

School Board Meeting Highlights

January 19, 2021

Great Valley School District
Office of the School Board Secretary



DURING THE January 19, 2021 BOARD MEETING...

The business meeting was called to order by President David Barratt. **Board members present:** Jennifer Armstrong, Stephen Dittmann, Rachel Gallegos, Samantha Jouin, Wendy Litzke, Neha Mehta, and Bryan Paluch. **Joining via zoom:** Amy Chain

Student Representative to the Board

Hope Semar reported about winter athletics which began on January 12. She stated that home events held in the main gym can be viewed through the athletics YouTube page. Hope reported that first semester will be ending on January 25. She said that the GVHS Student Services team has set up a Mindfulness group and Covid groups for student support. Finally, Hope stated that the Diversity and Inclusion Committee of Student Council is inviting students and staff to participate in a Day of Solidarity on January 21 and 22. The purpose of this event is to promote health, safety, and happiness.

Presentations

Executive Session

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, **Mr. Barratt** announced that the board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

Secretary's Correspondence

Mr. Barratt stated that there was no Secretary's Correspondence.

Chester County Intermediate Unit Report

Mr. Barratt reported that the next meeting of the Chester County Intermediate Board is scheduled for January 20, 2021.

Legislative Report

Ms. Litzke reported that the PA House and Senate are adjourned until January 25. She stated that Governor Wolf is scheduled to present his budget proposal on January 2. She reported that the Chester County School Board Legislative Committee will meet on February 4 to discuss the budget proposal.

Council for Diversity and Inclusion

Mrs. Jouin reported that the Council meets monthly, one month focusing on Subcommittee work and the next month working under the direction of Dr. Crystal Lucky. She stated that the Council last met on January 13. This was a Meeting of the Whole facilitated by Dr. Lucky around the topic of racism. Mrs. Jouin said that a draft one-year plan for each Subcommittee was shared and will guide the work of the Subcommittees going forward.

The Great Valley School District Education Foundation

Mrs. Chain reported that there are currently no major updates. The monthly meeting will be held on January 20.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Goffredo stated that January is School Board Recognition Month. He thanked the board members for their service and commitment on behalf of the students and entire Great Valley community.

Dr. Goffredo then gave an update on the antigen testing and Covid vaccine. He stated that several staff members have been trained to administer the antigen tests and some are able to now train others. He said that the intent of the antigen testing is to screen low incidence population starting with staff. He said that the Chester County Health Department has communicated no timeline for administering the Covid vaccine.

Public Presentations on Agenda Items

No public comments on agenda items were submitted.

Consent Agenda

The board approved the following consent agenda items by a vote of 9 to 0:

Routine Approvals

Minutes of December 7, 2020 Organization and Regular Business Meeting and December 14, 2020 Special Business Meeting
Treasurer's and Tax Collectors' Report
Invoices

Financial Approvals

One-year extension of the grocery bid contract with U. S. Foods
Six-month subscription to Soundtrap by Spotify at a cost of \$962.75.
Renewal of Naviance 5-year Contract at a cost of \$16,229.07
Contract with LearnWell for educational services for students #250535, 220503, 250524, 250258, 230422, 230627, and 240037
Extension of Kajeet service at a cost of \$25,642.97 to be paid through pending grant funds
Special Education Settlement Agreement for Student #240316

Financial Approvals

The board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following financial items:

Act 1 Opt-Out Resolution.
June 30, 2020 Audited Financial Report.
Proposal with Breslin Ridyard Fadero Architects to provide construction document, bidding, and construction administration services for the Phase 2 Middle School & Stadium paving and wall restoration project at a cost not-to-exceed \$26,250.
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Proposal with Musco Sports Lighting for replacement of the GVHS Stadium lights under the terms and conditions of cooperative purchasing contract #KPN-201901-01 at a cost not-to-exceed \$459,800.
Proposal with the Schrader Group for design, bidding and construction administration for replacement of the high school stadium track and renovations to the press box, restrooms, and concession stand at a cost of \$75,698.

Personnel Approvals

The following personnel items were approved by a vote of 9 to 0:

Resignations

Support Staff

Pam Converse, Administrative Assistant to the Principal, Sugartown Elementary School, for the purpose of retirement, effective August 23, 2021.

Leaves of Absence

Professional Staff

Ellen Doyle, grade 3 teacher, Charlestown Elementary School, requests FMLA from approximately January 4, 2021 to February 28, 2021.

Audrey Hoyt, part-time librarian, Charlestown Elementary School, requests uncompensated leave from February 12, 2021 through the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

Support Staff

Delores Kash, learning support aide, Great Valley High School, requests FMLA from approximately January 7, 2021 to January 25, 2021.

Changes of Status

Extra Duty Responsibility

Great Valley High School, Coaching

Andrew Le, Winter Track, Head Coach, (.5) to Winter Track, Head Coach, (.25), Great Valley High School, NF.

Nicole Jones, Winter Track, Head Coach, (.5), to Winter Track, Head Coach, (.75), Great Valley High School, F.

Appointments

Professional Staff

Kiley Ennas, half-year long-term substitute special education teacher, Great Valley Middle School, (Wagner, J.), effective January 19, 2021, (pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks).

Extra Duty Responsibility

Great Valley High School, Coaching

Robert Yocum, Wrestling, Assistant Coach, (.5), NF.

Great Valley High School, Non-Coaching

Bettina Scibilia, Literary Magazine, (1.0), F.

Great Valley Middle School Coaching

Len Levi, Wrestling, Assistant Coach, NF.

Neil Young, Wrestling, Head Coach, F.

Salary Adjustments

Part-time Staff for Full Day In Service

Allison VanOcker, (.5), 22.5 hours- 11/24/2020, 11/30/2020, 12/1/2020, 12/2/2020, 12/3/2020, 12/4/2020

Taylor Gavin, (.5), 30 hours – 12/14/2020, 12/15/2020, 12/16/2020, 12/17/2020, 12/18/2020, 12/21/2020, 12/22/2020, 12/23/2020

Alice McBrearty, (.8), 1 hour – 12/15/2020

Personnel Approvals

(continued)

Salary Adjustments - continued

Curriculum for missed special areas, 10 hours each

Brooke Abrahams
Nikki Davis
Sam Ellis
Kim Fulmer
Jade Hayes

Steve Meiswich
Paige O'Keefe
Kate Regula
Chris Salerno
Elizabeth Sargent

Carrie Schildknecht
Eric Schmidt
Paige Seaton
Anthony Stevenson

Mentorships

Jessica Kheradi, Great Valley Middle School, mentor to Kiley Ennas

Christopher Vogt, Charlestown Elementary School, mentor to Patty Steyer

Policy Approvals

The board voted 9 to 0 to approve the 2nd Reading and Adoption of the following policies:

- 006.1 Remote Attendance and Participation at Board Meetings
- 240 Open Campus, AG
- 250 Student Recruitment, AG
- 302 Employment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent
- 304 Nepotism, AG
- 311 Reduction of Staff
- 316 Non-tenured Employees
- 319 Outside Activities, AG
- 320 Freedom of Speech in Non-School Settings
- 324 Personnel Files, AG
- 913 Non-school Organizations/Groups/Individuals

The board approved the 2nd Repeal Reading of the following policies by a vote of 9 to 0:

- 303.2 Nepotism
- 310 Abolishing a Position
- 311 Suspensions and Furloughs
- 403.2 Nepotism
- 410 Abolishing a Position
- 411 Suspensions and Furloughs
- 416 Non-tenured Staff Members
- 419 Outside Activities
- 420 Freedom of Speech in Non-Instructional Settings
- 424 Personnel Files
- 503.2 Nepotism
- 511 Reduction in Staff
- 519 Outside Activities
- 520 Freedom of Speech in Non Instructional Settings
- 524 Personnel Files

Program Approval

The board voted 9 to 0 to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Chester County Health Department regarding the District's participation in the Project Act-IT (Assisting Childhood Education through Increased Testing) COVID-19 testing initiative, subject to final review and the incorporation of any recommended changes by the District Solicitor.

Public Comments – Other Items

There were no public comments on other items.

Other Board Comments

Mrs. Gallegos spoke in recognition of the indoor track team which she saw running outside and she stated how impressed she is with all of the Great Valley student athletes. She reported that she was recently invited to speak with a Webelo Scout Troup about what it means to be a member of the school board.

Other board members expressed an interest in having virtual student recognitions. Dr. Goffredo stated that he will work with Ms. Blake to see what can be arranged for future board meetings.

Adjournment

Seeing no further comments or questions, the board voted 9 to 0 to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.