

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, April 20, 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 7:04 p.m.

2A. Roll Call.

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

Others present were: Brooke Beiter, Timothy Confer, Dan Coran, Eric Fessler, Rebecca Gibboney, Ashley Heckrote, Sheena Hindman, Robin Holmes, Erica Hoyt, Nicole Klees, Mike Levin (Virtual), Amy Martell, Ardis Mason, Sara McNett, Jon Paulhamus, Aimee Pepper, Angie Sees, Cheryl Starr, Christina Steinbacher-Reed, Rebecca Swinehart, and Dana Vermilya.

A copy of the agenda is attached as Pages 2615-1 through 2615-11.

Mr. Johnson moved and Ms. Preston seconded to approve the following:

2A. Declaration of Northeast Bradford School District Board Vacancy.

The resignation of Mr. Devin Brown as the Northeast Bradford School District

representative on the IU 17 Board of Directors was approved at the January 19, 2022 Board meeting.

The district has informed the IU that they wish to declare said office vacant. The IU requests that by affirmative vote of the majority of the remaining board members this office be declared vacant.

The motion passed with unanimous affirmative vote.

Dr. Steinbacher-Reed introduced Rebecca Swinehart who will be joining BLaST IU 17 as the Supervisor of Early Intervention and Therapy. Eric Fessler, Information Technology Specialist, was also introduced to the Board.

Ms. Preston moved and Mr. Johnson seconded to approve the following:

4. Minutes.

Minutes of the meeting held March 16, 2022.

The motion passed with unanimous affirmative vote.

Ms. McNett gave an update to the board on the 2022-2023 General Operations Budget tabulation of votes. The total now includes Jersey Shore votes that were received on April 20, 2022.

Mr. Johnson moved and Ms. Preston seconded to approve the following:

5. Finance.

A. Approval of Bills

Bills from March 12, 2022 through April 15, 2022, for General Operations, Special Education, and Capital Project Fund totaling \$2,570,528.79 are attached as Pages 2616-1 through 2616-8.

B. Programs and Services Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

The proposed 2022-2023 General Operations Budget was approved by the BLaST Intermediate Unit 17 Board at the January 19, 2022 meeting. The budget will be acted upon by each component school district board prior to April 20, 2022. A tabulation of votes as of April 14, 2022 are attached as Pages 2616-9 and 2616-10.

The Intermediate Unit auditors and administration recommend that the Intermediate Unit Board adopt the proposed 2022-2023 General Operations Budget (\$3,107,224), contingent upon approval of at least a majority of component districts and at least a majority of the proportionate votes of all school directors.

The motion passed with unanimous affirmative vote.

At 7:12 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session for personnel and attorney advisement. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

Mr. Johnson moved and Ms. Preston seconded to approve the following:

8. Items Requiring Routine Formal Action by the Board.

G. Consideration of Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits for Special Education Paraprofessionals, Support Staff, Technology Staff, and Other Employees for 2022-2023

The Board authorizes pooled salary increases of 2.5% for the following classifications of employees for 2022-2023: Aides/Job Coaches, Business/Support Staff, Technology Staff, Interpreters/Social Workers, and Grants/Wellness Staff.

H. Consideration of Rates – Hourly Employees for 2022-2023

The Board authorizes 2022-2023 daily/hourly rates for BLaST IU 17 paid employees, with an increase of 2.5%.

I. Consideration of Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits for PaTTAN Employees for 2022-2023

The Board authorizes 2022-2023 pooled salary increases of 2.5% for employees of the PaTTAN program, Harrisburg.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Lori Baer, Julie Preston, Rebecca Charles, Brady Finogle, Scott Johnson, Dan Martin, Kelly White.

Nays: Jonathan DeSantis, Jessie Edwards, Chad Riley

The motion carried.

Mr. Johnson moved and Ms. Preston seconded to accept an omnibus motion for the remaining agenda items except for Item 8.K. which was removed.

6A. Personnel, Resignations.

1. **Mary Ann Briggs** – Multi-Disabilities Support Teacher, resignation effective April 22, 2022.
2. **Raymond Schroeder** – School Psychologist, resignation effective June 7, 2022.

3. **Erin Hamilton** – Curriculum Specialist, resignation effective April 18, 2022.
4. **Shannon Gorman** – Supervisor, resignation effective June 30, 2022.
5. **Brooke Kohler** – School Psychologist, rescinded her acceptance that was approved by the Board on February 16, 2022.
6. **Kiersha Whitehead** – Learning Support Teacher, resignation due to transfer of entity to Montoursville Area School District, effective June 30, 2022.
7. **Stephanie Matlack** – Learning Support Teacher, resignation due to transfer of entity to Montoursville Area School District, effective June 30, 2022.

7A. Personnel, Employments

1. The administration recommends Board approval of the following temporary professional and/or professional employee appointments:

None

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

- A. **Rebecca Swinehart**, Supervisor of Early Intervention and Speech Therapy, IU 17 Williamsport Office, effective upon release. Salary - \$90,000, 261-day assignment; Early Intervention Budget, prorated to actual number of days worked. Employment in accord with policy as adopted in the 2020-2023 Administrative Compensation Plan. To fill position created by the retirement of Angela Sees. This employment is contingent upon receipt of current clearances.

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

1. Establishment of a New Position – Post-Secondary Teacher

The administration recommends that the Board approve the establishment of a Post-Secondary Transition & Community Integration Classroom Teacher (BRIDGE Tomorrow) position. Job Description is attached as Pages 2618-1 through 2618-3.

2. Revision of a Position – Program Coordinator

The administration recommends that the Board authorize the revision of a current position, Program Coordinator. A copy of the revised job description is attached as Pages 2618-4 and 2618-5.

7C. Personnel, Change of Work Assignment.

1. Katherine Spagnuolo – Special Education Teacher

At the November 17, 2021 Board Meeting Katherine Spagnuolo was approved as a Long Term Substitute Teacher for an Early Intervention classroom. The administration recommends that the Board approve a change of work assignment for Ms. Spagnuolo to full-time to fill the vacant position created by the internal transfer of Sophia Sprunger, effective April 11, 2022. She will remain at her approved Salary – Step 1, Master’s – \$52,500.

2. Amanda Karaffa – Educational Consultant (TAC)

Due to a request, the administration recommends that the Board approve an extension of work year for Ms. Amanda Karaffa up to an additional ten (10) days at her 2021 - 2022 per diem rate.

3. Andrea Turner – Behavior Management Specialist

Due to a request, the administration recommends that the Board approve an extension of work year for Ms. Andrea Turner up to an additional ten (10) days at her 2021 - 2022 per diem rate.

4. Dana Vermilya – Educational Consultant (TAC)

Due to a request, the administration recommends that the Board approve an extension of work year for Ms. Dana Vermilya up to an additional seven (7) days at her 2021 - 2022 per diem rate.

5. Corrie Roadarmel – Developmental Teacher

Due to a request, the administration recommends that the Board approve an extension of work year for Ms. Corrie Roadarmel up to an additional one (1) day at her 2021 - 2022 per diem rate.

6. Lynn Frey – ELECT Program Coordinator

The administration recommends that the Board approve a salary adjustment for Ms. Lynn Frey to \$58,000 due to added job responsibilities, effective July 1, 2022; and an adjustment to \$60,000 upon fulfillment of the administrator’s professional development commitment.

7D. 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 2619-1.

2. The administration recommends approval of the list of Mission One employees for the 2021-2022 school term, attached as Page 2620-1.

7E. Personnel, Request for Internship, Observations or Student Teaching.

1. The administration requests that the Board approve Mathew Drasher, a student in the Education degree program at Lock Haven University, to complete internship hours from March 30, 2022 through April 29, 2022. Mr. Drasher will be under the total direction of one of the Intermediate Unit's fully certified professionals, Heather Carlin. These internship hours are contingent upon receipt of current clearances.

7F. Personnel, Mentor Teachers/Supervisor.

1. Due to a mid-year vacancy, the administration recommends that the Board approve Dana Vermilya as a mentor as part of the Act 48/Teacher Induction Plan, prorated for the 2021-2022 school year.

8. Items Requiring Routine Formal Action by the Board.

A. 2022-2023 Yearly Calendars

The administration recommends that the Board approve the 2022-2023 yearly calendar for the following programs: Academy for Integrated Studies – North, Academy for Integrated Studies - South, Clear Vision, DTAC/BSI Partial Hospitalization Program, LaSaQuik, and Lycoming Day Treatment. The calendars are attached as Pages 2620-2 through 2620-7.

B. Transportation Drivers

The administration recommends that the Board approve the updated list of 2021-2022 drivers to transport eligible preschool children to specialized programs, attached as Page 2620-8.

C. Approved Field Trips

The Executive Director would like to inform the Board that the list of Field Trips, attached as Page 2620-9 has been approved for the current school year.

D. Contract for Services – SourceWell Technology

The administration recommends the Board authorize a contract with SourceWell Technology to provide 200 licenses for Supplemental Math Curriculum; IU Wide; from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025. First year at \$4,645, second year at \$3,850, and third year at \$3,850: Total cost not to exceed \$12,345.

E. First and Second Reading of Policies

Policies for first and second reading are attached as Pages 2621-1 through 2621-13.

Policy 220 Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials - Revised
Policy 237 Electronic Devices - Revised
Policy 808 Food Services - Revised

F. Contract for Services – PowerSchool

The administration recommends the Board authorize a contract with PowerSchool to provide Unified Talent/Applicant Tracking; IU Wide; initial term from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023; \$7,300 per year with a one-time set-up fee of \$4,650 with a total cost not to exceed \$11,950 in the initial term. Years two and three will be \$7,300 per year.

J. Contract for Services - Staffing & Consulting Group, Inc.

The administration recommends that the Board authorize a contract with Staffing and Consulting Group, Inc. for Dr. Polmueller, M.D., to provide onsite tele-psychiatry, and substitute services for the Academy of Integrated Studies - North, at a rate of \$248/hour; on call (emergency) \$215/hour, effective June 1, 2022 through August 31, 2022.

L. Contract for Services – Pivot Physical Therapy of Pennsylvania

The administration recommends that the Board approve a contract with Pivot Physical Therapy of Pennsylvania, to provide physical therapy services to eligible school aged students in Bradford County IU Classrooms, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at a rate of \$100/hour for PT services and \$85/hour for PTA services. Total cost not to exceed \$120,000.

M. Contract for Services – UPMC Susquehanna

The administration recommends that the Board approve a contract with UPMC Susquehanna, to provide physical therapy services to school aged students in Lycoming County, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at a rate of \$90/hour for PT services, \$80/hour for PTA services, \$140/evaluation and \$48/hour for travel. Total cost not to exceed \$75,000.

N. Contract for Services – UPMC Wellsboro

The administration recommends that the Board approve a contract with UPMC Wellsboro, to provide physical therapy services to school aged students in Tioga County IU Programs, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at a rate of \$90/hour for PT services, \$140/evaluation and \$48/hour for travel. Total cost not to exceed \$75,000.

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 March 31, 2022 is presented as follows:

Year-to-Date Earnings on Investments is \$50,899.15 (.75% Cash Management Account), First Citizens Community Bank, Canton.

Year-to-Date Earnings on Project Fund is \$8,451.08 (.75% Capital Fund Account), First Citizens Community Bank, Canton.

B. Special Education Update – Dr. Martell

Mr. Coran updated the Board on the 2022 Extended School Year Program. Ms. Klees and Ms. Holmes gave an additional overview of their respective summer program plans.

C. Technology Update – Mr. Paulhamus

Intermediate Unit Cyber Security Update

D. Executive Director Update – Dr. Steinbacher-Reed

Harrisburg, Health and PAIU Updates

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

12. Adjournment.

At 8:56 p.m. Mr. Johnson moved and Ms. Preston seconded to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara McNett
Board Secretary