

The December 2, 2013, meeting of the Moon Area Board of Education was held in the High School Board Meeting Room, 7:10 p.m., for general purposes. The meeting was CALLED TO ORDER by President A. Michael Olszewski. The following directors were present:

Mr. Olszewski	Mr. Harbaugh	Mrs. Schisler	Mrs. Tatone	Mr. Testa
Mr. Tranter	Mr. Bussard	Mr. Hauser	Mr. LaRue	

Also seated at the Board table: Mr. Baker, Mrs. Johns, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Haslett, Mr. Heck and Mr. Maiello.

There were 30 people in the audience.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Baker presented the Tiger Spirit Awards. For the month of December, we will recognize the two winners from the Moon Area Middle School: Eighth-grader Morgan Toal and seventh-grader Nate McNamara. He also thanked our sponsors for this month, Clearview Federal Credit Union and the Ground Round restaurant.

First, Mr. Baker recognized Morgan Toal. She was nominated by her team of teachers, the 8th grade Yellow Jackets, who said that she is a leader of her peers and a positive role model in and out of the classroom. She comes to class prepared each day, works well with others, and set a positive example by helping those around her. She is also an athlete, participating in basketball, softball, and volleyball – a hard worker who doesn't miss practice, she gives 100% and is a team player. She proudly displays school spirit by being enthusiastic about her school and supportive of other students. Congratulations to Morgan for being selected by your principal and teachers to receive this award.

Next, Mr. Baker recognized Nate McNamara. Nate was nominated by one of his teachers, Mrs. Custer, who names him as one of the most considerate students that she has had in the classroom. In addition, Nate's teachers and principal call him positive, hardworking, and helpful; he always does his best and never makes excuses. For example, students in class were recently creating iMovies, and Nate, who had a good understanding of the program, spent his time helping out other groups and explaining the process to make sure that everyone was on the same page. Congratulations to Nate, for standing out in the classroom as a student who will be remembered for your character.

Mr. Baker announced that the Moon Area Middle School 7th graders in Ms. Blair's paint, draw & design classes collaborated on a painting that is now on display in the Clay Café in Sewickley. Stop by this month to check it out.

Please help Moon Area School District win products to help secure our schools by voting for our schools in the "Together for Safe Schools" online contest daily through December 13th. The school with the most votes will win a Grand Prize of \$200,000 in STANLEY Security installed products and services. Three runners-up will receive individual prizes of \$100,000 in security products. Visit the Moon website at www.moonarea.net to access the voting link.

To demonstrate November's Character Ed trait of kindness, students in Mrs. McKenna's 3rd and 4th grade computer classes at Brooks and McCormick typed acts of kindness that they did at home, at school, or in their neighborhood/community and glued them onto red paper hearts. The goal was to collect 100 acts of kindness at each school by the end of November. Both schools exceeded their goal. In total, over 100 acts of kindness were collected at each school. The hearts are displayed on the wall outside of the computer lab at each school.

Approval of Reports

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Harbaugh, SECONDED by Mrs. Tatone, “that the Board of Education approve the minutes from the meetings of November 11 and 25 2013, and the following reports as reflected in the December Financial Report:

- Treasurer’s Report
- Investment Report
- Board Summary Report
- High School/Middle School Activities Fund Report
- Food Service Profit and Loss Report.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Payment of Bills

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Tranter, SECONDED by Mrs. Tatone, “that the Board of Education approve the bills for payment as listed in the December Financial Report as follows:

General Fund	\$ 2,889,513.51
Activities Fund	\$ 28,211.85
Food Service	\$ 76,136.58
Investment Account	\$ 10,319.76
Capital Project Fund	\$ 4,491.00
Total	\$ 3,008,672.70.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Correspondence – Mrs. Schisler

No correspondence.

Education Committee – Mrs. Tatone

Mrs. Tatone reported that Dr. Mary Ann Rafoth, Dean of School of Education and Social Science at Robert Morris University, made a follow-up presentation about the Professional Development School Cooperative. Dr. Rafoth reiterated RMU’s interest in providing their pre-service teachers with an in-depth and intense learning experience. This interest would be met by

placing their students in Moon Area elementary classrooms for field observations and formal student teaching experiences. The benefits to Moon Area students would include increased individual attention and classroom support. A Robert Morris faculty member would be designated as an on-site resource person to manage and help supervise the pre-service teacher activities.

Although the Allard Elementary School was identified as the most convenient site for the professional development school due to its proximity to the university, Dr. Rafoth stressed that RMU is open to discuss alternatives that would serve the needs of both Moon Area and RMU. Grant funds would also be sought to support the goals of the professional development school.

Dr. Rafoth explained that a partnership between the two entities would bring opportunities to Moon Area students that could involve early literacy initiatives, summer and after school programs, reading screenings, STEAM and science discovery opportunities, and perhaps weekend community events.

Dr. Rafoth noted that Robert Morris University has worked with Moon Area teachers and administration on past initiatives such as Junior Achievement lessons and after school tutoring with much success. She believes that the establishment of a Professional Development School will strengthen ties further in a shared goal of being recognized as a center for excellence. The next steps involve meetings between RMU leaders, the Moon Area Superintendent and other school personnel, and school board members.

Finance Committee – Mr. Olszewski

Mr. Bennett presented the following matters:

2014 School Board Meeting and Committee Meeting Schedules

Mr. Bennett reviewed the 2014 school board meeting and committee meeting schedules which will be considered by the school board at the December 2, 2013 meeting.

EES Energy Management Report Review

Mr. Heck reviewed the first quarterly energy management report from Essential Energy Solutions. The report reflected energy savings of \$45,375 for the first three months of the agreement.

Policy Committee – Mrs. Schisler

Mrs. Schisler reported that the Policy Committee discussed the following policies:

Policy 214 – Class Rank - Elimination

Mr. Balaski presented information regarding his recommendation to have this policy eliminated. The committee will review his presentation and then discussed it further at the policy subcommittee meeting.

Policy 225 – Students and the Police – Elimination

This policy will be discussed at the next policy committee meeting.

Policies 216 through 252 AT & Policies 610 & 611 Reviewed and/or Adopted by PSBA

The committee determined that these policies should be reviewed by the committee members and discuss any concerns at the next policy subcommittee Meeting.

Student Activities Committee – Mr. Olszewski

No report.

Facilities Committee – Mr. Harbaugh

No report.

Legislation Committee – Mr. Bussard

No report.

Moon Transportation Authority – Mr. Bussard

No report.

Transportation Committee – Mr. Testa

No report.

Parkway West Career and Technology Center – Mr. Tranter

No report. The meeting for December is cancelled. Several members of the administration and the joint committee will be attending Vision 2013, which is the National Vo-tech Association of School Boards, later this week and Mr. Tranter will be attending.

Technology Committee

No report.

Solicitor's Report – Mr. Maiello

Mr. Maiello announced that he will be submitting a written report to the Board.

Mr. Olszewski announced that the Board met in executive session to discuss litigation regarding personnel and personnel items.

Audience Recognition (Agenda Items)

None.

Meeting Notices

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Tranter, SECONDED by Mr. Bussard, “that the Board of Education approve the calendar year 2014 schedule for the following meetings reflected in the attached meeting notices:

Regular Board Meetings
Board Work Session Meetings and Committee Meetings
Student Activity Committee Meetings
Technology Committee Meetings.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Policy Third and Final Reading Approval

IT WAS MOVED by Mrs. Schisler, SECONDED by Mrs. Tatone, “that the Board of Education approve the third and final reading of the following policies that are new and/or revised by PSBA and MASD:

Policy 203	Communicable Diseases And Immunization
Policy 203.1	AIDS Policy and Management Plan
Policy 203.1 AT	Suggested Responses (new)
Policy 204	Attendance
Policy 204.1	Student Employment
Policy 205	Postgraduate Students
Policy 206	Assignment Within District
Policy 207	Confidential Communications Of Students (No Changes)
Policy 208	Withdrawal From School
Policy 209	Health Examinations
Policy 209.1	Food Allergy Management
Policy 210.1	Field Trip Medication
Policy 210.2	Possession/Use of Emergency Medications
Policy 210.3	Use of Epi-Pens
Policy 211	Student Accident Insurance
Policy 212	Reporting Student Progress
Policy 213	Assessment of Student Progress
Policy 215	Promotion and Retention.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Personnel

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Hauser, SECONDED by Mrs. Tatone, “that the Board of Education approve the personnel items listed:

I. Approval of Family Medical Leave of Absence Extension

“that the Board of Education approve a Family Medical Leave of Absence extension to Natalie Fratangeli from her position as Grade 1 teacher at Bon Meade Elementary School effective January 2 through January 31, 2014, returning to work on February 3, 2014.”

II. Resignation

“that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Michael Minaymer from the extra pay for extra duty position of High School Musical Orchestra Director effective immediately.”

III. Approval of Substitutes

“that the Board of Education approve the following substitutes for the 2013-2014 school year:

Teacher

Carly Branchen
316 Ritter Road
Sewickley, PA 15143

SmartStart Teachers

Gary Uram
428 Newkirk Street
Carnegie, PA 15106.”

IV. Addendum to Employment Agreement

“that the Board of Education approve the addendum to the Superintendent’s employment agreement, as attached.”

V. Approval of Acting Assistant Superintendent

“that the Board of Education appoint Caroline Johns to serve as Acting Assistant Superintendent for a period not to exceed one year at her current salary as Acting Superintendent.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Audience Recognition (non-agenda items)

None.

Superintendent’s Education Report

Mr. Baker wanted to inform the board of two initiatives that are underway from an instructional perspective—one has short term window and one has is intermediate term window. The short term focuses on this school year, whereby administration is meeting with each of the principals and asking each building to gather data in a form to assess if we are where we need to be. Over the month of December, administration will be looking at our plans instructionally, finding any

interventions or resources required so the 2013-2014 will be an exceptional school year. The intermediate term objective is built around building a framework for discussion and work instructionally around the 3 broad themes of activity. The first is assuring that we have a good solid lesson in every classroom every single day. Professional development, observations, evaluations, and assure teaching is happening in a quality manner each day. The second theme is built around the concept of a reasonably coherent curriculum specifically for Moon. The third concept is assuring that we develop authentic literacy with extensive reading, writing and conversation in classes, built around curriculum skills.

Board Comments

Mr. Testa thanked the voters for voting for him, congratulated the sports teams on a successful year, congratulated Head Football Coach Mark Washington for being voted Coach of the Year by his peers and wished everyone a happy holiday.

Mr. Bussard thanked the voters for voting for him and he commended the football team and coach in their efforts on and off the field and for being very sportsmanlike. He welcomed the new school board members and is happy to be working with them. Mr. Bussard also wished everyone a happy holiday.

Mrs. Tatone extended congratulations and welcome to the new board members. She congratulated the group of students from MASD and RMU who performed in the musical on job well done! She also wished everyone a happy holiday.

Mrs. Schisler congratulated and welcomed the new board members and is looking forward to working with them. She also wishes everyone a happy holiday.

Mr. LaRue thanked the voters for voting for him and he is looking forward to working with the board members.

Mr. Hauser thanked the voters for voting for him. He is looking forward to working with the board members. He extended a warm welcome to Mr. Baker and is looking forward to working with him.

Mr. Tranter welcomed the new board members and he is looking forward to working with everyone.

Mr. Harbaugh wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Mr. Olszewski welcomed Mr. Testa and Mr. Bussard back on the board and welcomed Mr. LaRue and Mr. Hauser to the board. He welcomed Mr. Baker and is excited to be working with him and new the school board.

Adjournment

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Tranter, SECONDED by Mrs. Schisler “that the Board of Education adjourn this meeting, 7:35 p.m.”

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Brown
Clerk, Board of Education

Gia R. Tatone
Secretary, Board of Education