

NORTH ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOVEMBER 12, 2008 –WORK SESSION

MINUTES

Board in Attendance: Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Hubert, Mrs. Boujoukos,
Mr. Cunningham, Mrs. Grosheider, Mrs. Ludwig,
Mr. Pagone, Mr. Schwartzmier, Mr. Shuckrow

Board Absent: None.

Students in Attendance: Mr. Hamm–NASH; Ms. Peng-NAI

Also in Attendance: Dr. Green, Mr. Maiello (Solicitor), Mr. Botti, Mrs. Ed,
Mr. Gaertner, Mr. Hopkins, Dr. Millier, Dr. Steinhauer,
Dr. Stropkaj, Dr. Wheat; Mrs. Ryan (Secretary)

MST Members: None.

The Board of School Directors of the North Allegheny School District convened for a **Work Session** on **Wednesday, November 12, 2008** in the **Board Room** of the **Central Administrative Offices**.

WORK SESSION

Mrs. Bishop called the meeting to order at **7:32 p.m.** and all stood and recited *The Pledge of Allegiance*. She announced that the Board met in Executive Session at the conclusion of our last meeting on October 29, 2008 to discuss a personnel matter with respect to Administrative employees. In addition, the Board will be meeting in Executive Session at the conclusion of this meeting to discuss a personnel matter with respect to Administrative employees.

CALENDAR AND AGENDA

Mrs. Bishop reviewed the Agenda for this meeting and the Calendar for November and December 2008. There are no reports scheduled for this meeting. Next week, the Board will hear the North Allegheny Foundation Annual Report to the Board. At the December 3, 2008 meeting, the Board will have their reorganization, the purpose of which is to elect officers. That meeting will also serve as a Work Session and the Regular Meeting will be on December 10, 2008. There are no reports scheduled for December.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

No Speakers.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mr. Devlin had a citation that was delivered to him on Veteran's Day by Captain Bill McClelland, a Social Studies teacher at NAI and a member of the National Guard. The citation is in recognition of the District's commitment and support of all of the members of the Army National Guard. Mr. Devlin presented the citation to Mrs. Bishop, who circulated it to the Board. She thanked Captain McClelland and the National Guard for this honor.

REVIEW OF BOARD FOLDER

The Board reviewed all items as contained in the Board Folder of November 19, 2008. There was a minimum of discussion.

As a part of the review of the **Property and Supplies Report**, Mr. Roger Botti, Director of Assets, Transportation and Technology, presented a brief explanation of the Administration's recommendation to approve the Easement Agreement with AdVenture Development, LLC, and the related Temporary Construction Easement Agreement. These agreements provide the ability for changes to the hillside near McKnight Elementary School to move forward that will create the following advantages for the District:

- It will address current problems with poor soil on the hillsides.
- It will improve drainage.
- It will provide access around the building.
- It will be maintained by the developer.
- It will reduce the height and slope of the hillside.
- Fencing will be installed on the top of the hill.
- It will be a double wide and double density landscape buffer.

Work on this site will take place during the summer when classes are not in session.

During review of the **Student Activities Report**, the Student Representatives presented an update of recent and upcoming student activities.

Mr. Hamm announced that the PASC Conference begins tomorrow for the student council members in the District. There will be 45 students from all the middle schools, NAI and NASH, with 20 workshops taking place. Both our student representatives, Andy Hamm and Lili Peng, will be presenters at this conference. Mr. Hamm also reported that the North Allegheny DECA Association had a successful "Hike for Ike" for the hurricane victims. Approximately 30 students and community members participated in the hike last weekend and they raised over \$500. NASH's fall play, *Lend Me a Tenor*, will be taking place next week with the Senior Citizens' afternoon performance taking place on Tuesday, and regular performances taking place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. They will be making use of the new stage extension at NASH.

Mrs. Bishop mentioned that the Marching Band won the "Band of the Week," which was an online voting contest. The Band now qualifies for an online contest on WPXI for "Band of the Year" and she encouraged everyone to vote.

Ms. Peng reported that the Forensics Team did very well at their first tournament at McDowell, with sweeps for both Debate and Speech overall. At Quigley last week, they placed in the top 14 for Debate and it is a good start for the year. They are still working on the food drive, Gobble for Cans, and the cans will go to North Hills Community Outreach. A couple of students from NASH made it to PMEA All Eastern Orchestra, which is commendable. Ms. Peng also thanked the Board for the new lockers at NAI. They are almost entirely installed and students are appreciating them.

Mrs. Ludwig thanked the Marching Band for participating in the several neighborhood parades at Halloween that they consistently make time for in their schedule. She noted that this is especially enjoyed by the young children in local areas.

During review of the **Superintendent's Report**, Dr. Green gave her Good News Report, as follows:

- ★ **Mr. John DeMann, a School Psychologist in the Special Education and Pupil Services Department**, has received notification that a paper and a poster proposal that he and a colleague submitted have been accepted for presentation at the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Annual Convention being held in Boston, MA on February 25-28, 2009. The titles of the papers and poster proposals are: Comparing a Kindergarten Screening Battery with First Grade Achievement and The Effectiveness of the Skill streaming Curriculum in Social Skill Acquisition.

- ★ **The North Allegheny Senior High School has been recognized** – for the second year in a row – as one of the nation's "Top 100 Schools" in speech and debate activities by the National Forensic League. NASH ranked 68 out of 2,700 schools nationwide. This recognition was awarded to NASH and published nationwide in the *Rostrum*, the national magazine of high school speech and on www.nflonline.org, the website of the National Forensic League. The National Forensic League is the oldest and largest high school speech organization in America. Currently, over 93,000 high school students and over 7,000 high school teachers are active members. The North Allegheny Forensics Coach is **Ms. Sharon Volpe**.

Of note, there are two new Board policies that will appear for their First Readings next week. They are Board Policy #3585 Anti-Bullying and Board Policy #4160 Right-to-Know Requests.

SPEAKERS

There were no residents who came forward to address the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Bishop adjourned the meeting at **8:12 p.m.** The Board met in Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter with respect to Administrative employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Mary Ryan, Secretary
North Allegheny School Board