

Hazleton, PA
August 9, 2007

At 7:00 P.M., with President Morelli presiding, a Special Meeting of the Hazleton Area School Board was held Thursday, August 9, 2007 in the Hazleton Area Career Center, Large Group Instruction Room, with the following persons present: Dr. Robert W. Childs, Elaine Curry, Steve Hahn (by telephone conference), Richard Morelli, Sean Shamany, Jack Shema, Donald Tombasco, Catherine Warren, Carmella Yenkevich, Assistant Business Manager Krizansky, Superintendent Victor, Assistant Superintendent Andrews and Attorney Jarrod Tranguch (representing Solicitor Slusser). Absent from the meeting were Secretary / Business Manager Ryba, Assistant Secretary Moran, Solicitor Slusser and Assistant Solicitor McNelis.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was for the hiring of personnel, approval of the PDE- 3074 (a) Form for the purchase and installation of Hazleton Area High School swimming pool water heater, approval of the AS 400 upgrade, accept resignations and accept leave of absence.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a momentary period of time for meditation.

President Morelli announced Executive Session held prior to this meeting, August 9, 2007, was regarding personnel with the following persons present:

Dr. Robert Childs	Jack Shema	Frank Victor
Elaine Curry	Donald Tombasco	Joseph Andrews
Richard Morelli	Catherine Warren	
Sean Shamany	Carmella Yenkevich	

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vicki Mackin, representing the Concerned Citizens of Schuylkill County, regarding Agenda Item #1, Board approve the PDE-3074 (a) Form for the purchase and installation of Hazleton Area High School swimming pool water heater, asked if the pool currently has a heater and if this has anything to do with the addition of the Water Polo sport.

Krizansky stated that the current heater is not repairable and has to be replaced.

Victor stated that it has nothing to do with the addition of Water Polo.

Pledge of Allegiance and
Momentary Period of
Time for Meditation

Executive Session Held

Vicki Mackin Asks

Krizansky States

Victor States

PDE-3074 (a) Form for HAHS Swimming Pool Water Heater Approved	<p>The Superintendent presented the recommendation that the Board approve the PDE-3074 (a) Form for the purchase and installation of Hazleton Area High School swimming pool water heater.</p>
Yenkevich Asks	<p>Shema and Warren moved that the recommendation be approved as presented.</p> <p>Yenkevich asked what the cost is going to be for this heater.</p>
Krizansky Explains	<p>Krizansky explained that it is currently out for bid but should be between Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) and Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00).</p>
Lease/Purchase of IBM System I Model 525 (OS400) Approved	<p>By voice vote, the motion prevailed unanimously.</p> <p>The Superintendent presented the recommendation that the Board approve the full payment lease (lease/purchase) of the IBM System I Model 525 (OS400) hardware and software (P10 Version 5 Release 4) for 100 Users in the amount of \$2,440.00 per month for a 36-month term from Strategic Computer Solutions, Inc. as per COSTARS –3 PA State Contract #003-062. (Agenda Item #2)</p>
Childs Comments	<p>Shema and Tombasco moved that the recommendation be approved as presented.</p> <p>Childs commented that it is his understanding that the staff is not thrilled about the continuation of the use of this system. He asked what the cost is for one (1) year.</p>
Victor States	<p>Victor stated the cost is very high for one (1) year. He stated that this updated version would eliminate some of the problems they are currently having with the AS400.</p>
Krizansky States	<p>Krizansky stated that this is on state contract and therefore does not have to be bid out. He explained the three (3) options and recommended the lease/purchase option (Agenda Item #2) if the AS400 route is what the Board wants to go with.</p>
Hahn Comments	<p>Hahn, by telephone conference, commented that this proposal is the most acceptable and he would be voting “yes”.</p> <p>Shamany left at 7:08 P.M.</p>
Childs Comments	<p>Childs commented that his concern is they are looking only at the system and not the manpower hours that go into using it.</p>
Tombasco Comments	<p>Tombasco commented that for years the District has been using antiquated software on the existing AS400. He</p>

	explained that this upgrade would solve most of the problems.
	Shamany returned at 7:10 P.M.
Victor States	Victor stated that the District would own it at the end of the three (3) years.
Childs Asks	Childs asked if there is a buyout clause in the lease.
Victor States	Victor stated that he would check if there is a buyout.
Hahn Comments	Hahn, by telephone conference, commented that the three (3) year period is a reasonable amount of time to be able to make a transition into another program.
Curry States	Curry stated that she would agree to the three (3) year lease with the understanding they are going to look at other systems.
Agenda Items #3, #4, #5 and #7 Approved Agenda Item #6 Not Acted On	By voice vote, the motion prevailed unanimously. The Superintendent presented the recommendation that the Board approve Agenda Items #3, #4, #5 and #7 with one motion. He asked that the Board not act on Agenda Item #6, Board approve the resignation of Robert Corcoran, Vision teacher, effective August 9, 2007, as it may be rescinded.
Resignation of Math Teacher (Agenda Item #3)	Board approve the resignation of Amy R. Hazlet, Math teacher, effective August 9, 2007. (Agenda Item #3)
Resignation of Special Education Teacher (Agenda Item #4)	Board approve the resignation of Alicia M. Kuzmitsky, Special Education teacher, effective August 9, 2007. (Agenda Item #4)
Resignation of Social Studies Teacher (Agenda Item #5)	Board approve the resignation of Bernadette Mackunis, Social Studies teacher, effective August 9, 2007. (Agenda Item #5)
Retirement of Janitor (Agenda Item #7)	Board approve the retirement of Robert J. Hoilko, custodian, effective September 27, 2007. (Agenda Item #7)
	Shamany and Shema moved that the recommendation (Agenda Items #3, #4, #5 and #7) be approved as presented. By voice vote, the motion prevailed unanimously.
Agenda Items #8 through #11 Approved	The Superintendent presented the recommendation that the Board approve Agenda Items #8 through #11 with one motion.
Unpaid Maternity Leave (Agenda Item #8)	Board approve an unpaid maternity leave for Genene Libonati-Ritz, English teacher, for the 2007-2008 school year. (Agenda Item #8)

Unpaid Leave for ESL Teacher (Agenda Item #9)

Board approve an unpaid leave for Jessica Vernon, ESL teacher, for the 2007-2008 school year. (Agenda Item #9)

Family Medical Leave for Secretary (Agenda Item #10)

Board approve family medical leave for Barbara Sharp, Secretary, effective August 7, 2007. (Agenda Item #10)

Medical Sabbatical Leave (Agenda Item #11)

Board approve a medical sabbatical leave for Cynthia DeLuzio for the 1st Semester of the 2007-2008 school year. (Agenda Item #11)

Hahn and Warren moved that the recommendation (Agenda Items #8 through #11) be approved as presented. By voice vote, the motion prevailed unanimously.

HACC Vice-Principal Approved

The Superintendent presented the recommendation that the Board appoint Lori Herman, Vice Principal. Currently she is serving as an Acting Vice Principal.

Shema and Hahn moved that the recommendation be approved as presented.

Yenkevich Asks

Yenkevich asked if this is included in the budget.

Victor States

Victor stated that this position is in the budget.

Childs Comments

Childs commented that Mrs. Herman deserves the Board's approval of this position because she has done a "fantastic job" at the Hazleton Area Career Center.

Yenkevich Agrees

Yenkevich agreed with Dr. Childs' comments.

By voice vote, the motion prevailed unanimously.

Motion to Appoint Teachers Approved

The Superintendent presented the recommendation that the Board appoint the following teachers:

Biology

Benjamin Evancho Salary \$36,314

Math

Jonathan Bet Salary \$38,685

Crystal Hollednak Salary \$36,314

Gabrielle Staruch Salary \$36,314

Thomas Whitley Salary \$39,485

Special Education

Megan Shults Salary \$39,485

Social Studies

Enrica Belucci Salary \$36,314

Beth Petruzzi Salary \$36,314

Elementary

Jessica Parker Salary \$37,114

Pamela Synoski Salary \$37,114

Tara Bianco Salary \$38,685

Janet Davis Salary \$36,314

Renee Mummey-Careyva Salary \$38,685

<p>Motion to Appoint Two Physical Education Teachers Approved</p>	<p>Shamany and Warren moved that the recommendation be approved as presented. By voice vote, the motion prevailed unanimously.</p> <p>The Superintendent presented the recommendation that the Board appoint Ashley Robbins and David Kepp, Physical Education Teachers.</p>
<p>Motion to Appoint VEMS Principal Approved</p>	<p>Tombasco and Shema moved that the recommendation be approved as presented. By voice vote, the motion prevailed unanimously.</p> <p>The Superintendent presented the recommendation that the Board appoint Vince Fayock, Principal for Valley Elementary / Middle School.</p>
<p>Morelli States</p>	<p>Curry and Yenkevich moved that the recommendation be approved as presented.</p> <p>Morelli stated that all candidates for this position were very well qualified.</p>
<p>Motion to Amend Original Motion Tabled</p>	<p>Morelli and Shema moved to amend the motion to include creating a position of Dean of Students at the Hazleton Area High School and to appoint James Hudock to that position.</p>
<p>Yenkevich Comments</p>	<p>Yenkevich commented that they agreed to wait until next week.</p> <p>Hahn and Yenkevich moved to table the amendment.</p>
<p>Shamany States</p>	<p>Shamany stated that although he agrees with Mr. Morelli's thoughts, he would wait to see the report and is voting "yes" to table at this time.</p>
<p>Shema States</p>	<p>Shema stated that he is voting "yes" to table because he wants to wait and see the staffing study.</p> <p>On roll call, the motion to table the amendment prevailed unanimously.</p>
<p>Victor States</p>	<p>On roll call, the original motion prevailed unanimously.</p> <p>Victor stated there is one additional Special Education teacher needed and because the next meeting is after the start of school, asked if the Board would hire the next person on the list.</p>
<p>Motion to Appoint Special Education Teacher Approved</p>	<p>The Superintendent presented the recommendation that the Board appoint Ginny Witcoski, Special Education teacher.</p>

Hahn and Shamany moved that the recommendation be approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no interested parties for public comment.

By voice vote, the motion prevailed unanimously.

President Morelli adjourned the meeting at 7:26

P.M.

Meeting Adjourned

Secretary