BELLE VERNON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 5, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Belle Vernon Area School District Board of Education was called to order by President Aaron J. Bialon at 6:47 p.m. on Wednesday, November 5, 2008 in the District Administration Office Board Room. This meeting was called for the purpose of conducting general business.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Bialon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE

Board Secretary James M. McKevitt recorded the following in attendance.

DIRECTORS—(Present): Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKevitt, Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill (9)

(Absent): None (0)

SOLICITOR: M. Janet Burkardt, Esq. – Law Offices of Ira Weiss

STAFF: Robert J. Nagy, Superintendent of Schools
       Eileen M. Navish, Business Manager
       David H. Bashada, Director of Transportation
       Jesse J. Cramer, Athletic Director
       Frances P. Kopanic, Board Executive Secretary

MEDIA: Lori Waryanko – Times Sun, West Newton PA
IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for this meeting was approved as amended on a motion made by Director Godzak, seconded by Director Patterson and carried on a 9-0 vote:

YES ............ Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKeivitt, Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill (9)
NO ............ None (0)

V. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS RELATIVE TO THE AGENDA OF THIS MEETING ONLY

President Bialon opened the meeting to comments from citizens relative to the agenda of this meeting only. There was no response from the audience.

VI. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. COMMUNICATIONS

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:
(Exhibit #1)
Confirmation that the Belle Vernon Area School District Strategic Plan Student Services Component has been reviewed and found to be in compliance with the regulations and has been properly filed.

President Bialon ordered this filed with the record.

LAW OFFICES OF IRA WEISS:
(Exhibit #2)
Legal opinion that, if the facilities are available on the dates requested, the School District should approve use of the High School auditorium for services to be conducted on November 16 and December 21, 2008 by the Gospel Alliance Church of Charleroi.

President Bialon ordered this filed with the record.

GREATER ROSTRAVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:
(Exhibit #3)
Request for participation of the following student organizations to in the annual Rostraver Township Light Up Night sponsored by the Commerce and the Rostraver Township Lions Club scheduled for Sunday, November 23, 2008 in the lot adjacent to the Rostraver Post
Office: The High School Marching Band, the Interact Club, the Art Club, and the Middle School Cheerleaders; all other groups and organizations within the schools are welcome to participate as well.

Approval was granted on a motion made by Director Puglia, seconded by Director Godzak and carried on a 9-0 vote:

YES .............. Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKevitt, Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill  (9)
NO ............... None      (0)

JOSHUA BAKAITUS – DRUSKY ENTERTAINMENT:
(Exhibits #3-1 thru #3-1D)
Request for use of the High School auditorium or gymnasium for a concert on Friday, November 28, 2008, all proceeds from which will benefit Eric Mikula, a former Belle Vernon Area High School student who was seriously injured in an automobile accident in August.

This was approved on a motion made by Director Godzak, seconded by Director Kraft and carried on a 9-0 vote:

YES .............. Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKevitt, Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill  (9)
NO ............... None      (0)

B.  RESIGNATIONS

(Exhibit #4): The resignation of Audra L. Stablein as Spanish mentor at the High School was accepted on a motion made by Director Puglia, seconded by Director Kraft and carried on a 9-0 vote:

YES .............. Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKevitt, Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill  (9)
NO ............... None      (0)

(Exhibit #5): Notification of the retirement of James A. Solan, M.D., as school physician at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

President Bialon ordered this filed for the record inasmuch as this will not occur in the near future.

C.  EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL
Superintendent Nagy recommended that the Board name mentor teachers for the 2008-2009 school year as listed, at the negotiated rate of $1,150.00.

Bellmar Middle School – Emotional Support (Daniel A. Cieply) .............. Ross A. Farmer
RMS & BVAHS Itinerant – Emotional Support (Jennifer G. Osborne) . Kathleen C. McCormick

The motion for approval was made by Director Godzak, seconded by Director McKeveitt and carried on a 9-0 vote:

YES .............. Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKeveitt,  
Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill (9)

NO ............... None (0)

D. OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Director Jackson made a motion that the Board move to executive session regarding personnel matters – time 6:55 p.m. The motion was seconded by Director McKeveitt and carried on a 9-0 vote:

YES .............. Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKeveitt,  
Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill (9)

NO ............... None (0)

When the Board returned to the public forum at 7:30 p.m., a motion to reconvene the meeting was made by Director Godzak, seconded by Director Patterson and carried on a 9-0 vote:

YES .............. Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKeveitt,  
Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill (9)

NO ............... None (0)

[Amend Agenda to Appoint Acting Superintendent]

Director Patterson made a motion to amend the agenda to include the appointment of an Acting Superintendent. This was seconded by Director McKeveitt and carried on a 9-0 vote:

YES .............. Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKeveitt,  
Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill (9)
NO ............... None      (0)

[Appointment of Acting Superintendent]

A motion to appoint Stephen V. Russell as Acting Superintendent effective November 18, 2008, was made by Director Patterson, seconded by Director Sepesky and carried on a 9-0 vote:

YES .............. Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKevitt, Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill   (9)
NO ............... None      (0)

[Use of Facilities–Christian Missionary Alliance Church of Charleroi]

Director Puglia made a motion to deny the recent request from the Christian Missionary Alliance Church of Charleroi for use of the High School Auditorium for services on November 16 and December 21, based upon past practice to not permit religious activity on school property. This was seconded by Director Kraft and carried on a 9-0 vote:

YES .............. Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKevitt, Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill   (9)
NO ............... None      (0)

[Open Varsity Head Football Coach Position]

Director Godzak moved that the Board open the position of varsity head football coach. There being no second to the motion, President Bialon referred this to the Athletic Committee for action at the November 17, 2008 regular meeting.

VII.  COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

[BVA Drug and Alcohol Task Force Meeting]

Director Patterson reported that the Belle Vernon Area Drug and Alcohol Task Force will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 in the High School auditorium. He added that all Board members and administrators are welcome to this meeting which is open to the general public.

VIII.  ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. on a motion made by Director Jackson, seconded by Director McKevitt and carried on a
9-0 vote:

YES ............ Bialon, Godzak, Jackson, Kraft, McKevitt,  
Patterson, Puglia, Sepesky, Stringhill  (9)
NO .............. None  (0)

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James M. McKevitt
Board Secretary

JMM:fpk