

BETHLEHEM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING

A Special Board Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bethlehem Area School District was held on Monday, July 11, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Dining Room of the Education Center, 1516 Sycamore Street, Bethlehem, PA 18017.

SPECIAL
MEETING

President Cann called for the roll by the Assistant Board Secretary, Russell Giordano:

MEMBERS
PRESENT

Members present: Directors Burkhardt, Faccinetto, Follweiler, Leeson, Tenaglia, and President Cann - 6.

Members absent: Directors Amato, McKeon, Ortiz – 3.

Others present: Dr. Jack Silva, Assistant Superintendent for Education; Russell Giordano, Assistant Board Secretary for this evening; administrators, members of the press and other interested citizens and staff members.

OTHERS
PRESENT

At this point of the meeting, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

President Cann requested a moment of silent meditation.

MOMENT OF
SILENCE

President Cann offered Courtesy of the Floor to visitors. Speakers are asked to come to the podium, stating their name and address. Public comment in the first session is limited to 30 minutes and is for agenda items only. The second courtesy of the floor will be for any district concerns or business. Speakers are limited to three minutes each. The board requests that, when possible, all individuals supporting a like position on a topic select a speaker to present their views to avoid repetition. If that is not possible, all are welcome to speak. As per school board policy, generally, speakers are limited to taxpayers, residents, or employees of this school district. At the conclusion of the Special Board Meeting, another block of time will be allocated for public comment. At that time, the same rules will apply. It is asked that speakers observe proper decorum, without personal attacks towards a specific individual or individuals. It is not the custom for the board to enter into a dialogue at these meetings about concerns. However, the board does listen with care to issues raised. Speakers will receive responses, in some form, by the

COURTESY
OF THE FLOOR
TO VISITORS

administration.

Seeing none, President Cann moved onto Approval of the Committee Minutes.

President Cann called for a motion for approval of the June 13, 2011 - Board Facilities Committee Meeting.

APPROVAL OF
COMMITTEE MINUTES

Director Burkhardt made a motion to accept the committee meeting minutes, which was seconded by Director Faccinetto.

MOTION TO ACCEPT
COMMITTEE MINUTES

President Cann called for a voice vote to approve the committee meeting minutes. The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

VOICE VOTE TO
ACCEPT COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Motion passes – 6-0

President Cann stated: There is nothing to report on President's Communication and Special Meetings.

PRESIDENT'S
COMMUNICATION/
SPECIAL MEETINGS

President Cann stated: There is no Superintendent's Report this evening.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

President Cann asked if the board had any unfinished business to discuss.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Seeing none, President Cann moved to Recommendations of the Administration.

President Cann asked for a motion to accept the Recommendations of the Administration - Items 1, 2, and 3.

RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE
ADMINISTRATION

Director Faccinetto made a motion to accept the Recommendations of the Administration. Director Burkhardt seconded the motion.

MOTION TO ACCEPT
RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE

President Cann asked if anyone would like to pull any of these of these items for discussion.

ADMINISTRATION

President Cann stated: We will take a roll call vote on items 1, 2, and 3.

ROLL CALL VOTE
ITEMS 1, 2, AND 3.

The question was called with roll call as follows: Yea, Directors Burkhardt, Faccinetto Follweiler, Tenaglia, President Cann, Leeson, Yea 1 and 3, Nay – 2.

JULY 11, 2011

Items 1 and 3 - Motion passes – 6-0
Item 2 – Motion passes 5-1

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1. *Conference/Staff Trip Attendance*

RECOMMENDATION:

That the following Conference/Staff Trip be approved:

1. July 25-28, 2011
Penn State Great Valley Advanced Placement World
History - Summer Institute
Malvern, Pennsylvania
General Fund/Staff Development Conference/Travel=\$2,475.00
General Fund/Staff Development/Supplies, Material, Services=\$266.72
\$2,741.72

President Cann stated: We will take a roll call vote on items 1, 2, and 3.

The question was called with roll call as follows:

Yea, Directors Burkhardt, Faccinetto Follweiler, Tenaglia, President Cann, Leeson,
Yea 1 and 3, Nay – 2.

Items 1 and 3 - Motion passes – 6-0

Item 2 – Motion passes 5-1

2. *Bid Award – Office Air Handler and Condenser Replacement – Freemansburg Elementary School*

INFORMATION:

Bids were received and publicly opened at 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 28, 2011, for:

Office Air Handler and Condenser Replacement – Freemansburg Elementary School

The bids have been tabulated and reviewed by the appropriate administrative and supervisory personnel. The recommendation of award is based upon the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (The Tabulation of Bids is attached.)

The Self-Certification Application for Non-Reimbursable Construction Projects were approved at the June 27, 2011, Regular Board Meeting. The administration and D'Huy Engineering, Inc. were authorized to prepare and solicit the specifications and solicit bids for this project.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the administration be authorized to award a contract to the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications as indicated on the attached Tabulation of Bids subject to proper execution of contract documents and performance bond as required in the bid specifications.

Office Air Handler and Condenser Replacement – Freemansburg Elementary School

J.B.M. Mechanical
3273 Gunclub Road
Nazareth, PA 18064

\$18,900

Account Code and Account Title: General Fund - 4600-450 – Construction Services
Account Balance: \$233,352

President Cann stated: We will take a roll call vote on items 1, 2, and 3.
The question was called with roll call as follows: Yea, Directors Burkhardt, Faccinnetto Follweiler, Tenaglia, President Cann, Leeson, Yea 1 and 3, Nay – 2.

Items 1 and 3 - Motion passes – 6-0
Item 2 – Motion passes 5-1

JULY 11, 2011

BETHLEHEM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Bid Opening: June 28, 2011

July 11, 2011

**TABULATION OF BIDS FOR
FREEMANSBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
OFFICE AIR HANDLER AND CONDENSER REPLACEMENT**

	HSA Mechanical, Inc.	J.B.M. Mechanical	KC Mechanical	Tri-County Mechanical	Worth & Co.
Base Bid	\$12,948*	\$18,900	\$21,500	\$23,449	\$20,797

BID AWARD

*Withdrew Bid

7 specifications mailed
5 bids received

3. *Bid Award – Water Heater Replacement – Fountain Hill Elementary School*

INFORMATION:

Bids were received and publicly opened at 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 6, 2011, for:

Water Heater Replacement – Fountain Hill Elementary School

The bids have been tabulated and reviewed by the appropriate administrative and supervisory personnel. The recommendation of award is based upon the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (The Tabulation of Bids is attached.)

The Self-Certification Application for Non-Reimbursable Construction Projects were approved at the June 27, 2011, Regular Board Meeting. The administration and D'Huy Engineering, Inc. were authorized to prepare and solicit the specifications and solicit bids for this project.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the administration be authorized to award a contract to the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications as indicated on the attached Tabulation of Bids subject to proper execution of contract documents and performance bond as required in the bid specifications.

Water Heater Replacement – Fountain Hill Elementary School

Blanski, Inc.
120 Madison Avenue
Reading, PA 19601 \$52,800

Account Code and Account Title: General Fund - 4600-450 – Construction Services
Account Balance: \$233,352

President Cann stated: We will take a roll call vote on items 1, 2, and 3.
The question was called with roll call as follows: Yea, Directors Burkhardt, Faccinnetto Follweiler, Tenaglia, President Cann, Leeson, Yea 1 and 3, Nay – 2.

Items 1 and 3 - Motion passes – 6-0
Item 2 – Motion passes 5-1

JULY 11, 2011

BETHLEHEM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Bid Opening: July 6, 2011

July 11, 2011

TABULATION OF BIDS FOR
FOUNTAIN HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
WATER HEATER REPLACEMENT

	Blanski, Inc.	HSA Mechanical, Inc.	KC Mechanical	N.B. Rogers
Base Bid	\$52,800	\$71,194	\$82,000	No Bid

BID AWARD

4 specifications mailed
3 bids received

President Cann asked is anyone had any new or miscellaneous business to discuss.

NEW/MISCELLANEOUS
BUSINESS

President Cann offered Courtesy of the Floor to anyone who would like to speak at this time.

COURTESY OF THE
FLOOR TO VISITORS

Steven Antalics
737 Ridge Street
Bethlehem, PA

Mr. Antalics stated: I'm bringing it up now because it really might come under curriculum committee, but under either number 3 or the No Child Left Behind, but since it is ok to speak on any issue, I will bring it up now so that you can address it. Recently there was, my comments are more for information as such and the question as to policy. So I am not implying anything by my comments. There was quite an expensive report on NPR concerning the problems in the Atlanta Georgia schools in terms of fudging records to look better in No Child Left Behind per se and commends after that and subsequent programs indicated that that is not an isolated problem, this is pretty much a serious problem in the country because of tremendous pressures on the district to meet this deadline because it involves lots of money. Talking back to the days of Nitschman where under previous administration had been brought up by the distinguished educators report that the district badly had a communication problem and as a result the things happening within specific schools which should have been brought out if there were inter and intra school district exchange of information. Laptops and so forth. So the question is this, since Dr. Persing's study and the policy deficits in that time until today an investigation into possibly fudging, but also if there is or isn't are the policies with the administration that today to be able to review and see where in fact that might exist since the pressure of specific schools to meet their no child left behind requirement. I don't know whether you care to answer that now, but I would appreciate an answer.

President Cann stated: When Dr. Silva gets to the part of the agenda where that is applicable we will discuss it. OPEN FORUM

Director Follweiler stated: If it is more convenient for Dr. Silva I would be happy to answer Mr. Antalics question.

Dr. Silva stated: Mr. Antalics makes a good point, it is a national issue when it was discovered in Georgia, there you saw actual encouragement in some cases of principals that go back and take collected materials and erase answers and

correct answers in. The way I have implemented PSSA testing in the Bethlehem Area School District is back in March when we had our ship to school service where they sent the tests, I reviewed the expectations for everything related to security, administering the test, how to report any potential violations of security during and made it very clear to the principals in a memo form and in a meeting form exactly how to handle security issues related to the PSSA. We are far more likely in a district as large as Bethlehem to have an incident, and we have had those occasionally, we had one this year, where the teacher does something that doesn't follow the handbook and then we are obligated to report that, but one thing on the scale of where there was cheating that was just an example of the teacher just not following the handbook as clearly as they could and I felt at that time that it was important enough to report it and at that time they said it was not a problem Dr. Silva. So there are procedures within the district related to meeting with the principals, principals have the responsibility of expanding that explanation to their staff and reviewing the testing booklets and handling the completed tests for collection and distribution accordingly. We do follow the lock down and the lock up procedures of the materials, and we did have an audit this year from the Pennsylvania Department of Education at East Hills to make sure everything was honky dory and from our storage to the use of the materials and we passed with flying colors. So, there is a requirement for sharing, but the principals we do take it seriously and do communicate it. There are accountability measures that the state uses. There are test pages that we sign off on. I am convinced that we had adequate security controls to remedy the pressure that goes along with some high stakes testing. Part of the remedy is not necessarily counting test booklets and monitoring the holes that they are filling in but giving our teachers and our principals comfort that we are about much more than just those test scores and we have been trying to express that as well throughout the year.

President Cann asked if anyone from the board wanted to discuss anything in Open Forum.

Seeing none, President Cann moved to have the meeting adjourned.

President Cann asked for a motion for adjournment.

Motion - Director Follweiler moved to adjourn the meeting,

ADJOURNMENT

JULY 11, 2011

seconded by Director Burkhardt.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Attest,

Stacy M. Gober
Board Secretary

SMG:pag