



Rocket Express

December 3, 2024

The Rockwood Area Board of School Directors held its annual reorganization and regular meeting on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. The meeting was called for the purpose of reorganization and other general school purposes. The following directors were present: Ashley Baker, Seth Foreman, Melanie Monticue, Brad Pletcher, Tyler Pritts, Adam Sembower, Noah Wareham. The following directors were absent: Hailey Miller, Matthew Pritts.

The minutes of the committee meeting on 11/19/2024, and the regular meeting on 11/19/2024, were approved.

The agenda and agenda items were approved.

Reorganization:

Adam Sembower was appointed as temporary chairperson.

Tyler Pritts was elected as President by acclamation and presided over the meeting.

Adam Sembower was elected Vice President by acclamation.

Noah Wareham was appointed as the representative to the Somerset County Technology Center Joint Operating Committee, and Melanie Monticue was appointed as the alternate.

Seth Foreman was appointed as the PSBA Legislative Chairperson.

Ashley Baker was appointed as the PSBA Employee Relations Chairperson.

Old Business:

The Board approved the Rockwood Area School District Policy of Violation of the Fan/Guest Code of Conduct.

New Business:

The Board voted in favor to establish and advertise the committee meeting and regular meeting dates for the 2025 calendar year as the third Tuesday of every month with the exception of the April meeting, which will be held on the second Tuesday of the month, and with no scheduled meeting during the month of July.

The Board authorized the business office to pay necessary bills in December to avoid penalties and to present those bills for approval at the January meeting.

Committee Reports:

The Board voted in favor to add Madison Putman, a Prospective Teacher Substitute, to the district substitute teacher list for the 2024-2025 school year, pending completion of all paperwork, and approved the Superintendent to issue a Locally Issued Emergency Day-To-Day Substitute Permit.

The Board voted in favor to add Emma Mumau to the substitute teacher list for the 2024-2025 school year, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Jon Hale as a varsity baseball assistant coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Makayla Morocco as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer cheerleading coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Cheryl Henry as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer boys' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Zach Gaskin as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer varsity softball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved an intermittent leave of absence for the following employee (referenced by employee identification number) during the 2024-2025 school year, using unpaid days for any days in which the employee may have the inability to report to work for medical reasons and upon full usage of district allotted sick time and personal days. Employee ID #34.

Use of School Facility Requests:

The Board approved the following use of school facility requests:

1. Child Evangelism Fellowship of Fayette-Somerset Counties – Rockwood elementary classrooms – Thursdays beginning 1/9/25 through 4/10/25; 2:30 P.M. – 4:45 P.M. – Good News Club.
2. Rockwood Youth Softball – Rockwood high school gymnasium, elementary gymnasium – 1/1/25 through 6/30/25; dates, times, and location to be determined by athletic director – 10U and 12U softball practice.
3. Rockwood Alumni Basketball – Rockwood high school gymnasium – Sundays beginning 1/19/25 through 4/13/25; 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. – Alumni basketball.

Club & Class Activity Requests:

The Board approved the following club & class activity request:

1. Explorers – Bracelet sale at Christmas store – 12/16/24 through 12/18/24 – Raise funds to purchase items for a staff treat cart and to donate to the humane society.

Superintendent's Report:

Mark Bower informed the Board that a letter was drafted and sent to Expert Paving Company LLC, as well as the surety company, regarding the paving project completed in the district this fall. The Board

expressed concerns regarding the quality of the work performed and their overall disappointment with the finished product.

Mark Bower advised the Board that an ongoing financial discrepancy with PA Leadership Charter School has been successfully resolved.

Mark Bower informed the Board that college students approved as Prospective Teacher Substitutes will gain valuable classroom experience by fulfilling substitute teaching assignments. Their contributions will not only benefit their professional development but also provide significant value to the district.

Mark Bower reminded the Board that a meeting is scheduled to explore potential cooperative options for athletic programs. This meeting will include a committee comprised of administrators and board members from Berlin Brothersvalley School District, Meyersdale Area School District, and Rockwood Area School District, and will be held on December 9, 2024.

Jon Hale shared that the elementary school is buzzing with excitement as students and staff participate in a variety of festive holiday activities. Some of the activities include:

- 6th Grade Christmas Store
- Student Council Movie Event
- Christmas Holiday Parties
- Christmas Sing a Long

Nicholas Buterbaugh updated the Board regarding athletics. Basketball, rifle, and swimming competitions are well underway. Unfortunately, there is no junior high girls' basketball program, as there were not enough participants to form a team. However, two players have elected to participate on the junior high boys' basketball team.

Nicholas Buterbaugh provided an update on the rifle program, noting that, unfortunately, time constraints prevented the completion of the required certifications for new shooters.

Jordan Svonavec presented the financial audit report conducted by Kotzan CPA & Associates, P.C., highlighting that the audit revealed no financial discrepancies or issues.

Disclaimer: This document is only a summary of the above listed meeting and is not an official copy of the school board meeting minutes.