

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2011-4307

Minutes May 9, 2011

The regular meeting with committee reports of the Board of School Directors convened at 6:00 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 and Mrs. Seltzer.

Board Member Absent Mrs. Sakmann

Administrative Staff Present: Mr. Krem, Mrs. Vicente, Mrs. Mason, Mr. Fries, Mrs. Morett, and Mr. Griscom.

Attendees: Mr. Brian Boland, Kozloff Stoudt, Mr. David Kostival, 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 and noted that executive sessions were held May 3, 2011 at 7:15 a.m. and at 5:15 p.m. before this meeting.

The following meeting schedules and locations were announced.

- Economic Development Committee Meeting – May 12, 2011, 5:30 p.m.
- School Board Meeting – May 23, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
- Community Relations Committee Meeting – May 31, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance – Mrs. Helm reported that the committee met briefly on May 2. The topics of discussion included solicitor interviews and the fee schedule for the weight room.
- B. Facilities – Because he did not attend the meeting, Mr. Larkin deferred to Mr. Fries for the report. Mr. Fries reported that as of May 2 the West Reading project was 13 days behind schedule. Contractors are working on a recovery plan that will be provided to the district this week. The delay was caused by weather as well as the rebuilding of walls. The manufactured component of the building was installed smoothly the week of April 25.

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- C. Curriculum – Mrs. Vicente reported that the meeting was postponed.
- D. Technology – Mr. Fitzgerald reported that there was no meeting in May.
- E. Personnel – Mr. Painter reported the committee met on May 3 and discussed some Executive Session items. The committee also discussed the JSHS Principal interviews scheduled for May 11. They reviewed the process and discussed the questions the Board would ask the candidates.
- F. Policy – Mr. Portner reported the committee met on May 3. There are six policies up for a first reading. The committee had its first look at a proposed policy that will be precedent-setting in the state of Pennsylvania dealing with professional misconduct.
- G. Ad Hoc Committees
 - Economic Development – Mrs. Bamberger reported that the April meeting was postponed so she had nothing to report.
 - Community Relations – Mrs. Seltzer had nothing to report. Next meeting is May 31.
 - Uniform – Mrs. Helm reported that the surveys were tallied earlier in the day by three local clergymen. She said as previously stated the Board would base its decision on how the community voted. The results were 42% in favor of uniforms; 58% opposed. Therefore, the Board will not vote on moving forward with a uniform policy. The Board intends to take a hard look at the existing dress code policy, revise it where necessary and implement it.
- H. Berks County Intermediate Unit Board Report – Mrs. Seltzer attended the Asian Studies Collaborative. She learned that educators who have been involved with an exchange program with Asia have found that American education is superior to other countries although our test scores are lower.
- I. Berks Career & Technology Center Board Report – Mr. Painter mentioned there was a meeting April 27, but there was nothing of significance to report.
- J. Berks EIT Report – No report.
- K. Wyomissing Area Education Foundation – No report.
- L. Legislative Report – Mr. Fitzgerald reported that the meeting

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scheduled for May has been cancelled.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Christine Smith, a substitute teacher’s aide, commented that she sees many times that the dress code is not enforced. She asked the Board to encourage the next administration to enforce the dress code.

Holly Feeney congratulated the Board in bowing to the will of the community relative to the uniform policy. She was afraid a uniform policy would infringe on her rights as a parent to teach her children acceptable dress habits.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

A. CURRICULUM/ TECHNOLOGY

Upon a motion by Mr. Painter and second by Mrs. Seltzer, the following Curriculum and Technology item was approved:

- 1. Ratified acceptance of grant from Highmark for \$7,440.
Background information: This grant will be used to purchase two elliptical trainers for the athletic field house to upgrade the cardiovascular fitness station.

Yeas: Bamberger, Fitzgerald, Helm, Larkin, Painter, Portner, Seltzer and Davis.
 Absent: Sakmann
 Nays: None. Motion carried.

The other items under Curriculum and Technology were opened for discussion. There were no questions or comments.

B. FINANCE/ FACILITIES

Upon a motion by Mrs. Helm and second by Mrs. Seltzer, the following Finance and Facilities item was approved:

- 1. Adopted Proposed General Fund Budget for 2011-12.

The Proposed General Fund Budget for the following expenditures is recommended for approval:

1000 Instruction.....	\$15,717,556
2000 Supporting Services.....	8,961,543
3000 Operation of Non-Instructional Services....	814,283
4000 Facilities, Acquisition & Construction.....	-0-
5000 Financing Uses	4,590,366
<u>TOTAL GENERAL BUDGET EXPENSES.....</u>	<u>\$30,083,748</u>

and that the Board re-enact the following local taxes for the

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2011-12 school year:

1. Real Estate Tax.....	28.2845 Mills
2. Local Services Tax (to a maximum of).....	\$10.00
Wyomissing Borough.....	\$5.00
West Reading Borough.....	\$5.00
3. Earned Income Tax.....	1.0%
4. Business Privilege Tax (to a maximum of).....	1.5 Mills
5. Per Capita Tax, Act 679	Capita Tax, Act 679..... \$5.00
6. Per Capita Tax, Act 511 (to a maximum of).....	\$10.00
Wyomissing Borough.....	\$5.00
West Reading Borough.....	\$5.00
7. Real Estate Transfer Tax (to a maximum of).....	1.0%
Wyomissing Borough.....	.5%
West Reading Borough.....	.5%

The budget includes all staff positions and salaries, and requires a .3905 mill tax increase

Mrs. Davis clarified that on June 13 the Board will be set to adopt the final budget. This proposed budget will now be available for public view in the predetermined format required by the state.

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

Absent: Sakmann

Nays: None. Motion carried.

The other items under the Finance and Facilities were opened for discussion. Mrs. Davis commented that the \$24,000 to NRG Controls for the chilled water flow meters in the JSHS chiller plant was part of the \$5 million borrowed in 2009 and put aside for this purpose.

Mrs. Mason commented that the money set aside for furniture and equipment for West Reading was \$240,000. Mrs. Mason reported that almost all the furniture and equipment for West Reading has been purchased. The furniture is from a local company and is the same style and design used throughout the district for its ability to be interchanged.

**C. PERSONNEL/
POLICY** Upon a motion by Mr. Painter, second by Mr. Portner, the following Personnel/Policy items were approved:

1. INTERIM TEACHER

- a. **Veturia Cranganu**, Interim French Teacher at the JSHS, at a rate of \$216.60 per day, effective May 9, 2011 through the end of the 2010-11 school year.
Background Information: Ms. Cranganu is replacing Elizabeth Shaak while she is on leave.

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2. POSITION GUIDE

a. Confidential Support Staff

- 1) Assistive Technologist/Technology Integration Specialist

Mrs. Davis clarified the new Confidential Support Staff position will be paid using Medical Access funds.

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

Absent: Sakmann

Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Personnel and Policy items were opened for discussion. Mrs. Davis questioned how department chairs are chosen. Mr. Krem responded that they apply for the position.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Davis read a letter from the United Way. WASD received a bronze award for their contributions to the overall campaign.

The WREC Math Olympic Team received a plaque for the highest achievement in their recent competition.

Mr. Portner reported that he and Mr. Krem attended the 41st annual convention for School Board Directors at Wilson West Middle School. The keynote speaker forecasted an ominous warning for the next several years' budgets. They were treated to a delicious dinner and each district represented received a vase, handmade by their art department depicting the respective district's logo and mascot.

HEARING FROM WAEA

None.

HEARING FROM AFSCME

None.

HEARING FROM WAEF

Mrs. Butera reported that there would be a meeting tomorrow where she was expecting approval of various grants. The deadline for "Toast" reservations is May 12. To date the Toast has raised over \$6,000.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Larkin, seconded by Mr. Portner to adjourn at 6:29 p.m.

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Corinne D. Mason
Board Secretary