

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

The BLaST Intermediate Unit #17 Board of Directors held a special meeting on Thursday, September 29, 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.

2. Roll Call.

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

Others present were: Tim Confer, Eric Fessler, Rebecca Gibboney, Mike Levin (Virtual), Sara McNett, Jon Paulhamus, April Seeley, Cheryl Starr, Christina Steinbacher-Reed

A copy of the agenda is attached as Pages 2652-1 through 2652-6.

Mr. Stockdill moved and Ms. Agnew seconded to accept an omnibus motion for all agenda items with the exception of item 7B.C. which was removed.

4. Minutes.

Minutes of the meetings held August 17, 2022 and September 21, 2022, as presented.

5. Finance.

A. Approval of Bills

Bills from August 13, 2022, through September 16, 2022, for General Operations, Special Education, and Capital Project Fund totaling \$3,001,924.80 are attached as Pages 2653-1 through 2653-7.

6A. Personnel, Resignations.

1. **Hannah Lounsbury**, Special Education Teacher, resignation effective August 13, 2022.
2. **Heather Koch**, Speech Therapist, resignation effective October 21, 2022 or when released.
3. **Joshua Eck**, Special Education Teacher, effective November 18, 2022 or when released.
4. **Claire Pratt**, Special Education Teacher, effective November 22, 2022 or when released.

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

None

7B. Personnel, Employments.

1. The administration recommends Board approval of the following temporary professional and/or professional employee appointments:
 - A. **Nicole Green**, Early Intervention Teacher, effective October 17, 2022. Salary – 2022-2023 Teacher’s Salary Schedule when adopted, 2021-2022 Step 1 Bachelor’s, \$51,370, Early Intervention Budget, prorated to the actual number of days worked. Temporary Professional Employee’s contract. To fill vacancy created by the resignation of Tiffany Stankiewicz. This employment is contingent upon receipt of current clearances.

- B. Jeremy Church**, Special Education Teacher, effective when released. Salary – 2022-2023 Teacher’s Salary Schedule when adopted, 2021-2022 Step 2 Master’s, \$53,895, Districts’ Contracts, prorated to the actual number of days worked. Temporary Professional Employee’s contract. To fill vacancy created by the resignation of Joshua Eck. This employment is contingent upon receipt of current clearances.

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

- A. Nicole Willets**, Student Accounting Specialist, Williamsport office, effective September 19, 2022, Salary - \$38,000; 261 days prorated to the actual number of days worked; CORE Budget. To fill vacancy created by the resignation of Hannah Wesneski. Employment in accord with Board policy on office support. This employment is contingent upon receipt of current clearances.

7C. Personnel, Change of Work Assignment.

1. **Amanda Sweeley – ELECT Program Coordinator**

The administration recommends that the Board authorize an internal transfer for Amanda Sweeley to fill the opening of ELECT Program Coordinator due to the resignation of Lynn Frey. A salary adjustment to \$51,500 effective September 22, 2022, prorated to the actual number of days worked. Employment in accord with Board policy on office support.

2. **Beth Parrish – Speech Therapist**

The administration recommends that the Board authorize a change of work assignment for Beth Parrish from 190 days to 152 days, remaining at current salary column and step, effective October 1, 2022, prorated to the actual number of days worked.

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 2022-2023 school term, attached as Page 2654-1.
2. The administration recommends approval of the list of Mission One employees for the 2022-2023 school term, attached as Pages 1654-2 through 1654-4.

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

None

8. Items Requiring Routine Formal Action by the Board.

A. Memorandum of Understanding – Canton Area School District

The administration recommends that the Board authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with Canton Area School District to provide a place of shelter for the students and staff at the Academy of Integrated Studies – North in an emergency situation. The MOU will be in effect as of September 1, 2022.

B. Memorandum of Understanding – Towanda Area School District

The administration recommends that the Board authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with Towanda Area School District to provide a place of shelter for the students and staff at the Academy of Integrated Studies – North in an emergency situation. The MOU will be in effect as of August 22, 2022.

C. PSBA Officers

The Board cast their votes for the following PSBA Leadership Positions:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Michael Gossert | President-Elect |
| Allison Mathis | Vice President |
| Julie Preston | Central Zone Representative |
| Thomas Kerek | Section C1 Advisor |
| Karen Beck Pooley | Section E2 Advisor |
| Kathy K. Swope | Trustee |
| Roberta M. Marcus | Trustee |

D. Contract for Services – CDC’s Teen Link House – 2022-2023 School Year

The administration recommends that the Board authorize a contract with Hope Enterprises, Inc’s Children’s Development Center for the use of the Teen Link Facility for 32 days, at a rate of \$75 per day, effective October 5, 2022 through May 24, 2023; Total Cost of Services not to exceed \$2,400.

E. 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 inclusive; on call (emergency) \$215/hour, effective September 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

F. Transportation Drivers

The administration recommends that the Board approve the updated list of 2022-2023 drivers to transport eligible preschool children to specialized programs, attached as Page 2656-1.

G. Revised Organizational Chart

Due to the realignment of job responsibilities, the administration recommends that the Board approve the 2022-2023 Organizational Chart. The organizational chart is attached as Page 2656-2.

H. First and Second Reading of Policies

Policies for first and second reading are attached.

Policy 236.1 - Threat Assessment – Revised, Pages 2656-3 through 2656-11.

Policy 805 – Emergency Preparedness and Response – Revised, Pages 2656-12 through 2656-17.

Policy 805.2 – School Security Personnel – Revised, Pages 2656-18 through 2656-25.

I. Act 44 of 2018

Act 44 of 2018 requires each chief school administrator of a school entity to appoint a school administrator as the school safety and security coordinator.

The Administration recommends that the Board approve the appointment of Dr. Christina Steinbacher-Reed as the school safety and security coordinator as of August 27, 2022.

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 August 31, 2022 is presented as follows:

Year-to-Date Earnings on Investments is \$25,232.22 (1.5% Cash Management Account), First Citizens Community Bank, Canton.

Year-to-Date Earnings on Project Fund is \$1,763.55 (1.5% Capital Fund Account), First Citizens Community Bank, Canton.

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

12. Adjournment.

There being no more business, Ms. Agnew moved and Mr. Stockdill seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara McNett
Board Secretary