

# School Board Business Meeting Highlights

January 18, 2022

*Great Valley School District*  
*Office of the School Board Secretary*



To view presentations and attachments, please [view the agenda on BoardDocs](#).

## **During the January 18, 2022, Business Meeting**

The January 18, 2022, business meeting was called to order by President David Barratt. Board members **present** were Jennifer Armstrong, Tricia Chasinoff, Stephen Dittmann, Rachel Gallegos, Samantha Jouin, Wendy Litzke, Neha Mehta, and Andrea Rizzo.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

## **Recognition**

**Mr. Shawn Whitelock**, GVMS Student Council Advisor, recognized that the Great Valley Middle School's Student Council was awarded the Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils Distinguished Keystone Council Award. They were recognized in multiple categories including financial procedure, activities, council organization, community outreach, communication, evaluation, and excellence in leadership. Student Council Officers **Austin Janofsky** (7th), **Ishaan Joshi** (8th), **William Kim** (8th), **Rohan Kundra** (7th), **Carrig Moore** (8th), **Abigail Scherling** (8th), **Atharva Singh** (7th), **Anirudh Venkatesh** (7th) accepted the recognition on behalf of the entire council.

Next, **Dr. Heidi Capetola**, GVHS Principal, recognized GVHS junior, **Julia Boyce**, who designed the artwork for the 2021 District Holiday Card, and GVHS senior, **Nandita Kalyan**, who wrote the poem for the 2021 District Holiday Card.

Then, **Ray Babcock**, scoutmaster of Troop 76, recognized and congratulated GVHS senior, **Colin Joy**, for obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America.

**Dr. Goffredo** took a moment to say thank you to the board for their outstanding service to children and community members of the Great Valley School District. January is School Director Recognition Month. Dr. Goffredo then invited some students up to the podium to share sentiments thanking the Board. Lastly, he shared that students from K.D. Markley Elementary School made cards and posters for the Board, thanking them for their hard work.

## **Student Council Reports**

Student Council Representatives from Sugartown Elementary and Great Valley Middle School updated the Board on activities taking place in their schools, and thanked them for their time serving on the School Board.

## **Student Representative to the Board**

**Meher Sachar** reported that there is an upcoming orchestra and band concert scheduled for January 25. In addition, the Quiz Bowl team has set a league record after earning 655 points. Meher highlighted that nine students from Great Valley have qualified for the PMEA regional chorus qualifiers, which is the highest number of students from any school in our region to qualify. Lastly, the boys basketball team is holding their senior night on January 18, and the wrestling teams senior night is January 19.



## **Presentations**

### **Executive Session**

**Mr. Barratt** announced that the board met in Executive Session before this meeting to discuss personnel, legal, and property issues.

### **Negotiations**

**Mr. Barratt** then announced that the Board of School Directors has formally begun negotiations with the Great Valley Education Association. The contract is set to expire on June 30, 2022.

### **Secretary’s Correspondence**

**Mr. Barratt** asked Mr. Peterson if there was any Secretary’s Correspondence. **Mr. Peterson** shared that there is none.

### **Chester County Intermediate Unit Board Report**

**Dr. Rizzo** shared that she had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Fiore, the director of the CCIU, and a few members of the board last week. They’re slated to meet officially the week of January 24.

### **Legislative Report**

**Ms. Litzke** shared that the next meeting is January 26, 2022.

### **Council for Diversity and Inclusion Report**

**Ms. Chasinoff** reported that the next meeting is January 25, 2022.

### **The Great Valley School District Education Foundation Report**

**Ms. Gallegos** reported that the Harlem Wizards fundraising event is coming up.

### **Policy Committee Report**

**Mrs. Jouin** reported that the policy committee met earlier last week. Policy 707 was discussed and the administration recommended merging class C and D. The educational equity policy draft, policy 832, was discussed as well. Definitions were added, and other minor revisions were made.

### **Superintendent’s Report**

**Dr. Goffredo’s** report reviewed District goals. First he reviewed goals surrounding curriculum, instruction, and student achievement. He then moved to goals regarding communication and culture, policies and governance, then finished up with finance and operations.

## **Public Comment on Agenda Items**

The following residents made public comment on agenda items.

- F. Redman – Technical difficulties with livestream
- I. Nazir – Eid addition to calendar
- F. Asim – Eid addition to calendar

## **Consent Agenda Items**

The following consent agenda items were approved at a vote of 9 to 0.

### **Routine Approvals**

- Minutes of December 6, 2021
- Treasurer’s Report and Tax Collectors’ Report – attached
- Invoices – attached



**Consent Agenda Items**

(Continued)

**Financial Approvals**

- Renewal of Global Compliance Network, Inc. from 2/1/22-1/31/23 at a rate of \$900
- Contracts with LearnWell for educational services for students 230490, 250093, 270172, 230593, and 240145 – attached
- Professional Services Agreement with Behavior Interventions, Inc. – attached
- One-year renewal with Swank Digital Campus at a cost of \$4,952 for a term from 3/1/22-2/28/23
- Purchase of new 1:1 iPad devices for grades K, 5, and 9, for the 2022-23 school year at a total cost of \$617,967
- Change order in the amount of \$5,000 to the agreement with e-Plus for additional support with the virtual desktop network, updating servers, and maintaining Office 365 connections. The new total is \$10,000 – attached
- Renewal with Skyward for SSL Certificates in the amount of \$429.85
- Rental agreement with the Phelps School for a bingo fundraiser sponsored and conducted by the K.D. Markley PTO at no cost to the District – attached
- Amendment to the Hanover Research agreement to add annual focus group services at a cost of \$20,000 per year – attached
- Sales agreement with Phone America for replacement/update of the district’s phone system at a cost of \$102,350.59 – attached
- Amendment to Schedule A of the SOS contract to add an administrative assistant position classification at a cost of \$29.72 per hour.
- Authorization of the Board President or other officer of the School Board to direct RBC Capital Markets, LLC to assign the Bond Purchase Agreement dated November 15, 2021, between RBC and the School District, to Raymond James and Associates, Inc. – attached
- Special Education settlement agreement for students 250604 and 240152 – attached

**Program Approval**

2022-2023 School Calendar

**Financial Approvals**

The following financial items were approved at a vote of 9 to 0.

- June 30, 2021 Audited Financial Report
- Transfer to Capital Reserve in the amount of \$6,300,000 effective June 30, 2021
- June 30, 2021 fund balance designations
- Two-month health and RX insurance payment holiday for the District and participating employees
- Act 1 Opt-Out Resolution for the 2022-2023 fiscal year – attached

**Personnel Approvals**

The following personnel items were approved at a vote of 9 to 0.

**Resignations**

Support Staff

**Richard Meyers**, full-time custodian, Great Valley Middle School, for the purpose of retirement, effective March 1, 2022.

Extra Duty Responsibilities

**Ryan Schmidt**, Football, Assistant Coach, .5, Great Valley High School, effective December 15, 2021.



## Personnel Approvals

(Continued)

### Leaves

#### Professional Staff

**Brooke Abrahams**, STEAM teacher, Charlestown/Sugartown Elementary Schools, requests FMLA from approximately January 3, 2022 to January 21, 2022.

**Derek Brogan**, Science teacher, Great Valley Middle School, requests FMLA from approximately December 10, 2021 to March 11, 2022.

**Meredith Borys**, Grade 5 teacher, General Wayne Elementary School, requests extension of Child Rearing Leave from January 24, 2022 to the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

**Krista Jorgenson**, FACS teacher, Great Valley High School, requests extension of FMLA from January 24, 2022 to March 4, 2022.

#### Support Staff

**June Regan**, full-time 12-month Administrative Assistant, Charlestown Elementary School, requests FMLA from approximately January 12, 2022 through April 13, 2022.

### Appointments

#### Extra Duty Responsibilities, 2021-2022 school year (F – Faculty, NF – Non-Faculty)

**Tom Lavin**, Lacrosse, Head 8th Grade Coach, Great Valley Middle School, NF.

**Danielle Bevan**, Musical Director, K. D. Markley Elementary School, F.

### Salary Adjustments

#### Part-time Staff for Full Day In-Service

**Brittany Wolfe**, (.55), Total 7.5 hours – 11/17/21, 12/6/21, 12/10/21, 12/10/21

**Alice McBrearty**, (.8), Total 2.25 hours – 12/1/21, 12/2/21, 12/3/21, 12/17/21

**Juana Herman**, (.7), Total 7.5 hours – 1/3/22, 1/10/22, 1/12/22

#### Mentors, 2021-2022 School Year

**Mark Cellini**, mentor to Alexander Siwa.

**Audrey Gormley**, mentor to Stephanie Beaver.

**Tess Lutz**, mentor to Dana Bredin.

#### Homebound Teachers

##### **Christina Jaffe**

**Jacqueline McMackin**, pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks.

**Kelly Quinn**, pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks.

**Kristen Cook**, pending completion of all administrative and legal requirements and contingent on satisfactory background checks.

#### High School Technology Education Support

**Evan Geesey**, up to 3 hours per week, lesson preparation for temporary substitutes and 7.75 hours weekly for substituting in two additional classes, both at per diem rate

#### Great Valley Middle School Musical, Rehearsals and Winter Concert

##### **Susan Descano**

### Change of Status/Assignment

#### Professional Staff

**Anne Wirt**, first semester long-term substitute to full-year long-term substitute grade 5 teacher, General Wayne Elementary School, (Borys), effective January 21, 2022.



**Personnel Approvals**

(Continued)

**Change of Status/Assignment** - continued

Professional Staff - continued

**Shannon White**, first semester long-term substitute to full-year long-term substitute grade 4 teacher, General Wayne Elementary School, (Sharer), effective January 21, 2022.

**Vasiliki Papadopolous**, first semester long-term substitute to full-time temporary professional employee, General Wayne Elementary School (Butville), effective January 21, 2022.

**Tenure**

The following temporary professional employee has been rated as successful during the 3 years of employment as a temporary professional employee. The eligibility for professional employee status is as of January 21, 2022. This change of status is to be recorded in the official minutes and requires no official action.

**Amodei, Emily**, Great Valley Middle School

**Separation and Release Agreement**

Employee #315241

**Policy Approvals**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the following policies were accepted by a vote of 9 to 0.

- 701 Facilities Planning
- 702 Gifts and Donations
- 703 Sanitary Management
- 704 Maintenance, AG
- 706 Property Records
- 706.1 Disposal of District-Owned Property

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Adoption of the following policies were accepted by a vote of 9 to 0.

- 008 Organizational Chart
- 601 Fiscal Objectives
- 602 Budget Planning
- 603 Budget Preparation
- 604 Budget Adoption
- 605 Tax Levy
- 606 Tax Collection
- 606.1 Senior Citizens' Volunteer Tax Rebate Program, AG
- 607 Tuition Income
- 608 Bank Accounts
- 609 Investment of District Funds
- 610 Procurement
- 614 Payroll Authorization
- 615 Payroll Deductions
- 616 Payment of Bills
- 618 Student Activity Funds, AG
- 619 District Audit – Public
- 620 Fund Balance
- 621 Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights, AG
- 622 Capital Assets and GASB Statement 34, AG
- 623 Continuing Disclosure of Financial Information for Bond Issues, AG



**Policy Approvals**

(Continued)

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Adoption – continued

- 625 Procurement/Credit Cards – Employee Use, AG
- 626.1 Travel Reimbursement – Federal Programs
- 627 District-Initiated Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeals
- 628 Tax Waiver Requests
- 811 Bonding
- 812 Property Insurance
- 813 Other Insurance

**Facilities Approvals**

The following facilities approvals were accepted by a vote of 9 to 0.

Resolution authorizing the approval of a maximum building cost for the construction of the 5/6 Center, directing the preparation of a public information description, and providing for a public Act 34 Hearing – attached

Resolution and Agreement of Sale for the acquisition of property located at 348 Swedesford Road – attached

**Public Comments – Other Items**

The following residents made public comment.

- S. Maroney-Garrett – Thank You, Equity and Racial Justice Resident – Safe Buildings and Safe Drinking Water Resident – Teacher Negotiations
- K. Fixler – Thank you to Board, teachers, and staff, Masking, Calendar
- S. Lawrence – Traffic issues in front of HS
- S. Kahan – COVID-19
- J. Pyc – Martin Luther King, Jr. quote regarding education

**Adjournment**

The board voted 9 to 0 to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.