

**JUNIATA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
Thursday, March 1, 2018  
8:00 PM SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
Administrative Office Building, 146 Weatherby Way, Mifflintown**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE**

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Juniata County School District was held Thursday, February 1, 2018 at the Administrative Office Building, all members having been duly notified. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Mr. Mark F. Wagner, President.

**II. BOARD MEMBERS**

The following board members were present at roll call:

Mrs. Heather Z. Kelly	Mrs. Angela Varner
Mrs. A. Christine McLaughlin	Mrs. Amy L. Wagner
Mrs. Christine D. Shadel	Mr. Mark F. Wagner
Mr. Joseph R. Shearer	Mr. Troy Woodward
Mr. Danny R. Snyder	

Also present were: Solicitor Scott Etter, Business Manager Richard Meily, Special Education Director Jill Condo, Secretary Polly Digon, Mrs. Valerie Ricedorf, Mrs. Christie Holderman, Mrs. Wendy Varner, Mr. Clint Mitchell, Mr. Benjamin Fausey, Mr. Edward Apple, Mr. Aaron Bennett and Mr. Andy Kinzer.

**III. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. School Board Secretary**

There were no comments from the Board secretary.

**B. School Board Members**

There were no comments from Board members.

**C. School District Administration**

Mr. Yarger announced that a public meeting was scheduled for March 6, at which representatives of the Pennsylvania State Policy and District Attorney Cory Snook would speak about various aspects of school safety and threats.

Mr. Yarger asked administrators to share information about programs and services in place regarding school safety, including Mr. Bennett, Student Assistance Program; Mrs. Varner, Child and Adolescent Service System Program; Mrs. Holderman, Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports; Mr. Apple, Peer Mediation; Mrs. Ricedorf, Life Skills; Mr. Kinzer, Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth; Mr. Mitchell, Second

Step; and Mr. Fausey, school psychologists and secure vestibules.  
Mr. Yarger also shared information regarding three metal detectors purchased by the District nearly 20 years ago, one of which is in use in the Juniata High School AEDY classroom and two of which are inoperable.  
Mr. Apple shared questions he has about the use of metal detectors in school, including who would monitor the unit and that rate at which students would pass through them.  
Mr. Fausey suggested seeking information from other districts regarding their use and assurance that the District could sustain their use once implemented.

**D. Public Comment Period**

There were no comments from the public.

**IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**A. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

1. It was moved by Mrs. Varner and seconded by Mrs. Shadel to table action on a recommendation to authorize the administration to solicit bids, and to purchase from the low bidder 11 walk-through metal detectors to be positioned at each school building, at a cost of approximately \$1,895 for each unit.

Prior to the vote, Mrs. Wagner said that she favored exploring other measures of increasing safety in school buildings, including updated training, such as the ALICE Active Shooter Response Training and having building risks evaluated, among other measures.

Mrs. Kelly said that she is sensitive to people's fears, but that before voting to purchase metal detectors she would need empirical evidence of their effectiveness and a comprehensive approach to a safety program that is efficient, organized and timely.

Mr. Woodward said that he believes that the District would benefit from having teacher and community involvement in addressing safety needs, along with more involvement from the Pennsylvania State Police.

Mr. Yarger indicated that the State Police and Juniata County Sheriff's Office plan to be more involved, with Mrs. McLaughlin concurring that more visibility from law enforcement would be advantageous.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Kelly, McLaughlin, Shadel, Shearer, Snyder, Varner, A. Wagner, Woodard

Nays: M. Wagner

Motion carried.

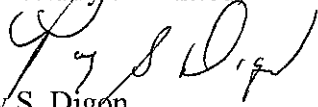
**V. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Wagner asked Board members to consider becoming involved with Board property and safety committees and to be prepared to organize committees at the March 15 meeting.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, it was moved by Mrs. Kelly and seconded by Mrs. McLaughlin to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Polly S. Digon  
Board Secretary

