

REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 18, 2018:

The Old Forge Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 in the Auditorium.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Board President Joan Wilk leading the pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Wilk also asked for a moment of silence for our troops here and abroad.

On the Roll Call:

Julie Grimes – Present

Alisha Marmo – Present

Megan McCabe – Present

Frank Scavo – Present

Jenna Shotwell – Present

Christopher Thomas – Present

Marie Ciufferi – Present

Patrick Aulisio – Present

Joan Wilk – Present

Non-voting board member Michael Cinamella and Anna Kuckla was present. Also present were Messrs. Rushefski, Rinaldi, Audi, Marsh, and Gutowski, Mrs. Egan, and Mrs. Hopkins. Mr. Mariotti was absent.

Informational Items: Mrs. Wilk welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting.

Mrs. Wilk announced an Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting regarding Personnel.

Resolution was presented to Santo Cerminaro, a United States Navy recruit.

Discussion of proposed Action on Business before the Board: None

Board Committee Reports: Ms. Grimes gave the Education/Technology Committee report. Mr. Scavo gave the Superintendent Search Committee report. Mr. Thomas gave the Policy Committee Report.

Student Representative Reports: Anna Kuckla made a presentation for the Junior Class and Michael Cinamella made a presentation for the Senior Class.

Administrative Reports: Mr. Rushefski gave a superintendent's update. Mr. Gatto gave the High School report. Mrs. Egan gave the Elementary report. Mrs. Hopkins gave the Special Education Report. Mr. Rinaldi gave a Business Office update. Mr. Marsh gave the technology report. Mr. Gutowski gave the Maintenance report.

Public Participation on Action of Business before the Board:

Thomas Farrell – Special Education Student/Discipline

Rob Marianelli – School Safety/Security

Gerald Hetman – Lackawanna County Commissioners' Office

Hertiage Fair; U of S Recycling Event; Armed Forces Parade; Blood Drive; Earth Day; Penn State Extension 4H Program; Parks & Recreation Programs

Anne McDonnell – Superintendent and a board member's residency

ACTION ON BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD:

A motion was made by Mr. Scavo, seconded by Ms. Grimes to approve the agenda of action on business before the Board. On a roll call vote, all members present voted "yes," except Mr. Thomas who voted "no."

A motion was made by Mr. Scavo, seconded by Mr. Aulisio to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 21, 2018. On a roll call vote, all members present voted "yes."

A motion was made by Mr. Aulisio, seconded by Mrs. McCabe to approve the Treasurer's Report. On a roll call vote, all members present voted "yes."

A motion was made by Mr. Aulisio, seconded by Mrs. Shotwell to approve the List of Bills. On a roll call vote, all members present voted "yes."

A motion was made by Mrs. Ciufferi, seconded by Mrs. Shotwell to approve the Athletic Report. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.”

A motion was made by Mr. Scavo, seconded by Mr. Aulisio to accept the resignation of Kim Scalese, Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes,” except Ms. Grimes.

A motion was made by Mr. Scavo, seconded by Ms. Grimes to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent Search Committee and appoint JOHN RUSHEFSKI as Superintendent for a contract for five years, beginning July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018. On a roll call vote:

Ms. Grimes – YES

Ms. Marmo – NO

Mrs. McCabe – YES

Mrs. Shotwell – NO

Mr. Scavo – YES

Mr. Thomas – NO

Mr. Aulisio – YES

Mrs. Ciufferi – NO

Mrs. Wilk – YES

Mr. Rushefski was appointed 5 – 4.

A motion was made by Mrs. Shotwell, seconded by Mr. Scavo to approve the second reading and adoption of the Athletic Handbook. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.”

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. McCabe to approve the second reading and adoption of the Athletic Uniform Cycle. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.”

A motion was made by Mr. Scavo, seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the second reading and adoption of the Curriculum Revision Policy. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.”

A motion was made by Mrs. McCabe, seconded by Ms. Marmo to approve the Extended School Year (ESY) for the dates July 9, 2018 through August 9, 2018. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.”

A motion was made by Mr. Scavo, seconded by Mrs. McCabe to approve the Invocare Contract for the 2018-2019 school year. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.”

A motion was made by Ms. Marmo, seconded by Mrs. Shotwell to approve the NEPA Inclusive for Special Education Transition Services for the 2018-2019 School Year. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.”

A motion was made by Mr. Scavo, seconded by Mrs. Ciufferi to approve the request by Nanette Rinaldi and Arianne Addressa to charter a field trip for the Math/Science Club to PJAS, Penn State Main Campus from May 20, 2018 through May 22, 2018. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.”

A motion was made by Mr. McCabe, seconded by Mr. Aulisio to approve homebound instruction for the following students identified as: #494029 and #490643. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.”

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Ciufferi to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services (DATS) and the Old Forge School District. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.”

Public Participation on items not on the Agenda:

NONE

A motion was made by Mr. Aulisio, seconded by Ms. Marmo to adjourn the Old Forge Board of Education Regular Meeting of Wednesday, April 18, 2018. On a roll call vote, all members present voted “yes.” The meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Public Participation on Action of Business before the Board:

Thomas Farrell- Taxpayer & Parent

Discipline issue with special education student. Concerns: 1. discipline is not consistent for every student 2.the desks outside the principal's office put students on display.

Response by Atty Audi at Mrs. Wilk's request: We won't respond to individual student issues. You have been heard though and someone will get back to you.

Response by Mr. Thomas: We can't answer because most of us aren't here everyday to see how students are being disciplined. Asked what has been done to address it through the process, IEP meeting, Director of Special Ed, Principal, Superintendent?

Mr. Farrell: stated he has tried to go through the process

Mr. Thomas: Other students have to sit in the office on for things like illness because there is no other place to put them.

Ms. Marmo's response: Advised Mr. Farrell to run for school board. She told him that would take care of his problems immediately.

Mrs. McCabe's response: Advised running for school board won't solve his problem. Agreed that discipline should be equal across the board.

Rob Marianelli – Taxpayer & Parent

Concerns over safety and school security but realized there is a safety meeting immediately following this meeting and will address his concerns at that time.

Mr. Scavo's response: Yes there is a meeting, Thank you

Gerard Hetman –Lackawanna County Commissioners' Office – no changes to existing minutes needed

Anne McDonnell – Taxpayer & Parent

Stated OF is a great school with great leadership. Commended Mr. Rushefski. Stated the school directors should be role models and that she had read some "disgusting" things on Facebook the night before. Said if a teacher of her special needs child ever wrote that, she would take him out of the school. Mrs. McDonnell then addressed Mrs. Wilk and asked if you need to be a resident of Old Forge to be a director.

Mrs. Wilk's response: Yes

Mrs. McDonnell to Ms. Marmo: Where do you live?

Ms. Marmo's response: I live in Old Forge. 300 Hayes Street.

Mrs. McDonnell to Mrs. Wilk: Can you verify that?

Mrs. Wilk: No

Mr. Thomas: I can. She was a student of mine and is a friend of mine.

Mrs. Wilk: Stated Mr. Thomas was the one that told her she lives in Scranton.

Addendum submitted by Megan McCabe 7/18

Minutes Approved at Regular Meeting of the Board on 7/18/18

Joan Webb
Board President

7/18/18
Date

Megan McCabe
Board Secretary

7-18-18
Date