

BLaST Intermediate Unit #17
33 Springbrook Drive
Canton, PA 17724
(570) 673-6001

The BLaST Intermediate Unit #17 Board of Directors held their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 in the BLaST Administration Office, 33 Springbrook Drive, Canton, Pennsylvania. This meeting was conducted via video-conferencing between the I.U. #17 Office, Canton, Pennsylvania and Sullivan Room, I.U. #17 Office, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

1. Call to Order.

A. The meeting was called to order by Lori Baer, President, at 7:01 p.m.

2A. Roll Call.

Lori Baer, President	Present
Scott Johnson, Vice President	Present
Debra Agnew, Treasurer	Present
Cathy Bachman	Present
Susan Beery	Present
Rebecca Charles	Absent
Jonathan DeSantis	Absent
Jessie Edwards	Present
Brady Finogle	Present
Arica Jennings	Present
Christina Kiessler	Absent
Dan Martin	Present
Lisa McClintock	Present
Julie Preston	Present
Chad Riley	Present
Hal Stockdill	Present
Kelly White	Absent
Northeast Bradford	Vacant
Athens	Vacated

Others present were: Brooke Beiter, Timothy Confer, Dan Coran, Erin Hamilton, Ashley Heckrote, Sheena Hindman, Erica Hoyt, Mike Levin, Amy Martell, Ardis Mason, Sara McNett, Jon Paulhamus, Aimee Pepper, Joe Rafter, Cheryl Starr, Christina Steinbacher-Reed, and Dana Vermilya.

A copy of the agenda is attached as Pages 2605-1 through 2605-6.

Dr. Steinbacher-Reed introduced Arica Jennings who is the new Board member from Canton Area School District. Aimee Pepper is now in the position of Senior Accountant, so Dr. Steinbacher-Reed also introduced her to the Board.

At 7:04 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session for personnel and attorney advisement. The regular meeting reconvened at 7:22 p.m.

Ms. Agnew made an omnibus motion to approve all agenda items with the exception of item 6A Personnel, Resignations - 2 which was not acted upon. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

4. Minutes.

Minutes of the meeting held January 19, 2022 as presented.

5. Finance.

A. Approval of Bills

Bills from January 15, 2022 through February 11, 2022, for General Operations, Special Education, and Capital Project Fund totaling \$1,453,635.20 are attached as Pages 2606-1 through 2606-7.

6A. Personnel, Resignations.

1. **Katelyn Callanan** – Speech Therapist, resignation effective February 25, 2022 or when released.
3. **Jody Tedesco** – Paraprofessional, retirement effective February 15, 2022.
4. **Karen Smith** – Paraprofessional, resignation effective February 25, 2022.

7A. Personnel, Establishment of New Positions, New Programs, and/or Program Revisions.

1. Establishment of a New Position – Educational Audiologist

The administration recommends the Board authorize the establishment of the position of Educational Audiologist. Job Description is attached as Pages 2606-8 and 2606-9.

7B. Personnel, Employments.

1. The administration recommends Board approval of the following temporary professional and/or professional employee appointments:
 - A. **Brooke Kohler**, School Psychologist, effective July 1, 2022. Salary Step 1 Master's +15 - \$53,725; districts' contracts prorated to the actual number of days worked. Temporary Professional Employee's Contract. To fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Aubrey Grove. This employment is contingent upon receipt of current clearances and completion of all certification requirements.

2. The administration recommends the employment of the following personnel:

- A. **Christopher Brass**, Information Technology Specialist, 261 days, effective February 21, 2022, Salary – \$45,000; prorated to the actual number of days worked. General Operations budget. Employment in accord with Board policy on office support. To fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Austin Boos. This employment is contingent upon receipt of current clearances.
- B. **Morgan Whitteker**, Administrative Assistant, Williamsport Office, effective March 7, 2022, Salary – \$35,000; 261 days prorated to the actual number of days worked. CORE and Educational Planning Budgets. Employment in accord with Board policy on office support. To fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Susan Mahserjian-Smith. This employment is contingent upon receipt of current clearances.

7C. **Personnel, Change of Work Assignment.**

1. **Nikki Ayres – Administrative Assistant**

Due to the resignation of Deanne Bowers, the administration recommends that the Board authorize an internal transfer for Nikki Ayres to fill vacant Administrative Assistant position in the Canton office at a salary of \$28,000, prorated to the actual number of days worked, effective February 17, 2022.

7D. **Personnel, Request for Internship, Observations, Student Teaching.**

- 1. The administration requests that the Board approve Madison McKee, a student in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education degree program at Bloomsburg University, to complete her student teaching from March 21, 2022 through May 12, 2022. She will be under the total direction of one of the IU's fully certified professionals. This student teaching is contingent upon receipt of current clearances.

7E. **Personnel, Substitute Teachers, and Substitute Teacher Aides.**

- 1. The administration recommends approval of the list of substitute teachers and substitute teacher aides for the 2021-2022 school term, attached as Page 2607-1.
- 2. The administration recommends approval of the list of Mission One employees for the 2021-2022 school term, attached as Page 2607-2.

8. **Items Requiring Routine Formal Action by the Board.**

A. **Contract for Services – Eduplanet 21**

The administration recommends that the Board approve a contract with

Eduplanet 21, to provide SAP Bridge Training and marketplace page at a rate of \$2,025 for the period of February 10, 2022 to February 10, 2023.

B. Approval of Pay Dates and Holidays – 2022-2023

Schedule of pay dates and holidays for the fiscal year and school year 2022-2023 is attached as Page 2608-1.

C. Contract for Services – Mikayla’s Voice

The administration recommends the Board approve a contract with Mikayla’s Voice to provide the Keynote for the BLAST IU 17 2022 annual in-service on August 8, 2022 at a one-time cost of \$3,903.16.

D. 2022-2023 Early Intervention Yearly Calendar

The administration recommends that the Board approve the 2022-2023 yearly calendar for the Early Intervention Program, attached as Page 2608-2.

The motion passed with unanimous affirmative vote.

9. Items That Require Formal Action by the Board Which May Require In-Depth Discussion and Study by the Board.

None

10. Administrative Reports.

A. Report of Investments

The record of investments dated January 31, 2022 is presented as follows:

Year-to-Date Earnings on Investments is \$38,900.17 (.75% Cash Management Account), First Citizens Community Bank, Canton.

Year-to-Date Earnings on Project Fund is \$6,578.81 (.75% Capital Fund Account), First Citizens Community Bank, Canton.

B. Special Education Update – Dr. Martell

- Needs Assessment

C. Educational Planning Update – Dr. Beiter

- Training and Consultation (TAC) Services

D. Executive Director Update – Dr. Steinbacher-Reed

- Harrisburg Updates

11. Other Items Raised by the Board and/or Staff.

12. Adjournment.

At 7:50 p.m. Mr. Johnson moved and Ms. Preston seconded to adjourn the meeting and all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara McNett
Board Secretary