

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2011-4400

Minutes December 12, 2011

The special meeting of the Board of School Directors convened at 4:01 p.m. in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School with Mrs. Davis, 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. Butera, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. Painter, Mr. Portner and Mrs. Seltzer .

Board Member Absent: Mrs. Helm

Administrative Staff Present: Mr. Krem, Mrs. Mason, Mr. Babb, Mr. Griscom, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Morett, Mrs. Schwenk and Mrs. Vicente.

Attendees: Ashley Gold, Reading Eagle, Shelley Filer, recording secretary.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Davis welcomed everyone and announced the following meeting schedule:

- School Board Meeting with Committee Reports – January 9, 2012, 6:00 p.m.
 - School Board Meeting – January 23, 2012, 6:00 p.m.
- All listed meetings are held in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School unless otherwise noted.

Dates for committee meetings are still being established. They will be posted and advertised when the schedule is completed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Portner stated that the Board needs to decide whether or not to apply for exceptions to the allowable 1.7% index to raise taxes for the 2012-13 Budget year. Mrs. Mason explained that in order to not apply for the exceptions, the Board needs to adopt a resolution and submit it to the state by January 5, 2012. Several of the customary exceptions were eliminated in the State's budget for 2011-12 when it was adopted; therefore Wyomissing Area now only possibly qualifies for two of the remaining exceptions: special education and retirement. In addition, we would be required to adopt a balanced budget by the end of January in order to apply for the exceptions. Based on the guidelines furnished by the state, it is Mrs. Mason's recommendation that we do not apply for the exceptions because using state-provided formulas, we in fact do not qualify for the special ed exception and the retirement exception would be minimal. Instead she recommended allowing administration to review the initial budget figures, follow the path set forth by the Board last year and work further to reduce costs or increase revenues in athletics and co-curricular activities as well as

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review enrollment, class sizes and programs at the Jr./Sr. High School.

APPROVED
RESOLUTION

Following further discussion among the Board members in support of Mrs. Mason's recommendation, Mr. Portner asked for a motion to approve the following resolution. Mrs. Bamberger made the motion, second by Mrs. Seltzer.

1. Approved Resolution No. 12-12-11-01 not to raise taxes above the index of 1.7% for the 2012-13 school year.

Background Information: Section 311(d)(1) of SS Act 1 permits a school district to elect to adopt a resolution indicating it will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of public schools for the following fiscal year by more than its index. Adoption of this resolution may be done in lieu of a preliminary budget. This resolution is to be adopted no later than January 5, 2012.

Yeas: Bamberger, Butera, Davis, Fitzgerald, McAvoy, Painter, Portner, and Seltzer.

Absent: Helm

Nays: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Bamberger, seconded by Mrs. McAvoy to adjourn at 4:13 p.m. Mrs. Davis announced there would be a very brief Executive Session following the meeting to discuss personnel issues.

Corinne D. Mason
Board Secretary