

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18503

The Scranton School Board of Directors held a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 7:00pm prevailing time in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 425 N. Washington Ave., Scranton, PA 18503.

President Barrett called the meeting to order at 7:12pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: By the Secretary.

Present: Directors Douaihy, Lesh, Martinelli, McGuigan, Ruane, Sheridan, Shrive and President Barrett.

Absent: Director Fox.

Communications to the Board:

Attorney Minora announced an executive session was held this evening, September 10, 2013 at 6:30pm to discuss litigation, personnel and real estate.

Visiting Delegations:

Gerard Hetman, Lackawanna County Department of Community Relations, updated the board on current events in the county.

Karin Foster, President of the West Scranton Hyde Park Neighborhood Watch, asked the board to approve a resolution to help support the community center at 1621 Washburn Street, Scranton and asked for assistance with the learning center portion by possibly donating furniture, computers and tutoring.

Rosemary Boland, President, Scranton Federation of Teachers spoke on the following:

- Interested in learning more about the community center in West Scranton and using SFT personnel.
- Conversation with Jessica Leitzel regarding school safety and people wandering throughout school buildings unescorted.
- Social networking and texting.
- Asked for a Camelot update and Lincoln/Jackson Academy.

Report from PTA Representative

Melinda Krokus addressed the following:

- Lack of communication and confidence in the Board
- Long term vision
- Community outreach
- Overcrowding in schools
- Teacher participation in PTA

Superintendent's Report

1. We are off to a **good start to the new school year**. I visited all school buildings during the first two days of school and I was impressed at how smoothly things went. I want to commend our teachers and administrators for doing a great job at ensuring that each student was welcomed back and placed in their proper classroom. This can be a rather anxious and exciting time of the year for students, especially students in our younger grades and students starting in a new school environment. I witnessed a tremendous amount of care, kindness and compassion from our staff, for our students during this readjustment.
2. We received notice from PDE that the **Scranton School District met our Annual Measurable Achievement Objective's (AMAO) (in all 3 areas) as defined by Title III of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act for the 3rd years in a row**. This report measures the following:
  - Annual increases in the number or percentage of children making progress toward learning English:
  - Annual increases in the number or percentage of children attaining English proficiency by the end of each school year, as determined by a valid and reliable assessment of English proficiency: and
  - Making adequate yearly progress for limited English proficient children.
3. Director Lesh had asked at our last Work Session if we were running **Peer Mediation Programs** at our secondary schools and the answer is yes, with the exception of Scranton High School. It has been running for years at WSHS, WSIS and SSIS and Northeast Intermediate is having a counselor trained to begin a program this year. I will work with Principal Coyle to see if we can resurrect the Peer Mediation Program that use to exist at SHS.
4. **I met with Renee Martin from the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office** and Dan Langan, an AT&T Representative to discuss the **"It Can Wait" anti-texting and driving campaign**. We will host a special "It Can Wait" car texting while driving simulator program at **Scranton High School on Thursday, September 19, 2013**. The PA Attorney General, Kathleen Kane is expected to speak to our seniors at Scranton High School at **1:30 p.m.** in the gymnasium of Scranton High School. All day long, students in gym classes will have the opportunity to use the real car simulator to experience the effects of texting while driving. All Board Members are invited to attend.
5. We have a few **Principals here tonight that would like to share some of the positive things** that are happening in our schools. Here this evening are: Joe Hanni, Vice Principal at Northeast Intermediate School and Ann Grebeck, Principal at George Bancroft Elementary School.

Mrs. Ann Grebeck and Mr. Joe Hanni now updated the board on elementary and secondary schools.

Director Barrett now moved out of order of the agenda to have the following resolutions presented:

LEGISLATION AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

The following resolution was submitted by Director McGuigan.

10-I-1

It is the recommendation of the Legislation and Federal Programs Committee that the following resolution be approved:

Whereas, Director Sean O'Shea has submitted his resignation to the School Board at a public meeting dated April 4, 2013;

Whereas, the Board of Directors of the School District of the City of Scranton reluctantly accept Director O'Shea's resignation;

Now therefore be it resolved that the School District of the City of Scranton hereby accepts the resignation of Director Sean O'Shea effective immediately.

The resolution was seconded by Director Sheridan and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director McGuigan.

10-I-2

It is the recommendation of the Legislation and Federal Programs Committee that the following resolution be approved.

WHEREAS the resignation of Director Sean O'Shea created a vacancy on the Board of Directors of the School District of the City of Scranton;

WHEREAS Said "Cy" Douaihy has been recommended to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Director Sean O'Shea;

NOW THEREFORE BE RESOLVED that the School District of the City of Scranton hereby fill the vacancy left by Director Sean O'Shea with Said "Cy" Douaihy effective immediately.

The resolution was seconded by Director Sheridan and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Director Shrive now made a motion to accept the consent agenda as submitted below; seconded by Director Ruane and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

The consent agenda included the following:

10-B-1

It is the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee that the following resolution be considered:

The Summer Bill Payment as per the bill payment approval policy for the period ended September 10, 2013 be approved as per the attached:

Be it resolved that exception and summer bill payments in the amount of \$8,888,953.77 have been paid in accordance with the approval payment policy.

Summer

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| June 7, 2013    | \$252,480.14   |
| June 20, 2013   | \$421,996.09   |
| July 3, 2013    | \$1,323,633.69 |
| July 18, 2013   | \$884,243.99   |
| August 1, 2013  | \$2,099,990.50 |
| August 15, 2013 | \$2,021,155.74 |
| August 30, 2013 | \$1,885,453.62 |

Be it resolved that payrolls amounting to \$17,116,166.58 have been paid in accordance with the approval for payment policy.

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| June 7, 2013    | \$2,543,226.18 |
| June 20, 2013   | \$5,047,805.16 |
| July 3, 2013    | \$1,830,332.93 |
| July 18, 2013   | \$1,911,555.00 |
| August 1, 2013  | \$2,093,385.37 |
| August 15, 2013 | \$1,879,425.81 |
| August 30, 2013 | \$1,810,436.13 |

#### 10-B-2

The Budget & Finance Committee present the following resolution for your consideration:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the **Delinquent Tax Report for the Month of May 2013** be accepted. A copy of the monthly detail is available for review in the Business Office.

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Tax:                   | \$ 638,194.95 |
| Penalty                | \$ 77,687.37  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | \$ 715,882.32 |
| Commission (5%)        | \$ 35,794.17  |
| <b>NET TO DISTRICT</b> | \$ 680,088.15 |

#### 10-B-3

The Budget & Finance Committee present the following resolution for your consideration:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the **Delinquent Tax Report for the Month of June 2013** be accepted. A copy of the monthly detail is available for review in the Business Office.

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Tax:                   | \$ 252,245.88 |
| Penalty                | \$ 47,206.97  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | \$ 299,452.85 |
| Commission (5%)        | \$ 14,973.02  |
| <b>NET TO DISTRICT</b> | \$ 284,479.83 |

#### 10-B-4

The Budget & Finance Committee present the following resolution for your consideration:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the **Delinquent Tax Report for the Month of July 2013** be accepted. A copy of the monthly detail is available for review in the Business Office.

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Tax:                   | \$ 369,848.26 |
| Penalty                | \$ 81,946.16  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | \$ 451,794.42 |
| Commission (5%)        | \$ 22,590.03  |
| <b>NET TO DISTRICT</b> | \$ 429,204.39 |

## 10-B-5

The Budget and Finance Committee hereby recommends the following resolution for your consideration:

**WHEREAS**, the School District of the City of Scranton recognizes the need to provide parking for its' employees at Northeast Intermediate School, and

**WHEREAS**, in order to fulfill this need, the Board of Directors wishes to enter into a lease agreement with Coopers Seafood to rent 15 parking spaces at a rate of \$25.00 per space, per month for 9.5 months, commencing on August 29, 2013 and ending on June 13, 2014 at a total cost of \$3,562.50, and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the School District of the City of Scranton authorizes the Superintendent to sign the attached lease agreement with Coopers Seafood to lease these 15 parking spaces, after the Solicitor has fully reviewed and approved such lease.

## 10-B-6

The Budget and Finance Committee hereby recommends the following resolution for your consideration:

**WHEREAS**, the School District of the City of Scranton recognizes the need to provide parking for its' employees at Northeast Intermediate School, and

**WHEREAS**, in order to fulfill this need, the Board of Directors wishes to enter into a lease agreement with Bethel AME Church to rent 24 parking spaces at a rate of \$20.00 per space, per month for 9.5 months, commencing on August 29, 2013 and ending on June 13, 2014 at a total cost of \$4,560.00, and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the School District of the City of Scranton authorizes the Superintendent to sign the attached lease agreement with Bethel AME to lease these 24 parking spaces, after the Solicitor has fully reviewed and approved such lease.

## 10-B-7

The Budget and Finance Committee hereby recommends the following resolution for your consideration:

**WHEREAS**, the School District of the City of Scranton recognizes the need to provide parking for its' employees at Northeast Intermediate School, and

**WHEREAS**, in order to fulfill this need, the Board of Directors wishes to enter into a lease agreement with The Commonwealth Medical College (TCMC) to rent 40 parking spaces at a rate of \$25.00 per space, per month for 9.5 months, commencing on August 29, 2013 and ending on June 13, 2014 at a total cost of \$9,500.00, and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the School District of the City of Scranton authorizes the Superintendent to sign the attached lease agreement with TCMC to lease these 40 parking spaces, after the Solicitor has fully reviewed and approved such lease.

## 10-B-8

The Budget and Finance Committee presents the following resolution for your consideration:

Be it resolved that the Treasurer's Report for the month ending July 31, 2013 be accepted as follows:

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Opening Balance            | \$16,920,872.60        |
| Monthly Revenue            | \$ 3,788,050.08        |
| Transfers and Refunds      | <u>\$ 654,434.41</u>   |
| TOTAL AVAILABLE            | \$21,363,357.09        |
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS        | <u>\$ 7,764,780.46</u> |
| BALANCE IN GENERAL ACCOUNT | \$13,598,576.63        |

10-F-1

It is the recommendation of the *Health and Safety Committee* that the following resolution be approved.

**WHEREAS**, the Scranton School Board recognizes the importance of protecting all students of the Scranton schools from communicable diseases while accepting students with diverse cultural backgrounds

**WHEREAS**, the Scranton School Board recognizes the importance of consulting with our local health community and abiding by the regulations and recommendations set forth by the Department of Health and the Department's Division of School Health

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health Division of School Health in consideration of a current shortage of supplies for the TST (*Tuberculosis Skin Testing*) and recognizing the current Scranton TB High Risk Assessment as too broad and the need to reduce the amount of students tested when entering the Scranton schools

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board authorizes the Medical Department to adopt the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Risk Assessment Tool but to continue to test all foreign born students and accept waivers from Pennsylvania and any other state exempting TST and rejecting any waiver from out of the country.

10-J-1

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the following be approved:

**PERMISSION TO ATTEND MEETINGS**

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Joseph Brazil                                     | PETE&C<br>Hershey, Pa   |
|    | COST:   | \$673.00  |
|    | DATES:  | February 11-13, 2013  |
|    | LAST CONFERENCE ATTENDED AT DISTRICT EXPENSE: N/A |   |
| 2. | Dawn Hull   | English Language Learners Symposium<br>Chester County IU, Downingtown, PA |
|    | COST:   | \$490.00  |
|    | DATES:  | August 5-7, 2013  |
|    | LAST CONFERENCE ATTENDED AT DISTRICT EXPENSE: N/A |   |
| 3. | Joy O'Malley                                      | English Language Learners Symposium<br>Chester County IU, Downingtown, PA |
|    | COST:   | \$490.00  |
|    | DATES:  | August 5-7, 2013  |
|    | LAST CONFERENCE ATTENDED AT DISTRICT EXPENSE: N/A |   |
| 4. | Jessica Leitzel                                   | DIBELS Next Steps<br>Pattan, King of Prussia, PA                          |
|    | COST:   | \$166.90  |
|    | DATES:  | April 3, 2013   |
|    | LAST CONFERENCE ATTENDED AT DISTRICT EXPENSE: N/A |   |

10-J-2

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT NO. 1239

**LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the following be approved:

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

PROFESSIONAL

- |   |                                     |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. <u>Coleman, Emily</u><br>9/23/2013—6/13/2013 | ESL Teacher<br>Scranton High School | <u>Child Rearing Leave</u><br><u>Without Pay</u> |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|

Date of Appointment – 8/28/2006

3/18/12—6/14/13 Child Rearing Leave  
12/12/12—3/13/13 Family Medical Leave

NONCERTIFIED

- |  |                                   |   |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>Cawley, James</u><br>08/27/2013—Further Notice | Custodian<br>Scranton High School | <u>Family Medical Leave</u><br><u>Without Pay</u> |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|

Date of Appointment—07/30/2007

No other leave of absence

10-J-3

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT NO. 1240

**RESIGNATIONS**

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the following be approved:

RESIGNATIONS:

NONCERTIFIED:

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Thomas, Carol<br>Confidential Secretary<br>Administration Building | Effective: September 27, 2013 |
|---|-------------------------------|

Years of Service: 31.4

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 2. Waltz, Ann Marie<br>Paraprofessional<br>Willard #32 School | Effective: September 29, 2013 |
|---|-------------------------------|

Years of Service: 17

10-M-1

The BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE presents the following resolution for your consideration:

**Be it resolved** that the bid for the Paving at West Scranton High School be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder as follows:

|            |             |             |
|------------|-------------|-------------|
| WAYCO, INC | WAYMART, PA | \$32,602.00 |
|------------|-------------|-------------|

10-P-1

It is the recommendation of the Transportation Committee that the following resolution be approved:

**WHEREAS**, the School District of the City of Scranton is required to transport certain students to the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, and

**WHEREAS**, in order to provide said transportation, the District must enter into contracts for the provisions of the same,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the attached contracts with the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, Abington Heights School District, and Scranton School District be approved on the terms and conditions set forth in the contracts attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

### **NON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

The following resolution was submitted by Director Douaihy.

The Education Committee hereby recommends the following resolution for your consideration:

Whereas, the Scranton Police Department, the West Scranton/Hyde Park Watch are making application for casino monies via Monroe County Local Share Account (LSA) funds for a Neighborhood Center on Washburn Street in West Scranton, and

Whereas, Scranton Police Department, the West Scranton/Hyde Park Watch are asking the Scranton School District to assist with this project by donating up to 20 seats and desks, along with used computers to be utilized as a learning/tutoring center for at risk youth in West Scranton, and

Whereas, the monetary value of these in-kind donations will be used in the application to secure matching funds toward application of this LSA grant, and

Now, therefore be it resolved that the Scranton School Board officially approves the cooperation and participation in donating these furnishings to assist both the Scranton Police and the West Scranton Neighborhood Watch's application to start this Neighborhood Center.

The resolution was seconded by Director Shrive and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

#### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The following resolution was submitted by Director Martinelli.

10-J-4

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT NO. 1241**

#### **ASSIGNMENTS/APPOINTMENTS**

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the individuals as listed below be appointed to professional positions in the Scranton School District:



APPOINTMENTS:

PROFESSIONAL:

1. Library (.5 Schedule)  
Welcome, Kerri 118 Vosburg Lane, Clarks Summit, PA 18411
2. Elementary  
Buck, Kelly 2510 Cedar Ave., Scranton, PA 18505  
Martin, Amy 1005 Pittston Ave., Scranton, PA 18505
3. School Psychologist  
Frank, Shanna 821 Madison, Apt. 1, Scranton, PA 18510
4. Special Education  
Bouton, Christine 1420 Fig St., Scranton, PA 18505

NONCERTIFIED:

1. Hispanic/Latino Community Liaison  
Nancy Rosario 322 Emmett St., Scranton, PA 18505

ASSIGNMENT:

Substitute Teaching Assignments – It is recommended that the substitutes listed below be assigned to the positions indicated at the established rate:

- |                                |   |  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. <u>Crofton, Michelle</u>    | Elementary Guidance<br>Itinerant                        | Permanent Substitute                   |
| 2. <u>Berardinelli, Amanda</u> | Title I Reading<br>Sumner #18 School                    | Permanent Substitute                   |
| 3. <u>DiRienzo, Jennifer</u>   | ESL<br>Scranton High School                             | Permanent Substitute                   |
| 4. <u>Gorczyk, Allison</u>     | Learning Support<br>Isaac Tripp #49 School              | Permanent Substitute                   |
| 5. <u>Mallas, Doug</u>         | English<br>Northeast Intermediate School                | Permanent Substitute                   |
| 6. <u>Paris, Matthew</u>       | Grade 5<br>Whittier #2 School                           | Permanent Substitute                   |
| 7. <u>Peters, Steven</u>       | Learning Support<br>Northeast Intermediate School       | Permanent Substitute                   |
| 8. <u>Pregnar, Travis</u>      | Computer Literacy<br>South Scranton Intermediate School | Permanent Substitute                   |
| 9. <u>Przywara, Nicole</u>     | Kindergarten<br>Isaac Tripp #49 School                  | Permanent Substitute                   |
| 10. <u>Wentland, Shannon</u>   | Grade 2<br>Willard #32 School                           | Permanent Substitute                   |
| 11. <u>Gentile, Bridget</u>    | Grade 2<br>Kennedy #7 School                            | Long Term Substitute<br>9/3/13—11/4/13 |

|     |                            |   |  |
|-----|----------------------------|---|--|
| 12. | <u>Lavelle, Alicia</u>     | Title I Reading<br>Bancroft School          | Long Term Substitute<br>8/29/13—1/31/14  |
| 13. | <u>Lencicki, Richelle</u>  | Reading<br>South Scranton<br>Intermediate   | Long Term Substitute<br>8/29/13—1/31/14  |
| 14. | <u>Marcks Kelly, Jamie</u> | Grade 6<br>Northeast<br>Intermediate School | Long Term Substitute<br>9/3/13—1/2/14    |
| 15. | <u>Phillips, Christina</u> | Spanish<br>Scranton High<br>School          | Long Term Substitute<br>9/16/13—12/10/13 |

The resolution was seconded by Director Sheridan and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director Martinelli.

10-J-5

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT NO. 1242

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the appointment of the following individual be rescinded:

- |                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| 1. Caitlyn McAndrew | Elementary |
|---------------------|------------|

The resolution was seconded by Director Shrive and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director Martinelli.

10-J-6

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT NO. 1243

**REINSTATEMENTS**

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the following be approved:

**REINSTATEMENTS**

Professional

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Barney Wilkins   | .5 Music and .5 Gifted |
| 2. Patrick Marcinko | .8 Music               |

The resolution was seconded by Director Douaihy and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director Martinelli.

10-J-7

It is the recommendation of the Personnel Committee that the following appointments be approved:

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. Kelly Skaras   | Personal Care Attendant<br>South Scranton Intermediate School |
| 2. Julie Lipowitz | Paraprofessional<br>Scranton High School                      |
| 3. Barbara Kester | Confidential Secretary<br>Administration Building             |

Appointments are effective upon receipt of proper Federal Criminal Records, Immigration, Medical and Child Abuse reports.

Salaries are in accordance with the appropriate salary schedules.

The resolution was seconded by Director Shrive and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director Martinelli.

10-J-8

The Personnel Committee presents the following resolution is approved:

Be it resolved that the salary adjustments for the following be approved:

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| William Kasulis, Technical Support Specialist | \$ 1,500.00 |
| William DelPrete, AV/Printer Technician       | \$ 1,500.00 |

This adjustment is effective September 11, 2013.

Be it further resolved that the technology program be extended until December 31, 2013. This program includes 2 interns at \$15.00/hr not to exceed 10 hours/week.

The resolution was seconded by Director Sheridan and passed with seven (7) affirmative and one (1) negative vote. Director McGuigan cast the negative vote.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director Martinelli.

It is the recommendation of the Personnel Committee that the attached Administrative Hiring Policy be adopted and utilized for all future administration hiring.

The resolution was seconded by Director Fox and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

SEE ATTACHMENT

SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The following resolution was submitted by Director Ruane.

It is the recommendation of the Special Education Committee that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors recognizes the regulatory compliance of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 300 in its policies and procedures for special education records specific to the Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information policy:

And,

WHEREAS, the Scranton School District will amend its policy to reflect the attached.

Therefore be it resolved that the Scranton School Board authorizes the Solicitor to review the attached policy and forward to the Superintendent of Schools to authorize the change.

The resolution was seconded by Director Shrive and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

SEE ATTACHMENT

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

10-O-1

The following resolution was submitted by Director Shrive.

It is the recommendation of the Vocational Education Committee that the following resolution be approved:

Be it resolved that the Budget of the Career Technology Center of Lackawanna County for the fiscal year of July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 be approved as attached.

The resolution was seconded by Director McGuigan.

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Lesh made a motion to table the resolution for further review.

Director Sheridan agreed it needs further review and seconded the motion. The motion to table the resolution for the Career Technology Center budget passed with six (6) affirmative and two (2) negative votes. The negative votes were cast by Directors McGuigan and Shrive.

There being no further business Director Shrive made a motion, seconded by Director Ruane to adjourn at 8:03pm.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Virginia Orr