

Jim Thorpe Area School District
Regular Board Meeting
ESSER III STAKEHOLDER MEETING
Monday, August 30, 2021 7:00 p.m.

1. OPENING OF MEETING – BOARD PRESIDENT, MR. POMPA

1.01 & 1.02

Board Meeting Opened with Moment of Silent Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance.

1.03

Roll Call

ROLL CALL

The Regular Meeting of the Jim Thorpe School Board of Education was opened at the Jim Thorpe Administration Building, with a moment of silent meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. School Board Directors present were Mr. Gerald Strubinger, Mr. Scott Pompa, Mr. Paul Montemuro, Mrs. Pearl Sheckler, and Mr. TJ Garritano. Mr. Dennis McGinley, Mrs. Cindy Henning, Mr. Glenn Confer and Mr. Raniero Marcianite were absent. Administrators present: Mr. John Rushefski, *Superintendent*, Mr. Ken Marx, *Business Manager*, Attorney Carl Beard, *Solicitor* Mr. Jerome Brown, *IT Director*, Mr. Thomas Lesisko, *High School Principal*, Mrs. Holly Mordaunt, *Penn Kidder Principal*, Mr. Jeff White *LB Morris Principal*, Ms. Sara Mass, *Penn Kidder Asst. Principal*, Mr. Ted LaRizzio, *Director of Buildings and Grounds*, Ms. Katherine Doll *Curriculum Coordinator*, Mrs. Sandra Michalik, *Special Education Director*, Ms. Lori Lienhard, *Director of Security*, and Mrs. Kimberley Hill, *Recording Secretary*.

Visitors: Kris Newbern, Rich Flacco, Mary Blay, Elena Monaco, Norm Richards, Kelli Reese, Michael Solt, Morgan Smyth, Tom Priore, Allison Priore, Amy Garritano, Eric Leonz, Chris Reber, Times News.

1.04 ESSER III GRANT PRESENTATION – MS. KATHY DOLL

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS

2.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

Allison Priore

Ms. Priore addressed the Board about the Policy for optional Masks, and what is the grant money being used for.

Tom Priore

Mr. Priore addressed the Board about concerns regarding the Optional Mask Policy.

Mike Solt

Mr. Solt spoke to the Board in regards of the Optional Mask Policy.

Questions received prior to the board meeting were sent to each Board Member. Specific questions were read aloud, the Superintendent and the Board Members responded.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.01 APPROVAL/ MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve School Board Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting August 11, 2021 as presented:

Voice Vote: **ALL AYES**

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session Meeting was held prior to tonight's board meeting to discuss Contracts & Personnel, no votes or actions were taken.

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

5.01 APPROVAL/ BILLS PAYABLE GENERAL FUND, CAFETERIA FUND & OTHER

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Bills Payable General Fund, Cafeteria & Other- August 30, 2021 as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Absent
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Marciante	Absent
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 5 NAY 0 ABSENT 4 : Motion PASSES

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Thank You for the generous contribution – Jim Thorpe Rotary's Summer Recreation Program 2021.

7. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business at this time.

8. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – MRS. DOWNS-SHECKLER

No Report at this time.

9. FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE – MR. MARCIANTE

No Report at this time.

10. POLICY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MRS. LESISKO-HENNING

**10.01 APPROVAL/
COMPLETED
APPLICATIONS
AND SUB LIST**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Completed Applications August 5, 2021 – August 30, 2021 and Sub List for September 2021 as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

**10.02 APPROVAL/
BUSINESS MANAGER'S
EVALUATION &
SUPERINTENDENT'S
RECOMMENDATION
OF A 2.5% PAY RAISE
BOARD RECOMMENDATION
IS 2%**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve Business Manager's Evaluation & Superintendent's Recommendation of a 2.5% pay raise – Board Recommendation is 2% as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Absent
G. Strubinger	Nay	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Marciante	Absent
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 4 NAY 1 ABSENT 4 : Motion PASSES

**10.03 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
MR. CHRIS WEST
HVAC PERSONNEL**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve Employment Mr. Chris West as HVAC Personnel at a rate of \$30.00 per hour as per contractual agreement (effective immediately) as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Absent
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Marciante	Absent
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 5 NAY 0 ABSENT 4 : Motion PASSES

**10.04 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE
LETTER OF
RESIGNATION
MS. SHELLIE
MENZOFF**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Acceptance Letter of Resignation Ms. Shellie Menzoff, Title 1, Paraprofessional LB Morris effective September 1, 2021 as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

**10.05 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE
LETTER OF
RESIGNATION
MS. KIM WEISE
ELEMENTARY
TEACHER LB MORRIS**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Acceptance Letter of Resignation Ms. Kim Weise, LB Morris Elementary Teacher and Approval to Post the Position as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

**10.06 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE
LETTER OF
RESIGNATION
MR. ALBERT
SAMPSON
ELEMENTARY ED
PENN KIDDER
CAMPUS**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Acceptance Letter of Resignation Mr. Albert Sampson Elementary Teacher PK Campus and Approval to Post the Position as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

**10.07 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
MS. ASHLEY
SMITH
ELEMENTARY
TEACHER**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve Employment Ms. Ashley Smith Elementary Teacher Step 2 Bachelors at a salary of \$47,675.00 prorated as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Absent
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Marciante	Absent
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 5 NAY 0 ABSENT 4 : Motion PASSES

**10.08 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
MS. MORGAN
SMYTH
ELEMENTARY
LEARNING
SUPPORT TEACHER**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve Employment Ms. Morgan Smyth Elementary Learning Support Teacher Step 1 Bachelors at a salary of \$46,675.00 as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Absent
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Marciante	Absent
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 5 NAY 0 ABSENT 4 : Motion PASSES

**10.09 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
MS. KASSANDRA
STEWART TITLE 1
MATH TEACHER**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Employment Ms. Kassandra Stewart Title 1 Math Teacher Step 2 Bachelors at a salary of \$47,675.00 (pending clearances) as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Absent
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Marciante	Absent
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 5 NAY 0 ABSENT 4 : Motion PASSES

**10.10 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
MR. TERRY BLOSE
FULL TIME
CUSTODIAN**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Employment Mr. Terry Blose Full Time Custodian at the rate of \$11.00 per hour (pending clearances) as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Absent
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Marciante	Absent
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 5 NAY 0 ABSENT 4 : Motion PASSES

**10.11 APPROVAL/
TO POST THE
POSITION OF
ASSISTANT
PRINCIPAL FOR
LB MORRIS
ELEMENTARY**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve To Post the Position of Assistant Principal for LB Morris Elementary as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

11. ATHLETIC AND FIELDS & CONCESSIONS – MR. GARRITANO

11.01 APPROVAL/ VOLUNTEER COACHES FOR THE 2021-2022 ATHLETIC SEASON

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Volunteer Coaches for the 2021-2022 Athletic Season to include Approval of Volunteer Majorette Coach – Caitlin Alizieri as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

11.02 APPROVAL/ ACCEPTANCE RESIGNATION MS. HEATHER HALENAR ATHLETIC TRAINER

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve Acceptance Resignation Ms. Heather Halenar Athletic Trainer (effective August 27, 2021) as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

11.03 APPROVAL/ MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER COACH

This item is moved to the September 15, 2021 meeting.

12. CAFETERIA, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE – MR. STRUBINGER

Mr. Strubinger addressed the Board with concerns about the Rain Storm Drain damage at the High School and need for repairs.

13. CARBON CAREER & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE – MR. STRUBINGER

New School Year is off and running. ½ day Academics and ½ day Shop is being looked at as a model for other Technical Schools. They are also approaching the end of the Teachers Contract.

14. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

No report

15. INFORMATIONAL

16. NEW BUSINESS

16.01 APPROVAL/ ACCEPTANCE LETTER OF RESIGNATION MR. RANIERO MARCIANTE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Acceptance Letter of Resignation Mr. Raniero Marciante School Board Member (effective immediately 8/13/2021) as presented:

Mr. Pompa thanked him for his years of Service as a Board Member.

Voice Vote: **ALL AYES**

**16.02 APPROVAL/
TO APPOINT
MR. RICH FLACCO
TO FILL THE
UNEXPIRED TERM/
VACANCY**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve to Appoint Mr. Rich Flacco to fill the unexpired term/vacancy left on the School Board by Mr. Marciante's resignation as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

**16.03 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE JIM
THORPE EDUCATION
& JIM THORPE AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT
TENTATIVE
AGREEMENT**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve Acceptance Jim Thorpe Education Association & Jim Thorpe Area School District Tentative Agreement – August 12, 2021 as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Absent
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Marciante	Absent
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 5 NAY 0 ABSENT 4 : Motion PASSES

ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cindy Henning/Board Secretary

ATTEST:


Scott Pompa/Board President