

## PEN ARGYL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

July 19, 2022

A meeting of the Pen Argyl Area School Board was held in the Wind Gap Middle School, Russell H. Roper Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 19, 2022 with Mrs. Lisa Hackman, President, presiding.

Roll Call - Those present were: Mrs. Christine Albanese, Mr. John Dally, Jr., Mr. Darrin Evans, Mr. Ethan Habrial, Mrs. Lisa Hackman, Mr. Jason Keenhold, Mr. Thomas Knorr, Sr., Mr. Jeff Moyer and Mrs. Megan Pultz. Also present were: Mr. Walter Schlegel, Jr., Mrs. Jamie Achenbach and Mr. Alan McFall.

Mrs. Hackman stated an executive session was held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel and school safety.

PAASD Health and Safety Plan for 22/23 School Year – Mr. Schlegel shared with the Board that again a Health and Safety Plan is required for all schools receiving ESSER Funds. He shared that the plan was last revised on February 15, 2022. At this time, we are treating COVID much like any other flu. Masks are optional, but the District reserves the right to mask. Buildings will remain open unless forced to close by the state. Individuals are encouraged to self-screen and stay home when not feeling well. There will no longer be the daily screener or the dashboard.

Approval of Minutes – Mrs. Albanese moved, seconded by Mr. Evans and unanimously carried to approve the Board Minutes of June 14, 2022 and June 21, 2022.

Treasurer's Report – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mr. Keenhold and unanimously carried to approve the Treasurer's Report of July 13, 2022.

Budget Report – The report of the General Fund showing revenues received, expenditures, encumbrances and balances as of July 13, 2022 was presented to the Board.

Student Activity Fund Report – The report of the Student Activity Fund showing balances, revenues and expenditures for the period of July 1, 2021 to July 1, 2022 was presented to the Board.

Approval of Payment of Bills – Mr. Dally moved, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried to approve the payment of bills for July 2022.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Mr. Dally shared with the Board regarding the track project and possible timeline issues for completion. He will provide an update at the next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for August 10, 2022 at 6:45 p.m.

Athletic Committee – Mr. Evans shared with the Board items discussed at the July 7, 2022 meeting including personnel recommendations, track project date issues, the scoreboard is due for installation on August 27, 2022, a slate memorial, removing bleachers in the A-gym and that an executive session was held to discuss personnel. The next meeting is scheduled for August 10, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Technology Committee – Mr. Habrial shared with the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2022 at the middle school.

Curriculum Committee – Mr. Moyer shared with the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2022 at the middle school.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Revised 2022 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mr. Moyer and unanimously carried to approve to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of the Pen Argyl Area School District, that homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions are authorized for the school year beginning July 1, 2022, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), as follows:

1. Aggregate amount available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction.  
The following amounts are available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction for the school year beginning July 1, 2022:
  - a. Gambling tax funds. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.505(b), as a property tax reduction allocation funded by gambling tax funds, the amount of \$870,443.24.
  - b. Philadelphia tax credit reimbursement funds. PDE has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.324(3), as reimbursement for Philadelphia tax credits claimed against the School District earned income tax by School District resident taxpayers, the amount of \$4,142.96.
  - c. Aggregate amount available. Adding these amounts, the aggregate amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction is \$874,586.20.
2. Homestead/farmstead numbers. Pursuant to Act 50, 54 Pa. C.S. § 8584(i), and Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.341(g)(3), the County has provided the School District with a certified report listing approved homesteads and approved farmsteads as follows:
  - a. Homestead property number. The number of approved homesteads within the School District is 2,990.
  - b. Farmstead property number. The number of approved farmsteads within the School District is 46.
  - c. Homestead/farmstead combined number. Adding these numbers, the aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads is 3,036.
3. Real estate tax reduction calculation. The school board has decided that the homestead exclusion amount and the farmstead exclusion amount shall be equal. Dividing the paragraph 1(c) aggregate amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction of \$874,586.20 by the paragraph 2(c) aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 3,036, the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead and to each approved farmstead is \$288.72.

Revised 2022 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution (Cont'd.)

4. Homestead/farmstead exclusion authorization – July 1 tax bills. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved homestead within the School District shall reflect a homestead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the homestead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$5,060. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved farmstead within the School District shall reflect an additional farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the farmstead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$5,060. For purposes of this Resolution, “approved homestead” and “approved farmstead” shall mean homesteads and farmsteads listed in the report referred to in paragraph 2 above and received by the School District from the County Assessment Office on or before May 1 pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.341(g)(3), based on homestead/farmstead applications filed with the County Assessment Office on or before March 1. This paragraph 5 will apply to tax notices issued based on the initial tax duplicate used in issuing initial real estate tax notices for the school year, which will be issued on or promptly after July 1, and will not apply to interim real estate tax bills.
  
5. Homestead/farmstead exclusion authorization – interim real estate tax bills. No homestead or farmstead exclusion will apply to any interim tax bill except an interim tax bill applicable to a property that includes an approved homestead or approved farmstead listed in the report received by the School District from the County Assessment Office on or before May 1, but not included in the tax assessment reflected in the July 1 tax bill for the property. In most cases, the assessment of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads will be reflected in July 1 tax bills. However, in any case when there is an approved homestead or an approved farmstead that is not included in the assessment reflected in the July 1 tax bill, and when an interim real estate tax notice is issued later based on an interim assessment including the approved homestead or approved farmstead, the interim tax notice shall reflect a homestead or farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction calculated under paragraph 5, except that the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction will be prorated in the same manner as the real estate tax is pro rated. Assuming the interim tax notice reflects taxation as of July 1, as will occur in most such cases, the full amount of the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction will apply. In the extraordinary case where the new interim tax assessment is effective after July 1, the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction will be pro rated in the same manner as the real estate tax reflected in the interim tax bill is pro rated.

Resignations – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mrs. Pultz and unanimously carried to approve the following resignations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Ryan Muller	Yearbook Advisor - WGMS	Immediately
Breelyn Shugars	Teacher – WGMS	Immediately
Kaitlyn McConnell	ESSER – PES	Immediately
Keith Sauder	Color Guard & Drill Advisor	Immediately

Appointment – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mrs. Pultz and unanimously carried to approve the following appointment which is temporary for the 22/23 school year and funded by Federal ESSER’s funds until the funds are exhausted:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Replacing</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
*Nicole Ryan	ESSER Teacher - WGMS	New	\$50,000 (St. 1, Cl. 1)	08/23/22

Salary Classification Change – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mrs. Pultz and unanimously carried to approve the following change in salary classification:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From Class</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>To Class</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Scott Kupec	4	14	5	\$78,025	08/23/22

Appointment of Emergency Substitute Teachers – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mrs. Pultz and unanimously carried to approve the appointment of the following substitute teachers certified for one year by the PA Department of Education through the Pen Argyl Area School District Emergency Substitute Training Program:

Richard Hannick  
 Claire Lodge  
 Janice Smith  
 Gulay Yurekli

Reappointment of Intermediate Unit Substitutes – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mrs. Pultz and unanimously carried to approve the reappointment of the following substitute teachers re-certified for one year by the PA Department of Education through the Intermediate Unit:

Lisa DeBellis  
 JoAnn Kutz

Appointment – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mrs. Pultz and unanimously carried to approve the following appointment:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Replacing</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Natasha Chromey	Head Volleyball	New	\$6,480.00 (Pts. 15, Yr. 1, St. 1)	22/23 School Year

Change in Position – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mrs. Pultz and unanimously carried to approve the following change in position for the 22/23 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Old Position</u>	<u>New Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Kristopher Wentzell	Volunteer (Girls) Soccer	Asst. (Girls) Soccer	\$3,888.00 (9 pts., Yr. 1, St. 1)	22/23 School Year

Approval of Volunteer Assistant – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mrs. Pultz and unanimously carried to approve the following unpaid volunteer assistant for the 22/23 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
Colleen Schiavone	Volunteer Golf	M. Schiavone

Opening of Position – Mr. Habrial moved, seconded by Mrs. Pultz and unanimously carried to approve the opening of the following position:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Matthew Suarez	Head Baseball	Immediately

Appointment – Mrs. Pultz moved, seconded by Mr. Habrial and unanimously carried to approve the appointment of Jamie Rockwell as Assistant Principal of the Pen Argyl Area High School. Her starting annual salary will be \$80,000.00 (prorated), effective 7/11/22.

Request for Family Medical Leave – Mr. Dally moved, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried to approve the following request for family medical leave:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Nicole Giorlando	Teacher – PES	12/20/22-03/01/23

The motion carried with one nay vote (Habrial).

Appointments – Mr. Keenhold moved, seconded by Mrs. Pultz and unanimously carried to approve the following appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Replacing</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
*Melissa Appleby	Guidance Counselor - WGMS	Jennifer Saunders	\$51,425 (St. 1, Cl. 4)	08/23/22
Colleen Iannetta	Induction Program Support Teacher – Melissa Appleby	New	\$1,868.00 (4.0 Pts.)	08/23/22
Kristy Harrison	Induction Program Support Teacher – Nicole Ryan	New	\$1,868.00 (4.0 Pts.)	08/23/22
Natasha Chromey	Sr. National Honor Society Advisor	Nolan Gerencser	\$1,401.00 (3.0 Pts., Yr. 1, St. 1)	08/23/22
Spring Shank	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Advisor	Johanna Roche	\$1,401.00 (3.0 Pts., Yr. 1, St. 1)	08/23/22
Monika Danoski	Color Guard & Drill Advisor	Keith Sauder	\$2,802.00 (6.0 Pts., Yr. 1, St. 1)	08/23/22

\*Pending receipt of all required paperwork. It is understood that employment is provisional until all required paperwork is received, based on the requirements of the Public Employee Relations Act and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Change Order Number 1 – Keystone Sports Construction – Mr. Dally moved, seconded by Mr. Evans and carried to approve the following Change Order Number 1 for the Pen Argyl High School New Running Track Project:

Order #1 – New Pave & M Tops w/ADA Grates (front of home side bleachers)	Add	\$26,809.52
New 4” Concrete Walk at Concession Stand	Add	\$10,373.13
New 30’ Eder Flagpole	Add	\$6,626.50

The motion carried with one nay vote (Habrial).

Approval of PAASD Health and Safety Plan for the 22/23 School Year – Mr. Evans moved, seconded by Mr. Moyer and carried to approve the PAASD Health and Safety Plan for the 22/23 School Year.

The motion carried with one nay vote (Keenhold).

Request for Approval for Potential Overnight Athletic Trips – Mrs. Pultz moved, seconded by Mr. Keenhold and unanimously carried to approve the following potential overnight athletic trips for the High School Athletic Program for the 2022/23 School Year:

Oct. 17-19, 2022	PIAA State East Regional Golf Tournament in State College, PA
Oct. 28-29, 2022	PIAA State Girls Team Tennis Tournament in Hershey, PA
Nov. 4-5, 2022	PIAA State Girls Singles/Doubles Tournament in Hershey, PA
Nov. 5, 2022	PIAA State Cross Country Meet in Hershey, PA
Jan. 19-21, 2023	PIAA State Competitive Spirit Championships, Hershey, PA
Feb. 15-18, 2023	PIAA State Swimming & Diving Competition, Lewisburg, PA
Feb. 9-11, 2023	PIAA State Team Wrestling Tournament in Hershey, PA
March 3-4, 2023	PIAA State SE Regional Individual Wrestling Tournament in Reading, PA
March 9-11, 2023	PIAA State Wrestling Individual Tournament in Hershey, PA
March 23-25, 2023	PIAA State Team Basketball Tournament, Hershey, PA
May 19-20, 2023	PIAA State Boys Team Tennis Tournament in Hershey, PA
May 26-27, 2023	PIAA State Boys Individual Tennis Tournament in Hershey, PA
May 26-27, 2023	PIAA State Track and Field Meet in Shippensburg, PA
May 15-16, 2023	PIAA State Baseball Tournament in State College, PA
May 15-16, 2023	PIAA State Softball Tournament in State College, PA

\*The above tournaments may have athletes participate and the athletes will be under the direct supervision of their coaches or their parents.

Request for Approval for Potential High School Music Department Overnight Trips – Mrs. Pultz moved, seconded by Mr. Keenhold and unanimously carried to approve the following potential overnight trips for the High School Music Department for the 2022/23 School Year:

January 12-14, 2023	PMEA District Chorus
January 26-28, 2023	PMEA District Orchestra
February 9-11, 2023	PMEA District Band
February 23-25, 2023	PMEA Region Chorus
March 9-11, 2023	PMEA Region Orchestra
March 23-25, 2023	PMEA Region Band
April 19-22, 2023	PMEA All State Festival

\*The above music festivals may have students participate pending their auditions to the ensembles.

Administrative/Board Comments – Mr. Schlegel shared with the Board that ALICE training was completed today at the District.

Mrs. Achenbach shared with the Board a state budget update including that our District will:

- Receive an additional \$453,242 in BEF
- Receive an additional \$124,651 in SEF
- Receive \$123,529 Physical Safety Grant (state funds) to be used for baseline items
- Receive \$123,529 Mental Health Grant (1x federal fund) to be used for baseline items

Mr. Habrial provided an IU 20 update.

Adjournment - Mrs. Hackman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.