

October 16, 2024

At 6:00 p.m. the Board held their Committee Meeting, briefly reviewing agenda items. The Board ended their Committee Meeting and entered Executive Session to discuss personnel. The Board exited Executive Session at 6:17pm to start the Regular Meeting.

The Blacklick Valley School Board met in person in Regular Session at 6:18p.m. for General Purposes in the Conference Room of the Blacklick Valley Jr. Sr. High School, 555 Birch Street, Nanty GIO, PA 15943 with Angela Villa, Board President, presiding and the following members present:

Michael Gdula, Elizabeth Kreashko, Larry Kupchella, Gregory O'Farrell, Shawn McMullen, Jeffrey Szymusiak, Joe Villa, and Don Thomas.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Mr. William Kanich, Superintendent, Bethany Peracchino, Business Manager/Board Secretary, Ed Alexander, High School Principal, Tammy Boring, Elementary Principal and Nichole Kolarik, Special Education Coordinator.

Recognition of Guests- None.

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Elizabeth Kreashko, to approve the minutes from the September 18, 2024 Regular Meeting.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively	Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively	Motion Carried

Moved by Don Thomas, seconded by Larry Kupchella, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month ending September 30, 2024.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively	Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively	Motion Carried

Moved by Shawn McMullen, seconded by Larry Kupchella, to approve the following motions:

Motion to approve the payment of the Regular Bills in the amount of \$160,846.93.

Motion to approve the payment of the Cafeteria Bills in the amount of \$55,377.43.

Motion to approve the payment of the October, 2024 Payroll in the estimated amount of \$326,319.06, and the estimated transfer of \$326,319.06 from the General Fund to the Payroll Account.

Motion to approve the payment of the October, 2024 Cafeteria Payroll in the estimated amount of \$16,536.36 and the estimated transfer of \$16,536.36 from the Cafeteria Fund to the General Fund Account.

Motion to approve the Cafeteria Fund Report for the month ending September 30, 2024, showing a balance of \$434,590.26.

Motion to approve the Athletic Fund Report for the month ending September 30, 2024, showing a balance of \$10,397.18.

Motion to approve the Student Activities Report for the 3rd Quarter ending September 30, 2024.

**Voting on Motion:**

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Joe Villa, to approve the November 15, 2024 bond payment in the amount of \$576,375.00.

**Voting on Motion:**

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Joe Villa, to authorize the Business Manager to assign fund balance for use for specific purposes.

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

**Voting on Motion:**

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Angela

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Joe Villa, to approve the Act 1 Resolution electing ncVilla increase the tax rate above the index for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Voting

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

**Voting on Motion:**

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen **Voting** Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Affirmatively Voting on Motion: Michael  
Gdula Voting Affirmatively Elizabeth  
Kreashko

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively  
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively  
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively  
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Joe Villa, to approve the following mandatory 403b Plan Amendments:

- Section 107 Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) Age Increases
- Section 328 Repeal of Direct Payment Requirement for Tax Free Payments from a Governmental Plan to Pay Public Safety Officers Medical Insurance Premiums ●
- Section 339 Tribal Courts Can Issue QDROs
- Section 327 Surviving Spouse Election to be Treated as Employee (for RMDs)
- Section 325 Roth Plan Distribution Rules ● Section 603 Roth Catchup

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Joe Villa, to allow employees to begin contributing to Roth 403(b) accounts, effective January 10, 2025. Roth 403(b) rollovers are permitted, but conversions from non-Roth 403(b) accounts are not allowed.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Joe Villa, to approve the following ticket prices for the 24-25 Basketball Season:

- Adult Tickets- \$5.00/each
- Adult Game Passes- \$40.00/each
- Student Admission- Free

on Motion:

Voting Affirmatively

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively  
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively  
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively  
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively  
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively  
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively  
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively  
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively  
Motion Carried

Moved by Elizabeth Kreashko, seconded by Joe Villa, to approve the Blacklick Valley School District Health and Safety plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively  
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively  
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively  
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively  
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively  
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively  
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively  
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively  
Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Don Thomas, to allow the Superintendent and Business Manager to advertise for an LPN.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively  
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively  
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively  
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively  
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively  
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively  
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively  
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively  
Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Don Thomas, to approve the resignation of Sam Conn School Nurse effective December 1, 2024. .

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively  
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively  
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively  
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa  
Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively  
Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively  
Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively  
Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Voting

Motion Carried

Voting Affirmatively

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Don Thomas, to allow the Superintendent and Business Manager to advertise for a School Nurse.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively	Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively	Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Don Thomas, to approve Steve Szymusiak as a Volunteer Football Coach.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively	Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively	Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Don Thomas, to approve Tommy McConnell as a Volunteer Jr. High Boys Basketball Coach, pending receipt of all clearances.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively
Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively	Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively
Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively	Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Don Thomas, to post and advertise for a Full-Time Custodial/Maintenance Employee.

Larry Kupchella

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively	Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively
Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively	Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively
	Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Don Thomas, to approve Gabriel Davis as a bus driver for Ml acker Transportation.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

Moved by Gregory O'Farrell, seconded by Don Thomas, to approve the hiring of Sandy Jansure as a substitute cafeteria worker at a rate of \$9.00/hour.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula Voting Affirmatively

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

Don Thomas Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

Motion Carried

For the good of the organization:

Ed Alexander, High School Principal, announced that we are hosting a Blood Drive on 10/31/24 from 8am — 1:30pm in the High School gymnasium. He also stated that our Veteran's Day Appreciation Day will be held on Thursday November 7<sup>th</sup> at the High School. Finally, he is proud to announce that our Duel Enrollment Program is going very well for our students. We are offering courses that give our students college credits at a much-reduced rate. For Penn Highlands alone, there are 21 students taking credits. So far this year, our students are taking a total of 115 credits between Penn Highlands, Saint Francis, and Mount Aloysius.

Tammy Boring, Elementary Principal, thanked JWF Industries for donated materials for some of our students at the Elementary School. She also thanked the Ebensburg Walmart for donating a large TV to the Elementary that is located in our Cafeteria. The Elementary is also hosting a Veteran's Day Program on Thursday November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Moved by Larry Kupchella, seconded by Jeffrey Szymusiak, to adjourn the meeting.

Voting on Motion:

Michael Gdula

Gregory O'Farrell Voting Affirmatively

Elizabeth Kreashko Voting Affirmatively

Larry Kupchella Voting Affirmatively

Voting Affirmatively

Shawn McMullen Voting Affirmatively

Joe Villa Voting Affirmatively

The meeting adjourned at 6:26p.m.

  
Bethany Peracchino, Board Secretary

Jeffrey Szymusiak Voting

Affirmatively Don Thomas Voting

Affirmatively

Angela Villa Voting

Affirmatively Motion Carried



BLACKLICK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2006, the Pennsylvania legislature passed Act 1 of Special Session 2006, entitled the "Taxpayer Relief Act" (hereinafter "Act I ");

WHEREAS, Act 1 requires school districts to limit tax increases to the level set by an inflation index unless the tax increase is approved by voters in a referendum or the school district obtains from the Department of Education or a court of common pleas certain referendum exceptions;

WHEREAS, Act 1 does, however, allow a board of school directors to elect to adopt a resolution indicating that it will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of the public schools for the following fiscal year by more than its index, provided this resolution must be adopted no later than 110 days prior to the date of the election Immediately preceding the upcoming fiscal year;

WHEREAS, the Blacklick valley School District index for the 2025-2026 fiscal year is 8.1%;

WHEREAS, the Blacklick Valley School District Board of Directors has made the decision that it shall not raise the rate of any tax for the support of the Blacklick Valley School District for the 2025-2026 fiscal year by more than its index.

AND NOW, on this 16th day of October, 2024, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Blacklick Valley School District (hereinafter "District") Board of Directors (hereinafter "Board") the following:

1. The Board certifies that it will not increase any school district tax for the 2025-2026 school year at a rate that exceeds the index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
2. The Board certifies that it will comply with the procedures set forth in Section 687, of the Pennsylvania Public School Code (hereinafter "School Code"), 24 P.S. §6-687, for the adoption of its proposed and final budget.
3. The Board certifies that increasing any tax at a rate less than or equal to the index will be sufficient to balance its final budget of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

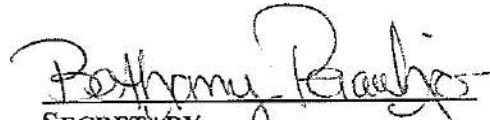
4. The Administration of the District will submit the District's information on a proposed increase in the rate of a tax levied for the support of the District to the Pennsylvania Department of Education on the uniform form prepared by the Pennsylvania Department of Education no later than five days after the Board's adoption of this Resolution.
5. The Administration of the District will send a copy of this Resolution to the Pennsylvania Department of Education no later than five days after the Board's adoption of this Resolution.
6. The Board understands and agrees that by passing this Resolution it is not eligible to seek referendum exceptions under Section 333(f) of Act I and is not eligible to request approval from the voters through a referendum to increase a tax rate by more than the index as established for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
7. Once this Resolution is passed, the Administration of the District is not required to comply with the preliminary budget requirements set forth in paragraphs (a) and (c) of Section 311 of Act 1. Provided, however:
  - (a) The Board understands and agrees that, upon receipt of the information submitted by the District as set forth in paragraphs 4 and 5 above, the Pennsylvania Department of Education shall compare the District's proposed percentage increase in the rate of the tax with the index.
  - (b) Within ten days of the receipt of this information, the Pennsylvania Department of Education shall inform the District whether its proposed tax rate increase is less than or equal to the index.
  - (c) If the Pennsylvania Department of Education determines that the District's proposed increase in the rate of the District's tax exceeds the index, the District is subject to the preliminary budget requirements as set forth in paragraph (a) and (c) of Section 311 of Act I.

ADOPTED AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS OF THE  
BLACKLICK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT THIS 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2024.

By:

ATTEST:

  
PRESIDENT

  
SECRETARY

## Blacklick Valley Uniform Cycle- Revised 10/16/24

2025-2026 Cheerleading

2026-2027 Boys Varsity & Jr. High  
Basketball

2027-2028 Softball

2028-2029 Football

2029-2030 Baseball

2030-2031 Track

2031-2032 Girls Varsity & Jr. High  
Basketball

2032-2033 Band & Color Guard

Football uniforms will be passed from Varsity to Jr. High and must coincide with United's Uniform Schedule.

Boys & Girls Varsity Basketball uniforms will be passed to Jr. Varsity.

\*The above date is the year in which that sport will receive their new uniforms.  
Quotes and orders should be in place for delivery after July 1 of the cycle year.