custodian, White Oak Elementary School |
|-----------|--|

Resignation:

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Shirley Turocy | Lunch Aide, Food Service Department, McClure Intermediate School, effective 1/27/10 |
|----------------|---|

Unpaid Leave of Absence:

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Elise Preece | General Worker, Food Service Department, White Oak Elementary School, unpaid leave of absence effective 2/22/10 through 4/12/10 |
|--------------|---|

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Changes to the substitute lists:

Additions:

|                  |                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| *Robert Bazala   | Custodian                   |
| *Donald Kowalski | Custodian                   |
| *Patricia Cimba  | Special Education Assistant |
| *Cassie Clelland | Special Education Assistant |
| *Toni Gordon     | Food Service                |
| *Vivian Francis  | Food Service                |

\*Pending receipt of Act 34, 151 and 114 clearances, TB Tine Test and Drug Test.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Athletic – James Brown – We have finally landed a head football coach for the varsity football team. That’s something that we have been looking for for the past month and we finally landed a coach and he’s here today and he’ll have a press conference tomorrow at 4:30 PM for those guys that are interested in interviewing him and introducing himself to them at that time. His name is Jim Ward and he’s in the back of the audience.

Buildings & Grounds – Steve Kondrosky – Yes sir, Mr. President. I spoke with Mr. Fagan and he was overwhelmed by not just the snow that occurred and taking care of it, but all of the other things that went down due to the power failures and that’s so long and I don’t want to bore the public with this at this time, so I’m just going to let you know that it’s going to cost the district a few dollars and hopefully we turned everything in to FEMA and I think Jim Humanic commended him on a job well done. Hopefully, we will be reimbursed by the federal government in regards to how much time and money was spent on overtime and damage to the vehicles and such. There are a couple other things that are secondary to that so I’m just going to say that right now and I want to commend everybody for putting their time in. Everybody that had to work overtime probably not as much as they like to come out in that type of condition and try to keep our schools open. They did a good job. Thank you.

Cultural Diversity – Tom Maglicco – We had some discussions and will be meeting in March for our first meeting.

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Education/Technology/Grants & Outside Funding – Pat Maksin – We did meet on February 17<sup>th</sup>. There was a representative here from Womansplace that was talking about the Expect Respect program that we had voted on earlier today. Dr. Brinkos did make some stipulations and those were included in the motion that we made today. There were some grants that were received that was also reported that we received the PCCD School Resource Officer Grant to the City of McKeesport which would then put an officer here at the high school and that is a continuation of a grant that has already been there. Also the Enhancing Education through Technology that's the EETT, that was the grant that was mentioned earlier that we had voted on about the software. That will help in mapping the curriculum K-12.

Dr. Gabauer – It's a program that allows our written curriculum to actually be put onto software. It makes it interactive for the teachers. They know what is happening in every single classroom just about when it is happening, what is to be happening, K-12. So it provides us consistency, it takes it from the traditional written curriculum, puts it online and makes it interactive for all staff.

Mrs. Maksin – I think that's really important in our technology age that staff members know exactly what is in the curriculum K-12. In years past the first grade teacher didn't have a clue what the ninth grade teacher was teaching. This way they will be able to know and they can map forwards and backwards and hopefully we won't have any gaps in our curriculum this way it will help to fill in any of those gaps. There is also a couple of proposed changes in the curriculum for next year those will be brought to you if anything more is needed on that. There is a proposal to centralize kindergarten and pre-k registrations in one central location at the end of March.

Dr. Brinkos – I just want to report that Dr. Lobaugh is working on that and that information will be shared with the public in the next coming weeks to try to get students enrolled into the kindergarten program quickly.

Mr. Washowich – I think in past years, I think the public would be interested to know just how many grants we get available. We have that full team that applies for grants and maybe you could check with people on your committee to give us some type of idea of how many hundreds of thousands of dollars we are applying for and actually receiving.

Mrs. Maksin – I will check with Mrs. Scales about that. I know that we did receive two grants this month and there are grant applications that were submitted and pending approval there

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are two other grants for that. That would be the dual enrollment grant and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Cohort #5. There are grants, it seems to me, just about every month there are grants that are being submitted and we're waiting approval on some. I will ask her to give an update on that so that we will have a dollar figure.

Financial Affairs – Tom Maglicco – We met Tuesday, myself, Mr. Seropian, Mr. Humanic, Mr. Chiaverini, Mrs. Maksin. Thanks for attending. It was more of an organization meeting. We received the financial statement of 2009. Mr. Seropian and I set up some more meetings coming up and we're possibly going to meet monthly at least while these building projects and things are going on.

Legislation/Policy – Pat Maksin – We did meet again, that was my day for meetings. There are some Board policies, 300, 400 and 500 deal a lot with employees. It was found that a lot of them were extremely redundant and so we are hoping to take those under Dr. Gabauer's leadership and kind of get rid of the things that are repetitive hopefully condense all of this down into a very small amount of pages that will cover all of the material but will not have the redundancy that the old policies had. We will be reporting on that, hopefully we will have some things for the Board next month.

Personnel – Joe Lopretto – We did have a meeting and it all reflects on the green sheets. It was a meeting actually over the phone, but it still went well.

Safe Schools – Joe Lopretto – We did not have a meeting, but myself, Dr. Gabauer and Dr. Brinkos have been in contact pretty much all month about getting our camera systems up and running the way we want them. We're still now where we want, but before it's over we will have a great camera system in the school.

Solicitor's Report – Just for the community, we did have an Executive Session before this meeting to handle personnel issues and potential litigation. I see our investment bankers from Janey Montgomery are here this evening.

Alisha Phillips – Janey Montgomery – We really didn't prepare to speak, but I will let you know that we have been working with Dave Seropian, Attorney Matta and bond council and hopefully within two to three weeks we will be ready to send out a rating package with a pricing hopefully some time in April.

Correspondence – none

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New Business –

**AIU Board** - Mr. Kondrosky moved to nominate Pat Maksin to run as a candidate for the AIU Board on behalf of the McKeesport Area School District. Seconded by Mr. Maglicco.

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

Excused. Mr. Halaszynski

Adjournment – 8:20 PM – Mr. Kondrosky for adjournment. Seconded by Mr. Chiaverini.

Voting aye. All Members present.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary