

**BOARD WORK SESSION  
MAY 18, 2009**

The Bangor Area School Board met for a Board Work Session in the Slater Conference Room on Monday, April 20, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Vice President, Pamela Colton.

The Board Secretary, Stephen G. Wiencek, called the roll and recorded the following board members in attendance:

|                 |                   |                  |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Michael Baird   | Present           | Michael Goffredo | Arrived 7:40 p.m. |
| Robert Blake    | Present           | Kevin Pruett     | Present           |
| Steve Bussenger | Present           | Albert Ronca     | Present           |
| Bruce Cameron   | Arrived 8:30 p.m. | Joseph Boyle     | Absent            |
| Pamela Colton   | Present           |                  |                   |

**ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Reinhart, Dr. Mulroy, Mr. DeFelice, Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Boyd, Mrs. Kocher, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Gunnels, Mrs. Bustos, Mr. Lucrezi, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Farnan, Mrs. Awigena and Mr. Wiencek represented the Administration.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Asher Schiavone was absent.

**SOLICITOR**

Don Spry was absent.

**BANGOR AREA EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

Ms. Derry was present.

**BANGOR AREA EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION**

Mrs. Harrington and Mr. Ott were present.

**PUBLIC**

There were approximately 21 students and 27 adults present.

**PRESS**

The Express-Times – No one was present.

The Morning Call – No one was present.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION REPORT**

Mr. Reinhart and Mr. Pruett presented certificates to the Gifted & Talented Education (GATE) Seminar Students. The GATE students displayed their projects prior to the work session.

Mr. Reinhart had available for the board members to view a health magazine with an article on Stani Schiavone and the portfolio of Dohl DiFebo's graduation project.

**Mr. Goffredo arrived.**

**ATHLETIC REPORT**

Mr. Farnan gave the following summary of the spring sports:

- Boys Tennis – Colonial league division champions and runner-up in the league finals.

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- Girls Track – Tie for the regular season title for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year and second place in the league meet.
- Boys Track – Second place for the regular season and second place in the league meet. Corbin Moffitt placed first for discus and second for the javelin in the District XI meet and will compete in the state competition.
- Girls Soccer – Runner-up in the league and lost in the first round of the District XI playoffs.
- Baseball – Won east division title of the Colonial league but lost in the first round of the league playoffs and the first round of District XI playoffs.

Mr. Farnan publically thanked Mr. Thornton and Mr. Frey for keeping the playing fields in excellent condition during the season.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Charles Cole presented the board members with a list of 451 people who signed in Facebook supporting naming the new auditorium after Mr. Craig Paine.

Patty Fredrick spoke to the board members about the lack of respect for the cheerleading program. Mrs. Fredrick stated the cheerleaders needed to purchase their own practice mats. Mrs. Fredrick stated during the past year the cheerleaders had trouble finding places to practice and often had to rely on their own transportation to events.

Mrs. Fredrick stated she applied for the head coaching position and was told she did not have the qualifications required for this position, however, the new posting has the same qualifications as the first posting. Mrs. Frederick stated the girls and their parents are trying to arrange for the girls to attend camp but since they do not have a head coach she is concerned they will be unprepared.

Mrs. Frederick stated the cheerleaders did not get any recognition for winning the Sweet Pea Award. The award was given to them for raising the largest amount of funds in the Lehigh Valley for pediatric cancer children.

Mrs. Pat Gleason, mother of a cheerleader, also spoke about the lack of respect for the cheerleaders. Mrs. Gleason endorsed the hiring of Mrs. Frederick as head coach.

Mr. Paul Mest, father of a cheerleader, stated the district needs to find a qualified individual to head the program. Mr. Mest stated the parents support their daughters at a young age but when they reach the age for the school program the girls get no support from the district.

Mr. Reinhart stated the program was not being run to the satisfaction of the administration and that is why the district is looking for a new head coach.

Several cheerleaders spoke about the program and that they do not want to be denied the chance to cheer next year.

**Mr. Cameron arrived.**

Mr. Victor Rodite thanked the board for hosting the e-cycling event at the Washington Elementary School on May 16, 2009.

Mr. Rodite addressed the board on behalf of the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Authority. Mr. Rodite stated the authority is requesting the school board approve the extension of three Keystone Opportunity Zones (KOZ) in the school district for a period of seven years. The KOZ properties in the school district are:

1. Portland Industrial Park – this is a property owned by Ultra-Poly Corporation with access and wetland problems. The owners have agreed to make payment in lieu of taxes.

2. Borough of Bangor – this property owned by the Borough of Bangor is located at the old Borough Authority Incinerator. This property currently does not generate tax income for the school district since it is owned by the borough. This site is getting closer to being developed.
3. Event Theater – located on First Street in the Borough of Bangor.

Mrs. Ann Miller, member of the Bangor Economic Development Corporation (BEDC) Promoting Economic Development in the Borough of Bangor, requested the board consider these KOZ requests. Mrs. Miller stated the BEDC is working hard to keep business in the Borough of Bangor. Mrs. Miller stated the BEDC has money to lend to projects such as the infrastructure at the incinerator site.

Mr. Pruett asked if the BEDC intends to build an access road to the incinerator property from Route 512.

Mrs. Miller stated they are attempting to get stimulus money for that project.

Mr. Brian Witmer and Mrs. Angela Battaglia from the Bangor Community Partnerships express hopes that the board will approve the extension of the KOZ properties.

Mrs. Marilyn Rettaliata stated she came to support the young people who are working to improve the Borough of Bangor.

Mr. Rodite stated the LERTA program may be a better solution for these properties.

Mr. Goffredo stated the Council of Governments (COG) needs to address the transportation issues with downtown Bangor and the railroad bridge on Route 611 before any industry will consider developing in the Bangor Area.

Mr. Reinhart stated that all the people who spoke during this meeting are people who have been very involved and helpful to the school district and local communities.

Mr. Cameron stated the problem with the KOZ requests is the complexity of the requests brought to the board and the lack of time to properly understand the requests. Mr. Cameron stated KOZ designations have hurt the school district in the past.

**DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED MOTIONS:**

1. Accept the following staff resignations:
  1. Judi Williams Gibson, first aid officer, effective May 7, 2009;
  2. Nicole Mina, language arts teacher at Bangor Area Middle School, effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year;
  3. Pamela Nelson, library department chairperson, effective June 12, 2009.
2. Approve Brian Weaver as mentor for Kelly Mennell for the 2009-2010 school year.
3. Approve the attached lists of field trips and conferences.

Dr. Baird asked if Mrs. Tucker is taking 580 students to Dorney Park by herself.

Mrs. Tucker stated the teachers and chaperones were not listed on the request.

Dr. Baird asked if Mrs. Bustos was taking only one student to Land of Make Believe.

Mrs. Bustos stated only one student is riding the van.

4. Approve the attached lists of district substitutes.
5. Approve the attached request for homebound/tutorial instruction for students #201370 and #203228 .
6. Approve the first public reading for the following policies:

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- 108 Adoption of Textbooks
- 101 Mission Statement/Belief Statements

7. Approve the second public reading, final approval for the following policies:

- 109 Selection of Resource Materials
- 249 Bullying

Dr. Baird stated Page 1 of policy #249 should state "shall" instead of "should" to be consistent with the rest of the document.

8. Cast ballots for the annual election of Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 board members, with terms expiring June 30, 2012.

Mrs. Colton stated all members up for re-election have been on the board for a long time.

9. Approve payment to the following mentor:

Tracy Finkbeiner for Amy Sakers                      \$475.00 (08-09)

10. Approve the attached settlement agreement with the parents of student #203850.

11. Create the position of Summer School First Aid Officer for six hours per day at the contracted hourly rate beginning on June 22, 2009 and concluding on, or before, August 14, 2009. The position may be filled by one district first aid officer or by several depending upon availability of personnel.

12. Create the position of van aide for student #283216 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year.

13. Appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as Board Treasurer for the period July 1, 2009 until June 30, 2010, at a stipend of \_\_\_\_\_ in accordance with PA School Code, 24 P.S. § 4-404, 432.

Mr. Ronca agreed to continue in the position. Mrs. Colton stated for a \$50.00 per year increase.

14. Adopt a tentative budget for the fiscal year 2009-2010 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ utilizing \_\_\_\_\_ from the fund balance and including the following tax levies (tax rates after sharing provisions go into effect): Real Estate - \_\_\_\_\_ mils, Earned Income Tax - 0.7%; Real Estate Transfer Tax - 0.5%; Occupational Privilege Tax - \$5.00 and Local Services Tax - \$5.00.

Mr. Wiencek stated the board approved a tentative budget in February of \$48,152,612 which would require a 1.7% or a .8 mil tax increase.

Mr. Wiencek stated it is still not clear how the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding can be spent. However, it can only be used to supplement programs and not sustain programs because the funding will only be in place for one to two years. Mr. Wiencek stated the additional funding under Title I is the only program that has given specific guidelines and the funding must be used for new programs.

Mr. Wiencek stated the taxpayers will get approximately \$286 in Act 1 tax credit for the 2009-2010 tax year which is a slight decrease from last year.

Mr. Wiencek recommended the board keep the budget with the 1.7% tax increase. Mr. Wiencek stated the tax assessments did not grow as much as expected and the Real Estate Transfer Tax is down. Mr. Wiencek reminded the board that the tentative budget included the reduction of three teachers, one secretary and one aide. In reality the district has added three aides since the tentative budget was approved.

Dr. Baird stated he believes the board will need to approve a budget with a greater tax increase than the tentative 1.7%. Dr. Baird recommends the board consider a 3% tax increase with possibly reducing that before approving the final budget in June.

Dr. Baird stated if the district uses stimulus money for everyday expenses it would be like using fund balance.

Mr. Goffredo asked what the district would need to do if the state funding is not as great as expected.

Mr. Reinhart stated programs would need to be cut and the district would need to look at class sizes.

15. Approve the following list of district depositories for 2009-2010:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| A. PNC Bank                                       | Tax Deposits   |
| B. Bank of America                                | General Fund Checking, Investments   |
| C. Merchants National Bank                        | General Fund, Payroll Fund, Cafeteria Fund, Student Activity Fund, Tax Deposits                          |
| D. First National Bank of Palmerton               | Tax Deposits   |
| E. Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust | Subsidies, Investments   |
| F. Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund | Subsidies, Investments, Tax Deposits, General Fund Checking, Cafeteria Fund, Payroll Fund, Athletic Fund |
| G. The Bank of New York                           | Investments  |

16. Approve the attached resolution providing property tax rebates for each calendar year to certain senior citizens, widows, widowers and disabled persons with fixed and limited incomes; establishing uniform standards and qualifications for eligibility to receive a rebate; and providing penalties for fraudulent claims.

17. Accept the observations and recommendations from the Auditor General's Audit Report for fiscal years ending June 30, 2006 and 2005, and submit a corrective action plan as requested.

18. Authorize the purchase of replacement toilet partitions in the high school from capital projects funds estimated to be \$3,975.80, purchase to be made from the Pennsylvania Joint Purchasing Contract.

19. Authorize the purchase of a replacement steamer, kettle and oven at the Bangor Area Middle School from capital projects funds estimated to be \$42,581.00, purchase to be made from Pennsylvania State contract.

Mr. Wiencek stated that the district has applied for a ARRA funds to fund this project as well as several equipment replacement project.

20. Accept the following bids of:

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1. \$75 for property (D10SW2D 10 2 0109) located in East Bangor Borough which was placed in repository when did not sell at the 2002 Judicial Sale.
2. \$75 for property (D10SW2D 10 3 0109) located in East Bangor Borough which was placed in repository when did not sell at the 2002 Judicial Sale.
3. \$50 for property (D10 2 18 0131) located in Upper Mt. Bethel Township which was placed in repository when did not sell at the 1980 Judicial Sale.
4. \$25 for property (D10 14 7-1A 0134) located in Washington Township which was placed in repository when did not sell at the 2007 Judicial Sale.
5. \$25 for property (D10 14-7-1b 0134) located in Washington Township which was placed in repository when did not sell at the 2007 Judicial Sale.
6. \$25 for property (D10 14-7-1C 0134) located in Washington Township which was placed in repository when did not sell at the 2007 Judicial Sale.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Blake stated he would like a motion on the agenda at next week's regular meeting to name the new high school auditorium.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The work session was adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

An audio recording of this meeting is available for review.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen G. Wiencek  
Board Secretary