

**RINGGOLD SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
 400 Main Street  
 New Eagle, PA 15067

**Regular Ringgold Board Of School Director's Meeting**

**Wednesday, December 18, 2013**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Ringgold Board of School Directors, for General Purposes, was held in the Administration Building, 400 Main Street, New Eagle, PA 15067 on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 at 7:02 P.M. 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 Mariann L. Bulko and the following Board Members were present to the call of the roll.

**II. ROLL CALL**

First Vice President  
 Second Vice President

Mr. William C. Stein, Jr.  
 Mrs. Carol F. Flament  
 Mr. Christopher D. Carroll  
 Mrs. Sherrie L. Garry  
 Mr. Jason H. Gerard  
 Mr. Gene R. Kennedy  
 Mr. Lawrence L. Mauro  
 Mrs. Maureen A. Ott

**Also Present**

Superintendent  
 Assistant to the Superintendent  
 Director of Operations and  
 Financial Operations  
 Solicitor  
 Secretary

Dr. Karen L. Polkabila  
 Mr. Jeffrey A. Matty  
 Mr. Randall S. Skrinjorich  
 Mr. Timothy R. Berggren  
 Mrs. Betty J. Dornan

**III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**A. Introduction Of Speakers**

**1. Michelle R. Portnoff, Esquire**

Ms. Portnoff spoke to the Board regarding the collection of Delinquent Real Estate Taxes by her company, Portnoff Law Associates, Ltd.

**2. Cypher & Cypher**

Mr. Steven Cypher gave a presentation of the Annual Financial Report Year Ended June 30, 2013.

**3. Report On Ringgold Middle School**

Mr. Brian Chandler from WBCM gave a report on the physical condition of the Ringgold Middle School.

**IV. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

No Report

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Stein, seconded by Mrs. Flament, approving the following Minutes:

- A. Regular Meeting Of Wednesday, November 20, 2013
- B. Reorganization Meeting of Tuesday, December 3, 2013
- C. Special Meeting Of Tuesday, December 3, 2013

**VI. MON VALLEY CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER REPORT - MR. CHRISTOPHER D. CARROLL**

Mr. Carroll reported that the Reorganization and Special Meetings were held on Thursday, December 12, 2013 at the Vo-Tech School.

The renovations at the Vo-Tech School were under the cost of the bid by \$592,000. With the money left from the renovations, ceilings, parking lot, and lighting will be repaired at the school.

**VII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Berggren stated that he had nothing to report publicly.

**VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mrs. Bulko stated that prior to tonight's meeting, the School Board met in Executive Session to discuss the following:

- 1. Student Discipline
- 2. Labor Contract Negotiations
- 3. Possible Litigation

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**IX. VISITORS' REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

**Seth Hoosac** – 425 Fourth Avenue, New Eagle, PA 15067 – **Topic:** Appropriate and proper procedures

**Zachary A. Fleming** – 123 S. Mellon Avenue, Donora, PA 15033 – **Topic:** DEC Playground equipment

**MOTION REGARDING PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Mauro, contingent upon the Donora Fire Department and other volunteers doing the work to make a lot that is located in the First Street Section of Donora into a playground and park for citizens and children to enjoy, and also contingent upon the Donora Fire Department and other volunteers removing the playground equipment from the Donora Elementary Center and transporting it to the new playground location.

**Zachary Smith** – 231 Waddell Avenue, Donora, PA 15033 – **Topic:** New sub teacher – would like to introduce myself

**John Lunt** – 109 Ninth Street, Donora, PA 15033 – **Topic:** School on Waddell Avenue and how the Auction was conducted

**X. COMMITTEE REPORTS****A. Business And Financial Services – Chairperson: Mrs. Flament – Co-chairpersons: Mr. Kennedy And Mr. Stein****1. Treasurer's Report**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Carroll, to accept the Treasurer's Report. A copy of the Treasurer's Report can be found in the Appendix of these Minutes on pages 34061 to 34064.

**2. Payment Of Bills**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to accept the Bills as presented. A copy of the Bills can be found in the Appendix of these Minutes on pages 34065 to 340990.

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**3. Approval Of Cypher & Cypher Annual Audit**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Stein, to accept the Audit Report and Interfund Transfers, and Budget Transfers for the school year ending June 30, 2013 as performed by Cypher & Cypher

**4. Acceptance Of Proposal From Cypher & Cypher**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Stein, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to accept the proposal from Cypher & Cypher for auditing services for the following years:

**2014**

General Purpose Financial Statements	\$12,800
Price per Major Federal Project	<u>\$ 2,225</u>
	\$15,025

**2015**

General Purpose Financial Statements	\$13,184
Price per Major Federal Project	<u>\$ 2,225</u>
	\$15,409

**2016**


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General Purpose Financial Statements	\$13,580
Price per Major Federal Project	<u>\$ 2,225</u>
	\$15,805

**5. Resolution Regarding A Tax Increase**

The Board, by a vote of 8-1 to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Stein, seconded by Mr. Carroll, to adopt a resolution that the District will not raise the rate of any tax for support of its public schools for the 2014-2015 fiscal year by more than the index established by the Department of Education that is 2.9% for the Ringgold School District. A copy of the Resolution can be found in the Appendix of these Minutes on page 34091.

**Voting Yes – Messrs.:** Gerard, Mauro, Stein, Carroll, Mesdames: Flament, Garry, Ott, and Bulko

**Voting No – Mr. Kennedy**

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6. Approval Of An Addendum to the Portnoff Law Associates, Ltd. Contract

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Stein, seconded by Mrs. Ott, to approve an Addendum, for one year, for Portnoff Law Associates, Ltd. to collect delinquent real estate taxes for 2013. A copy of the Addendum can be found in the Appendix of these Minutes on page 34092 to 34093.

7. Payment To R & B Mechanical, Inc.

The Board, by a vote of 8-0-1 to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Stein, seconded by Mrs. Flament, for payment to R & B Mechanical, Inc., as approved by the Architects HHSDR, in the amount of \$32,680.65 for services related to the Ringgold High School Dehumidification Project. Payment of Invoice Number 6 will be made from the Capital Reserve Funds.

**Voting Yes** – Messrs.: Gerard, Kennedy, Mauro, Stein, Mesdames: Flament, Garry, Ott, and Bulko

**Abstaining** – Mr. Carroll stated that he was erring on the side of caution by abstaining due to the fact that his employer does business with R & B Mechanical, Inc.

B. Personnel And Administration – Chairperson: Mr. Kennedy – Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Flament And Mr. Gerard

1. Request For A Sabbatical Leave

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Mauro, granting Mrs. Rachel L. Roberts, an English Teacher at the Ringgold High School, a Sabbatical Leave from January 22, 2014 and ending June 9, 2014.

2. Salary Increase For A Teacher Aide

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Carroll, granting permission to increase the salary of Lisa Murphy to \$9.50 per hour beginning on her one year anniversary date of January 2, 2014.

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**3. Conference Request**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Stein, granting permission for the following conference request:

<b>Colleen Spahr</b>	National Association of School Resource Officers – School Security Officer Training – January 19-21, 2014
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Funds to be taken  
from Security Travel

Collier Township, PA

<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$491.55</b>
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**4. Permission To Place A Student In The RAMS Program**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Carroll, to accept the agreement reached between the Administration and the Parents of Student "A" whereby Student "A" shall be expelled and admitted into the RAMS Program for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year.

**5. Employment Of A Biology Teacher**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Gerard, seconded by Mrs. Flament, granting permission to employ John P. Laukaitis as a Biology Teacher at the Ringgold High School at a salary of \$34,600 – Step 1, Master's Degree.

**6. Approval Of Memorandum Of Understanding**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Gerard, seconded by Mr. Carroll, approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ringgold School District and AFSCME, Local 493, Custodial/Maintenance Union regarding seniority and the posting of a custodial position. A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding can be found in the Custodial/Maintenance Union Agreement of 2012-2015.

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**7. Requests For Family And Medical Leaves**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Gerard, seconded by Mrs. Flament, granting permission for the following persons to take Family and Medical Leaves:

- a. Shirley Wall – Ringgold High School Cafeteria
- b. Louise Kruczek – Ringgold Elementary School South Cafeteria

**8. Additions To The Substitute Rosters**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Gerard, seconded by Mr. Carroll, granting permission to add the following names to the substitute rosters:

**Teacher**

Richard Garris	Mt. Pleasant, PA	English 7-12
Pending Proper Documentation		
Zachary Smith	Donora, PA	Biology
Pending Proper Documentation		

**Teacher Aide**

Leanne Stimak	Monongahela, PA
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**C. Curriculum – Chairperson: Mrs. Ott – Co-chairpersons: Mr. Carroll And Mr. Gerard**

Mrs. Ott gave a Curriculum Report. A copy of the report can be found in the Appendix of these Minutes on page 34094.

**D. Technology – Chairperson: Mr. Gerard – Co-chairpersons: Mr. Stein And Mr. Mauro**

No Report

**E. Athletics – Chairperson: Mrs. Garry – Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Ott And Mr. Kennedy**

No Report

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F. Health And Nutrition – Chairperson: Mr. Mauro – Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Ott And Mrs. Garry

No Report

G. Safety And Security – Chairpersons: Mr. Stein – Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Garry And Mr. Carroll

No Report

H. Facilities, Planning, And Transportation – Chairperson: Mr. Carroll – Co-chairpersons: Mr. Stein And Mrs. Flament

1. Requests For Use Of Facilities

A motion was made by Mr. Carroll, seconded by Mrs. Garry, granting permission for the following requests for use of facilities:

a. Ringgold Lady Rams Soccer

**What:** Soccer Tournament

**When:** February 16, 2014

**Where:** Ringgold High School Gymnasium

**Cost:** 1 Security - 10 Hours @ \$20.00 Per Hour = \$200.00  
1 Custodian – 4 Hours @ \$30.00 Per Hour = \$120.00

b. **What:** Bubble Soccer

**When:** March 22, 2014

**Where:** Ringgold High School Gymnasium

**Cost:** 1 Security – 8 Hours @ \$20.00 Per Hour = \$160.00  
1 Custodian – 4 Hours @ \$30.00 Per Hour = \$120.00

Mr. Carroll and Mrs. Garry both agreed to change their motion to waive the fees for both requests.

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved the requested use of facilities.



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**2. Rejection Of All School Bids**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Stein, to reject all bids received or on before December 11, 2013 for school buses and directing the Administration to rebid for four 72 passenger school buses.

**Testing At The Ringgold Middle School**

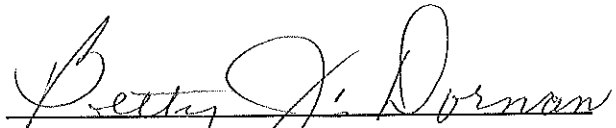
The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Mauro, seconded by Mr. Carroll, granting permission to WBCM to conduct testing on an unknown material located under the Ringgold Middle School.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Stein, seconded by Mr. Carroll, to adjourn.

The Board adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

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**Betty J. Dornan**  
Secretary of the Board  
Ringgold Board of School Directors