

MONTOURSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES FOR WORK SESSION  
High School

Tuesday, April 26, 2022  
7:05 PM

Pledge to the Flag  
Call to Order - Board President  
Roll Call - Board Secretary

MEMBER

- Daniel L. Albert
- Todd A. Badger
- Susan Beery
- Joseph B. LeCrone
- Dottie M. Mathers, Vice President
- David Shimmel, President

MEMBER

- Ronald E. Snell
- Dale Ulmer
- David J. Young
- \*Richard Galtman, Solicitor
- \*Christina Bason, Superintendent
- \*Brandy N. Smith, Business Mgr./Bd.Secretary
- \*(Non-Voting Member)

OTHERS

- Feerrar, Darrin - Elementary School Principal
- Gnoffo, Joseph - Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
- Hanner, Timothy - Supervisor of Special Education
- King, Christopher - Assistant Middle/High School Principal
- Myers, Curtis - Middle School Principal
- Peipher, Sebastian – Lead Network Administrator
- Taormina, Daniel - High School Principal
- Yonkin, Jamie - Elementary School Principal
- Residents  Media  Students

Presentations

none

Public Comment

Zach Smith shared a student from the academic decathlon team requested permission to give a presentation to the Board on May 10, 2022.

Mr. Taormina responded that he emailed the decathlon coach to gather a group to present and recognize the group that did well.

Zach Smith said yes, they had ten total medals.

Agenda Items

None

Discussion Items

Mr. Shimmel stated the upcoming elementary presentations at the three township buildings and the two elementary schools will be at 7:00 p.m. on the dates provided and it is understood not everyone can make every meeting.

Mr. Taormina said Scott Cousin has given full permission to use any and all of the presentation. He will pull all useful information for the community and put that together on one slideshow. Once the slideshow is complete Mr. Taormina will share it be reviewed and make any suggestions.

Mr. Shimmel said the administration would like the Board to reconsider taking tours of the elementary schools due to safety concerns. It is suggested that pictures be taken of the bad area and the photos to the slide show presentation. Mr. Shimmel then asked for the Board members thoughts.

Dr. Beery said that makes sense. Taking a tour with Joe Gnoffo was helpful in the old high school. Dr. Beery said well taken photographs with notes stating specific time frames items will need replaced will be sufficient.

Dr. Mathers said she does agree that the picture tour would be better of the damaged parts of the building. Dr. Beery is concerned that in person tours would be difficult for teachers. As a faculty member at Penn College when public tours are given everything pertaining to students must be taken down and sealed for privacy and security reasons.

Brenda Oberheim asked from the audience if that was strictly for colleges. She stated community members are in the elementary schools for parent teacher conferences.

Mr. Shimmel responded that is true. He will discuss with the solicitor at the next meeting time and report back.

Dr. Beery said that during parent teacher conferences it is parents entering the building and not the entire community. Dr. Beery also made the statement that if a community member wanted to see something specific that arrangements could perhaps be made on a case by case basis versus 30 random people walking freely through the elementary schools.

Mr. Young asked what the security concern was.

Mr. Shimmel stated not letting too many people know what the inside of the building looks like.

Mr. Taormina said there are children's photos on display and perpetrators that could show up to an open elementary school event. He also stated that parents are not permitted in the schools.

Mr. Young stated he is able to pick up his grandsons from the Middle School and walk the halls without supervision or special permission.

Dr. Matters stated he is not permitted to do so and he should not enter the building with permission.

Mr. Young clarified that it was after school hours. Mr. Young also stated he was trying to understand the safety concerns and did not want to give anyone with ill intent access to the buildings, entrance and exits.

Mr. Taormina stated that the maps of the building have been taking down from the website for the same safety concerns.

Mr. Young stated that the Board is trying to get honest information out to the community and be transparent with the project and he does not want to give any impression that details are being hidden by limiting exposure to the buildings. He said it is impossible to please everyone but the Board can please the majority if possible.

Mr. Shimmel said there is a month and a piece of information will be relayed to the Board later this week on the rules and regulations for public school districts.

Mrs. Smith added the administration is also concerned with the possibility of smaller places with in the school that would enable a person to hide undetected.

Mr. Taormina asked what the Board hoped to gain from touring the buildings. He asked in the community will know what they are looking at. He stated when touring Loyalsock Valley Elementary School it is clean, and well maintained. The new ceiling and lights may hide the underlying issues.

Dr. Beery would like to know how the meetings will be advertised to the public.

Mr. Taormina responded postcards will be mailed, an ad in the Webb Weekly, Facebook, School Messenger. Tv and radio will not be used. The Webb weekly hits more homes that the Sun Gazette.

Mr. Shimmel would like a full-page ad used so it cannot be missed. He said the cost is worth it.

Dr. Beery stated a half page and one or two publications would be needed.

The days and times will be on the Montoursville Area School District website.

Mr. Shimmel said for information items, he will have all the award answers and award packages via email on Thursday there are two spreadsheets on what has been expensed and reimbursed to date. Mrs. Bason did indicate her best guess was the next expensing/reimbursing would occur late summer. The Board should expect to see money coming into the District for the next two years. Mr. Shimmel continued to say Mrs. Bason explained the Department of Education communicates guidance and flexibility concerning the categories where you want to spend the grant money to maximize those dollars. Mrs. Bason's strategy is to maximize the grant money. The awards packages will be on the website.

#### Public Comment

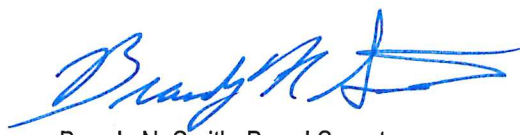
#### ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR MEETING 7:23 PM

Motion: Le Crone      Second: Mathers

Result: **Motion Carried**



David Shimmel, President



Brandy N. Smith, Board Secretary