

## Study Session Minutes

November 9, 2020 – 7:00 p.m. Remote Access via ZOOM  
as a result of necessity due to coronavirus pandemic sanctions

***\*An Executive Session will be held on Monday, November 9, 2020, from 6:15 pm until 7:00 pm to discuss personnel matters and to receive information.***

In attendance: N. English, L. Ashbaugh, J. Hurt-Robinson, M. McClure, A. Loeffler, M. Pallone, J. Miller, B. Hawk, J. Chaparro, T. Schaaf, T. Good, F. Muscante, D. Zolkowski, C. Monroe, R. Rizzo, A. Pater, E. Phillipps, W. Wilton, J. Srodes, D. Tsambis, additional unnamed residents

### Presentation

Dr. English opened the meeting with gratitude, as always. He mentioned that the transition to a hybrid instructional model has gone extraordinarily well. So many people have put so much time and effort to ensuring that the transition ran smoothly – from the Board, administration, staff, parents, students, and community. He thanked everyone for their continued patience and support as we navigate the health crisis and make sure that we can provide a safe learning environment for the students. It has been a boost for the staff seeing the students back in the building. He also welcomed Mr. Long to his first board meeting as an “official” employee of the Riverview School District. We are all happy to have him here, especially Mr. Hewitt.

Athletics Update – WPIAL Mrs. Palma Ostrowski/Mr. Mario Rometo – With the ending of fall sports, Dr. English invited Mr. Rometo, Athletic Director, and Mrs. Palma Ostrowski, Cross Country Head Coach, to highlight some of the noteworthy achievements. Dr. English thanked them both for their dedication to our student athletes and wanted to take an opportunity to express his gratitude to Mr. Rometo for all of the hard work he put in with the coaches, parents, and administrators to ensure a successful season.

VEBH – Dan Engen briefly discussed the project timelines with the Board.

### Announcements

**Ken Kubistek - Pennsylvania Council for Social Studies Secondary Teacher of the Year Award** – Dr. English wanted to highlight the accomplishment of Mr. Ken Kubistek, one of our history and Model UN teacher. Dr. English mentioned that both he and Mr. Hewitt were fortunate to be in attendance to witness the award, and they both wanted to take time to acknowledge his achievements and publicly congratulate him.

**Speedway Liquor Control Board Update** – Dr. English provided an update to all in attendance regarding the PA Liquor Control Board ruling on the Speedway case. As the establishment was less than 300 feet from the high school, the appeal by Speedway was finally dismissed on October 27<sup>th</sup>. The court supported the PA Liquor Control Board’s decision to refuse the application due to the store’s location and its proximity to another establishment holding a liquor license.

### Discussion/Review of Potential Motions for Approval for Regular Voting Meeting

#### Personnel

- Supplementals:
  - Annual Athletic and/or Athletic Event Worker Approvals - Fall/Winter Sports
- Leave Request – Class III Paraprofessional
- Leave Requests – Filed under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act
- Sabbatical Request – 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester
- Paraprofessional – New Hire
- Substitutes
- Probationary Completion – Central Office Employee
- Bus Driver/Van Driver/Aide – Allegheny Transportation

Dr. English reviewed the potential personnel motions with the Board. We will be asking for approval of the fall/winter sports. We also will be asking for the approval of two football coaches who have filled in for a coach who resigned several months ago. The salary for this position will be shared. We will also be adding soccer coaches for prorated payment for the time they put in as well. We do have several leave requests, one for a paraprofessional with an anticipated return date of January, 2021, along with several leave requests under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. We also have a teacher presently on sabbatical for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester who is asking for an extension through the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. Dr. English mentioned that we will be presenting a motion to hire Susan Dambrosia as a paraprofessional at Verner Elementary to fill a vacant position. Our new Central Office Employee will also be meeting her probationary period. She has been doing a wonderful job of assimilating into the office, and we are happy to have the much needed support in the business office.

### **Board Governance**

- Budgetary Outline-Booster and Student Club Annual Approvals – – Boys Basketball Boosters, Lady Raiders Basketball Alumni and Friends, Spanish Club, Junior Class Committee, additional may be included next week
- Annual Approval of Small Games of Chance Licenses Boys Basketball Boosters, Lady Raiders Basketball Alumni and Friends, additional may be included next week
- Annual Board Reorganization Discussion - Tammy Good

Dr. English mentioned that we will be asking for the approval of a number of booster and student club budgetary outlines, along with the approval of small games of chance licenses for a number of groups. Ms. Good mentioned that everyone would be receiving a letter in the mail to notify them of the place, time, and date of the reorganization meeting. This is required by school code.

### **Student Life**

- Senior Scholarship Coordinator Discussion

Dr. English and Ms. Schaaf spoke about a Senior Scholarship Coordinator position. This discussion began last year during the Student Life meetings and is regarding creating a space for someone to oversee the senior scholarship program. We will be asking the board to eliminate two current positions that have not been filled for quite some time, or filled sporadically, and create a Scholarship Coordinator position in the amount of \$2,632. This would ensure sufficient staff and resources devoted to not only manage the process, but to grow the program and look to procure additional opportunities for students into the future.

### **Agreements/Contracts:**

- Children's Institute Annual Agreement
- Natural Gas Easement Agreement

After a brief review by Dr. English and Ms. Good regarding the Agreements/Contracts, Ms. Good explained that discussed the following:

### **Business/Finance:**

- Grow Pod Bids Award – Farm to School Grant
  - Michael MacConnell, Brooke Pegher, and other science teachers partnered with Metz to apply for this federal grant. Due to the cost of the grow pod the item had to be bid. The bid award will be on next week's agenda. CEA Advisers LLC was low bidder.
- Construction Project – Motion to move forward with bid
- Athletics – Revised Salary Schedule –
  - The salary schedule was revised based on the request of Mr. Rometo to split a coaching salary between two football coach positions.
- Fund Balance Designations
  - Ms. Good explained the meaning of the fund balance designation terms under GASB 54 in brief. She mentioned there was a positive change in fund balance of \$1,045,236. This change came

from the difference in revenues earned and expenditures. Total revenues \$24,662,260 came in about \$860,000 higher than budgeted for 19-20. We collected \$80,000 more in interest on investments, \$250,000 in Earned Income, \$215,000 on Delinquent Real Estate, and \$287,000 on current real estate. Total Expenditures \$23,617,024 came in about \$783,637 lower than budgeted. Some special education student changes resulted in lower tuition and transportation costs. The pandemic also resulted in lower transportation and fuel costs. Services all around were reduced due to the pandemic.

- Employee Clothing Damage
  - Ms. Good mentioned that all schools were using Vitrol Oxide cleaners and an employee had experienced damage to clothing. Mr. Pater is no longer using the chemical in that same capacity. The Board agreed to reimburse the employee for 2 pair of pants.
- Pay app.
- Writs of Executions
  - Ms. Good explained that this occurs a few times per year. The delinquent collector is requesting upfront funds to file liens and civil complaints. After much discussion, Ms. Good offered to have Ms. Janet Burkhardt come to the January study session to discuss delinquent collections further.
- Civil Complaints to Collect Delinquent Taxes
- Not To Exceed Annual Tax Index Resolution
  - Ms. Good mentioned that depending on the certified assessed value, if taxes are raised to the max, the District would be looking at approximately \$690,000 - \$715,000 or so in new revenue.
- AIU Joint Purchasing Resolution
  - Ms. Good explained that both she and Mrs. Kumar are the representatives. We participate in all that are available – Paper, Gas/Diesel, Electric, Natural Gas, etc. All of them have provided the District with significant savings.

**Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:54 pm**