

**The October 28, 2013, meeting** of the Moon Area Board of Education was held in the High School Board Auditorium, 6:30 p.m., for general purposes. The meeting was CALLED TO ORDER by President Sandra Volpe McCurdy. The following directors were present:

Ms. Volpe McCurdy	Mrs. Schisler	Mr. Olszewski	Mr. Tranter
Mr. Steele	Mrs. Tatone	Mr. Bussard	Mr. Harbaugh

Mr. Testa was not present.

Also seated at the Board table: Mrs. Johns, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Haslett, and Mr. Brungo.

There were 135 people in the audience.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Johns announced that in honor of October being National Bullying Prevention Month, McCormick Elementary School is proud to present their 2013-2014 Olweus Anti-Bullying Video, "Eye of the Tiger." The video features Principal Julie Moore, McCormick teachers, and all grade levels at McCormick.

This January, student writers at the high school will have the opportunity to learn from a professional playwright. Students in Laura Mitchell's "Intro to Playwriting Class" will take part in the City Theatre's Artist in Resident Playwriting program. For eight weeks, a professional playwright will join students three days a week to facilitate in-school playwriting workshops to assist them in writing their own plays. Prior to the submission of their plays in March, selected young playwrights will develop their scripts in collaboration with professional theatre artists for productions in City Theatre's Hamburg Studio Theatre during the 2014 Young Playwrights Festival.

### **Recent Music Accomplishments**

- Congratulations to the Band for being selected as WTAE's band of the week on 10/18.
- The marching band also competed this past weekend in one of the nation's most prominent championships, Music for All's Bands of America Regional Championship in Maryland.
- Eleven students will represent MAHS at upcoming honors music events in November – eight from band, and three from orchestra.

Thank you to Pizza Roma in Moon Township, who generously agreed to donate a pizza lunch to our entire staff, over 120 pizzas, to show support for staff and education.

Congratulations to the Moon Girls Cross Country team for their 3rd place finish at the WPIAL Championships! The team qualified to run at the State Championships in Hershey next Saturday, November 2.

The Moon Tigers girl's soccer team beat Yough last week in the playoffs 1-0, and advanced to the WPIAL semifinal game, which is tonight vs. Central Valley.

**Audience Recognition (agenda items)**

Mr. Frances “Butch” Santicola, 200 Darnley Drive, Moon Township, asked about the selection of the new superintendent. We are hearing he has no experience. He asked the following questions: Is he certified in Pennsylvania? We have a great staff here in Moon. What was his discipline? Where is he from? What are his certifications? Does he have teaching experience? What did he study? Who made the decision to hire him?

**Policy Third and Final Reading Approval**

IT WAS MOVED by Mrs. Schisler, SECONDED by Mr. Steele, “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 201      | Admission of Students  |
| Policy 707      | Use of School Facilities   |
| Policy 707 AT A | MASD Administrative Regulations for Non-Negotiated Contracts<br>Pertaining to Use of School Facilities |
| Policy 707 AT B | Facilities Rental Fee Schedule   |
| Policy 913.1    | Facilities Naming.”  |

Mr. Tranter would like Policy 707 AT A revised to add a line include the volunteer fire department within the school district, for clarification purposes.

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Tranter, SECONDED by Mrs. Schisler, “that the Board of Education amend the motion as it currently stands to include the volunteer fire departments within the school district to be included under Policy 707 AT A, Enclosure #3.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

**Policy Second Reading Approval**

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

- |              |                                    |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Policy 117   | Homebound Instruction              |
| Policy 118   | Independent Study                  |
| Policy 119   | Academic Freedoms                  |
| Policy 121   | Field Trips                        |
| Policy 121.1 | Overnight/Foreign Travel Programs  |
| Policy 122   | Extracurricular Activities         |
| Policy 122.1 | Co-Curricular Activities           |
| Policy 123   | Interscholastic Athletics          |
| Policy 123.1 | Concussion Management (No changes) |
| Policy 123.2 | Sudden Cardiac Arrest (New)        |
| Policy 124   | Summer School                      |

Policy 125	Adult Education
Policy 126	Class Size
Policy 127	Assessment of Educational Program
Policy 130	Homework
Policy 131	Religious Holiday Observance
Policy 137	Home Schooling
Policy 137.1	Extracurricular Participation By Home Education Students (New)
Policy 138	English As A Second Language/Bilingual Program
Policy 140	Charter Schools (New)
Policy 140.1	Extracurricular Participation By Charter/Cyber Charter Students (New)
Policy 142	Migrant Students (New)
Policy 143	Standards For Persistently Dangerous Schools (New)
Policy 144	Standards For Victims of Violent Crimes (New)
Policy 146	Student Services (New)"

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

### **Conferences**

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Tranter, SECONDED by Mr. Steele, “that the Board of Education approve conferences costing over \$500 or requiring an overnight’s stay:

Kelsey Halackna: SAFETY CARE TRAINER TRAINING in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on November 12, 2013 thru November 14, 2013; cost to the district is \$1,083.50; purpose – At the training, I will learn how to train other Moon Area School District staff members in the Safety Care program.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

### **Change Orders for High School to Middle School Conversion Project**

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Tranter, SECONDED by Mr. Harbaugh, “that the Board of Education approve the change orders related to the middle school project for an increased cost of \$11,942.12 for Option #1 or \$17,610.10 for Option #2. (Capital Project Fund)”

Mr. Tranter had asked for a brief description of the change orders for the viewing audience. Ms. Crawford with JC Pierce, LLC, spoke to the board regarding the differences in the two options. Mr. Testa had asked her to get pricing on additional light fixtures near the student entrance where the crosswalk is near Bradley Drive. She received a price to add a dual head light fixture for \$11,942.12 which would light the crosswalk and entrance near Bradley Drive. She also got another price for two single head light fixtures in that area and one a little further down. The Board discussed both options.

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Tranter, SECONDED by Mr. Olszewski, “that the Board of Education amend the motion to approve the change orders related to the middle school project for an increased cost of \$17,610.10, Option #2. (Capital Project Fund).”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

**Personnel**

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Bussard, SECONDED by Mr. Steele, “that the Board of Education approve the personnel items listed:

**I. Approval of Mentor**

“that the Board of Education approve the following mentor for the 2013-2014 school year beginning October 15, 2013 thru last day of school of 2013-2014 school year:

**Mentor**

**Inductee**

Elizabeth Nijenhuis

Christopher Petrie.”

**II. Approval of Extended Sick Leave Days Request**

“that the Board of Education approve an Extended Sick Leave Days request to Beth Carter, from her position as Grade 3 teacher at Brooks Elementary School, effective October 14, 2013 through December 3, 2014.”

**III. Approval of Family Medical Leave of Absence**

“that the Board of Education approve a Family Medical Leave of Absence to Donald Carmichael from his position as Head Custodian at the Middle School beginning October 4, 2013 for up to 12 weeks or pending release from physician.”

**IV. Approval of Intermittent Family Medical Leave of Absence**

“that the Board of Education approve an Intermittent Family Medical Leave of Absence to Barbara Kruze from her secretarial position at McCormick Elementary School to be used as needed through the 2013-2014 school year. The purpose is to care for an ill family member.”

**V. Rescind Approval**

“that the Board of Education rescind the approval of the following extra pay for extra duty position at the Middle School effective immediately:

Yearbook Sponsor

Pamela Anderson.”

**VI. Approval of Extra Pay for Extra Duty Positions**

“that the Board of Education approve the following extra pay for extra duty positions at the Middle School for the 2013-2014 school year:

Yearbook co-sponsors  
Bus Monitor (am/pm)

Pamela Anderson and Marianne Slater  
Michelle Paige.”

**VII. Rescind Approval**

“that the Board of Education rescind the approval of the following extra pay for extra duty position at Hyde Elementary School:

Bus Monitor (am/pm) Lauren Quallich.”

**VIII. Approval of Extra Pay for Extra Duty Position**

“that the Board of Education approve the following extra pay for extra duty position at Hyde Elementary School:

Bus Monitor (am/pm) Erin Kavanshansky.”

**IX. Approval of Substitutes**

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

**Teachers**

Ryan Kacsur  
707 Duncan Avenue  
Apt. 407  
Pittsburgh, Pa 15237

Lauren Kozel  
603 Hickory Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

**Cafeteria**

Morgan Zelkovic (pending receipt & review of clearances)  
1892 Beechford Avenue  
Moon Township, PA 15108

Brenda Laird  
1604 Charlton Heights Road  
Moon Township, PA 15108.”

**X. Approval of Extended Sick Days Leave of Absence**

“that the Board of Education approve an Extended Sick Days Leave of Absence to Joshua Prigorac from his position as Special Education teacher at the High School if necessary.”

**XI. Approval of Medical Leave of Absence**

“that the Board of Education approve a Medical Leave of Absence to Joseph Johnson from his position as Principal of Hyde Elementary School beginning December 3, 2013 through approximately February 1, 2014, or pending release from physician.”

**XII. Approval of Substitutes**

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

**Teachers**

Jodi Felton (pending receipt and review of clearances)  
3124 Ridge Avenue  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

**Custodians**

William Derek Henefeld (pending receipt and review of clearances)  
2737 Spring Garden Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

**Cafeteria**

Janet Kaminski (pending receipt and review of clearances)  
361 Indian Ridge Drive  
Moon Township, PA 15108.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

**High School Field Trip Request**

IT WAS MOVED by Mrs. Tatone, SECONDED by Mr. Bussard, “that the Board of Education approve the Dance Team to travel to Lake Buena Vista, FL, March 21 thru 24, 2014, to participate in an International Dance Competition. There is no cost to the district.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

**Appointment of District Superintendent**

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Steele, SECONDED by Mr. Olszewski, “that the Board of Education approve the resolution to appoint Mr. Curtis Baker to the position of Superintendent for the Moon Area School District for a four (4) year term.”

Mrs. Johns read the signed resolution to approve District Superintendent as follows:

WHEREAS, the prior District Superintendent, Dr. Donna K. Milanovich, retired effective June 30, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has provided the appropriate notices to the Members of the Board regarding the election of the District Superintendent pursuant to Section 1073 (a) of the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949, as amended, and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors for the Moon Area School District desires to employ Mr. Curtis Baker as District Superintendent, effective upon receipt of approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

NOW THEREFORE, IN ACORDANCE WITH THE SECTION 1073 OF THE SCHOOL CODE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. Mr. Curtis Baker is hereby appointed to the position of Superintendent for the Moon Area School District for a four (4) year term commencing immediately upon the date of approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Education in accordance with applicable laws of the Commonwealth.

2. The appropriate officers of the District are authorized and directed to execute an employment contract with the Superintendent, which contract sets forth various terms and conditions of the appointment, to be prepared by the District Solicitor in accordance with the terms and conditions established by the Board of School Directors.

RESOLVED, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2013.

Mrs. Volpe McCurdy read information about Mr. Curtis Baker prior to vote as follows:

Curt Baker is currently Deputy Superintendent for Roanoke City Public Schools (“RCPS”), a primarily urban school district located at the southern end of the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia. RCPS provides instruction for approximately 13,000 students, Pre-K through Grade 12. Since 2007, Curt’s scope of responsibility has included finance, facilities, technology, transportation, food services, athletics/student life, payroll, purchasing, warehouse, human resources, and student services.

The hallmark of Curt’s work in Roanoke has been the effective stewardship of public resources. The focus of each year’s budget development is and has always been “students first, employees next, and everything else a distant third.” Over the last six years, the District’s graduation rate has increased by more than 20 percentage points the annual number of industry certifications earned from Roanoke Technical Education Center has risen from 79 to 618, and the number of AP exams administered has increased from 429 to 1,885.

At the same time, RCPS has meaningfully strengthened its fiscal position. Through prudent fiscal management, the RCPS fund balance has increased from \$6.6 million in 2007 to \$35.5 million today.

In September 2009, Curt opened the new \$57 million William Fleming High School on time and under budget. In 2010 and again in 2011, the Virginia School Boards Association named RCPS the most environmentally focused school district in the state. In 2012, Fishburn Park Elementary was name a Federal Green Ribbon School. Notable initiatives include entering into a partnering arrangement with a local firm to compost all biodegradable waste from RCPS cafeterias; installing electricity-generating wind turbines atop the light standards in the William Fleming athletic stadium; and implementing real time electricity usage monitoring at each school facility to support an aggressive demand management program.

Prior to joining RCPS, Curt was Chief Financial Officer for the School District of Lancaster (“SDoL”), the second oldest school system in Pennsylvania.

Curt received his Master’s Degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Southern California, where he graduated Summa Cum Laude and first in his class with a perfect 4.0 grade

point average. As part of his undergraduate program, Curt also studied in England at the London School of Economics.

Curt has taught in Widener University's Department of Economics, the University of Houston's Graduate School of Business Administration and Hampton University's Leadership Academy for educators.

Outside work, Curt was elected as a School Director for the Unionville-Chadds Ford School district in 2003 and again in 2007. He served as Board President in 2006 and 2007.

Curt has served as Head Coach of Unionville Rugby a varsity club sport at Unionville High School. Curt and his wife, Debbie, have been married for nearly 30 years. They have 2 boys – Joe, who graduated last year from Penn State's Smeal College of Business, and Chris, who is currently a freshman at Penn State.

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

### **Education Report**

Mrs. Johns reported that this week all of our schools, along with schools across the country, will be participating in red ribbon week. Red Ribbon is an anti-drug campaign.

At the middle school the teachers and students have been working on a number of cross curricular projects.

The National Aviary will be hosting assemblies throughout the school year in the district.

Ms. Volpe McCurdy announced that prior to the meeting, the Board met in Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters.

### **Adjournment**

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Harbaugh, SECONDED by Mr. Bussard, "that the Board of Education adjourn this meeting, 7:00 p.m."

Respectfully submitted,

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Lisa Brown  
Clerk, Board of Education

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Laura J. Schisler  
Secretary, Board of Education



