

MINUTES
Special Board Meeting
Almont Community Schools Board of Education

August 19, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

President Hoffa called the Special Board Meeting of the Almont Community Schools Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of Almont Central Office.

Present

Steven Hoffa, Jon Owens, Stephan Manko, John Miles and Superintendent Joseph Candela.

Visitors: 2

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Boxey, Kmetz and Brzozowski were absent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was approved as presented

COMMUNICATIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Work Session

No action was taken. Various informational items were discussed:

FINANCE

Random checks were pulled and reviewed

CURRICULUM

Staffing

We continue to work on the staff assignments by the building principals. We are still trying to fill the high school PE position for 1 hour. We should be set for opening day of school in all of the other areas.

PERSONNEL

Approval of Begindergarten Position

The Board of Education approves the employment of all personnel. The AEA agreed to allow the B-K teacher (Tanya Steinhaus) not to be part of the AEA salary schedule, due to funding. We currently have 11 students signed up for B-K. Tanya Steinhaus has agreed to accept the B-K position. She has taught for us at Orchard Primary before being laid off. She will do an excellent job in the B-K program. Program will be self funding.

Approval of Pre-School Position

Star Stuphin has been the pre-school teacher for a number of years in both the GSRP program and the Tuition based program. This year Almont Schools received full funding for 18 GSRP students, which will allow us to have a full year program. This has created an opening in our

Tuition based program. After reviewing the applications and meeting with several candidates Renee Porter was chosen to be the new Tuition based Pre-School. Mrs. Porter meets all the qualifications and has worked with those students in the pass.

Approval of Employee Contracts

The Board of Education approves the employment contracts of all personnel. The following staff members are not part of any collective bargaining agreements and thus have individual contracts with the Board of Education for duties to which they are assigned:

Library Aides-Lori Winslow, Mary Corbin & Jeanne Dupuis

Latchkey Staff

Virginia (Jenny) Wheatley – Program Coordinator

Carolyn Horn – Latchkey Aide

Stephanie Russ – Latchkey Aide

PreSchool

Star Stuphin – Program Coordinator

Melissa Phillips- PreSchool Aide

Sonya Szydlowski – PreSchool Aide

Renee Porter – Teacher (non-certified position)

Beginnergarten

Tanya Steinhaus

Paraeducators

Tracy Bacholzky Shelly Baker Denise Berger

Linda Bone Carol Born Kristine Bryan

Teresa Deneweth Jennifer Fulton Kim Garant

Colleen Ions Loretta Lawrence Brenda Leech

Deidra McLocklin Deborah Sheffield

Kim Medley Nancy Turvill

Migrant Program

Ucros’-Paul, Clemencia

Fall 2013 Sport CoachES

Freshman Football Head Coach

7th Grade Head Football Coach

7th Grade Assistant Football Coach

8th Grade Football Coach

Beau Beneson – Girls MS Basketball Coach-Hired through AEA contract.

Mr. Beneson has served as a MS Girls Basketball Coach for many years.

Taylor Dziewit- Asst. Varsity Volleyball

Approval of Employee Layoff

Michelle Nizich decided not to fill the 1 hour French for 8th grade, therefore it is necessary that she is laid off from the district.

POLICY

Acceptance of Students

We are recommending that seven (7) students be accepted through the 105 Program and seven (7) students through the 105C Program. One (1) student is enrolling in Vlac.

Approval of Handbooks

The Board of Education approves the Student Handbooks of each school. The policies and procedures contained in the handbooks serve as a guide for our students. By approving changes to the handbooks, the changes become a part of District policy.

1. High School Student Handbook
2. Orchard Primary Handbook

Approval of Overnight Trip Resolution

The Board of Education must approve student trips which require an overnight stay or involve out of state travel (Policy 2340).

The High School's various athletic teams have the opportunity to participate in tournament competition. Some of the tournaments (usually the MHSAA's State Tournament) require our students to stay overnight at a location outside of the Almont School district service area. In addition, several of our extracurricular clubs (ex. Quiz Bowl Team, Band, Choir) have the opportunity to participate in competition as well, some of which can require an overnight stay.

We have experienced difficulty in getting overnight trip requests/information in a timely manner in the past. Due to the timing of certain trip opportunities and the need to coordinate such matters as accommodations, meals, means of transportation, chaperones, itineraries, etc., the necessary information is not always available prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

For the past seven years, we have utilized a general resolution, brought to your attention early in the year, which would approve overnight trips for extra-curricular groups ahead of time. The resolution includes provisions directing the administration to provide the Board with trip information, i.e. accommodations for food/lodging, means of transportation, chaperone list and trip itinerary.

The resolution is intended to cover overnight trips which arise unexpectedly (team wins a district contest, next playoff game is at a regional location). Overnight trips which can be planned over time will still be brought to the Board's attention in a timely manner for approval.

Approval of Teacher Discipline Policy

The Board adopts bylaws and policies for organization and operation of the Board and District. Bylaws and policies may be adopted, amended, and repealed at any meeting of the Board, provided the proposed adoption, amendment, or repeal shall have been proposed at a previous Board meeting and, once, proposed, shall have remained on the agenda of each succeeding Board meeting until approved or rejected (Bylaw 0131.1).

The new policy will be recommended by the District's legal counsel (Thrun Law). This policy is needed since the teacher new legislation,(Pa 103) law requirements.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- Playground renovation discussed
- Fence at OP by Soccer field discussed
- Sale of Property- directive is to move forward

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS : AUDIENCE

Jennifer Fournier thanked the Board for getting the OP project going. She also gave an update on the fundraising effort and suggestions for additional work to be done.

Rick Throop stated that the drain pipe at OP is full of dirt and not working properly.

QUESTION AND COMMENTS: BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Approved _____
Date

Signed: _____
Nancy Boxey, Secretary

Signed: _____
Steven Hoffa, President