

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 September 17, 2025 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 Arica Jennings, Vice President, at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

Lori Baer, President (W)	Absent
Arica Jennings, Vice President (C)	Present
Debra Agnew, Treasurer (C)	Present
Cathy Bachman (W)	Present
Jerry Curreri (C)	Present
Jessie Edwards (W)	Present
Brady Finogle (C)	Present
Sullivan County SD	Absent
Peggy Hughes	Absent
Muncy SD	Absent
Craig Dudek	Absent
Sharon Meyer (W)	Present
Duane Naugle (C)	Present
Julie Preston (C)	Present
Chad Riley (W)	Present
Abramo Capece (C)	Present
Michael Zicoello (W)	Present-Arrived at 7:03pm
Paula Yeckley	Present
Athens	Vacated-Board Approved 10/20/21

Others present were: Tim Confer, Amanda Fair, Sheena Hindman, Nicole Klees, Sara McNett, Jon Paulhamus, Aimee Pepper, Erin Powell, Corrie Roadarmel, Elizabeth Seagraves, Mikaela Spalding, Cheryl Starr, Christina Steinbacher-Reed, and April Seeley.

3A. Introductions.

A copy of the Agenda is attached as Pages 2905-1 through 2905-6.

3B. Public Comments.

None

Ms. Agnew moved and Mr. Capece seconded to approve the following:

4. Minutes.

A. Board Meeting – August 20, 2025

Minutes of the meeting held August 20, 2025. The administration recommends that these minutes be approved as presented or as amended by the Board.

The motion passed with unanimous affirmative vote.

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

5. Finance.

A. Approval of Bills

Bills from August 16, 2025 through September 10, 2025, for General Operations, Special Education, and Capital Project Fund are attached as Pages 2906-1 through 2906-7.

The motion passed with unanimous affirmative vote.

Mr. Capece moved and Mr. Naugle seconded to accept an omnibus motion for the remaining agenda items:

6A. Personnel, Resignations.

1. **Erica Hoyt**, Principal of the South Academy of Integrated Studies, resignation effective November 7, 2025. The administration recommends that the Board approve the resignation of Erica Hoyt as submitted.

6B. Personnel, Requests for Leave.

1. **Jeffrey Doyno** has requested uncompensated leave effective September 1, 2025 to September 19, 2025, or when released to return. The administration recommends that the Board approve an uncompensated leave for Jeffrey Doyno from September 1, 2025 to September 19, 2025, or when released.

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

None

7B. Personnel, Employments.

None

7C. Personnel, Abolishment of Positions.

None

7D. Personnel, Change of Work Assignment.

1. Ethan Smith – IT Network Specialist – Level III

The administration recommends that the Board approve a change of work assignment for Ethan Smith to IT Network Specialist – Level III, effective September 17, 2025 with a change in salary to \$80,000, prorated to actual number of days worked.

2. Marykate De Notaris – Office Manager PaTTAN

The administration recommends that the Board approve a change of work assignment for Marykate DeNotaris to the position of Office Manager PaTTAN effective September 8, 2025, with a change in salary to \$60,000, prorated to actual number of days worked. Employment in accordance with Board policy as adopted in the 2023-2026 Administrative Compensation Plan.

7E. Personnel, Extension of Work Year.

None

7F. Personnel, Substitute Teachers and Substitute Teacher Aides.

1. The administration recommends approval of the list of substitute teachers and substitute teacher aides for the 2025-2026 school term, attached as page 2907-1.

2. The administration recommends approval of the list of Mission One employees for the 2025-2026 school term, attached as page 2907-2.

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

1. The administration requests that the Board approve Courtney Wayman, a student at Wilkes University in the Special Education PreK-12, to complete her Student Teaching Placement from September 8, 2025, through November 30, 2025. She will be under the total direction of one of the IU's fully certified professionals. This is contingent upon receipt of current clearances.

7H. Personnel, Mentor Teachers/Supervisors.

None

7I. Personnel, Salary Adjustments.

None

8. Items Requiring Routine Formal Action by the Board.

A. Increment - Master's, Master's +15 and Master's +30

Lindsay Andrus Special Education Teacher, has submitted evidence that she has completed *15 credits beyond her Master's degree*. The administration recommends that the Board approve placing Ms. Lindsay Andrus on the appropriate columns for the 2025-2026 school year.

B. Transportation Drivers

The administration recommends that the Board approve the list of 2025-2026 drivers to transport eligible preschool children to specialized programs, attached as page 2908-1.

C. Professional Contract – Katherine Spagnuolo

Katherine Spagnuolo has completed a minimum of three (3) years of service with BLaST Intermediate Unit 17 with a final rating of satisfactory, thus entitling her to be issued a professional employee contract. The administration recommends that the Board acknowledge the issuance of a professional employee contract to Katherine Spagnuolo.

8. Items Requiring Routine Formal Action by the Board. (Continued)

D. PSBA Officers

The administration recommends that the Board *vote on the officers for PSBA*.
The voting ends on October 15, 2025.

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

Holly Arnold	President-Elect
Matt Vannoy	Vice President
Julie Preston	Central Zone Representative
Duane Naugle	Section C-1 Advisor
Kathy Swope	Trustee
Roberta Marcus	Trustee

E. First and Second Reading of Policies

Policies for first and second reading are attached as pages 2909-1 – 2909-10.

Policy 102	Academic Standards - Update
Policy 105	Curriculum – Update
Policy 122	Equal Access
Policy 209.2	Diabetes Management

F. Revised Organizational Chart

Due to the realignment of job responsibilities, the administration recommends that the Board approve the 2025-2026 Organizational Chart. The organizational chart is attached as page 2909-11.

G. Partnership Agreement – Dark Trace

The administration recommends that the Board approve the partnership agreement with Darktrace to establish consortium based purchasing for AI based cyber security for a term of one year with autorenewals for one year terms.

H. Revised Contract for Services – Elizabeth Wade-Mahoney, Barton Associates, Inc.

The administration recommends that the Board approve an amended contract with Barton Associates, Inc. for Elizabeth Wade-Mahoney to provide onsite and tele-psychiatry services for the North Academy for Integrated Services 4-6 hours per week at a rate of \$395 per hour inclusive; effective October 1, 2025 through December 17, 2025.

8. Items Requiring Routine Formal Action by the Board. (Continued)

I. Partnership Agreement – Schlechty Center

The administration recommends that the Board approve the partnership agreement with the Schlechty Center to provide professional learning experiences for Superintendents at a November 2025 Leadership Retreat at a total cost of \$6,500.

J. Contract for Services – Peter Loudenslager

The administration recommends that the Board approve a contract with Peter Loudenslager for facilities management at a rate of \$30 per hour for up to 10 hours per week. If the IU exceeds the monthly retainer hours, the rate will increase to \$45 per hour, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

K. Contract for Services – Pro Pediatric Services

The administration recommends that the Board approve a contract with Pro Pediatric Services to provide therapy and support services as per terms of the contract, effective September 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

L. Lease Agreement – River Valley YMCA

The administration recommends that the Board approve a lease agreement with the River Valley YMCA to provide tenant space for an Early Intervention classroom and office, effective for one year beginning October 1, 2025 at an annual cost of \$9,600.

The motion passed with unanimous affirmative vote.

9. Administrative Reports.

A. Report of Investments

The record of investments dated August 31, 2024 is presented as follows:

Year-to-Date Earnings on Investments is \$93,119.20 (5.37% Cash Management Account), First Citizens Community Bank, Canton.

Year-to-Date Earnings on Project Fund is \$18,431.25 (5.37% Capital Fund Account), First Citizens Community Bank, Canton.

B. Student Services – Dr. Spalding

- Early Intervention Workshop Development Grant

C. Technology Update – Mr. Confer

None

D. Educational Planning Update – Dr. Segraves

- TaC and Curriculum support services provided
- Relaunch of STEM Ecosystem initiative

E. Executive Director Update – Dr. Steinbacher-Reed

- Budget and Legislative Update
- Annual Financial Audit

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

11. Adjournment.

At 7:10 p.m. Mr. Capece moved and Mr. Naugle seconded to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

From 7:10 p.m. until 7:22 p.m. the Board met in Executive Session for personnel and attorney advisement.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara McNett
Board Secretary