

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Work Session Notes – February 8, 2010

The Wyomissing Area School District Board of School Directors' work session convened at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Board Room with President Davis presiding.

In attendance: Board Members Mrs. Bamberger, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Helm, Mr. Painter, Mr. Portner, Mrs. Seltzer, Mrs. Sakmann and Mr. Larkin. Administrators Mr. Robbins, Dr. Pulkowski, and Mr. Fries.

Audience included Bradley Butler, Solicitor Brian Boland, and recording secretary Diane Schaeffer.

Following the pledge of allegiance and roll call, Mrs. Davis announced that the Board met in executive session for personnel reasons on January 28, February __ and also prior to this evening's work session and no action was taken.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Robbins' report included the following items:

- School Resource Officer – Mr. Robbins distributed materials to the board for review. He suggested that this would be a proactive approach to safety concerns rather than a reactionary approach. He noted that grant money for SRO's does exist. Discussion followed by the Board. Mr. Robbins stated the person would be in uniform, with a badge, and trained to carry a weapon. Mrs. Sakmann asked if a weapon would be necessary. Mr. Robbins said he would have to get an answer but he thought yes. If a grant could not be obtained, the officer would be employed by the Borough and costs shared with the district.

Mrs. Davis commented that the Borough approached us with this topic and positive communication has been established.

Mrs. Sakmann asked for information on how many instances there have been in the past 5 years or so that would have required police involvement and if there have been more instances recently.

Mr. Robbins said there have not been more incidents recently but the police officers have been invited to stop in at any time.

Discussion will be continued.

- 2010-11 Budget – A one-page handout was provided to the Board showing a 2.83% index (3/4 mill) 27.1 mills currently, budgeted 8.4% PSERS and 9% health care costs. A \$17 million bond issue will cover the cost of WREC and facilities plan that will be updated. Mr. Robbins thanked the administrative team for working to reduce the budget – no programs are being eliminated, no new programs or new staffing. Mr. Robbins noted the stimulus money is for one-time purchases, and we will address adjustments after Mr. Griscom, the new technology director, is on board.

- West Reading Project Update – A design meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night, February 9.
- School Calendar 2010-2011 – The proposed calendar is almost the same as an earlier copy with the exception of December 23 which will be a school day. Vo-Tech is also open on that day. Inservice days are not flex days. The calendar will be presented at the February 22 meeting for approval.

Finance and Facilities

In Mrs. Mason's absence, Mrs. Helm reviewed the finance and facilities agenda items.

Curriculum and Technology

Mrs. Sakmann reviewed the field trip request on the curriculum portion of the agenda.

Personnel and Policy

Mr. Painter reviewed the personnel agenda items. Mr. Robbins noted he will have a recommendation for the Director of Special Education position.

Old Business

Mrs. Davis indicated an AFSCME negotiations meeting was held February 4 and the WAEA will meet on February 16. She also reported that the superintendent search is moving along and progress is being made. The architect will meet with the board tomorrow night, February 9, at 6:00 p.m. and with the community on February 10 at 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. Davis publicly commended the custodial staff for doing a great job in removing the snow and extended thanks from all the board.

Mr. Fries noted that 10 staff members began snow removal at 5:30 a.m. and worked until 3:00 p.m.

Mrs. Seltzer stated that the ad hoc community relations committee will meet on Thursday evening.

Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m. and the board reconvened for an executive session.