

**EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
JUNE 6, 2016**

**Special Meeting for General Purposes
6:00 p.m.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into Executive Session from 6:00 p.m. to 7:02 p.m. for Personnel Reasons.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the School Board of the East Allegheny School District is called to order by Mrs. McCullough, the president, at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Mr. Eichler, Mrs. Gates, Ms. Green, Mrs. McCullough, Mr. Pearsol, Ms. Rosenbayger, Mr. Savinda, Mr. Volpe
ABSENT: Mr. Paradine.

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Mac Fann, Ms. Valicenti.
Solicitor: Mr. Beisler.

BUDGET & FINANCE

**2016-2017 SCHOOL
DISTRICT
FINAL BUDGET
FOR ADOPTION**

Mr. Pearsol moved and Mrs. Gates seconded the motion as recommended by the Administration the Board approve adoption of the final budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year with revenues and expenditures totaling \$32,588,281, with millage set at 26.9722, as per the approved Referendum Exception from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Further approve the continuation of the following: the Real Estate Tax Installment Payment Plan, the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion, and all Act 511 taxes, as per the attached resolutions.

ROLL CALL

On a roll call vote, the following members voted Yes: Eichler, Gates, Green, McCullough, Pearsol, Rosenbayger, Savinda. No: Volpe. Absent: Paradine.

Yes 7

No 1

The motion was passed.

PERSONNEL

**HIRING OF
TEMPORARY
PROFESSIONAL**

Ms. Rosenbayger moved and Mrs. Gates seconded the motion as recommended by the Administration the Board hire Natalie Hilbert, North Versailles, as a temporary professional for the vacant Physics position, retroactive to April 1, 2016 and in accordance with the agreement between the East Allegheny School District and the East Allegheny Education Association. Ms. Hilbert received her certification in Physics, which was dated April 1, 2016.

The motion was passed, no dissenting votes.

PERSONNEL

**BOARD RESOLUTION
ALTERATION OF
PROGRAMS FOR 2016-2017**

Ms. Rosenbayger moved and Mr. Pearsol seconded the motion as recommended by the Administration the Board approve the adoption of a resolution, as per attached, relative to the alteration of programs due to declining enrollment with employee furloughs and reassignments for the 2016-2017 school year.

The motion was passed, no dissenting votes.

Board Member Comment:

Mrs. Gates voted yes, but wants it noted for the record that she does not agree with Page 3, #5, Letter g of the Resolution.

HIRING OF COACHES

Mrs. Gates moved and Ms. Rosenbayger seconded the motion as recommended by the Administration the Board hire the following coaches for the respective positions:

Taylor Moravec	Belle Vernon	Head Cheerleader Coach
Jaclyn Durick	Pittsburgh	Assistant Cheerleader Coach

Please note: Cheer tryouts are set for June 1 – June 4.

The motion was passed, no dissenting votes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rosenbayger moved and Mrs. McCullough seconded the motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Toni Valicenti



Board Secretary

**OFFICIAL
EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
RESOLUTION NO. 06062016-01**

A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING A PLAN FOR PROVIDING AN OPTION FOR INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS OF REAL ESTATE TAXES BY TAXPAYERS PURSUANT TO ACT 25 OF 2011.

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors of the East Allegheny School District is required to adopt a Plan for providing an option for installment payments of real estate taxes by taxpayers pursuant to Act 25 of 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ADOPTED By the Board of School Directors of the East Allegheny School District, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED and ADOPTED by authority of the same, that:

The Board of School Directors of the East Allegheny School District hereby adopts a plan for providing an option for installment payments of real estate taxes by taxpayers pursuant to Act 25 of 2011, as follows:

1. Installment Payment Dates. A taxpayer electing the installment payment option may pay the real estate tax in three (3) equal installment payments of one-third (1/3) of the full tax amount. The installments are due on or before August 31, October 31, and December 31 of the year in which the tax is levied. Any installment not paid in full by these dates is delinquent.

2. Taxpayer election of installment payment option. Payment of the first installment in full by August 31 will constitute a taxpayer election to pay real estate taxes in installments. Installment payment is permitted if the taxpayer elects by paying the first installment payment in full by August 31. If the taxpayer fails to pay the first installment payment by August 31, the taxpayer may nevertheless elect to pay the tax in installments by paying on or before October 31 the delinquent first installment payment, together with a penalty in the amount of 10% of the amount of the installment payment, and paying the second installment payment in full. If the taxpayer fails to meet these requirements, the full amount of the real estate tax is due on or before October 31, and the real estate tax is delinquent if not paid in full on or before October 31.

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3. No discount. No discount applies to installment payments.

4. Penalty on delinquent installments. If a taxpayer makes the first installment payment by August 31 and fails to pay in full any subsequent installment by the installment due date, the installment not paid by the due date is delinquent, and a penalty will be added to the tax in the amount of ten (10%) percent of the amount of the installment not paid by the installment due date, without regard to any partial payment of the installment.

5. Ineligibility. A taxpayer who is delinquent by more than ten (10) days on all installment payments is ineligible for the installment payment option in the following school year.

6. Severability. If any provision of this Resolution shall be determined to be unlawful, invalid, or unenforceable, then that provision shall be considered severable from the remaining provisions of this Resolution which shall be in full force and effect.

7. Effective Date. This plan will become effective July 1, 2012, and will continue in effect thereafter for real estate taxes levied for the school year beginning July 1, 2012, and for real estate taxes levied for future years, until amended or repealed.

RESOLVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of School Directors of the East Allegheny School District, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, meeting in regular and public session, this 6th day of June, 2016.

ATTEST:

EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Toni Valicenti
Secretary

By: _____
Gerri C. McCullough, President
Board of School Directors

EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2016 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 06062016-02

RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of East Allegheny School District, that homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions are authorized for the school year beginning July 1, 2007, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), as follows:

1. **Aggregate amount available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction.** The following amounts are available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction for the school year beginning July 1, 2007:

a. **Gambling tax funds.** The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.505(b), as a property tax reduction allocation funded by gambling tax funds, the amount of \$960,372.67.

b. **Tax shifting funds.** Based on the voter referendum directing School District levy of an increased earned income tax, and on calculations provided by the School District Business Office from the best available information and carefully evaluated by the School Board estimating Act 1 earned income tax receipts for real estate tax reduction of \$N/A, minus \$N/A representing 2% of such receipts retained to offset School District expenses, funds will be available from tax shifting during the school year for real estate tax reduction pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.334(a)(3) or (4), in the amount of \$N/A. *The East Allegheny School District Board of School Directors chose not to go this route.*

c. **Other sources.** Funds will be available during the school year for real estate reduction from other sources, namely _____, in the amount of \$_____. *Not Applicable.*

d. **Aggregate amount available.** Adding these amounts, the aggregate amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction is \$960,372.67.

2. **Homestead/farmstead numbers.** Pursuant to Act 50, 54 Pa. C.S. § 8584(i), and Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.341(g)(3), the County has provided the School District with a certified report listing approved homesteads and approved farmsteads as follows:

a. **Homestead property number.** The number of approved homesteads within the School District is 3,794.

b. **Farmstead property number.** The number of approved farmsteads within the School District is 0.

c. **Homestead/farmstead combined number.** Adding these numbers, the aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads is 3,794.

Real estate tax reduction calculation. The school board has decided that the homestead exclusion amount and the farmstead exclusion amount shall be equal. Dividing the paragraph 1(e) aggregate amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction of \$960,372.67 by the paragraph 2(c) aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 3,794, the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead and to each approved farmstead is \$253.00.

Homestead exclusion calculation. Dividing the paragraph 3 maximum real estate tax reduction amount of \$253.00 by the School District real estate tax rate of .0269722 mills (\$9,380.03), the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a homestead exclusion for each approved homestead is \$253.00, and the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a farmstead exclusion for each approved farmstead is \$253.00.

Homestead/farmstead exclusion authorization – July 1 tax bills. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved homestead within the School District shall reflect a homestead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the homestead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$9,380.03. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved farmstead within the School District shall reflect an additional farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the farmstead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$9,380.03. For purposes of this Resolution, “approved homestead” and “approved farmstead” shall mean homesteads and farmsteads listed in the report referred to in paragraph 2 above and received by the School District from the County Assessment Office on or before May 1 pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.341(g)(3), based on homestead/farmstead applications filed with the County Assessment Office on or before March 1. This paragraph 5 will apply to tax notices issued based on the initial tax duplicate used in issuing initial real estate tax notices for the school year, which will be issued on or promptly after July 1, and will not apply to interim real estate tax bills.

DULY RESOLVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of School Directors of the East Allegheny School District, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania in lawful session assembled this 6th day of June, 2016.

Toni Valicenti, Secretary
Board of School Directors

Gerri McCullough, President
Board of School Directors

RESOLUTION NO. 06062016-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT, BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

CURTAILMENT AND ALTERATION OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING AND APPROVAL OF FURLOUGH/NON-RENEWAL OF PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STAFF FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

JUNE 6, 2016

WHEREAS, § 11-1124 of the public School Code of 1949, as amended (The “School Code”) provides that:

“Any Board of School Directors may suspend the necessary number of professional employees, for any of the causes herein enumerated: . . . (2) curtailment or alteration of the education program on the recommendation of the superintendent, concurred in by the Board of School Directors, approved by the Department of Public Instruction, as a result of a substantial decline in class or course enrollments or to conform with standards of organization or education activities required by or recommended by the Department of Public Instruction . . .”;

WHEREAS, the East Allegheny School District (the “School District”) has experienced an overall decrease in its student enrollment from 1837 students in the 2006-2007 school year to 1,635 students in the 2015-2016 school year;

WHEREAS, the above student enrollment figures show 202 fewer students attend the School District’s public school than a decade ago, which represents an 11% decline in student enrollment;

WHEREAS, during the same time period as the substantial decrease in student enrollment described above, the number of professional staff employed by the School District has remained unchanged;

WHEREAS, the substantial decrease in student enrollment experienced by the School District over the past decade, constitutes a legitimate basis under Section 1124 of the Public School Code to furlough professional employees;

WHEREAS, as a result of the substantial decrease in the School District’s student enrollment, fewer fulltime equivalent teaching positions will be needed for the 2016-2017 school year;

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors has considered the realignment of staff in order to avoid suspending the employment of the most senior staff members in compliance with Section 1125.1(c) of the Public School Code;

WHEREAS, the School District faced a severe financial crisis and a substantial project budget deficit during the 2015-2016 budget process requiring a critical review and reallocation of limited School District resources and a commitment to reorganize the School District programs and curriculum so as to allow the School District to meet its mandated educational mission;

WHEREAS, the District's superintendent has recommended an alteration to the Title One reading program. This alteration, along with declining enrollment, will allow the School District to cover the needed sections of reading with less staff. This alteration will allow the District to reduce staff by one Title I reading position while remaining compliant with the State regulations embedded by the following Pennsylvania State Board of Education Requirements related to elementary education and attendance, ie. 22 Pa. Code 4.21(a), freeing up desperately needed School District resources and resulting in a more efficient and effective education program; and

WHEREAS, the District's superintendent has recommended an alteration to the high school physics program. This alteration, along with declining enrollment, will allow the School District to cover the needed sections of high school physics with less staff. This alteration will allow the District to reduce staff by one high school physics position while remaining compliant with the State regulations embedded by the following Pennsylvania State Board of Education Requirements related to high school education and attendance, ie. 22 Pa. Code 4.23, freeing up desperately needed School District resources and resulting in a more efficient and effective educational programs; and

WHEREAS, upon recommendation of the District's superintendent, in accordance with Section 1124.2 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949, as amended, in order to promote a more efficient and effective educational system and to conform with standards of reorganization (furlough/suspension), to approve the alteration/curtailment of the educational program by approving the following personnel actions effective close of the 2015-2016 school year:

- a. Elimination of the Dean of Discipline Position. The affected individual is Dave Loya, transferred to a new teaching assignment;
- b. Elimination of Intervention Specialist. The affected individual is Frank Cortazzo, transferred to a new teaching assignment;
- c. Elimination of Computer Teacher. The affected individual is Lynne Botti, transferred to a new teaching assignment;
- d. Elimination of Title One Reading Teacher. The affected individual is Chrystal Flebotte, transferred to a new teaching assignment; Results in the furlough of Amanda Snyder as the least senior instructor within the Department and Field.
- e. Elimination of JSHS Physical Education Teacher. The affected individual is Tim Cortazzo, transferred to a new teaching assignment;
- f. Elimination of High School Physics Position. The affected individual is Natalie Hilbert, being furloughed as the least senior instructor within the Department and Field;
- g. Elimination of Tech Ed Teacher. The affected individual is Ed Czapor, who is retiring.
- h. Elimination of High School Art Position. The affected individual is Cheryl Lane, who is retiring;

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the School District to make any reduction in staff effective as of close of business on June 30, 2016;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of School Directors of the East Allegheny School District hereby resolves as follows:

1. It is determined that there has been a substantial decline in the School District's student enrollment since the 2006-2007 school year;
2. It is determined that a lawful basis exists under Section 1124 of the Pennsylvania Public Code for the School District to either furlough professional employees and/or non-renew the employment of temporary professional employees and/or eliminate certain professional positions;
3. Furloughs. Pursuant to its authority under Section 1124 of the Pennsylvania Public Code, the Board of School Directors approves the furloughs of the following professional employees, effective June 30, 2016:
 - a. Amanda Snyder, Eighth Grade Reading;
 - b. Natalie Hilbert, High School Physics Teacher.
4. Transfers. Pursuant to its authority under Section 1125.1(c) of the Pennsylvania Public Code, the Board of School Directors approves the transfers of the following professional employees, from their current assignments to new teaching assignments outlined below, effective the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year:
 - a. Chrystal Flebotte, transferred to Eighth Grade Reading.
 - b. Tim Cortazzo, transferred to Fourth Grade;
 - c. Frank Cortazzo, transferred to Fifth Grade;
 - d. Jennifer Kolodychak, transferred to Kindergarten;
 - e. Wade Brown, transferred to Fourth Grade;
 - f. Lynne Botti, transferred to Third Grade;
 - g. Dave Loya, transferred to Alternate Ed Teaching Position;
 - h. Charles Bandurski, transferred to Life Skills.
5. Elimination of positions. Pursuant to its authority under Section 1124 of the Pennsylvania Public Code, the Board of School Directors approves the elimination of the following positions:
 - a. Dean of Discipline;
 - b. Intervention Specialist;
 - c. Computer Teacher;
 - d. Title One Reading Teacher;
 - e. High School Physics Teacher;
 - f. Tech Ed Teacher;
 - g. High School Art Teacher.

6. The Superintendent of the School District or his designee shall take such other action as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out this Resolution, including, but not limited to, notifying the affected individuals in writing of their procedural rights to challenge these decisions, as well as the adoption of this Resolution.
7. Upon certification of the District Superintendent, which, by virtue of the signature below, is hereby affirmed, the Board of School Directors hereby approves this proposed plan of curtailments/alterations effective as of the close of business on June 30, 2016.
8. The District Superintendent is authorized to demonstrate to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education, that the requested curtailments or alterations will effect a change in the School District's organization and/or curriculum that results in a more efficient and effective educational program.
9. Any actions herein that require Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education approval are expressly contingent upon official approval by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education, for the proposed curtailment or alteration of programs outlined in this Resolution.
10. Upon receipt of official approval of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education, for the proposed curtailment or alteration of programs outlined in this Resolution, the District Superintendent shall finalize the name(s) of the least senior professional employees who have been notified that they are being furloughed, demoted and/or reassigned as a result of the alteration of the above mentioned programs, in accordance with Section 11-1124 and Section 11-1125.1 of the Pennsylvania Public Code of 1949, as amended, as applicable;

EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: _____
 Gerri McCullough, Board President

Attest: _____
 Toni Valicenti, Board Secretary

I, Donald MacFann, District Superintendent, hereby certify and affirm the recommendations set forth in the above Resolution.

 Donald MacFann