

REGULAR MEETING
BROCKWAY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

North Street Elementary
Educational Service Center

May 23, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Katie Bish, President
Edward Yahner, Vice President
James Brown
Adam Campbell
Jeffery Ginther

Robert Grecco
Jacqueline Manno
Katie Morris
Lori Sabatose

Student Members: Shaelynn Brubaker (EA)
Jacob Newcamp

Superintendent: Jeffrey T. Vizza

Board Secretary: Laurie L. Piccirillo

Solicitor: R. Edward Ferraro
Ross Ferraro

Visitors: Darlene Baka
Aaron Baka
Don Allenbaugh, BAEA

Press: Andrew Bundy, Courier Express

President Katie Bish called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Roll call taken by the secretary showed nine members present.

Visitors were welcomed and acknowledged.

President Bish informed the public that there was an executive session/personnel/safety meeting on May 23, 2023 at 5:15-6:03 p.m. No action taken.

A motion was made by Edward Yahner, seconded by James Brown, to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2023 regular meeting. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

B.A.E.A.

No report

B.A.E.S.P.A.

No representative

GENERAL PUBLIC

Darlene Baka spoke about student/teacher ratio and the advantages of keeping them low.

Andrew Bundy agreed with comments made.

JEFF-TECH – James Brown & Jeffery Ginther

- Renewed solicitor contract with Ferraro, Kruk & Ferraro
- Approved new teacher contract
- Renewed PSBA membership, but are investigating other options
- Officers were elected
- Friday – Graduation ceremony

I.U. # 6 – Jacqueline Manno

No report

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES – Shaelynn Brubaker (EA) & Jacob Newcamp

Report submitted

P.S.B.A. LIAISON – Edward Yahner

No report

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Katie Bish, seconded by Edward Yahner, to authorize administration to pay budgeted general fund bills on June 27, 2023. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

Capital Project Bills –

A motion was made by Katie Bish, seconded by Edward Yahner, to approve the following disbursement for the Multi-Purpose Building Addition/Tennis Court Project:

Renick Brothers Construction Co. - \$13,275.00

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

TREASURER'S REPORT – NoneREPORT OF COMMITTEESACTIVITIES COMMITTEE – Edward Yahner, Chairperson

Student Recognition:

2023 Junior-Senior Prom: Queen – Leah Trunzo
King – Seth Stewart

Fred Waldeck was named as the 2023 Sportsman of the Year at the 44th All-Sports Banquet that was held on Monday, May 8, 2023.

A motion was made by Edward Yahner, seconded by James Brown, to approve the following conferences/workshops/fieldtrips:

Ben Donlin – School Leaders Who Coach Highly Effective Instructional – Practice Workshop – June 14-15, 2023 – Riverview Intermediate Unit #6, Clarion – Total cost \$525.00

Kyle Norman & 4 Students – Trout Release – May 15, 2023 – Brockway Boat Launch School Van

Matt Holt, Kyle Norman, Chaperone & 6 Students – National FFA Convention November 1-4, 2023 – Indianapolis, IN – Total cost to be determined plus School Van (Paid by FFA Funds)

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Edward Yahner, seconded by James Brown, to increase the athletic officials pay rate upon the recommendation of and documentation presented to the board by Peter Grecco, athletic director, effective for the 2023-24 season. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

BUILDING, SUPPLIES, & CAFETERIA COMMITTEE – Lori Sabatose, Chairperson

A motion was made by Lori Sabatose, seconded by James Brown, to approve the following requests for use of facilities according to school district guidelines and in accordance with the district's athletic health & safety plan:

American Legion Baseball – Games & Practices – May 30-July 15, 2023 – High School Baseball Field

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

A motion was made by Lori Sabatose, seconded by James Brown, to contract C.M. Eichenlaub, Co. for Bleacher Visual Inspection at an annual cost of \$945.00 for the period May 2023 to May 2025. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Lori Sabatose, seconded by James Brown, to award the 2023-24 general supplies and equipment bids to the lowest bidders that meet specifications or approved CoStar Vendor in the amount of \$101,649.66. (2022-23 \$92,817.74) Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – James Brown, Chairperson

A motion was made by James Brown, seconded by Robert Grecco, to approve summer transportation contracts with the following contractors:

Extended School Year – Brockway – Morelli Bus Lines
Extended School Year – DuBois – Morelli Bus Lines
Brockway Elementary Summer School Program – Ken Moore
Brockway Early Intervention – Morelli Bus Lines

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by James Brown, seconded by Robert Grecco, to approve the following driver:

Lisa Muth for Patton Bus Company (Shawn Patton)

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

POLICY COMMITTEE – Robert Grecco, Chairperson

A motion was made by Robert Grecco, seconded by James Brown, to approve the following policy:

Revised Policy No. 114 Gifted Education

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE – Jeffery Ginther, Chairperson

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to authorize administration to seek competitive bids for gasoline/diesel fuel for our vehicles and equipment and for buses/vans that provide transportation services to the school district. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to name the depositories for the Brockway Area School District for the 2023-24 school year consistent with the prior year: First Commonwealth Bank – Cafeteria, S & T Bank – all other accounts. Motion carried.

Call Vote: Aye (8) Katie Bish, James Brown, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

Abstain (1) Adam Campbell

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to appoint S & T Bank as treasurer for the Brockway Area School District for the 2023-24 school year consistent with the prior year. Motion carried.

Call Vote: Aye (8) Katie Bish, James Brown, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

Abstain (1) Adam Campbell

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to name Law Firm of Ferraro, Kruk & Ferraro, solicitor for the Brockway Area School District for the 2023-24 school year consistent with the prior year and to set the annual retainer at \$2,500.00. Motion carried.

Call Vote: Aye (7) James Brown, Adam Campbell, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

Abstain (2) Katie Bish, Jeffery Ginther

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to authorize administration to request proposals for the investment of the general funds beginning July 1, 2023. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to approve the 2023 Tax Exonerations of people 68 years of age and older as per guidelines of the Brockway Area School District Tax Policies. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to adopt the proposed final budget for the 2023-24 school year in the amount of \$19,384,586 and that it be advertised prior to adoption at the meeting scheduled for June 27, 2023. (2022-23 – \$18,197,742 increase of \$1,186,844 – 6%) Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to approve the commitment of the unassigned fund balance for the following amount:

\$210,000 for the projected increases in the school district's retirement contributions for the next 5 years

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to approve the reenactment of the tax levies for Act 679 and Act 511 taxes for the 2023-24 school year, consistent with the prior year.

679 Per Capita	\$5.00 per person
511 Per Capita	\$5.00 per person
511 Wage/Earned Income	1 %
511 Local Service Tax	\$5.00 per person on earnings over \$1,000 per year
Realty Transfer Tax	1 %

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to approve the Act 511 Occupation Assessment Tax rate for the 2023-24 budget – 1,000 mills (\$100) and to keep the late payment rate at 10 % for this tax. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to adopt the real estate millage for the 2023-24 budget and to keep the late payment rate at 10% for this tax.

Jefferson County: 21.48 mills (Brockway Borough, Polk, Snyder, & Washington Twp)

Elk County: 30.12 mills (South Horton Twp)

2022-23 mills – (Jefferson County – 21.48 mills)
(Elk County – 29.16 mills)

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to approve the homestead/farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to \$9,784 (Jefferson County) and \$6,977 (Elk County) for each owner of an approved homestead and farmstead within the District as communicated by the applicable County Assessment Offices. This will result in a homestead and farmstead tax credit of approximately \$210 provided your School District property taxes exceed the amount. This exclusion will not apply to interim in real estate tax bills in Elk County. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

Insurance Programs:

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to renew our commercial package, boiler and machinery, umbrella, and school liability with the PSBA Insurance Trust through Swift Kennedy Insurance Group, effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

COVERAGE	2023-2024	2022-2023
Commercial Package	\$ 52,072	\$45,466
Automobile	\$ 3,903	\$ 3,820
Umbrella	\$ 3,930	\$ 4,052
School Board Liability	\$ 6,625	\$ 6,199
Workers' Compensation	\$ 37,819	\$37,819

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by James Brown, to approve the recommendation of Swift Kennedy Insurance Group to use the PSBA endorsed Student Accident Program and to include all athletic sports programs (grades 7-12) at a cost of \$4,579.00 – also includes band and cheerleaders.

Student Accident – Voluntary Insurance
School Time \$36/yr
24-Hr. Coverage \$130

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

INSTRUCTIONAL AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Jacqueline Manno, Chairperson

Title I Report – No report

A motion was made by Jacqueline Manno, seconded by James Brown, to increase the hourly rate of Robert Ginther, weight room supervisor, to \$12.25/hr. (was \$12.00/hr.) effective June 1, 2023. Motion carried.

Call Vote: Aye (8) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

Abstain (1) Jeffery Ginther

A motion was made by Jacqueline Manno, seconded James Brown, to approve an unpaid leave for medical reasons for Wanda Jose, custodian, from June 13, 2023 to August 23, 2023. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

A motion was made by Jacqueline Manno, seconded by Jeffery Ginther, to approve the employment of Brian Mulhollan, as Superintendent of Schools, for a term of February 5, 2024 to June 30, 2027, at a salary of \$117,750.00. Motion carried.

Call Vote: Aye (7) Katie Bish, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

 Nay (2) James Brown, Adam Campbell

A motion was made by Jacqueline Manno, seconded by James Brown, to hire Lance Dowdall as summer technology worker at an hourly rate of \$10.00. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

A motion was made by Jacqueline Manno, seconded by James Brown, to approve the resignation of Mackenzie Pence as the junior high softball head coach effective immediately. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

A motion was made by Jacqueline Manno, seconded by James Brown, to approve the recommendation of Darren Morelli, volleyball head coach, to hire the following additional volleyball coaching staff, effective for the 2023-24 school year:

Josh Burrs – Volunteer JV/Varsity Assistant Coach

Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

A motion was made by Jacqueline Manno, seconded by James Brown, to accept the letter of retirement of Emma Benson, custodian, effective July 17, 2023. To allow eligibility in the District's retirement severance package, the board also approved the waiving of the requirement to notify the District 90 days prior to retirement to qualify. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Call Vote: Aye (9) Katie Bish, James Brown, Adam Campbell, Jeffery Ginther, Robert Grecco, Jacqueline Manno, Katie Morris, Lori Sabatose, Edward Yahner

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The next scheduled regular board meeting is Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Jeffery Ginther, seconded by Jacqueline Manno, to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 p.m. Motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Katie Bish, President
Brockway Area School District

Laurie Piccirillo, Board Secretary
Brockway Area School District

MINUTES (Cont'd)
Brockway Area School District

May 23, 2023

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