

**APPALACHIA INTERMEDIATE UNIT 8
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA
APRIL 23, 2020
6:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

The regular monthly meeting of the Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 Board of School Directors was held at 4500 6th Avenue, Altoona on Thursday, April 23, 2020. Mr. Thomas Bullington, Board President, led the group in the flag salute and moment of silence.

ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by the Board President, Mr. Thomas Bullington, with the following additional board members present: Ms. Kathy Burch, Mr. Galen George, Dr. Kamal Gella, Ms. Nora Hrubochak, Mr. Ron Johnston, Mr. William Pataki, Mr. Michael Revak, Mr. William Rievel, Ms. Linda Smith, and Ms. Tammy Witherite – 11 – present; 2 absent – Ms. Kathy Hough and Mr. Marion Pheasant.

OTHERS ATTENDING: Others in attendance were: Ms. Jennifer Anderson, Dr. Thomas Butler, Dr. Malynda Maurer, Mr. Jason McMillen, Ms. Karlie Shook, Ms. Janel Vancas, Ms. Sue Wolf, and Dr. Amy Woomer – Staff. Mr. Sam Clapper – Solicitor.

VISITORS: Ms. Lori Carrier and Ms. Deb Mogart, IU8 Educator and PSEA Representatives, and Ms. Connie Way ESPA/PSEA/NEA Representative, were present. The press was not in attendance.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:

Dr. Butler updated the Board on how things are running during this time. He shared that the IU8 Staff and Superintendents have all been working very hard to continue to educate students.

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO WRITTEN AGENDA OF APRIL 23, 2020: On a motion by Mr. Revak and seconded by Dr. Gella and carried by unanimous voice vote, the written Agenda was approved, with the addition of an end date on Item#23B.

MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. Pataki and seconded by Mr. Revak and carried by voice vote, the minutes of the February 27, 2020 regular meeting, numbered pages 1-8, which were previously distributed to each member, were approved.

AGENDA ITEMS APPROVED....On a motion by Mr. Revak seconded by Ms. Burch and carried by roll call vote, the following Agenda items were approved – Treasurer’s Reports, Listing of Bills, Bills to be Paid, Unemployment Compensation Rate, Transportation, Equipment Disposal, and Purchase for Safe Schools Grantee/Nonpublic:

Roll call vote – yes – Mr. Thomas Bullington, Ms. Kathy Burch, Dr. Kamal Gella, Mr. Galen George, Ms. Nora Hrubochak, Mr. Ron Johnston, Mr. William Pataki, Mr. Michael Revak, Mr. William Rievel, Ms. Linda Smith and Ms. Tammy Witherite. *Dr. Gella abstained from voting on Highmark & Subsidiaries under the Bills to be Paid item.

A. TREASURER’S REPORTS: The Treasurer’s Report, including Payroll Checking, General Checking and Online Registration Accounts as submitted on blue colored pages for February and March 2020, included in the April 23, 2020 Agenda, were presented and approved subject to audit. Reports were included in the Supplemental to Official Minutes.

B. LISTING OF BILLS: Approval was given for payment of the listing of bills as follows: Payroll Checking Account – from 02/01/20 – 02/29/20 and 03/01/20 – 03/31/20 as listed on gold summary pages, General Checking Account from 02/17/20 – 04/17/20, as listed on gold summary pages and Online Registration Account from 02/01/20 – 02/29/20 and 03/01/20 – 03/31/20 as listed on gold summary pages, which were included in the April 23, 2020 Agenda, and also in the detailed Listing of Bills booklet, which is included with the Supplemental to Official Minutes.

C. PRESENTATION & INCLUSION IN OFFICIAL MINUTES – *No action required:*

- 1) Investments – The reports to the Board on the securities presently held and the record of investments for February and March 2020 was filed with the Supplemental to Official Minutes for final audit.
- 2) Budget Summary Report – The detailed fiscal reports, pages 1-60 and pages 1-60 respectively, General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Capital Projects Fund, Enterprise Funds and Internal Service Funds for February and March 2020 were presented to the Board for final review and filed with the Supplemental to Official Minutes for final audit.

BUSINESS

BILLS TO BE PAID:

Approval was given for Board officers to pay bills before the next meeting, when a scheduled meeting has been postponed or cancelled due to inclement weather or for lack of a quorum.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION RATE:

Approval was given for the Board of Directors to set the rate for Unemployment Compensation for 2019-2020 at .35%. Each budget with personnel expenses would be assessed at this rate applied to the total budgeted payroll. Last year’s rate was .35% as well.

TRANSPORTATION:

Approval of the following additional contracted transportation drivers was given for the 2019-2020 school year.

Contractor:	Driver:
Maxwell Trans Inc.	Bonchi, Jonathan
	Crise, Jack

EQUIPMENT DISPOSAL:

Approval was given to dispose of the following equipment having an original purchase cost of over \$1,500.00 per item. Item(s) are obsolete/unreparable.

Item	Tag #	Cost	Year Purchased
Projector	3729	\$4,949	2000
Switcher – Extron	5685	\$7,484	2003

PURCHASE FOR SAFE SCHOOLS GRANTEE/NONPUBLIC:

Approval was given to purchase materials and labor from TERCEK Electric, Inc. for security upgrades at Divine Mercy Catholic Academy campuses at a cost not to exceed \$24,500.00.

AGENDA ITEMS APPROVED...On a motion by Dr. Gella seconded by Mr. Revak and carried by roll call vote, the following Agenda items were approved – Agreements, Technology, 2020-2021 IU8 Early Intervention Calendar, Special Education Plan Submission, CourseArch Agreement, Discovery Education Contract, Technology Pool Counsel Legal Services Consultation Agreement, Resignations and Retirements, Termination, Leaves of Absence, and Recommended to be Hired:

Roll call vote – yes – Mr. Thomas Bullington, Ms. Kathy Burch, Dr. Kamal Gella, Mr. Galen George, Ms. Nora Hrubochak, Mr. Ron Johnston, Mr. William Pataki, Mr. Michael Revak, Mr. William Rievel, Ms. Linda Smith and Ms. Tammy Witherite.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS & SERVICES

AGREEMENTS:

- A.** Approval was given to enter into a 2-year agreement (April 2020-April 2022) with The National Dropout Prevention Center to provide training and consultation for the implementation and sustainability of the Trauma-Skilled Safe Schools Rural Network for member school districts and their teams at a cost not to exceed \$225,000.00. *Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Act 44 of 2018 School Safety Grant funded.*
- B.** Approval was given to renew the annual agreement with Adobe Sign for April 2020-April 2021 at a cost not to exceed \$30,000.00.

TECHNOLOGY:

- A. Approval was given to purchase 150 Google Chromebooks with Chrome Management Console licensing from 2nd Gear for school-age students served in IU 8 programs at a cost not to exceed \$30,000.00.
- B. Approval was given to purchase 50 10.2 iPads from Verizon with 12-months of cellular connectivity for Early Intervention/Preschool students served in IU 8 at a cost not to exceed \$36,000.00
- C. Approval was given to purchase 110 hotspot devices with 12-months of Internet Connectivity for each hotspot device from T-Mobile for school-age students served in IU8 programs at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.00.

2020-2021 IU8 EARLY INTERVENTION CALENDAR:

Approval was given to adopt the 2020-2021 Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8 Early Intervention Calendar. The proposed calendar will ensure year-round programming for eligible preschool children in Bedford, Blair, Cambria and Somerset counties. A copy of the proposed calendar was enclosed (gray attachment).

SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN SUBMISSION:

Approval was given to authorize staff to submit the Intermediate Unit's *Assurance for the Operation of Special Education Services and Programs/Quality Space* for the school year 2020-2021.

COURSEARC AGREEMENT:

Approval was given to enter into an agreement with CourseArc for their content authoring and management platform where WOL staff will be able to create, edit, and manage online content. Initial Subscription, Conversion, and Accessibility Services will not exceed \$11,663.00. A yearly subscription fee of \$5,500.00 will then be applied in subsequent years.

DISCOVERY EDUCATION CONTRACT:

Approval was given to manage the Discovery Education discoverystreaming contract for IU8 Districts during the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Participating districts will pay the cost, which will not exceed \$67,000.00.

TECHNOLOGY POOL COUNSEL LEGAL SERVICES CONSULTATION AGREEMENT:

Approval was given to enter into a one-year Technology Pool Counsel Legal Services Consultation Agreement with Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams, I-LP ("SSKW"). Members of the SSKW attorney staff will provide telephone and electronic mail advice and opinions concerning computers, education technology, electronic devices, and related policies, to the administrator or administrators designated by the IU as the contact. Approximately 10 LEAs plan to participate in the 2020-2021 school year.

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS:

- A. Approved the resignation of Howard G. Bennett, II, Hourly Aide – DD, Johnstown City Center Head Start, effective the Close of Business 03/06/2020.
- B. Approved the resignation of Anne Marie Puto, Nonpublic Reading Specialist, effective the Close of Business 6/4/2020.

TERMINATION:

Approved the termination of Rebecca C. Murgo, Hourly ATOMS Office Assistant, Altoona Office, effective 04/09/2020.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE:

- A. Approved extension of FMLA leave, without pay, for Brooke A. Hoskins through 03/27/2020.
- B. Approved FMLA/FFCRA leave, with pay in accordance with the Act, for Jessica L. Shackley, effective 04/06/2020 **through 6/01/2020**. ~~End date to be determined.~~
- C. Approved FMLA leave, without pay, for April E. Morealli, effective 05/22/2020 PM through 06/05/2020.

RECOMMENDED TO BE HIRED:

Approved hiring Stephanie L. LaMantia, Teacher – SLS, Itinerant – Cambria County, 1-B - \$43,458.85 (prorated), effective 04/27/2020.

AGENDA ITEM APPROVED....On a motion by Ms. Smith seconded by Mr. Revak and carried by roll call vote, the following Agenda item was approved – Proposed Working Calendar for School year 2020-2021:

Roll call vote – yes – Mr. Thomas Bullington, Ms. Kathy Burch, Dr. Kamal Gella, Mr. Galen George, Ms. Nora Hrubochak, Mr. Ron Johnston, Mr. William Pataki, Mr. Michael Revak, Mr. William Rievel, Ms. Linda Smith and Ms. Tammy Witherite.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE**NOTICE TO PERSONNEL – *For Information Only:***

There may be reductions in the number of personnel created by possible programs going back to the districts and/or other program reductions. Teacher contract specifies that the Association shall receive notification at least six months prior to any possible or actual suspension.

PROPOSED WORKING CALENDAR FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021:

Approval was given for adoption of the proposed 2020-2021 working calendar included with the agenda (white attachment).

IU8 GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET AND BALLOT RESULTS – For Information Only:

A. 2020-2021 IU8 GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET REPORT:

The report on proportionate votes by individual school board members regarding the IU8 General Fund Operating Budget for 2020-2021 in the amount of \$4,462,058.24 is as follows:

School Districts reporting 22 Proportionate Yes Votes 444
School Districts approving 22 Proportionate No Votes 0
School Districts not approving 0

There are 693 proportionate total weighted votes for the 35 school districts in IU8. 347 proportionate yes votes are needed for passage of the IU8 General Fund Operating Budget.

B. BALLOT RESULTS:

REGION	NOMINEES/DISTRICT	PROPORTIONATE YES VOTES	TERM
I	Kathy Burch, <i>Bellwood-Antis</i>	385	2020-2023
IV	Ron Johnston, <i>Altoona Area</i>	376	2020-2023
VII	Stephen Thompson, <i>Ferndale Area</i>	381	2020-2023
IX	Kathy Hough, <i>Portage Area</i>	377	2020-2023

All above nominees have been elected to serve on the IU8 Board, with new terms beginning July 1, 2020.

FUTURE MEETINGS...The next Committee/Board Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, May 28, 2020**, 4500 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA. The Committee Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m., and the Board Meeting begins immediately following the Committee Meeting, but not before 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT...The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Revak seconded by Ms. Smith and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Amy Woomeer, Board Secretary

Thomas Bullington, Board President