

Area Council Meeting Minutes, November 19, 2020 9:15 a.m

Area Council Board: Sue Deegan, Melissa Konggaard, Lori McRoberts, Lisa Argent, Kathleen Chaudhari

Administration: Dr. Mike Fisher, Mrs. Shelly Belcher, Dr. Jeannine French, Dr. Jennifer Murphy, Mrs. Patricia Kelly

School Board: Minna Allison, Lisa Anderson

Attendees: Dipti Patil, Laura Spernak, Angie Glud, Beth Matthews Ruth, Mary Pat DeRienzo, Missy Myers, Christine Chapas, Karen Lingis, Missy Harmon, Sonia Koupiaris, Penelope Butler, Tami Coleman, Laura Rohrbach, Jen Hanko, Suzy Stauffer, Julie Collins, Michelle Adams, Deb Busche

- ❖ **Call to Order-** Pledge of Allegiance
- ❖ **President Report-** Sue Deegan, President
- ❖ **Reading and Approval of Minutes-** Kathleen Chaudhari, Secretary
 - October 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes approved with no changes or corrections
- ❖ **Treasurer's Report-** Lisa Argent, Treasurer
 - October Financial Report, need to purchase insurance, Sam McVicker, first, Mary Pat DeRienzo, second
- ❖ **Superintendent's Report-** Dr. Jeannine L. French Good stuff going on, HS project, hit all benchmarks and plan to open January 7th. Moving plans well underway. High school conversion on track, new schedule 6-8th grade/middle school in that building. Covid: 8% of school aged children have had covid in Washington county, high compared to other counties. Friday will meet with the Dept of health and dept of education, need to take additional steps, safe place is in schools, may be full remote for last 12 days of school in 2020. Winter break over January 6th, Governor and DOH will not shut down schools. Good news-got a lot of school in, make sacrifices to keep our kids in school. Staffing challenge-rate of infection among teachers in person is the same as remote. Question—will vaccine be required? Answer: that is Dept of Health decision. Question: what are we allowed to do to not compromise going back to school? Can we do day trips? Request for specific guidelines, they will be provided.
- ❖ **Administrative Reports-**
 - Deputy Superintendent- Dr. Jennifer Murphy Prep for HS move, weekly meeting to discuss with HS, ready to go on Jan 7th. Keystones-some exemptions from Federal but not state. Looking into this now, 5 pathways to meet guidelines, Sports do not have to close when schools are closed and vice versa, make "same day decision" Will have tours of new high school on January 6th. Old HS - Will that building be closed down for swimming? Filling in the pool in January, not sure of when new HS pool will open, may be mid February. If your kids have problems with technology, make sure teacher knows. No district wide issue with uploading, do a ticket and be sure. If there is a district wide issue with tech, parents are notified.
 - Assistant Superintendent- Dr. Michael Fisher Tracking covid cases is the focus of his days. Athletes - new recommendation, always masked. Safety plan just approved—applies whole winter sports season, winter season sports begins November 30th.

- Director of Pupil Services- Mrs. Patricia Kelly Learning support using breakout sessions, Best Buddies at McMurray "Tis the season to be grateful", travel training at the HS
- Communications Coordinator- Mrs. Shelly Belcher Thank you for staying on top of email. AtoZ data was good, thank you for patience.
- ❖ **Report of School Board Representative-** Lisa Anderson Resignations of teachers, 3 of them, long term subs. Dec 7th reorganization meeting, Jan 19th regular meeting. Outdoor sports, no spread of covid. Club and Rec—there was spread. Different mitigation strategies. School district sports are safer than club and rec sports. Minna Allison, please tune into December 7th meeting for positive info
- ❖ **Unit Reports** by PTA Presidents
 - PTHS- Mary Pat DeRienzo Had a tour of the new high school last week.
 - PTMS-Samantha McVicker Trying to do snack days, ordered 500 smiley cookies but school closed so to ended up donating them.
 - McMurray Elementary- Sonia Koupiaris Not much going on. Yearbook team trying to get pictures of the kids, excited about the directory.
 - Pleasant Valley- Jen Hanko Not too busy, Halloween a big success, virtual puppet show was pre-recorded, the kids liked it. Thanksgiving craft—kids completed at school or had pick up for remote.
 - Bower Hill Elementary- Missy Harmon Halloween was a success, virtual holiday parties, fundraiser in February, read a thon. Provided new playground equipment for mask breaks, etc
- ❖ **Committee Reports**
 - 1st VP- Melissa Konggaard
 - Reflections Chair Penelope Butler in attendance 144 entries, 43 going to regionals, a few blips but going ok. 2 entries from entire middle school. BH, PV and McM had participation as expected
 - Directory
 - 2nd VP-Lori McRoberts
 - School Pictures Working with PTA's to get all remote students photographed. They have had multiple opportunities, Seniors had 12 opportunities. Backlash of parents when their kids are not in the yearbook. Discussion about pictures of remote kids. Will look for nice day in December and outside, one more date with Redford
- ❖ **Old Business/New Business**
- ❖ **Calendar**
 - Next Meeting- Thursday, January 21, 2021, 9:15 AM, location TBA
- ❖ **Adjournment 10:40 a.m.**

Minutes presented for approval January 21, 2021

❖ Minutes Approved


 Kathleen Chaudhari, Area Council Secretary