

BLAIRSVILLE-SALTSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT
102 School Lane
Blairsville, Pennsylvania 15717

May 21, 2007

The Board of Directors of the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District met for their Regular Voting Meeting on Monday, May 21, 2007, in the Multi-purpose Room at the Saltsburg Elementary School with the following members present:

Lance Alexander	Paul Bell
Linda Brown	George Rowley
Ed Smith	Dan Speal
Mary Whitfield	

Michael LaMantia and Karen Shusko were absent.

Arnie Nadonley, Theresa Hanley, Ron Saffron, Leigh Free, Eric Kocsis, Jared Korchock, and a group of citizens also attended the meeting.

Mr. Bell called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. The minutes of the April 10, 2006, Regular Board Meeting was approved as mailed.

Indiana County Technology Center Report – Mr. Smith reported that the meeting is tomorrow evening. He stated that he was happy with our girl's softball team as they won the first round of the PIAA competition.

ARIN Report – Mr. Rowley reported that the meeting was last week. The Board was brought up-to-date regarding a grievance filed at ARIN dealing with workmen's comp.

Legislative Report – Ms. Whitfield reported that proposals for the PSBA Legislative platform are being accepted until July 13th. If the Board would like to put a proposal on the platform, they can write the proposal with less than 50 words and include rationale.

Standing Committee Report – No report.

Federal/State Programs Report – Mrs. Hanley reported that we had a very positive federal monitoring with no corrective action.

Student Representative Reports

Jared Korchock reported the following for Saltsburg:

- May 16th was Physics Day at Kennywood and it was a good experience.
- The Safety Bug was at Saltsburg today. It simulates the affect of alcohol.
- Last Friday, seniors attended the first annual all-nighter at Hershey Park. They rode from 10:00 pm all night.
- Softball team won 7-0. They will go to the second round of the playoffs.
- Majorettes took first place in Wildwood.
- On May 24th, select students will attend the Student Government Seminar at IUP with representatives from the state.
- Graduation is scheduled for Thursday, June 7th.

Jared thanked the Board for the opportunity to represent the students of Saltsburg High School. Mr. Bell thanked Jared for his service on the Board.

Citizens' Remarks

- John Hanna, 722 Market Street, Saltsburg, signed in to address the Board regarding consolidation and the budget. He stated that he has had an opportunity to mill over the answer received last month regarding the reimbursement. The question still is what is the percentage of reimbursement? He asked if we are going to

receive the exemption or not. What kind of true percentage of reimbursement will we receive if we do not receive the exemption. The tentative budget will be adopted tonight. Operational increases are just over a mill of the budget. The maximum allotment is 5.33 mills for items such as health care and pension. Why is the Board increasing it by four mills more than the operational expenses. Is the four mills being budgeted for consolidation?

Remarks to Citizens

Eric Kocsis responded to Mr. Hanna's remarks stating that he met with the architect last week. Most of the work in Blairsville does not qualify for the 20 years plan; \$11.6 million is new construction and will not fall under the 20-year rule.

Mr. Bell stated that he finds it interesting that there are 498 school districts in this state and only nine school districts vote in favor of Act 1. He thinks that Act 1 is again a statement that is not going to be resolved in the school districts; it will be resolved in the state. Part of the Act is irresponsible. Eric spent a lot of time, as well as the citizens to look into Act 1. There were printing costs, etc. that amounted to millions of dollars that was spent on Act 1. Some school districts even hired consultants.

FINANCE

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following Financial Report be approved and placed on file. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

(Financial Report available for public review in the Office of the Board Secretary)

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that the following Accounts Payable be paid. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

(Bill listing available for public review in the Office of the Board Secretary)

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that the Board of Directors hereby approves the adoption of the proposed budget for the 2007-2008 school year in the amount of \$27,615,438. It is understood that the proposed millage rate for Indiana County will be 120.75 mills and for Westmoreland County will be 115.94 mills. The proposed budget reflects a 5.33 mills increase for Indiana County and a 5.37 mills increase for Westmoreland County. The proposed budget will be available for public review, in the business office, during regular business hours, until final vote on June 18, 2007. Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Bell voting yes. Brown and Speal voting no. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the administration to bid for bread and bread products for the 2007-2008 school year. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the administration to bid for milk and milk products for the 2007-2008 school year. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that the Board of Directors hereby approves the exoneration request of *Lauren Bishop* from payment of 2006 Per Capita Taxes, having met all the parameters established by the Board. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that the Board of Directors hereby approves the special education services and programs proposal for the school years between 2007 through 2010, as presented by special education supervisor, Ms. Patti Olson, at the May 14, 2007, workshop meeting. Furthermore, the Board of Directors authorizes the submission of this plan to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for approval. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Manager, and in compliance with the requirements of Chapter 15 of Act 1 of Special Session 2006, the Board of School Directors hereby adopts the following Resolution authorizing the collection and

payment of school real property taxes in three (3) installments subject to the terms and conditions provided for therein.

BLAIRSVILLE-SALTSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COLLECTION AND PAYMENT OF SCHOOL
REAL PROPERTY TAXES IN INSTALLMENTS**

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 15 OF ACT 1 OF SPECIAL SESSION 2006

53 P.S. SECTION 6926.1501 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS, a School District has the power to provide for the collection and payment of its school real property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District believes that instituting installment payments will encourage the timely payment of current school real property taxes and thereby reduce delinquencies; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District believes that the installment payment of school real property taxes will benefit numerous property owners by extending their tax obligations over a longer period of time without incurring a penalty.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

1. **Installment Authorized.** In lieu of paying the current school real property taxes (excluding any interim or delinquent school real property taxes) in one lump sum, a taxpayer with homestead or farmstead property, approved pursuant to Section 341 of Act 1, Special Session of 2006, is hereby accorded the privilege of paying the annually levied school real property tax in three (3) installments as hereinafter set forth.
2. **Number of Installments and Due Dates.** School real property taxes may be paid in three (3) installments, which shall be paid and due as follows:
 - A. **First Installment** equal to 33 1/3 (33 1/3%) percent of the face (principal) amount shall be due on August 31st of each fiscal year;
 - B. **Second Installment** equal to 33 1/3 (33 1/3%) percent of the face (principal) amount shall be due on October 31st of each fiscal year, and
 - C. **Third Installment** equal to 33 1/3 (33 1/3%) percent of the face (principal) amount shall be due on or before December 15th of each fiscal year.
3. **Election to Pay by Installments.** To exercise the privilege of installment payments, the taxpayer must pay the First Installment on or before August 31st. Payment of the First Installment by a taxpayer before the installment becomes delinquent shall conclusively evidence an intention to pay the taxes on the installment plan, as provided above.
 - A. Where a taxpayer shall fail to pay the First Installment on or before August 31st, the taxpayer shall have waived the privilege to pay in installments. In such event, the entire school real property tax shall be due and payable in full and shall be collected as provided in the act of May 25, 1945 (P.L. 1050, No. 394) known as the Local Tax Collection Law, subject to the discounts and penalties provided by that act.
 - B. A taxpayer who is delinquent by more than ten days on more than two (2) installment payments shall be ineligible for the installment payment option in the following school fiscal year.
4. **Discounts.** Where payment of school real property taxes is made on the installment basis, there shall be no discount allowed on said school real property taxes.
5. **Penalty.** An unpaid installment shall not be considered delinquent if paid on or before the installment date established above. If the Second Installment becomes delinquent, a penalty of ten (10%) percent per centum shall be added to the amount of the Second Installment, and shall be collected by the tax collector. If the Third Installment becomes delinquent, a penalty of ten (10%) percent per centum shall be added to the amount of the Third Installment and shall be collected by the tax collector.
6. **Commission.** Installments shall be collected by the elected tax collector. The elected tax collector shall be paid such commissions or compensation at the same rate on installment payments as is paid

for the collection of school real property taxes generally. The expenses of postage and printing of tax notices shall be paid by the School District in the same manner as other school real property taxes.

7. **Effective Date.** The provision of the Resolution shall be effective for fiscal year 2007-2008 and shall remain in effect for all subsequent fiscal years until or unless rescinded or amended.

(Attachment #5) Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

CURRICULUM

Motion by Ms. Whitfield and seconded by Mr. Alexander that the Board of Directors hereby approves the attached tentative list of 2007 Blairsville High School graduates. (Attachment #1) Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Whitfield and seconded by Mr. Alexander that the Board of Directors hereby approves the attached tentative list of 2007 Saltsburg Middle/High School graduates. (Attachment #2) Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Whitfield and seconded by Mr. Alexander that the Board of Directors hereby approves the attached list of proposed textbooks and materials for the 2007-2008 school year. The proposed materials are available in the curriculum office during regular office hours, for review. (Attachment #3) Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley to amend the *Personnel* section of the agenda to include a school trip request to approve the Saltsburg Juniors and Seniors of the National Honor Society to attend Geauga Lake on June 6, 2007. All costs to be paid by the National Honor Society except for the costs of two substitutes in the amount of \$140. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Smith that the Board of Directors hereby approves the following school trip requests:

Name	Activity	Dates
Smathers, Jeff Blake, Carly Rado, Kristy SES	1. Approval to accompany the 3 rd grade students to the Carnegie Science Center and OmniMax Theater. There will be no cost to the district.	5/17/07
Chakot, John Kern, Joyce Baker, Lori SMHS	2. Approval to accompany participating students to an event for the Remembering Adam Drug-Free program. Total cost to the district will be \$175 (\$100 transportation; \$75 substitute).	5/25/07
Faulk, Stacy Buckles, James Henigin, Kimberly BMS	3. Approval to accompany participating students to an event for the Remembering Adam Drug-Free program. Total cost to the district will be \$400 (\$100 transportation; \$300 substitutes).	5/25/07
Muir, Kathy SMHS	4. Approval to accompany the seniors to PNC Park and banquet in Pittsburgh. There will be no cost to the district.	5/30/07
Stefanelli, Joanne Johns, Chris Foust, Jane Simon, Lila BES	5. Approval to accompany the 5 th grade students to a promotion day activity at the Indiana Roller Rink. Total cost to the district will be \$218.50 (\$180 transportation; \$38.50 for ½ day substitute).	6/6/07
Kathy Muir SHS	6. Approval to accompany the Juniors and Seniors of the National Honor Society to Geauga Lake, Ohio. Total cost to the district will be \$140 (two substitutes).	6/6/07

Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Smith that the Board of Directors hereby approves the following as professional substitutes for the 2006-2007 school year:

	Name	Residence	Certification
1.	Bebar, Jennifer	Greensburg	English
2.	Joyce, Alissa	Blairsville	Elementary
3.	Saylor, Tiffany	Crabtree	Mathematics
4.	Schrock, Barrett	Derry	Mathematics
5.	Shaw, Robyn	Blairsville	Early Childhood Education English 7-12
6.	Soohy, Nicole	Windber	Secondary Spanish Education

Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Smith that the Board of Directors hereby approves the following as non-professional substitutes for the 2006-2007 school year:

	Name	Residence	Classification
1.	Spade, John	Blairsville	Custodian/Maintenance
2.	Widdowson, Becky	Indiana	Custodian – Summer only

Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Smith that the Board of Directors hereby approves the following as bus aide for the district as an employee of Smith Bus Company and contingent upon receipt of all required documentation according to Board Policy #817, for the 2006-2007 school year:

	Name	Residence
1.	Baker, Valerie	New Alexandria

Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Smith that based upon the recommendation of the booster group representing the golf and baseball programs, the Board of Directors hereby approves the hiring of *Bryan Gould* as assistant baseball coach for the 2007 season, at a salary of \$2219. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Smith that based upon the recommendation of the administration, the Board of Directors hereby approves a one-year (2007-2008) contract to *Neil Stone* as Blairsville High School 3rd assistant football coach at a salary of \$3772. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Smith that the Board of School Directors hereby approves the sabbatical leave of absence request of professional employee number 0423, for restoration of health, for the entire 2007-2008 school year, in accordance with the provisions of Article XIII, F. Sabbatical Leave, of the collective bargaining agreement, and Section 1166 of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended, *et seq.*, subject, however, to the terms, conditions and requirements of the provisions of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended, governing sabbatical leaves of absence for purposes of restoration of health. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Smith that the Board of Directors hereby authorized the administration to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Blairsville-Saltsburg Education Association as presented to the Board. (Attachment #4) Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Speal, Bell voting yes. Smith voting no. Motion carried.

OTHER

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Alexander to amend the *Other* section of the agenda to include the name of B. Edward Smith as treasurer for the district and also to secure a bond in the amount of \$10,000. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Alexander and seconded by Mr. Rowley that the Board of Directors hereby approves the appointment of B. Edward Smith as treasurer for the district, commencing July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Alexander and seconded by Mr. Rowley that the Board of Directors hereby approves the securing of a bond for B. Edward Smith, treasurer, in the amount of \$10,000 with Ohio Casualty Insurance Company. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Alexander and seconded by Ms. Whitfield to amend the *Other* section of the agenda to include the following resolution:

Based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the School Solicitor, and upon consideration of the facts presented to the Board of School Directors at the grievance hearing held on May 21, 2007, the Board of School Directors hereby denies the grievance filed on May 2, 2007, by the Blairsville-Saltsburg Education Association on behalf of two (2) professional employees at Grievance No. 06/07-1, as amended. The Board further authorizes the Board President to complete and execute the grievance form on behalf of the Board of School Directors.

Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Alexander and seconded by Ms. Whitfield that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the School Solicitor, and upon consideration of the facts presented to the Board of School Directors at the grievance hearing held on May 21, 2007, the Board of School Directors hereby denies the grievance filed on May 2, 2007, by the Blairsville-Saltsburg Education Association on behalf of two (2) professional employees at Grievance No. 06/07-1, as amended. The Board further authorizes the Board President to complete and execute the grievance form on behalf of the Board of School Directors. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Alexander to amend the *Other* section of the agenda to include the following resolution:

Based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the School Solicitor, and upon consideration of the facts presented to the Board of School Directors at the grievance hearing held on May 21, 2007, the Board of School Directors hereby denies the grievance filed on May 2, 2007, by the Blairsville-Saltsburg Education Association on behalf of a professional employee at Grievance No. 06/07-2. The Board further authorizes the Board President to complete and execute the grievance form on behalf of the Board of School Directors.

Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mr. Alexander that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the School Solicitor, and upon consideration of the facts presented to the Board of School Directors at the grievance hearing held on May 21, 2007, the Board of School Directors hereby denies the grievance filed on May 2, 2007, by the Blairsville-Saltsburg Education Association on behalf of a professional employee at Grievance No. 06/07-2. The Board further authorizes the Board President to complete and execute the grievance form on behalf of the Board of School Directors. Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Smith, Speal, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Report of the Superintendent – On May 25th at 10:00 am, Representative Dave Reed will be present at the school. Mrs. Isenberg went to college with him and invited him. The Board is welcome to come and stand up for our crusade.

Report of the Solicitor – No report.

There was an executive session scheduled immediately following the meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Paul A. Bell, Board President

Leigh A. Free, Board Secretary