

RINGGOLD SCHOOL DISTRICT
400 Main Street
New Eagle, PA 15067

Regular Ringgold Board of School Directors' Meeting

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Ringgold Board of School Directors, for General Purposes, was held at 7:03 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. Ott, Mr. Dodd, Ms. Bobnar, Mr. Gerard, Mrs. Flament, Mrs. Garry, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Mauro, and Mr. Stein.

II. ROLL CALL

President
First Vice President
Second Vice President

Mr. William C. Stein, Jr.
Mrs. Carol F. Flament
Mrs. Sherrie L. Garry
Mr. Gene R. Kennedy
Mr. Jason H. Gerard
Mrs. Maureen A. Ott
Mr. Lawrence L. Mauro
Mr. James R. Dodd
Ms. Harley Bobnar

Also Present

Superintendent
Assistant Superintendent
Solicitor
Director of Finance & Board Secretary

Mr. Randall S. Skrinjorich
Mr. Thomas Grierson
Mr. Timothy R. Berggren
Ms. Kimberley Moore

III. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – MR. SKRINJORICH

Mr. Skrinjorich invited Jim Summerville of the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) to honor two Board members and recognize an additional member for their services. Mr. Jason Gerard and Mrs. Sherrie Garry were awarded Honor Roll Certificates for their long-term service and dedication to the District and Community for 8 and 12 years respectively. Mr. Gerard has completed the Advanced Level of School Director training. Mrs. Garry has served the District as a Vice President for several terms.

Mr. Summerville then recognized Mr. Lawrence Mauro for 30 years of service. He concluded by thanking the Board members for their continued services over the years. Mr. Stein congratulated and thanked Mr. Mauro for his dedication to the District and students of Ringgold School District over the past 30 years. Mr. Mauro thanked Mr. Stein and the community for recognizing his services as a School Director.

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 Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to accept following minutes as presented:

A. Regular Board Meeting of Wednesday, October 20, 2021

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

No Report.

VII. INTERMEDIATE UNIT 1 REPORT – MRS. OTT

Mrs. Ott stated that there is no meeting in November. The next meeting will be held in December.

VIII. SHASDA REPORT – MRS. OTT

Mrs. Ott stated that SHASDA is holding a meeting on December 16, 2021 after several months of no communication.

IX. PSBA REPORT – MRS. OTT

Mrs. Ott reported that she participated in the PSBA Delegate Assembly last month. She noted that the oncoming Board members are required to complete five hours of training and returning members are required to complete three hours of training.

X. SOLICITOR’S REPORT – MR. BERGGREN

Mr. Stein asked the solicitor to explain how Ringgold School District will be affected by new masking policies. Mr. Berggren stated that as of December 4, 2021 the mask mandated issued by the Secretary of Health will no longer be in effect; however, there are court appeals pending. Under the Health and Safety plan of the District, masks will no longer be mandated as of December 4, 2021.

At this time, Mr. Dodd expressed concerns regarding employee shortages due to mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations. Mr. Berggren explained that OSHA implemented the mandatory vaccination, and OSHA does not apply to Pennsylvania Public Schools.

XI. PRESIDENT’S REPORT – MR. STEIN

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

- A. Personnel Matters**
- B. Student Discipline**
- C. Receive Legal Advice and Information**

XII. VISITORS’ REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Yancy Taylor Donora, PA **Topic:** Activity Bus & Football Coach

Kim Leasure REA President **Topic:** Mask Policy

PRESENTATION BY DISTRICT ARCHITECT

At this time, architect, Matt Franz of HHSDR, presented updates of the Ringgold High School Natatorium and Locker Rooms Project. Mr. Franz stated Phase 1 of the project has been completed.

Over the summer professional photographs were taken of Ringgold Middle School and sent to a national publication that specializes in the design of K-12 educational facilities. Mr. Franz announced that Ringgold Middle School was recognized for its Outstanding Design for accomplishing a lot in a restricted space, utilizing the internal courtyard to ensure day light in classroom spaces, a grand and uplifting auditorium, and consistent colors that reinforce the identity of the school.

Mr. Franz stated that Phase 2 of the project in the High School will begin receiving bids in February 2022 to begin the construction of Phase 2 in the summer of 2022. Mr. Franz presented the Board members with several decisions that needed to be made before Phase 2 began. It was the consensus of the Board to implement Terrazzo flooring and folding doors in the auditorium in Phase 2 of the project.

ESSER SURVEY

At this time, Mr. Skrinjorich invited Shannon Crombie to report the results of a survey posted November 3-12, 2021 on the District website regarding spending the ESSER funding. The survey was advertised on the District's social media platforms and the Mon Valley Independent. The survey received 237 responses, 62% being parents/guardians, 15% being employees, 14% being community members, and four percent being students. The survey focused on prevention and mitigation strategies, student learning, and pupil service. 72% of participants agreed that upgrading and maintaining facilities was important for prevention and mitigation. Under the student learning category, improving technology tools and literacy improvement was most important to 68% of participants. Under the pupil service category, 69% of participants found meeting social and emotional needs of all students to be the most important. Once an ARP Plan is created, it will be shared with the community on the District's website.

At this time, Mr. Dodd requested to utilize statistics regarding the impact of implementing the mask policy during the 2021-2022 school year when considering the end of the mask mandate on December 4, 2021. Both Mr. Stein and Mr. Skrinjorich ensured the members that our data will be considered when reviewing the District's Policy regarding masks.

XIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Business and Financial Services –Chairperson: Mrs. Flament Co-Chairpersons: Ms. Bobnar and Mrs. Ott

1. Treasurer's Reports

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament and seconded by Mrs. Ott, 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 call to the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament and seconded by Mrs. Ott, to accept the Bills as presented. A copy of the Bills can be found in the Appendix of these minutes.

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 Mrs. Garry, to approve Motions 3 through 8 as stated below:

3. **Payment to HHSDR Invoice #10 – Phase 1**

To approve payment to HHSDR in the amount of \$6,346.00 for Phase 1 Renovation Ringgold High School (Natatorium and Locker Rooms) project. Payment of Invoice #10 will be made from the Capital projects Fund.

4. **Payment for Phase 1 Renovation Ringgold High School (Natatorium and Locker Rooms) Project**

To approve payment to Allegheny City Electric, Inc. for Invoice #4 in the amount of \$69,008.58, Allegheny City Electric, Inc. for Invoice #5 in the amount of \$12,883.48, Caliber Contracting Services, Inc. for Invoice #5 in the amount of \$335,536.94, East West Manufacturing & Supply, Inc. for Invoice #4 in the amount \$363,577.00, First American Industries, Inc. for Invoice #5 in the amount of \$77,143.95, GeoMechanics, Inc. for Invoice #3 in the amount of \$2,832.50, and GeoMechanics, Inc. for Invoice #4 in the amount of \$3,652.50 for Phase 1 Renovation Ringgold High School (Natatorium and Locker Rooms) Project. Payment of the invoices will be made from the Capital Projects Fund.

5. **Payment to the HHSDR Invoice #1 – Phase 2**

To approve payment to HHSDR in the amount of \$58,500.00 for Phase 1 Renovation Ringgold High School (Natatorium and Locker Rooms) project. Payment of invoice #1 will be made from the Capital Projects Fund.

6. **Payment to HHSDR Invoice #1 - FMS**

To approve payment to HHSDR in the amount of \$8,625.00 for the Finley Middle School Demolition project. Payment of invoice #1 will be made from the Capital Projects Reserve.

7. **Approval of Deduct Change Order from Plavchak Construction Co., Inc.**

To accept a deduct change order from Plavchak Construction Co., Inc., approved by the architects HHSDR, in the amount of (\$1,487.00) for services related to the Ringgold High School baseball field project. A copy of Deduct Change Order GC-2 was enclosed in the Board packet.

8. Payment to Plavchak Construction Co., Inc. Invoice #4

To approve the final payment to Plavchak Construction Co., Inc., approved by the architects HHSDR, in the amount of \$44,768.95 for services related to the Ringgold High School baseball field project. Final payment of invoice #4 will be made from the Capital Projects Fund.

9. Approval of the Cost Proposal for Finley Middle School Demolition

A motion was made by Mrs. Flament, and seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to accept a proposal from Crystalair Construction, LLC in the amount of \$9,000 for preparing permit documents and County submissions regarding the land disturbance associated with the Finley Middle School demolition project.

During Board discussion Mrs. Ott motioned to table the item until the District received advice from a real estate agent and to let the incoming Board members decide. The motion to table was seconded by Mr. Dodd. The motion to table failed by a vote of 3-6 by a call of the roll of the members present.

Voting Yes - Messrs.: Dodd and Mauro, Mesdames: Ott

Voting No - Messrs.: Gerard, Kennedy, Stein, Mesdames: Bobnar, Garry and Flament

Mrs. Flament and Mrs. Garry passed on the first vote.

The Board, by a 7-2 vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved the original motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to accept a proposal from Crystalair Consulting, LLC in the amount of \$9,000.00 for preparing permit documents and County submissions regarding the land disturbance associated with the Finley Middle School demolition project. A copy of the proposal was enclosed in the Board packet.

Voting Yes - Messrs.: Gerard, Kennedy, Mauro, and Stein, Mesdames: Bobnar, Flament, and Garry

Voting No - Messrs.: Dodd, Mesdames: Ott

The Board, by a 8-1 vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Flament, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to approve Motions 10, and Motions 12 through 16 as stated below.

Voting Yes - Messrs.: Gerard, Kennedy, Dodd, and Stein, Mesdames: Ott, Bobnar, Flament, and Garry

Voting No - Messr.: Mauro

10. Use of Special Education Services with Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3

To the use of services with Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3 in the amount of \$150.00 per hour for special education services. A copy of the confirmation was enclosed in the Board packet.

11. Adoption of National Geographic Learning Resources

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 Ms. Bobnar, to adopt the National Geographic Learning, which resources will provide the curriculum for English Learners in the Ringgold School District. A summary of the resources was enclosed in the Board packet.

12. Induction Participation for Intermediate Unit 1

To approve participation by Ringgold School District teachers in the Intermediate Unit 1 Induction program for the 2021-2022 school year. A copy of the participation form was enclosed in the Board packet.

Voting Yes - Messrs.: Gerard, Kennedy, Dodd, and Stein, Mesdames: Ott, Bobnar, Flament, and Garry

Voting No - Messr.: Mauro

13. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Translation Services

To accept the Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for Translation Services with TransPerfect Remote Interpreting. The approval of this agreement is contingent upon final review by the Administration and Solicitor. A copy of the memorandum of understanding was presented in the Board packet.

14. Approval of the Addendum with Soliant Health, LLC

To grant permission to employ Amanda Delich through Soliant Health, LLC and VocoVision for vision telepractice services for students of the Ringgold School District effective November 15, 2021.

15. Approval of an Agreement with Outside Vendors for Financial Support Services

To accept an agreement with outside vendors to provide financial support services to the District.

16. Approval of an Agreement with Outside Vendors for Technology Support and Services

To accept two agreements with outside vendors to provide technology support and services to the District.

Voting Yes - Messrs.: Gerard, Kennedy, Dodd, and Stein, Mesdames: Ott, Bobnar, Flament, and Garry

Voting No - Messr.: Mauro

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

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to approve the resignations of the following personnel.

1. Resignation of Personnel

George Hartman – Maintenance II for Ringgold School District, effective end of day Friday, October 29, 2021.

Madeline Taccone – Reading Specialist Teacher for Ringgold Elementary School North, effective on or before the completion of a 60 day hold period.

Rachael Graf – Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher for Ringgold Middle School, effective on or before the completion of a 60 day hold period.

Elizabeth Romito – Teacher Aide for Ringgold Elementary School South, effective end of day Monday, November 1, 2021.

Alisha Williams - 3.5 Hour Utility Worker for Ringgold High School, effective end of the day Wednesday, November 3, 2021.

Mariah Carpenter – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Finance Coordinator for Ringgold School District effective on or before the completion of a 60 day hold period.

2. **Acceptance of Resignation and Approval of Agreement**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Ms. Bobnar, to accept the resignation of Gina Benca effective November 12, 2021, and approving the Agreement between the District, the Ringgold Education Association and Ms. Benca.

3. **Employment of Personnel**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mrs. Flament to employ the following individuals:

Jackie Lane – Full-time Bus Driver for Ringgold School District.

4. **Appointment of School Board Recording Secretary**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Ms. Bobnar, to appoint Ms. Hanna Engle as the School Board Recording Secretary at an annual stipend of \$6,000 effective November 1, 2021.

5. **Early Retirement Incentive Program for Non-Professional Employees**

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to accept an Early Retirement Incentive Program for non-professional employees (District Secretaries, Administrative Assistants, Maintenance Workers and Custodians), contingent upon that individual having at least ten (10) years of service in the Ringgold School District. This retirement incentive would entitle the recipient to a onetime payment of \$5,000.00 or individual health insurance coverage for a period of one (1) year beginning the month following the employee's retirement. Additionally, there shall be no limit on the number of accumulated sick days payable for severance purposes for Administrative Assistants. Both options are contingent upon the recipient providing an irrevocable letter of retirement, including which

option is being selected, to the School District on or before 3:00 p.m. on January 31, 2022, with an effective date of the individual's retirement being no later than June 30, 2022.

6. Early Retirement Program for Professional Employees

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Ott, seconded by Mrs. Garry, to offer an Early Retirement Incentive Plan to the School District's professional employees offering five annual payments of \$5,000.00 into a qualified Health Retirement Account. A copy of the Early Retirement Incentive Plan is attached to the agenda.

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

1. Expulsion of Students

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Mauro, seconded by Ms. Bobnar, to approve the Agreement between the District and the parents of Student "A", "B", "C", and "D", whereby Student "A", "B", "C", and "D" shall be expelled from the Ringgold School District under the terms contained in the Agreement.

2. Request to Attend an Overnight Student Field Trip

A motion was made by Mr. Mauro, and seconded by Mrs. Garry, to approve a motion granting permission for the following field trips, which include the cost of insurance.

**High School and Middle School
Show Choir**

Walt Disney World Resort in
Orlando, Florida
May 20, 2022 - May 24, 2022

**TOTAL COST PER STUDENT \$1,200.00
NUMBER OF STUDENTS 60**

Indoor Percussion

East Coast Championship in
Wildwood, New Jersey
April 27, 2022 – May 1, 2022

**TOTAL COST PER STUDENT \$500.00
NUMBER OF STUDENTS 25**

During Board discussion Mrs. Flament motioned to table the item. The motion to table was seconded by Mrs. Garry. The motion to table passed by a vote of 7-2 by a call of the roll of the members present.

Voting Yes - Messrs.: Kennedy, Mauro, and Stein, Mesdames: Ott, Bobnar, Flament, and Garry

Voting No – Messrs.: Dodd and Gerard

3. Request to Attend Conference

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mr. Mauro, seconded by Mrs. Ott, to grant permission for the following conference:

Assistant Principal of Ringgold High School Mary Grace Stutzman	PILLAR Leadership and Curriculum Online Course January 10, 2022 -March 7, 2022
TOTAL COST	\$300.00

D. Athletics – Chairperson: Mrs. Garry Co-chairpersons: Mr. Gerard and Mr. Mauro

1. Appointment of Coaches

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Garry, seconded by Mr. Gerard, to hire the following coaches. Salaries will be based on the 2021-2022 budget. Appointments are subject to contract documents prepared by the Administration and Solicitor.

1. Junior High Wrestling

a. Brandon Agostinelli – Junior High Head Coach at a salary of \$2,500.00 (annual contract)

b. Chris Brown – Junior High Assistant Coach at a salary of \$2,000.00 (annual contract)

2. Junior High Basketball

a. Arthur Coleman – 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach at a salary of \$2,500.00 (annual contract)

- b. **Kevin Feld** – Volunteer Junior High Basketball Coach (annual contract)

2. Use of Facility Requests

The Board, by a unanimous voice vote of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Garry, seconded by Mrs. Flament, to approve the following Use of Facilities requests. The following requests and approvals for use of facilities are subject to the terms and conditions of the Ringgold School District's Health and Safety Plan, the Ringgold School District's Athletic Policies and Procedures, and the District's use of School Facilities and Grounds Policy 707. The use of District facilities also subject to any government Mandates or Recommendations from the Department of Health, the Department of Education, or any other government agency related to health and safety issues. The granting of the use of facilities shall be subject to change as determined by the Administration as it deems necessary for the health and safety of the participants, as well as the District's students and staff. Failure of any group to strictly following the requirements and conditions as provided for above shall result in the group's permission to use the District's facilities being revoked.

1. Ringgold Middle School Cheer Boosters

- a. Use of the Middle School Cafeteria for a Holiday Party for the RMS Cheerleaders on December 15, 2021.
- b. Fees – No fees associated with this usage as the request occurs during normal operating hours and does not require the presence of additional custodial or security personnel.

2. Ringgold High School Swim Boosters

- a. Use of High School Cafeteria on every Wednesday beginning December 1, 2021 to April 1, 2022 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm.
- b. Fees – No fees associated with this usage as the request occurs during normal operating hours and does not require the presence of additional custodial or security personnel.

3. RAYSA – Ringgold Area Youth Soccer Association

- a. Use of High School Auditorium for two dates, January 20, 2022 and February 24, 2022 from 5:45pm to 8:00pm for Spring Registration and Parent Meeting.

- b. Fees – No fees associated with this usage as the request occurs during normal operating hours and does not require the presence of additional custodial or security personnel.

4. RAYSA – Ringgold Area Youth Soccer Association

- a. Use of Joe Montana Stadium for U-10 and U-12 Games on Sundays from 11:00am to 6:00pm beginning on April 3, 2022 and lasting through June 5, 2022.
- b. Fees – \$30 / hour Custodial and \$20 / hour Security (if needed) for hours outside of normal operation hours.

3. Approval of Outside Practice Facility for Boys/Girls Varsity Swimming

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Garry, seconded by Mrs. Ott, to accept an agreement from Mon Valley YMCA in the amount of \$3,500.00 for the use of a practice facility for the Boys' and Girls' Varsity Swimming teams during the 2021-2022 school year. A copy of the practice information and agreement was included in the Board packet.

4. Approval of Ringgold High School Wrestling Team to Participate in Tournament

The Board, by a unanimous vote to the call of the roll of the nine members present, approved a motion by Mrs. Garry, seconded by Mr. Gerard, granting permission for the High School Wrestling Team to attend the North Coast Classic Tournament. The team will be staying at the Hampton Inn Richfield, 4860 Brecksville Rd, Richfield, OH 44286. 22-24 wrestlers will be attending with 4 to a room. Coach Luke Smith and Coach Dean Mathies will be chaperones as well as booster officers, Jamie Wilcher and Jennifer Conroy. All chaperones will be staying in the same hotel. This approval is subject to the rules and regulations to be prepared by the Administration and presented to the Board. The itinerary was included in the Board packet.

**E. Health and Nutrition – Chairperson: Ms. Bobnar
Co-chairpersons: Mr. Dodd and Mr. Kennedy**

No Report.

**F. Safety and Security – Chairperson: Mr. Gerard
Co-chairpersons: Mr. Dodd and Mr. Kennedy**

No Report.

**G. Facilities, Planning, and Transportation – Chairperson: Mr. Kennedy –
Co-chairpersons: Mrs. Flament and Mr. Mauro**

No Report.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

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

The Board adjourned at 9:22 PM.

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