

RINGGOLD SCHOOL DISTRICT
400 Main Street
New Eagle, PA 15067

Regular Ringgold Board of School Directors' Meeting

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Ringgold Board of School Directors, for General Purposes, was held at 7:00 PM. Notices of this meeting were sent to all Board Members and it was properly posted and advertised. The meeting was called to order by President William Stein, Jr., and the following Board Members were present to the call of the roll: Mrs. Garry, Mrs. Glaneman, Mrs. Ott, Mrs. Fine, Mr. Mountain, Mr. Toprani, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Stein live and Mrs. Flament participating through a virtual platform.

ROLL CALL

President	Mr. William C. Stein, Jr.
First Vice President (participating through virtual platform)	Mrs. Carol F. Flament
Second Vice President	Mrs. Sherrie L. Garry
	Mrs. Maureen A. Ott
	Mrs. Gail A. Glaneman
	Mrs. Sarah Fine
	Mr. Paul M. Mountain
	Mr. Steven Toprani
	Mr. Gene R. Kennedy

Also Present

Superintendent	Mr. Randall S. Skrinjorich
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. Thomas Grierson
Solicitor	Mr. Timothy R. Berggren
Director of Finance & Board Secretary	Ms. Kimberley Moore

II. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – MR. SKRINJORICH

Mr. Skrinjorich reported that both the High School and Middle School have reported a significant decrease in the number of discipline referrals compared to the same time last year.

We want to thank our local fire departments for visiting the elementary schools last week for Fire Safety Week.

Congratulations to High School student Sarah McIntosh who competed in the Ligonier Highlands games and took first place in the harp journeyman category while also winning the Faith Stenning Memorial Award.

Congratulations to our Varsity Girls Volleyball and Varsity Boys Soccer teams for advancing to the playoffs. The boys’ soccer team will face Moon on Saturday, 3PM, at Moon.

“And how about this good news...our own Ryan Pajak ran a 5K in 14:40 at Mingo. This puts him 2nd on the PA 5k all-time list and 9th in the USA! Congratulations Ryan.”

Mr. Skrinjorich also invited Dr. Wanda Creel, the District’s Strategic Planning Coach, from Studer Education to give an update on the District’s progress on the Strategic Plan. She presented this update to the Board and audience.

III. SECRETARY’S REPORT

No report.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mrs. Fine, to accept the following minutes as presented:

A. Regular Board Meeting of Wednesday, September 20, 2023

V. MON VALLEY CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER REPORT – MR. KENNEDY

No Report.

VI. SHASDA REPORT – MRS. OTT

No Report.

VII. PSBA REPORT – MRS. OTT

No Report.

VIII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT – MR. BERGGREN

No Report.

IX. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MR. STEIN

Mr. Stein announced that the Board met in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting, to discuss the following items:

- A. Personnel**
B. Student Discipline
C. Assessment Appeals Litigation
D. Receive Information from the Administration

X. VISITORS' REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Yancey Taylor Donora, PA **Topic:** Athletics Recognition

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Business And Financial Services – Chairperson: Mr. Kennedy Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Flament and Mrs. Glaneman

1. Treasurer's Reports

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Toprani, to accept the Treasurer's Reports as presented. A copy of the Treasurer's Reports can be found in the Appendix of these minutes.

2. Payment of Bills

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mrs. Glaneman, to pay the Bills as presented. A copy of the Bills can be found in the Appendix of these minutes.

3. **Final Payment to Duro-Last**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mrs. Garry, to approve for final payment to Duro-Last in the amount of \$265,717.45 for the replacement of section 1 (cafeteria) roof at the Ringgold High School. Payment of the invoice will be made from the Capital Reserve Fund.

4. **Approval of Settlement Agreement**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mrs. Ott, to approve the Government Entity Release of All Claim as presented and to authorize the appropriate officers and officials of the School District to execute such documents and instruments necessary to effectuate the resolution of the claims against the settling defendants in the case of Ringgold School District v. Altria Group Inc., Philip Morris USA, Inc, Altria Client Services LLC, Altria Enterprises LLC, and Altria Group Distribution Company (collectively "Altria"). A copy of the Settlement Agreement was enclosed in the Board packets.

B. **Personnel and Administration – Chairperson: Mrs. Flament**
Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Glaneman and Mrs. Garry

1. **Resignations of Personnel**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Glaneman, seconded by Mr. Toprani, to accept the following resignations:

Taylor Smith - English and Language Arts Teacher for the Ringgold Middle School, effective on or before the completion of a 60 day hold period.

Hannah Zuch - English and Language Arts Teacher for the Ringgold Middle School, effective on or before the completion of a 60 day hold period.

Valerie Godfrey - Special Education Teacher for the Ringgold Middle School, effective on or before the completion of a 60 day hold period.

Bryan King-Sims - Bus Driver for the Ringgold School District, effective end of day October 3, 2023.

Melissa Schuster - Bus Driver for the Ringgold School District, effective end of day October 6, 2023.

Courtnee Moore - Bus Driver for the Ringgold School District, effective end of day September 27, 2023.

2. **Letter of Retirement**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Glaneman, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to approve a motion to accept the following retirement.

Deborah Inserra - Full-time Custodian for Ringgold School District effective June 30, 2024. Ms. Inserra is retiring under the Early Retirement Incentive Program approved at the September 20, 2023, Board meeting.

3. **Ratification of Hirings**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Glaneman, seconded by Mrs. Ott, to ratify and confirm the hiring of the following individual, pending receipt of proper documentation:

MaryAnn Fee - Special Education Teacher for the Ringgold School District at a salary of Master's +30 Step 13, which equates to \$57,300 based on the 2023-24 school year.

4. **Ratification of Addition to the Substitute Roster**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Glaneman, seconded by Mrs. Garry, granting permission to add the following individuals to the substitute roster, pending receipt of proper documentation:

Custodian

Jessica Meyer	Monongahela, PA
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Cafeteria

Jennifer Tatar	Belle Vernon, PA
Chelsey Criss	Monessen, PA

Teacher

Betty Lynne Hawkins	West Newton, PA
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Paraprofessional

Destiny Ealy	Donora, PA
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Bus Driver Trainee/Substitute

Ryan Sion	Coal Center, PA
Russell Meader	Monongahela, PA
William Miller	Monongahela, PA

5. Revision to Resignation of Extracurricular Position

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Glaneman, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, for the revision of the following extracurricular position resignation.

Natalie Hess – Activities Director for Ringgold High School effective end of the day October 13, 2023, and the stipend is to be prorated for number of days worked in the position.

6. Request To Attend A Conference

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Glaneman, seconded by Mrs. Fine, granting permission for the following conference request:

Safety Care Trainer Recertification
Principal – Ashli Gilbert
October 27, 2023
Total \$600.00

7. Granting Teacher Tenure

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Glaneman, seconded by Mrs. Ott, granting tenure to the following individual:

Ashley Selva

8. Approval of Revised Board Policy

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Glaneman, seconded by Mrs. Fine, to accept the following policy revisions. A copy has been included in the Board packet.

Policy 006 - Meetings
Policy 216.1 - Supplemental Discipline Records
Policy 251 - Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care, and Other Educational Instability

9. **Permission To Establish Clubs at the Ringgold High School**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Glaneman, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, granting permission for the following teachers at the Ringgold High School, to establish the clubs listed below. The bylaws have been included in the Board packet.

- Creative Writing Club - Nicole Waters
- Christian Community Outreach - Darren Hale
- Ringgold Squirrel Watching Society - Lori Schalles

C. **Curriculum, Education & Technology – Chairperson: Mrs. Ott**
Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Fine and Mr. Toprani

1. **Exclusion of Students**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to accept and approve the Agreement between the District and the parents of Student “23DA05”, whereby Student “23DA05” shall be excluded from in-person instruction under the terms contained in the Agreement.

2. **Participation in Special Olympics**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mrs. Fine, entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Special Olympics Pennsylvania for the development of a Unified Champion Schools Program for the 2023-2024 school year. This program includes forming a student inclusive leadership club and participation in bocce practices and events. A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding was included in the Board packet. Approval is subject to final review by the Solicitor and Administration.

3. **FORD Office Technologies Copier Upgrade Proposal**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mrs. Garry, to approve a renewal lease agreement for 7 new updated copiers for the Ringgold High School, Ringgold Middle School, Ringgold Elementary School North and Ringgold Elementary School South for a 63-month term at a payment of \$7,539.01 per month. This is a consolidation of two agreements into one with no changes nor price increase from the previous lease agreements. Pricing utilizing CoStars Contract Number 153269. A copy of the proposal was included in the Board packet. Approval is subject to final review by the Solicitor and Administration.

4. **Website Design Contract**

The Board, by a 5-4 vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, approving the contract between the District and Active Internet Technologies, LLC (Finalsite) for use in designing the District's website and website hosting. This contract is for a period of 5 years at a cost in the first year of \$11,663 and a start up fee of \$5,000. This will be replacing the District's current BlackBoard platform, which is being terminated. The contract was included in the Board packet. Approval is subject to final review by the Solicitor and Administration.

Voting Yes – Messrs: Kennedy and Stein, Mesdames: Ott, Garry, and Flament

Voting No – Messrs: Mountain and Toprani, Mesdame: Glaneman and Fine

Before a vote could be taken, a motion was made by Mr. Toprani, seconded by Mrs. Fine, to table this motion. The motion to table failed by a 2-7 vote by a call of the roll of the nine members participating.

Voting Yes – Messrs: Toprani, Mesdames: Fine

Voting No – Messrs: Kennedy, Mountain, and Stein, Mesdame: Ott, Garry, Glaneman, and Flament

D. **Athletics – Chairperson: Mrs. Garry Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Flament and Mr. Mountain**

1. **Creation of Girls Wrestling Program**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Garry, seconded by Mrs. Fine, creating a Girls' Wrestling Program beginning in the 2023-2024 school year. As part of creating a Girls' Wrestling Program, the District would also create the positions of Head Varsity Girls' Wrestling Coach and Girls' Volunteer Wrestling Coach. The current Head Wrestling Coach will provide oversight to both the Girls' and Boys' Wrestling Teams, with the Varsity Wrestling Coach assisting with the Girls' team. In the event that there are fewer than five girls participating in the program, the program will be cancelled for that year.

2. **Resignation of Coach**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Garry, seconded by Mrs. Fine, to accept the following resignation:

1. Barry Brodzinski - Head Men's Basketball Coach

Mr. Toprani thanked Coach Brodzinski for his time here and the impact he had on our athletes.

3. Appointment of Coaches

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Garry, seconded by Mrs. Ott, to hire the following coaches pending receipt of proper documentation. Please note that salaries will be based on the 2023-2024 budget. Clearances and other required paperwork have been obtained and appointments are subject to contract documents prepared by the Administration and Solicitor.

Middle School Boys' Basketball

Zack Smith – Middle School Head 7th Grade Coach at a salary of \$2,500.00 (Yearly contract).

Varsity Boys' Basketball

Shane Bertovich – Head Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach at a salary of \$7,300.00 (Three-year contract).

Girls' Wrestling Coach

Noah Lynch - Head Girls' Wrestling Coach at a salary of \$3,000.00 (Three-year contract subject participation requirements).

Softball

Ashley Nemchak – First Varsity Assistant Coach at a salary of \$3,600.00 (Contract follows head coach).

Dave Gilpin - Second Varsity Assistant Coach at a salary of \$2,400.00 (Contract will follow the head coach).

Buddy Nemchak - Volunteer High School Softball Coach.

4. Revision to Appointment of Coaches

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Garry, seconded by Mrs. Glaneman, to revise the following coaching salaries. Please note that salaries will be based on the 2023-2024 budget.

Bob Marlow - First Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach at a salary of \$4,800.00 (Contract follows head coach).

Chace Capicotto - Second Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach at a salary of \$3,200.00 (Contract follows head coach).

5. Request To Attend an Overnight Softball Trip

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Garry, seconded by Mr. Mountain, granting permission for the following athletic trip requests:

Softball Team - KSA Spring Softball Tournament
Florida
March 25, 2024 - March 29, 2024

The coach will follow the chaperone policy set by the District and the trip will be fully funded by the softball boosters.

E. Health and Nutrition – Chairperson: Mrs. Glaneman Co-chairpersons: Mr. Mountain and Mrs. Fine

No report.

F. Safety and Security – Chairperson: Mr. Mountain Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Ott and Mr. Kennedy

No report.

G. Facilities, Planning, and Transportation – Chairperson: Mrs. Fine - Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Garry and Mr. Toprani

1. Use of Facility Requests

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Fine, seconded by Mrs. Garry, to approve the following Use of Facilities requests. The granting of the use of facilities shall be subject to change as determined by the Administration.

Ringgold Youth Wrestling (Kevin Roche)

- a. Use of RHS wrestling room Monday – Friday starting November 13, 2023 - April 7, 2024, from 6:00pm – 9:00pm.
- b. Fees- No fees associated with the usage as the request occurs during normal operating hours and does not require the presence of additional custodial or security personnel.

Youth Wrestling Tournament (Kevin Roche)

- a. Youth wrestling will have a tournament at RHS on January 6, 2024 - January 7, 2024 from 6:00am to 6:00pm.
- b. Fees – \$30.00/Hour Custodial, \$20.00/Hour Security for hours outside normal operating hours.

Ringgold Gear Team

- a. Hosting the Mon Valley Elementary Gifted Quiz Bowl for grades K-5 gifted students from the area on November 16, 2023, from 8:00am to 1:30pm at the Ringgold Middle School Auditorium.
- b. Fees – No fees associated with the usage as the request occurs during normal operating hours and does not require the presence of additional custodial or security.

2. Approval of Transportation Agreement

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Fine, seconded by Mrs. Garry, entering into the School Bus Transportation Service Agreement with the following entity for the transportation of certain students during the 2023-2024 school year, subject to final review by the Administration and Solicitor.

First Student

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members participating, approved a motion by Mrs. Garry, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to adjourn.

The Board adjourned at 8:14 PM.



Kimberley Moore Burchill
Secretary of the Board
Ringgold Board of School Directors