

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2011-4283

Minutes March 28, 2011

The regular meeting of the Board of School Directors convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School with Mrs. Davis, Board President, presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge of allegiance, Mrs. Davis asked if anyone would be recording the meeting. No one indicated the intent to record.

Board Members Present:

Mrs. Bamberger, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Helm, Mr. Larkin, Mr. Painter, Mr. Portner, Mrs. Seltzer and Mrs. Sakmann.

Administrative Staff Present:

Mr. Krem, Mrs. Vicente, Mrs. Mason, Mr. Babb, Mr. Fries, Mr. Griscom, Mrs. Morett and Mr. Roberts.

Attendees:

Mr. James Lillis, Kozloff Stoudt; Mr. Darrin Youker, Reading Eagle, and Shelley Filer, recording secretary. Audience sign-in sheet included as part of these official minutes.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following the roll call by the Board secretary, Mrs. Davis welcomed everyone.

The following meeting schedules and locations were announced.

- Uniform Committee Meeting – Wednesday, March 30, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
- Finance/Facilities Committee Meeting – Monday, April 4, 2011, 11:30 a.m.
- Technology – Monday, April 4, 2011, 3:30 p.m.
- Personnel/Policy Committee Meeting – Tuesday, April 5, 2011, 5:45 p.m. (Executive Session for Personnel will begin at 5:00 p.m.)
- Curriculum Committee Meeting – Wednesday, April 6, 2011, 4:30 p.m.
- Town Hall – Topic: 2011-12 Budget – Thursday, April 7, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
- School Board Meeting with Committee Reports – Monday, April 11, 2011, 6:00 p.m.
- Uniform Committee Fashion Show – Tuesday, April 12, 2011, 7:00 p.m., Auditorium
- Economic Development Committee Meeting – Wednesday, April 13, 2011, 5:30 p.m.
- School Board Meeting – Tuesday, April 26, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

All listed meetings are held in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School unless otherwise noted.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Mrs. Davis read a proclamation recognizing Nick Hodgkins for his outstanding successes as a wrestler. A copy of the proclamation is included in these official minutes.

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PRESENTATION

Mrs. Mason gave an overview of the 2011-12 Budget. She announced that at a Town Hall meeting on April 7, 2011 more specifics would be given and encouraged audience members to submit any questions to her by e-mail so they could be answered at that meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Many audience members had questions and comments concerning the budget presentation, recently announced staff lay offs, and the elimination of the elementary world language program.

Another resident offered advice on free software programs available to reduce technology costs and suggested other sources of alternative funding.

ROUTINE APPROVALS

MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mr. Portner, second by Mr. Painter, the Board approved the following minutes.

- February 14, 2011 Board Meeting with Committee Reports
- February 28, 2011 Regular Business Meeting

Yeas: Bamberger, Fitzgerald, Helm, Larkin, Painter, Portner, Sakmann, Seltzer and Davis.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon a motion by Mrs. Seltzer, second by Mr. Fitzgerald, the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Yeas: Bamberger, Fitzgerald, Helm, Larkin, Painter, Portner, Sakmann, Seltzer and Davis.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Upon motion by Mr. Painter, second by Mrs. Seltzer, payment of bills for the month of February 2011 was approved.

Yeas: Bamberger, Fitzgerald, Helm, Larkin, Painter, Portner, Sakmann, Seltzer and Davis.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. CURRICULUM/ TECHNOLOGY

A motion was made by Mr. Painter, second by Mrs. Seltzer to approve the following Curriculum and Technology items:

1. Approved Textbook Requests for the 2011-12 school year.
 - a. 7th Grade Investigative Studies

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- 1) *Echoes from Mount Olympus*, Perfection Learning, 2006, \$1,548.19
 - 2) *To Be a Hero*, Perfection Learning, 2006, \$1,548.19
 - 3) Teacher's Guide for both titles, \$206.42
 - 4) Summer Reading Titles (no cost to District for 2011-12) see attached list.
- b. 8th Grade Reading (see attached list)

2. Approved Resolution 03-28-11-01 eliminating the Elementary World Language Program.

Yeas: Bamberger, Fitzgerald, Helm, Larkin, Painter, Portner, Sakmann, Seltzer and Davis.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

B. FINANCE/ FACILITIES

Upon a motion by Mrs. Seltzer, and second by Mr. Portner, the Board approved the Finance/Facilities agenda items as follows:

1. Approved Budget Transfers in the amount of \$17,076.
2. Approved BCIU 2011-12 Budget.
Background information: The Berks County Intermediate Unit is mandated by Legislative Act 102 of 1970 to provide a summary of its proposed budget for services to school districts (see yellow booklet). The BCIU budget provides career-related and community-based activities to improve teaching and learning for educators and students as well as additional trainings to implement state and federal initiatives. The 2011-12 budget reflects decrease of \$1,720.39 to the District. Budgets for special education, transportation, nonpublic school services, federally funded programs and many miscellaneous services are not included.
3. Approved the following donations from the Wyomissing Area Education Foundation:
 - \$1,810 for an Aver Teacher Pack, Class Pack and Document Camera to be used for the math curriculum for WREC
 - \$209.19 for the Pennies for Peace project as requested by the WHEC librarian
 - \$683.43 for the purchase of a chemistry oven and dessicator to be used by the Chemistry Department at the JSHS

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- \$422.50 for the purchase of 40 copies of “A Thousand Splendid Suns” to be used by the World Cultures honors program
4. Approved assigning the contract with Gross School Bus Services, Inc. to Keystone School Bus Services, Inc.
Background information: Gross School Bus Services, Inc. has been providing transportation services for a number of school districts within one corporation. As part of their plan to separate the buses and related transportation operations into separate corporations, Gross requests that the current contract with the Wyomissing Area School District be assigned to Keystone School Bus Services, Inc. effective January 1, 2011.
 5. Approved the purchase of an automated time clock in the amount of \$31,456.36.
Background information: This equipment will increase the efficiency of District operations through the use of technology. The purchase of the automated time clock will save the District over \$20,000 in labor during the first year of use.

Yeas: Bamberger, Fitzgerald, Helm, Larkin, Painter, Portner, Sakmann, Seltzer and Davis.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Davis thanked the WAEF for their kind donations.

C. PERSONNEL/ POLICY

A motion was made by Mr. Painter and second by Mrs. Sakmann, to approve the Personnel and Policy agenda items. Mr. Fitzgerald requested that Policy 620 be voted on separately. Mr. Painter and Mrs. Sakmann agreed to the amended motion.

1. RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

a. Administrative

- 1) **Dr. Michael Ashton** – Assistant Principal at the JSHS, resignation effective June 30, 2011.

b. Confidential Support

- 2) **Barbara A. Troxel**, Coordinator of Child Accounting & Central Registration, retirement, effective June 10, 2011.

2. LEAVES

a. Professional Staff

- 1) **Michael Farrara**, Secondary Teacher at the JSHS, FMLA leave effective March 8 – 15, 2011.
- 2) **Elizabeth Shaak**, Secondary French Teacher at the JSHS, unpaid leave effective March 16, 2011, until

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a date to be determined.

b. Support Staff

- 1) **Gloria Claudio**, full-time Custodian at the JSHS, unpaid leave the afternoon of March 1 and March 2-4, 2011.
- 2) **Karen Conklin**, full-time Job Coach at the JSHS, unpaid leave March 21-24, 2011.
- 3) **Barry Matz**, full-time Custodian at the JSHS, FMLA leave effective March 7, 2011 until a date to be determined.
- 4) **Sheila Nastro**, Crossing Guard at WREC, unpaid leave April 11-14, 2011.
- 5) **Linda Nickey**, full-time Teacher's Instructional Aide at WHEC, unpaid leave March 24-28, 2011.

3. APPOINTMENTS/TRANSFERS/EFFECTIVE DATE

a. Supplemental Staff

Spring Athletics:

- 1) **Brian Fryberger, Jr.** High Girls' Soccer Head Coach, 30 points, \$2,535, effective the 2010-11 school year.
- 2) **Justin Burk, Jr.** High Girls' Soccer Assistant Coach, 16.1 points, \$1,360, effective the 2010-11 school year.
- 3) **Stephen Jones, Jr.** High Girls' Softball Assistant Coach, 21.6 points, \$1,825, effective the 2010-11 school year.
- 4) **Daniel Leppold**, Varsity Boys' Volleyball Assistant Coach. 21.9 points, \$1,851, effective the 2010-11 school year.
- 5) **William Hartman**, Assistant to the Athletic Director (Spring Sports) at a stipend of \$1,410 for the 2010-11 school year.

4. VOLUNTEER COACHES

a. Spring Sports

- 1) Robert Carson – Boys' Lacrosse
- 2) Karl Zinn – Boys' Lacrosse
- 3) Richard Tetley – Boys' Lacrosse
- 4) Zachary Zinn – Boys' Lacrosse
- 5) Michael Gaza – Boys' Lacrosse
- 6) Bernard Donahue – Boys' Lacrosse
- 7) James McAvoy – Boys' Lacrosse
- 8) Alex Good – Varsity Boys' Volleyball

5. CHANGE IN RATE

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- a. **Bruce A. Henne**, part-time Crossing Guard at WREC, change in rate from \$12.15/hr. to \$12.39/hr., effective January 24, 2011.
Background Information: Mr. Henne was hired as a part-time Crossing Guard at the January 24 Board meeting. At the time of his hire, the Support Staff Agreement establishing the current rate for Crossing Guards was also being approved. This change in rate is necessary to comply with the terms of this Agreement.

6. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE DISTRICT SUBSTITUTE LIST

7. ADDITIONS TO THE DISTRICT VOLUNTEER LIST

8. POLICIES

Second reading of the following policies:

335 – Family and Medical Leaves – Administrative Employees

339 – Uncompensated Leave – Administrative Employees

435 – Family and Medical Leaves – Professional Employees

439 – Uncompensated Leave – Professional Employees

535 – Family and Medical Leaves – Classified Employees

539 – Uncompensated Leave – Classified Employees

Yeas: Bamberger, Fitzgerald, Helm, Larkin, Painter, Portner, Sakmann, Seltzer and Davis.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Davis thanked Dr. Ashton and Mrs. Troxel for their years of service.

Upon a motion by Mr. Painter, second by Mrs. Seltzer, the Board approved the second reading of Policy 620 – Fund Balance. During discussion Mr. Fitzgerald said he doesn't agree with the limitation on the fund balance.

Yeas: Bamberger, Helm, Larkin, Painter, Portner, Sakmann, Seltzer and Davis.

Nays: Fitzgerald. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Upon a motion by Mr. Portner, second by Mrs. Bamberger, the Board approved the 2011-12 school calendar

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Yeas: Bamberger, Fitzgerald, Helm, Larkin, Painter, Portner, Sakmann, Seltzer and Davis.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Bamberger, Mrs. Seltzer and Mr. Fitzgerald all expressed their regret for the recent lay offs and assured everyone that these decisions were the hardest they have faced.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Davis congratulated Mr. Tim Hetrich on the recent accomplishments of the History Bowl team.

Mrs. Davis reported that it is Mr. Krem's recommendation to have a student representative to the Board to gain the perspective of the student body. Mr. Fitzgerald suggested having student council recommend someone. Other Board members also agreed to the concept of a student representative.

Mrs. Seltzer reported that Board members toured West Reading Elementary on March 25, 2011 to see the construction progress that has been made so far. Another community meeting to inform West Reading residents what they can expect in the coming months is being held April 5, 2011 at 6:00 pm in the West Reading Borough Hall. A circular is being distributed to residents by the Borough with the details.

Mrs. Bamberger reiterated that there is a Uniform Committee public meeting on March 30 and a uniform fashion show on April 12.

**HEARING FROM
WAEA**

Mr. Brian Ackerman complimented *Reading Eagle* reporter Darrin Youker on the nice write-up in the morning paper on Music in the Schools happening at WHEC.

**HEARING FROM
AFSCME**

Mrs. Nancy Murray read a statement from the union expressing disappointment about the recent support staff layoffs and that the Board agreed to a contract that could not be funded.

**HEARING FROM
WAEF**

Mrs. Heidi Silverman reported the following on behalf of WAEF"

- WAEF would like to increase non-Board membership
- WAEF recently completed a two-year strategic plan for ambitious, yet reachable fundraising goals.
- WAEF has recently assumed responsibility for the Alumni Assoc. David Reynolds is the Board liaison with the Alumni Assoc. He hopes to revitalize the group.
- In this school year to date, WAEF has awarded \$10,000 in grants.
- Two student representatives have created a Facebook page for the Foundation.

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- Invitations for Toast to the Teachers will be going out in April.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Seltzer, seconded by Mr. Larkin to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. Mrs. Davis reminded Board members of the Executive Session immediately following the meeting.

Corinne D. Mason
Board Secretary