

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

**September 11, 2006**

The Board of Directors of the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District met for a Special Voting Meeting on Monday, September 11, 2006, in the Multi-purpose Room at the Saltsburg Elementary School with the following members present:

Lance Alexander  
Linda Brown  
Daniel McGregor  
Edward Smith

Paul Bell  
Michael LaMantia  
George Rowley  
Mary Whitfield

Karen Shusko was absent.

Dr. Mencer, Theresa Hanley, Eric Kocsis, Ron Saffron, Leigh Free, Tim Haselhoff, Eric Kostic, Joyce Henderson, Shirley Johnson, Don Davis and a group of citizens also attended the meeting.

Mr. Paul Bell, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.

**Citizens' Remarks**

- John Hanna, Saltsburg resident, signed in to address the Board regarding the SES roof and Dr. Mencer's position.
- Stan Waddle, Saltsburg resident, signed in to address the Board regarding consolidation.
- Rev. Dan Satler, Saltsburg resident, signed in to address the Board regarding consolidation and cyber school.
- Kim Muldowney, Saltsburg resident, signed in to address the Board to ask for a compromise on the body piercing rule.

**Remarks to Citizens**

Mr. McGregor questioned the appointment of the members of the Local Tax Study Commission. He asked if this was done by a selection process. Dr. Mencer explained that this was all the applications we received and that we actually need one more person plus one board member. He indicated other school districts are having the same problem. The commission must be appointed by September 14<sup>th</sup>, however, if we get another applicant by September 18<sup>th</sup>, we will appoint them then.

**FINANCE**

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Alexander to amend the *Finance* section of the agenda to include the name of Michael LaMantia as the representative from the school board to serve on the Local Tax Study Commission. LaMantia, Smith, McGregor, Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that be it resolved that the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District Board of School Directors hereby retains the investment banking firm of *Parker/Hunter, Inc.* as its financial advisor relating to the financing of the renovation/building projects for the district, with the understanding that the district shall incur no fees with Parker/Hunter, Inc. for such work until the financing is completed. (Attachment #1) LaMantia, Smith, McGregor, Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that be it resolved that the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District Board of School Directors hereby retains the law firm of *Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP* as bond counsel for the renovation/building projects for the district, under the terms and conditions of the proposal letter submitted by Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP dated September 8, 2006, a copy of which has been provided to each board member and the terms of which are incorporated into this motion. (Attachment #2) LaMantia, Smith, McGregor, Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that based upon the recommendation of the Business Manager and the facility/finance committee, the Board of Directors hereby approves the appointment of the following individuals who have expressed an interest in volunteering to serve on a Local Tax Study Commission, as mandated by Special Session Act 1 of 2006, entitled *The Taxpayer Relief Act* :

- John R. Kanyan of Blairsville
- Peter P. Vresilovic, II of Blairsville
- J. Scott Weimer of Saltsburg

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

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rowley that based upon the recommendation of the Business Manager and the facility/finance committee the Board of Directors hereby approves the appointment of *Michael LaMantia* Board Member to serve on the Local Tax Study Commission, as mandated by Special Session Act 1 of 2006, entitled *The Taxpayer Relief Act* representing the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District. LaMantia, Smith, McGregor, Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

### PERSONNEL

Dr. Mencer brought the Board's attention to Personnel items 3.b & 3.c stating that because Mr. Fennell is resigning, the Board will need to fill a four-hour position that has been vacant at SHS. It would be a four-hour with no benefits.

There was discussion between the Board members about decisions made in committee meetings after interviews and whether the decision should be firm or if a Board member had the right to change their mind without informing the other committee members. It was discussed that a Board member has from that time until the voting meeting to decide what their vote will be. One Board member stated that committees should work together and come together with a firm, uniform vote. Another Board member stated that the time between the meeting and the vote gave a Board member an opportunity to make a more informed decision.

There was a discussion between Mr. LaMantia and Mr. McGregor regarding the hiring of the architect and holding a meeting to discuss the building project. Mr. LaMantia indicated it was a Facilities/Finance Committee Meeting and then the results would be brought before the entire Board. Mr. McGregor indicated that he thought the entire Board should be notified of a Committee Meeting.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Alexander that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Business Manager and the personnel committee, the Board of Directors hereby approves the hiring of *Larissa Keck* as office secretary for Saltsburg Middle/High School at a beginning salary of \$26,950 with benefits in the bargaining unit agreement with the Blairsville-Saltsburg Educational Support Association and an effective date of hire of September 12, 2006. LaMantia, Smith, McGregor, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Bell voting yes. Brown voting no. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Alexander that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Directors hereby approves the resignation request of *Homer Fennell* as part-time maintenance staff at the Saltsburg campus, effective August 30, 2006. LaMantia, Smith, McGregor, Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Alexander that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Directors hereby approves the resignation request of *Joseph Jellison* as custodian at Blairsville Elementary School, effective August 30, 2006. Furthermore, the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the administration to post and/or advertise to fill this vacancy. LaMantia, Smith, McGregor, Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Alexander that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Directors hereby approves the resignation request of *Deborah A. George* as full-time instructional aide at Blairsville Elementary School, effective August 16, 2006. Furthermore, the Board of Directors authorizes the administration to post and/or advertise to fill this vacancy. LaMantia, Smith, McGregor, Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Alexander that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Manager, the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the administration to post and/or advertise for a part-time custodian for the Saltsburg campus. LaMantia, Smith, McGregor, Brown, Whitfield, Rowley, Alexander, Bell voting yes. Motion carried.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

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Paul A. Bell, Board President

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Leigh A. Free, Board Secretary