

CHARTIERS VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES/DISTRICT ASSEMBLY ROOM

AUGUST 22, 2017

1.0 Meeting Opening

A. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Charters Valley Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by Mr. Mazzarini in the District Assembly Room.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Present

Mr. Tony Mazzarini
Mrs. Sandy Zeleznik
Mr. Jeff Choura
Mr. Eric Kraemer
Mr. Mark Kuczinski
Mr. Robert Kearney
Mrs. Julie Murphy

Also Present

Mr. Scott Seltzer, Assistant Superintendent
of School Leadership
Mr. Don Palmer, Solicitor

Absent

Mrs. Alka Patel
Mr. Jamie Stevenson

D. Recognitions

None

E. Public Comments

Mrs. Thornton said that she felt the last time she spoke to the board that she said many negative things. She had spoken to a few of the board members, specifically Mr. Kraemer and that if he hadn't passed this on, she wanted to. Her children are all in the High School now, but when her daughter transferred to the Middle School, the teachers were wonderful and so welcoming and in the two years she was there, she had nothing bad to say about the experience. She also added that after discussing her sons bullying in the Musical Theater group, she thought about what she said and wanted to give an example of what she was talking about, because it is very serious. During a production in his freshman year, he received a small part in the play and 5 minutes prior to going on he got punched in the stomach, so it's not just name calling. The student didn't tell the truth about what happened and the Musical Director did nothing. The student apologized the following year. Mrs. Thornton, once again, asked for the Musical Director position to be opened.

Mr. Wilson an employee of the district asked to speak, Mr. Mazzarini said that the public comments portion of the meeting was for residents only and it was against the bylaws. After some discussion, Mr. Mazzarini asked Mr. Wilson to hold his comments until the end of the meeting.

Mrs. Allen said that she was there to speak for herself and the kitchen staff, stating some of them had received letters stating that hours were being cut and positions changing. I want to know why, when we're the lowest paid in the district and we're building a new middle school, how do you justify this. We can't staff our kitchens as it is and I am being asked questions that I have no answers to. I have been running the Middle School and High School kitchen for the last 10 years and we need at least two cooks there, we have so many different bars, we are always running short with no subs, I often have to send my breakfast girls to other buildings because of the staff shortages. I have these girls coming to me, asking why hours are being cut when we're building a new school, it just doesn't add up. I have had some resign and quit and we can't afford that. These girls work hard, so could you address that. It is hard to get everything done now with the hours we have and I'm worried with the hours being cut, things will sit until the next day.

Mr. Mazzarini said that he didn't think there was anyone in this room that thinks you and your staff does not work hard. We recognize that and commend you for your efforts. When it comes to budget, Nutrition Inc. is in a separate budget than our school district. Their budget for the last two years has not come in balanced and what happens is the difference between what it is costing us to run the cafeteria and the negative balance in budget comes out of the educational fund. We went to Nutrition Inc. and said that they have to balance their budget, there is no way we want to take money from our educational programs to fund your program, that program should stand on its own. The recommendations they made were based on a long series of evaluations, it wasn't just about coming in and cutting people's hours, it was about what they evaluated, key times, key people, key hours. They came with that recommendation to Dr. White and we as a board approved those recommendations to balance that budget. We hope that as you start the school year, the changes that have been made, will work within. We can certainly take a look at what's going on as time goes by, but based on the budget and the decisions that were made and put in place, there is really not much we can do.

Mrs. Allen said that she would like the board to come and see how the kitchen operates and she thinks this is going to hurt the productivity. She was also concerned that her cook had her hours cut and that she was going to lose her benefits that she needs.

Mr. Mazzarini said that they can revisit it later on in the year.

Mrs. Mihalko stated that she sent a letter on August 15th requesting the readmission of her son to come back to the Charters Valley School District for the 2017-2018 school year. Last year he had some behavioral issues and was kicked out of school. We have been working with him all summer long and have worked with the probation officer. I sent the letter to Dr. White, Lesley Kunkel and Valerie Keys and I understand this is a big decision that the district has to make, to bring a student back who had behavioral issues, however I believe he has proved to himself, he has proved to me and he has stepped up. I know that you are here for the safety of the kids and it is a priority, but I wanted to bring this to the boards attention and have the opportunity to sit down with whomever. He completed all of his requirements that were given by the probation officer, he passed every exam and physical test, he's maintained good grades and I have attached to the letter his progress reports from all of his teachers. I received phone calls from his teachers stating that he is a tremendous student and has turned around. He is a different person, behavior wise, individually and he is more responsible. The probation officer told us he no longer needed to go to therapy, but we continued to do that. He had to change schools in the middle of the school year and had to change the way he interacted with

students because he really wasn't one of them. He has had a job for the past 4 years and when he goes back to school, he will get another to be able to work in the evenings. Still to this day, we don't know when or where he will be starting school. I feel that we have gone through a lot at this point and that he has proved to us and I hope that you give him the opportunity to prove to you that he has changed.

Mr. Seltzer said that he would set up a meeting with her to sit down and discuss it.

2.0 Superintendent's Reports/Presentations

2.1 Board Report – August, 2017.

3.0 Solicitor's Report

Mr. Palmer said that there was an executive session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel and litigation matters.

4.0 Approve Minutes

4.1 Motion to approve Minutes of Meeting on July 25, 2017 and August 8, 2017.

Motion to approve item 4.1 listed above.

MOVED by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Choura.

On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

5.0 Informational Agenda

A. Education Foundation

None

B. Pathfinder

None

C. Parkway

None

D. SHASDA

None

E. Finance Committee Report

Mr. Kuczinski said that the committee reviewed the monthly construction summary, IKM payment, PJDick summary as well as the PSI Billing and found everything to be in line with what was expected. We also had a lengthy interview with a potential interim Business Manager.

Mr. Palmer stated that they would not be acting on item 6.8 this evening.

Mr. Mazzarini asked everyone to make note that item 6.8 was being removed from the consent agenda stating that bids came in that were faulty, so we decided to remove all the bids that came in and to resubmit.

6.0 Consent Agenda

A. Academics

B. Personnel

6.1 Motion to approve PA Educator Fee for Contract of Services in the amount of \$3000.00.

6.2 Motion to approve Human Resource Report.

C. Budget & Finance

6.3 Motion to approve the construction payments as indicated on the Monthly Construction Payment Report for the August 22, 2017 Board Meeting in the amount of \$54,975.50.

6.4 Motion to approve the Financial Disbursements for the period between July 26, 2017 and August 17, 2017.

6.5 Motion to approve PlanCon Part 1: Interim reporting for Change Order #5, Merit Electric for an add for electrical work to establish a new feeder cable to existing power center L plus maintain electrical service to building L & M and to allow for the termination of 5v conductors in the tunnel change order in the amount of \$35,439.00.

6.6 Motion to approve Resolution 2017-03, the adoption of the Health Reimbursement agreement Plan Document and the appointing of a Third Party Administrator.

6.7 Motion to authorize, Kim Hartnett, Business Manager, to proceed with the Purchasing of bid items for Art and Tech Ed supplies once they have been reviewed and approved by both Department Heads and the respective Building Administrator. These purchases will then be ratified at the September board meeting.

6.8 Motion to approve the bus bids per Solicitor review.

D. Superintendent

6.9 Motion to approve the second reading of Policy #808 – Food Service.

6.10 Motion to approve Dance Troupe to attend competitions in: Fairfax, Virginia, November 18; Pittsburgh, December 9; New Jersey, January 6 and Orlando on February 1st and 2nd. Registration Fee for Orlando competition is \$1800.00, and bus transportation and district truck to and from the Pittsburgh Airport.

6.11 Motion to approve Showband Trip on December 1 through December 3, 2017 to Virginia Beach, VA.

Motion to approve item 6.1 through 6.11, excluding 6.8 listed above.

MOVED by Mrs. Zeleznik, seconded by Mr. Kearney.

On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

7.0 Discuss Energy Services

Mr. Mazzarini said that in discussions with the construction team, which I've been pretty heavily involved with the last month and a half, getting ready to get the kids back to school and see how our projects are going, propose future board action to examine the elimination of blower testing during the construction phase. The construction team feels that these tests offer little value or benefit until construction spaces are complete according to our architect IKM. The tests cost \$2500.00 per test and delays ongoing work. It will be time and money well saved. HF Lenz will be on sight to make sure things are being done correctly. Based on our contracts with our architects and prime contractor, if there is a deficiency and the test is conducted at the end and it doesn't meet the requirements we've placed on them, the corrections would have to be made at their expense. There really is no risk, it's all upside. The blower test is inaccurate during the construction phase.

Motion to approve reexamining the HF Lenz contract and asking to have the blower tests eliminated while construction is being done.

MOVED by Mr. Kraemer, seconded by Mr. Choura.

On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

8.0 Public Comment

Mr. Fryer talked about the frustration of traffic on Rt. 50 running next to 79 and that the congestion has not been addressed by Penn Dot or the county. He said he has been working with Collier and they have discussed opening this up into 6 lanes. They suggested that a task force be formed and Mr. Fryer said he thought it would be a good idea if one of the members of the board attends the meeting.

Mr. Wilson stated that this will be his last year and that he has had a great time here serving the kids. He wanted to come and address the board in a formal way saying that he is working with a couple of groups and explained some of the programs that they offer and how they would be beneficial to our kids. He said that he hopes the school board goes along with it. We talk about diversity and technology and we always want the best for our kids.

Mr. Wilson also talked about his tenure with the district coming to an end and the reason that he had stayed on a little longer. A parent of a student that had lost her father had asked him to stay, if he could for a little longer because he had become a father figure, so he did, because it's all about the kids. He is hoping as he ends his career here with the district, while CV is in a transition looking for a new Superintendent, that you don't have to look too far, because Mr. Seltzer is your man. I think he will be the man to lead CV into the future. Mr. Wilson also said how proud he was to work with the staff and the administration and how wonderful the school is.

Mrs. Shollenberger asked about staffing rumors concerning the Spanish teachers at the Primary School.

Mr. Mazzarini said that in executive session they talked about personnel and that is the decision of the board to move those Spanish teachers to Kindergarten positions.

Mrs. Shollenberger also asked if the move in date could be addressed, she thought that the date was going to be the 18th.

Mr. Seltzer said that they started moving things into the building. There was a little confusion on what "turn over" the building was. They are doing a great job with the moving, cleaning and the punch list, we actually were able to get in there before that date.

Mrs. Sedlak discussed concerns about staffing issues, cutting food service all while building a brand new school, comparing it to having a big beautiful house and not being able to afford furniture to put in it, stating the she is very frustrated and angry.

Mr. Choura said that he was fortunate enough to be here when Dr. White came aboard, saying that he walked into a mess. I don't know of another individual that could have pulled off what he did. During his outstanding years of service he took this school and put it back together again, piece by piece. He engaged everyone and put tireless hours into our school district and I want to thank him for his service and for making this school very respectable again. He never stopped, he had a vision to make us better and better. He will truly be missed. Not only are we losing a good Superintendent, we're losing a good friend.

Mr. Mazzarini said, we all feel the same way.

9.0 Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.
MOVED by Mr. Choura, seconded by Mr. Kraemer.
On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Wiseman
Acting Board Secretary.