

# WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2006-3792

## Minutes September 25, 2006

The regular meeting of the Board of School Directors convened at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School with Mr. Snyder, Board President, presiding.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge, the secretary called the roll of board members.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Barnett, Mr. Deem, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Hinsey, Mr. Larkin, Mrs. McCready, Mrs. Sakmann, Dr. Shuttlesworth, and Mr. Snyder.

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Larson, Dr. Kennedy, Dr. Riedel, Mr. McDonnell, Dr. Zerr, Mr. Dawson, and Mrs. Motze.

Attendees: Mr. Socrates Georgeadis, Kozloff Stoudt and Diane Schaeffer. Sign-in sheet of other attendees included as part of these official minutes.

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

- Executive Session for personnel reasons was held at the beginning of the September 18, 2006, Work Session, no action taken.
- Work Session – Monday, October 16, 2006, 6:00 p.m.
- Regular Board Meeting – Monday, October 23, 2006, 7:30 p.m.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments on agenda items.

### LIAISON/MEETING REPORTS

Facilities – Mr. Deem reported that the high school punch list items were being completed and progress is being made on the climate control issue in the new area.

A recommendation was made to the Board and supported to proceed with one of three options to rectify the football field problem. Option (1) to roll and reseed, (2) slit seeding, and (3) installation of sod with the offer of a \$25,000 donation. It was noted that installation of sod would have had to be completed within five days after the field was damaged, and by the time the Board was able to discuss all options, option 3 was no longer on the table.

Mr. Deem reported that when the fields were inspected, there was significant germination on the field, and the facilities committee's recommendation to proceed with option (1) was supported by the Board and administration. Mr. Deem stated it was their opinion that the two important games, homecoming and the senior game, would be able to be played on the field.

He noted that the group met briefly before tonight's meeting, and they will be recommending that an action team be developed for the purpose of picking a consultant to look into a turf field for the future. If that recommendation is supported, they will go out to the community and get volunteers to sit on a 15-member advisory team that will review four or five top landscape architect candidates to do a study on the fields. The study would be expected to cost between \$8,000 and \$10,000 based on current knowledge.

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It was reported that Governor Mifflin and Exeter recently had fields done in turf.

Mr. Larkin asked why the vendors wouldn't be doing the study.

Dr. Larson responded that a landscape architect is needed to look at all of the factors involved. The vendors install, but the district is looking for a complete analysis of all of the fields. The district's fields are used by our own teams and multiple groups. The evaluation should be put into the hands of someone who knows about these matters. A final solution is needed; much as been spent, and we should be looking to do it right with the correct expertise.

Mr. Fitzgerald commented that one of the causes of the field problem is overuse. He stated they should look at limiting the use of the field. The district is looking at a 3.4% increase in the budget, and items are coming up at each meeting that are unexpected.

Dr. Larson noted that she looked at the budget and there is money to do the study and look at all the factors.

Mrs. McCready asked if the study would incorporate all the fields and how the vendor list was chosen.

Dr. Larson responded that the study would look at how all the fields are used, and Mr. Deem said Dr. Dietz had begun to develop the vendor list. Mr. Deem stated that the committee to choose the architect would consist of district staff, community members, and people who use the fields.

Dr. Larson noted the study would be very comprehensive and include a soil analysis.

Mr. Fitzgerald asked if at the conclusion of the season, we couldn't limit the use of the field, try to bring it back, and take a wait-and-see approach.

Dr. Larson responded that we don't know what the field condition will be in the spring.

Mr. Snyder asked if the facilities liaison and group were in agreement that the study is needed and it won't simply tell us we need a turf field.

Mrs. McCready said the consultant would be looking at the conditions of all the fields. Dr. Larson stated she hesitated to solve the problem one step at a time. Mr. Deem noted that they hoped to have an action team in place by October 16 to interview the consultants and have a board vote on their selection in October.

# WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2006-3794

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### AMENDED MEETING MINUTES

Mrs. Barnett made a motion to amend the minutes of the August 28, 2006, board meeting to delete information concerning reasons for the resignation in order to maintain the employees' privacy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Larkin and approved by the board.

Yeas: 9.  
Nays: 0. Motion carried.

### APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Mrs. McCready, seconded by Mr. Deem, the minutes of the following meetings were approved and included as part of these official minutes.

August 21, 2006 Work Session  
August 28, 2006 Regular Business Meeting (minutes amended)  
September 6, 2006 Special Board Meeting

Yeas: 9.  
Nays: 0. Motion carried.

### APPROVED PERSONNEL REPORT & ADDENDUM

Upon motion by Mrs. Sakmann, seconded by Mr. Hinsey, the Board approved the personnel report and addendum for September 2006 which are included as part of these official minutes.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

### APPROVED CURRICULUM REPORT

Upon motion by Mrs. McCready, seconded by Mrs. Sakmann, the Board adopted the secondary planned courses written and revised since July 1, 2006. A list is included as part of these official minutes.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

### APPROVED FINANCE/BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Upon motion by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Dr. Shuttlesworth, the financial reports provided to the Board and included as part of these official minutes for August 2006 were approved.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

### APPROVED 2005 EXONERATIONS FOR WEST READING

Upon motion by Mrs. Barnett, seconded by Mrs. Sakmann, the Board approved the 2005 exonerations for West Reading Borough in the amount of \$2,760.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

# WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2006-3795

Minutes September 25, 2006

## ACCEPTED FEDERAL PROGRAM GRANT MONIES

Upon motion by Mrs. Barnett, seconded by Mrs. McCreedy, the Board accepted Federal Program Grant Monies as follows:

- Title I - \$210,132
- Title IIA - \$41,551
- Title V - \$1,761

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCreedy, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

## FACILITIES REPORT

Mr. Deem provided an update on the condition of the football field.

Mrs. McCreedy asked why a committee was necessary to choose a consultant to study the athletic fields.

Mr. Hinsey responded that they felt the public should be included in the process.

## COMMITTEE TO CHOOSE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

After further discussion on the need for a committee and the number of people to serve on that committee, Mr. Deem moved and Mr. Hinsey seconded a motion to approve an action team of approximately 16 people to choose a consultant to be recommended to the Board. The motion was defeated. (\*Subsequent to this board meeting, the action\* team changed to advisory team.)

Yeas: Deem, Hinsey, and, McCreedy, Sakmann.

Nays: Barnett, Fitzgerald, Larkin, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder. Motion defeated.

## APPROVED SEARCH FOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

A motion was made by Mr. Deem and seconded by Mr. Hinsey to continue the search for a landscape architect and to provide a recommendation, including cost, to the Board at the October 16, 2006 meeting.

Yeas: Deem, Hinsey, McCreedy, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.

Nays: Barnett, Fitzgerald, and Larkin. Motion carried.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Snyder announced that the items on the Superintendent's Report would be voted on separately, and the item to approve an Employee Assistance Program would be held for further discussion.

The Board voted on the following items upon motion by Mrs. McCreedy, seconded by Mrs. Barnett.

- Approve Auditorium Production Coordinator Position at a stipend of \$2,500
- Approve Settlement Agreement covering legal fees for one elementary student, ID#201503, effective September 25, 2006.

# WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2006-3796

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- Ratify Homebound Instruction for one secondary student, ID #203163 for a maximum of 5 hours per week, effective September 1, 2006, for approximately two months.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

### APPROVED ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

A motion was made by Mrs. Barnett, and seconded by Mrs. McCready to approve a resolution for an additional assistant principal at the Jr./Sr. High School.

A question was raised as to the difference in salary from the vacated position to the new position. Dr. Larson responded that the difference is between \$56,000 and approximately \$75,000-\$80,000.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.

Nays: Fitzgerald. Motion carried.

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Treasurer's Report and Tax Collector's Report included as information with no action by the board required.

### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Snyder noted that the Tax Study Commission would meet on October 2 at 3:00 p.m.

It was noted that the dedication of the sensory playground at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center is scheduled for October 12.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Tim McDonough congratulated the board on taking steps to correct the field problems. He commented that the decision to play the game on September 2 has become a very expensive one. He also noted that the field did not fail because it was overplayed; the field failed because of a poor decision and poor maintenance. One of the points for the task force to consider should be an on-going maintenance program for the field.

Dr. Larson stated she wanted to make one correction and while still acknowledge the parents' viewpoint. She spoke to the Hummer Vice President who said that the field was doomed due to over use.

Mr. Bob Evans commented that he couldn't agree more. The parent association stood ready and willing to contribute financially and the offer was not withdrawn. The field has been a mess for three years. This board should ask themselves why they did not respond.

Mrs. Jamie Evans asked whose decision it was to play the game on September 2.

# WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2006-3797

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Dr. Larson responded that the Director of Athletics and the Director of Buildings and Grounds made the decision based on weather reports issued that morning.

Mrs. Evans continued by saying that the \$25,000 offer was ignored and Joe Lord's attempt to talk with Dr. Larson was ignored. The field could have been fixed for last week's game.

Dr. Larson clarified that she did return all phone calls.

Mr. Evans agreed that Dr. Larson did respond to calls.

Mr. Lord asked how many high schools that are changing to turf have fences and limit access, and do they have lights? He noted that adding lights might cause concern and a turf field with no lights would surprise him.

Mr. Deem responded to a question on the possibility of playing the last two games on the home field. He indicated that based on weekly assessments and resting the field as much as possible, with weather as a factor, the plan is to play the game on October 28 on the home field.

Mrs. Loomis who lives on Lauers Lane asked the board to take into consideration their parking concerns when they do their studies.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Zebrowski who also live on Lauers Lane, which is a private lane, said it should not be used for game parking. If an emergency would arise on the lane, it is impossible to get through.

Mr. Evans asked what the process is to make it happen if a consultant recommends turf.

Dr. Larson stated it would have to be included in the 2007-08 budget. There is a cap on the amount of revenue that can be raised which is 3.4%. If the amount is exceeded, the voters would have to approve some of those expenditures, some of which could be exempt. She also noted that turf is on the state bid list.

Mr. Lord commented that the field would have to be taken care of after investing a half million dollars.

Mr. Snyder thanked the group for coming and noted that their passion and enthusiasm is appreciated.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. McCreedy and seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

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Arthur J. McDonnell  
Board Secretary

Wyomissing Area School District  
Personnel Report  
September 25, 2006 Board Meeting

- I. Ratify 80 additional hours at the minimum wage for **Scott Matz**, summer technology helper.
- II. Approve work outside the contracted year – **Glen Johnston**, gifted planning, July 6, 2006, 6 hours at the rate established in the teachers' contract and Excent Tera Training, June 13 & 14, 2006, not to exceed 12 hours, at the rate established in the teachers' contract.
- III. Approve additional hours for six support staff employees to attend CPR and first-aid training on October 9, 2006, at the Reading Hospital for a maximum of 6 hours each at their approved hourly rate – **Marie Minnich, Sharon Riegel, Mary Lieberman, Eve Pardo, Hilary Decker and Kathy Schweitzer**.
- IV. Ratify support staff appointments –
  - a. **Antoinette Miccicke**, van driver, \$12.30 per hour effective September 5, 2006, pending receipt of all necessary documents.
  - b. **Lisa Schell**, part-time food service worker, at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center, 3.5 hours per day at \$8.24 per hour during the school year, effective September 15, 2006, pending receipt of all necessary documents.
- V. Ratify Support Staff Resignation – **Melissa Pease**, Special Education Aide at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center, effective September 22, 2006.
- VI. Approve Professional Staff Appointment – **Patricia Carfagno**, LTS teacher at West Reading Elementary Center, beginning approximately mid-October thru June 2007, B, step 1, \$37.700 prorated, pending receipt of all necessary documents.

*Background Information: Mrs. Carfagno has a B.S. degree from Immaculata College. She is currently employed as a daily substitute in the district and will assume Missy Siegfried's position when she begins her family and medical leave.*
- VII. Ratify Homebound Instructors – **Kathy Kampe and Rita Smith**, to provide homebound instruction for one secondary student, ID #203163, for a maximum of 5 hours per week, effective September 1, 2006, for approximately two months, at the approved contract rate.
- VIII. Ratify Supplemental Athletic Appointments –
  - a. **Susan J. Hollinger**, Senior High field hockey assistant coach, 21.6 points, prorated for 50 days, \$1,590, effective August 18, 2006 (4 days after the season start).
  - b. **Angela M. Nagle, Jr.** High field hockey assistant coach, 14.4 points, \$1,145 effective August 29, 2006.
- IX. Approve Supplemental Activity Resignation – **Michael Miller** as co-advisor of the Senior High Art Club.

- X. Approve Supplemental Activity Appointment – **Laura Henssler**, advisor to the Senior High Art Club, 20.5 points, \$1,630, effective the 2006-07 school year.
  
- XI. Approve payment for curriculum writing at the rate established in the teachers' contract per the list to be included as part of the official minutes and provided to the Board.
  
- XII. Approve PSAT/SAT Tutorial Instructors for fall 2006 –
  - a. **Joan Mathews**, Verbal Instructor, \$30.50 per hour for a maximum of 10 hours beginning September 2006.
  
  - b. **Christine Orzechowski**, Verbal Instructor, \$30.50 per hour for a maximum of 10 hours beginning September 2006.
  
  - c. **Nathaniel Miller**, Math Instructor, \$30.50 per hour for a maximum of 20 hours beginning September 2006.

*Background Information: The SAT test will take place on October 14, 2006, and the PSAT test will take place on October 21, 2006. The number of teachers and sessions required will be determined based on the number of students that register to participate in the tutorial classes. A student fee is charged to attend.*



Wyomissing Area School District  
Addendum to Personnel Report  
September 25, 2006 Board Meeting

- I. Approve Administrative Staff Retirement – **Dr. Janet E. Kennedy**, Assistant Superintendent for District Services/Elementary Education, effective at the end of her current contract at the end of June 2007 (exact date to be determined).
- II. Ratify Support Staff Appointment – **Janeen Ebert**, food service worker, at the Jr./Sr. High School, 4 hours per day during the school year, at \$8.44 per hour, effective September 20, 2006.
- III. Approve Supplemental Athletic Appointment – **Christopher D. Miller**, Varsity Boys' Basketball Head Coach, 55.5 points, \$4,492, effective the 2006-07 school year.
- IV. Approve Position Guide – Auditorium Production Coordinator.
- V. Approve Work Outside the Contracted Year – **Sal Ferrarello**, 6 hours at Induction II on August 16, 2006, at the rate established in the teachers' contract.
- VI. Approve District volunteer list.
- VII. Approve substitute list for professional and support staff.