

The October 20, 2014, meeting of the Moon Area Board of Education was held in the High School Board Room 7:00 p.m., for general purposes. The meeting was CALLED TO ORDER by President A. Michael Olszewski. The following directors were present:

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

Mr. Testa and Mr. Harbaugh were absent.

Also seated at the Board table: Mr. Baker and Mr. Brungo

Administrators present: Mrs. Johns, Mrs. Lindsey, Mr. Haslett, Mrs. Prevost, Mr. English,

There were approximately 60 people in the audience, including administrators.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Baker recognized McCormick Elementary for receiving Honorable Mention in the 2014 PSBA Educational Publications Contest, Video Category, for their "McCormick is Tiger Strong" video. Congratulations to Principal Julie Moore and her team.

Next, Mr. Baker recognized several Moon Area School District students for achieving the highest award in Boy Scouting – the Eagle Scout Award.

The first two students recognized are members of Troop 905 in Moon Township and are accompanied by their scoutmaster, Mr. Tim Palmer.

Ryan Finnegan - Ryan's project consisted of planning and providing fundraising, as well as managing the construction of a new chimney swift habitat at Robin Hill Park in Moon Township, creating an environmental sanctuary for migrating chimney swifts.

James Knepper – James' project consisted of planning and providing fundraising, as well as managing the rehabilitation of the gardens at Robin Hill Park, re-establishing and revitalizing the public garden for the enjoyment of all Moon Township residents.

The next student recognized is a member of Troop 198 in Moon Township and is accompanied by his Scoutmaster, Mr. Bryan Mann

Chase Richards - Chase's project consisted of building a playground for the Sewickley Community Center, benefitting the members of the community center as well as the local neighborhood kids and children attending the day care.

The next young man recognized is a 2014 graduate of Moon Area High School and a student at Duquesne University. He is a member of Troop 310 in Moon Township and is accompanied by Scoutmaster, Mr. Jim Horvath.

Cole McMichael - Cole's project consisted of the construction of a Native Plant Garden located at the main entrance of Raccoon Creek State Park to help visitors learn more about the endangered species of plants while visiting the park.

Turning to athletics, the following students were recognized:

- Junior, Sean McCann - Sean is a left defender on the PA West U16 boys team and is the only Moon player on this prestigious team. PA West produced a 5-0 record throughout the US Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program Region I tournament this summer to claim the region title and advance to the national tournament which will be held in March.
- Moon High School for being selected to receive the 2013-14 PIAA Sportsmanship Award for their efforts and commitment in promoting and practicing good sportsmanship. Moon was one of just five schools in Allegheny County selected to receive this award. The WPIAL will feature our high school in the league newsletter and website throughout the current school year. Congratulations to Athletic Director Ricci Rich and principal Barry Balaski.

The following seniors have been recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as Commended Students for their outstanding performance on the qualifying test used for program entry. The National Merit Scholarship Program is a nationwide competition for recognition and awards conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

- Zachary Deloe
- Jose Martin
- Dana Murray

The following students have been recognized as National Merit Semi-Finalists and will continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships to be offered next spring:

- John Bal
- Kushanth Mallikarjun
- Rocco Maue
- Jessica Peng

MM Architects gave a brief update on the elementary capital improvement program. They have held community charrets at both schools and have asked the folks to come up with a layout for the schools at these meetings. They have also met with the food services department and have toured all of the kitchens and are looking at different options for serving as independent kitchens for sisters schools. They also met with transportation folks and are looking at ways to improve the safety onsite with the traffic regarding bus and parent drop offs, parking needs, etc. Mechanical engineers have been through the building and have assessed the mechanical and plumbing options. They are looking at systems from a central air handling type system down to a more centralized approach. Initial reports have been prepared and now they will look at operating costs. This week they will meet with administrative team to look at curriculum and address everything that is needed from a curriculum standpoint. An update will be shared with the board at the next meeting.

Nominations for Moon Transportation Authority Board

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Olszewski, SECONDED by Mr. Tranter, “that the Board of Education remove item 9.04 from the agenda at this time.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Approval of Reports

IT WAS MOVED by Mrs. Tatone, SECONDED by Mr. LaRue, “that the Board of Education approve the minutes from the meeting of September 8, 2014 and the following reports as reflected in the October Financial Report:

- Treasurer’s Report
- Investment Report
- Board Summary Report
- High School/Middle School Activities Fund Report.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Payment of Bills

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

General Fund	\$1,935,540.24
Activities Fund	\$ 7,070.70
Food Service	\$ 1,204.60
Investment Account	<u>\$ 4,482.27</u>
Total	\$1,948,297.81.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Correspondence

None.

Committee Reports

Education Committee

Mrs. Tatone reported that the Education Subcommittee met on October 20th to discuss matters involving instruction, curriculum and data. Significant work has been occurring in the area of English Language Arts instruction. A team comprised of six kindergarten and first grade teachers, a title I reading specialist, and an elementary principal attended the Reading Achievement Center (RAC) training at the Allegheny Intermediate Unit during the week of

September 29th to October 3rd. This well recognized training is designed to share the best research and instructional strategies focused on the goal of early reading. Teachers were able to begin to consider our current program in light of the research and gain experience with instructional practices that they can begin to incorporate into their classroom routine.

Middle School science and social studies teachers took part in a day of professional development on October 14th and 15th. This day was geared toward instructional methods to meet the demands of the PA core standards, as well as a STEM approach to science. In both areas, this will require a greater emphasis on reading and writing in the classroom and a focus on inquiry. Mr. Caton will be providing a full report on our ELA program at next week's workshop meeting.

The district is currently in the process of rolling out Naviance to High School students and parents. Naviance is an online student success planning tool focused on self-awareness and college and career readiness. Through this program, students can apply to schools, complete interest and career inventories, build resumes and request transcripts and letters of recommendation. The program also features a scatterplot analysis of students that applied to any given college or university. Our students will be able to use this feature to compare their profile (grades and SAT scores) to the profiles of other students who were accepted or rejected. Currently, the seniors have been trained and are using the program. Additionally, parents are given access to research tools, up to date scholarship information, and information on apply for financial aid. The parents of the seniors will be granted access by the end of this week and the program will be rolled out to the rest of the high school students and their parents by the first week in December.

The gifted and guidance departments have each completed a full day of professional development led by Mr. English. During this time, teachers and counselors completed a task analysis of their job duties as well as a needs assessment. This is the beginning of a body of work which will assess both current programs and practices. In addition, Mr. English is preparing a detailed comparative analysis of our district's guidance and gifted programs as compared to those offered in our state's top 1% schools, our contiguous towns, and area RAMP schools. RAMP refers to a school that has been recognized by the American School Counselor Association as a model school. This report will be presented to the Board in December and will act as a State of the Union Address in terms of gifted and guidance services at MASD.

The district is in the process of administering the Classroom Diagnostic Tests (CDTs) to students in grades 3 through 8 and students enrolled in Keystone courses. The CDTs provide data regarding student knowledge in the areas of eligible test content. This information is used to guide instruction as it provides teachers feedback on student strengths and areas of need. Building and grade level data teams have been established to review the information, share instructional strategies and monitor student progress on content.

This year, the district has a team of teachers and administrators participating in the Educator Corporate Collaboration on the Common Core (EC4) which is professional development offered through the AIU. The purpose of the EC4 is to develop school and corporate partnerships in order to strengthen the teaching and learning STEM through effective implementation of the Mathematical, Science and Engineering Standards of Practice. This group will have the opportunity to visit area corporations to observe the practices in a corporate setting. The first

visit will be at ALCOA in December. At the end of the year, the team will have a plan created for strengthening these practices throughout the district.

The district continues to strengthen our relationships with the World Affairs Council of Pittsburg resulting in exciting opportunities for our students. In November, four high school students will participate in a leadership institute title, "Russia's Place in the World." We would like to thank the World Affairs Council for providing two student scholarships for this event. One of our high school teachers will attend with the students and will serve as a group facilitator. The district is also partnership with the Council to host speaker Admiral Jonathan Greenert on November 3rd at Moon High School. Admiral Greenert currently services as the Chief of Naval operations and is a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The topic of his presentation will be STEM and how it relates to military and national security.

The district would like to thank West-Aircomm Federal Credit Union for funding an author visit presented by Mr. Floyd Stokes. Mr. Stokes had the opportunity to visit all of the elementary schools. His presentations focus on encouraging children to develop a love of reading and getting them excited about the writing process. West-Aircomm also purchased copies of Mr. Stokes' books for each of the elementary libraries.

The High School will be hosting a career fair next week for all 11th and 12th grade students. There will be over 60 companies represented. Students will attend the fair where they will have the opportunity to speak directly to company representatives. The district would like to thank the more than 160 representatives who will be participating in this event. We are truly grateful for the time they are taking to help guide our students towards their future careers.

As a reminder to parents, the first grading period ends tomorrow, October 21st. Report cards will be distributed to students on Tuesday, October 28th. On the Board agenda tonight is a recommended revision of the report card used in grades 3 and 4. If approved, English Language Arts will be reported as a single grade as opposed to being broken down into subcategories. This will go into effect immediately. A letter will go home with report cards explaining the change.

Finance Committee

No report.

Policy Committee

The policy subcommittee met on October 14 to discuss several policies that they would like to bring forward to the board next week will be included in packets for review

- Policy to discuss Transgender Student
- Policies that were removed for second reading for discussion:
 - Student Rights and Responsibilities
 - Policy 251 Homeless Students
 - Policy 221 Dress Code (discussion on adding backpacks, book bags and large purses)

Student Activities Committee

No report.

Facilities Committee

No report.

Legislation Committee

No report.

Moon Transportation Authority

The MTA met on October 6 and discussed the continuation on the Thorn Run Project and introduced a resolution to the MTA for proposed restructuring the relationship with MASD and the MTA.

Transportation Committee

No report.

Parkway West Career and Technical Center

Mr. Tranter attended the meeting on October 7 the culinary arts remodeling construction project is completed. The students are very happy with project. Moon has 9 students that are taking advantage of dual enrollment, earning college credits while attending Parkway West:

- Two (2) students are in the Information Technology program
- Five (5) students are in Welding program
- One (1) student is in Health Assistant program, and
- One (1) students is in the Pharmacy Tech program

A second welding class and another teacher had to be added due to the number of students that enrolled. Since Dr. Copeland has taken the reigns, the enrollment has increased 18.10% -- added Vet Technology and Welding program. November 3, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm is Parkway's open house, Mr. Tranter encourages the board and public to visit Parkway West.

Solicitor's Report

A written report has been prepared and will be submitted to the board this evening.

Audience Recognition (Agenda Items only)

None.

Revised 3rd and 4th Grade Report Card

IT WAS MOVED by Mrs. Tatone, SECONDED by Mr. Hauser “that the Board of Education approve the revised 3rd and 4th grade report card.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

8th Grade Field Trip

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Tranter, SECONDED by Mr. Bussard, “that the Board of Education approve the 8th grade to travel to Gettysburg and Hershey Park, May 8-9, 2015. The students will tour Gettysburg battlefield which coincides with curriculum. There is no anticipated costs to the district.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Dual Enrollment Agreement Between MASD and RMU

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Hauser, SECONDED by Mrs. Tatone, “that the Board of Education approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement between Moon Area School District and Robert Morris University.”

Mrs. Johns explained that dual enrollment allows our students to earn college credits during high school time. Courses that will transfer to most universities, basic 101 freshmen courses. When students apply to colleges, they have proven that they can do college work – benefit to the application process.

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Employment Options Center School-to-Work Transition Services Agreement

IT WAS MOVED by Mrs. Schisler, SECONDED by Mr. Bussard, “that the Board of Education approve the contract for school-to-work transition services that will be provided by McGuire Memorial for MJ during the 2014-2015 school year.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Engagement Agreement between Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC and Moon Area School District

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Tranter, SECONDED by Mr. Hauser, “that the Board of Education approve the engagement agreement between Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC and the Moon Area School District. All costs incurred will be paid from the Capital Fund.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Resolution 14/15-3 to Adopt Underwriter

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. LaRue, SECONDED by Mrs. Tatone, “that the Board of Education approve the resolution #14/15-3.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Integrated Administrative Software

IT WAS MOVED by Mrs. Schisler, SECONDED by Mr. Bussard, “that the Board of Education approve the contract for Harris School Solutions substantially in the form of the negotiated draft.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Conferences

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

Barbara Inskipt: ARTS AND EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, October 2, 2014; cost to the district is approximately \$245.99; purpose – To gather the new Arts Standards. The SLO’s will be addressed in the arts for evaluation/teaching techniques.

Gail DeMarco: 2014 PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, RECREATION AND DANCE ANNUAL CONVENTION in Seven Springs Champion, Pennsylvania November 20, 2014 thru November 22, 2014; cost to the district is approximately \$345.00; purpose – To attend professional development sessions from leading health and physical education teachers. Sessions will include “Let’s have fun in Health Class”, Teen Dating, Violence Prevention, Snow Shoeing 101, Pilates, Inclusion Strategies, Teaching Strategies for Media Literacy in Alcohol and Tobacco and other Drugs.

Diane Hardman: INTEGRATED LEARNING: THE SCHOOL TO CAREER CONNECTION in State College, Pennsylvania on November 5, 2014 thru November 7, 2014; cost to the district is approximately \$585.48; purpose – To gather the latest best practice strategies to increase academic, career and technical success/effective practices, and business partnerships.

Curt Baker: 2014 SAS INSTITUTE: THE POWER OF PERFORMANCE: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR POST SECONDARY AND CAREER SUCCESS, in Hershey, Pennsylvania December 7, 2014 thru December 9, 2014; cost to the district is approximately \$457.60; purpose – To gather information to prepare students for post-secondary and career success.

Caroline Johns: 2014 SAS INSTITUTE: THE POWER OF PERFORMANCE: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR POST SECONDARY AND CAREER SUCCESS, in Hershey, Pennsylvania December 7, 2014 thru December 9, 2014; cost to the district is approximately \$457.60; purpose – To gather information to prepare students for post-secondary and career success.

Kimberly Prevost: 2014 SAS INSTITUTE: THE POWER OF PERFORMANCE: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR POST SECONDARY AND CAREER SUCCESS, in Hershey, Pennsylvania December 7, 2014 thru December 9, 2014; cost to the district is approximately \$457.60; purpose – To gather information to prepare students for post-secondary and career success.

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Personnel

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

I. Approval of Resignation

“that the Board of Education accept the retirement resignation from Carol Kosarik from her position as Clerk at the Middle School effective December 31, 2014.”

II. Approval of Facilities Supervisor

“that the Board of Education approve John Daniels, 1905 Allison Street, East Liverpool, Ohio, to the position of Facilities Supervisor in the Moon Area School District, pending receipt and review of clearances. The salary for this position will be \$66,000 with a start date of October 28, 2014.”

III. Approval of Confidential Secretary

“that the Board of Education approve Shandra Ann Nicole Peelman, 15575 Stephens Drive, Meadville, PA, 16335, to the position of Confidential Secretary to the Chief Financial Officer and Director of Human Resources, pending receipt and review of clearances. The salary for this position will be \$42,000 with a start date of October 21, 2014.”

IV. Approval of School/Community Relations and Grants Coordinator

“that the Board of Education approve Tina-Marie Vojtko, 312 Cedar Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, to the position of School/Community Relations and Grants Coordinator in the Moon Area School District, pending receipt and review of clearances. The salary for this position will be \$74,100 with a start date to be determined.”

V. Approval of Teacher/Playground Assistant

“that the Board of Education approve Mary Humphrey, 333 Jenny Lynn Drive, Coraopolis, PA 15108, to the Teacher/Playground Assistant position at Brooks Elementary School pending receipt and review of clearances, with a start date of October 21, 2014.”

VI. Approval of Teacher/Playground Assistant

“that the Board of Education approve Laurie Priddy, 208 Becks Run Road, Moon Township, PA 15108, to the Teacher/Playground Assistant position at Allard Elementary School pending receipt and review of clearances, with a start date of October 21, 2014.”

VII. Approval of Teacher/Playground Assistant

“that the Board of Education approve Marcia Stewart, 210 Garnet Street, Aliquippa, PA 15001, to the Teacher/Playground Assistant position at McCormick Elementary School pending receipt and review of clearances, with a start date of October 21, 2014.”

VIII. Approval of Childbearing/Childrearing/FMLA

“that the Board of Education approve a Childbearing/Childrearing/Family Medical Leave of Absence to Emily Antoline from her position as 5th grade Language Arts and Social Studies teacher at the Middle School, beginning on or about January 11, 2015 and returning on or about May 6, 2015.”

IX. Approval of Extra Pay for Extra Duty Position

“that the Board of Education approve the following individual for the extra pay for extra duty position for Moon Area School District’s Online Learning Academy teachers for the 2014-2015 school year on an as-needed basis:

Misia Goodson – HS Science.”

X. Approval of Extra Pay for Extra Duty Position

“that the Board of Education approve the following extra pay for extra duty position at Allard Elementary School for the 2014-2015 school year:

Student Council

Dana Bauer.”

XI. Resignation

“that the Board of Education accept the resignation from Stephen Izzo from the extra pay for extra duty position of 3/5 am Bus Monitor at Brooks Elementary School, with his last day of bus duty being Monday, October 20, 2014.”

XII. Approval of Extra Pay for Extra Pay Duty Positions

“that the Board of Education approve the recommendation for approval that Kelsey Currie be changed from 3/5 am to full time Bus Monitor at Brooks Elementary beginning on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 and approve of Amy Filosi for 1/5 am Bus Monitor at Brooks Elementary beginning on Tuesday, October 21, 2014.”

XIII. Approval of Temporary Elementary Remediation Facilitator

“that the Board of Education approve Amber Hilpert as a temporary elementary remediation facilitator for the timeframe of September 29 – October 2, 2014.”

XIV. Approval of Elementary Before/After School Remediation Program Facilitator

“that the Board of Education approve the following Elementary Before/After School Remediation Program Facilitator for the 2014-2015 school year, retroactive to September 23, 2014:

Kelly Speer – Hyde Elementary School.”

XV. Approval of Substitutes

“that the Board of Education approve the following substitutes for the 2014-2015 school year:

Teacher

Casey Pattyn
144 Jarod Drive
Moon Township, PA 15108

Annie Engel
13 Hodgkiss Drive
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Custodian

Brian Carr (pending receipt & review of clearances)
599A Moon Clinton Road
Moon Township, PA 15108

Toshia Thornton (pending receipt & review of clearances)
323 12th Street, Apt. #2
Ambridge, PA 15003.”

XVI. Termination of Employment of Non-Tenured Teacher

“that the Board of Education, having issued a Statement of Charges and Notice of Hearing for the termination of the employment of employee #2020 as a non-tenured professional employee, and said employee having elected not to request a hearing before the Board, does hereby dismiss the employee from further employment, effective immediately.”

All directors voted in favor on a voice vote.

Audience Recognition (Non-Agenda Items)

None.

Adjournment

IT WAS MOVED by Mrs. Schisler, SECONDED by Mr. Hauser, that the Board of Education adjourn this meeting, 8:05 pm.”

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Brown
Clerk, Board of Education

Gia R. Tatone
Secretary, Board of Education