

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2013-4541

Minutes January 14, 2013

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. Butera, Board President, presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Board Members Present:

Mrs. Bamberger, Mrs. Butera, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Helm, Mr. Larkin, Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. Painter, Mr. Portner and Mrs. Seltzer (dep. 6:22 pm).

Administrative Staff Present:

Mrs. Vicente, Mr. Stem, Mrs. Mason, Mr. Alvarez, Dr. Babb, Mr. Fries, Mr. Griscom, Dr. Jones, Ms. Lampe, Mrs. Morett, Mrs. Schwenk and Mr. Stoltzfus.

Attendees:

Becca Gregg, Reading Eagle, Jeffrey Litts Esq., Kegel Kelin Almy & Lord, LLC, Robert Wolfrum, Mara Trifoi, and Barbara DeMoss, substitute recording secretary. An audience sign-in sheet is included as part of these official minutes.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following meeting schedules and locations were announced.

- Technology Committee Meeting – January 23, 2013, 12:00 p.m.
- School Board Meeting – January 28, 2013, 6:00 p.m.
- Personnel/Policy Committee Meeting – February 5, 2013, 5:00 p.m.
- Finance Committee Meeting – February 6, 2013, - 12:00 p.m.
- Facilities Committee Meeting – February 20, 2013, - 12:00 p.m.
- Curriculum Committee Meeting – February 13, 2013, 2:30 p.m.

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

Mrs. Butera announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel issues and no action was taken. Another Executive Session would follow the meeting to discuss legal issues.

RECOGNITION

Mr. Stoltzfus announced that Sally Allen, tennis coach, was selected by the United States Tennis Association Middle States as the Edwin J. Faulkner High School Coach of the Year. Mara Trifoi, grade 9, was selected by the same organization as Junior Volunteer of the Year for her work with inner-city athletes.

Mr. Stoltzfus reported that the proclamation for fall sports was amended to include the District and State championships for the football team. A copy of the proclamation is included in these official minutes. Alex Anzalone was recognized as the 2012 Pennsylvania Sports Writers Class AA player of the Year and Coach Wolfrum was named Pennsylvania Class AA Coach of the Year by the Pennsylvania Sports Writers. He

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also presented Coach Wolfrum with an award, compliments of Awards and More, West Reading, for the coaching staff in recognition of their state championship title.

Several Board members commended Coach Wolfrum and thanked him for the positive influence he has had on their children as well as the many players he has coached over the years.

COMMITTEE
REPORTS

- A. Finance – Mrs. Helm reported the committee met on January 9. A budget workshop was held on Friday, January 11 to go through the budget process.
- B. Facilities – Mrs. Bamberger reported that two primary issues were discussed at the meeting on January 9. Bids were received on January for the boiler room project and are under review. There was a presentation on the turfing and re-turfing of the fields. One option presented is to peel off the existing turf and install new turf. The other option involves expanding the field to make it regulation sized. The Facilities committee is recommending expanding the field.
- C. Curriculum – Mrs. McAvoy reported that the committee met on January 9. Dr. Jones reviewed the Program of Studies for 2013-14.
- D. Technology – Mr. Portner reported that the committee will meet January 23.
- E. Personnel – Mrs. Seltzer reported that the committee met on January 8. Many items discussed are included for approval on the agenda. They also met in Executive Session regarding personnel items.
- F. Policy – Mr. Painter reported that Policy 249 on Bullying/Cyberbullying was reviewed by our new solicitor as he requested. There are a few changes to make for consistency sake, but nothing substantive.
- G. Berks County Intermediate Unit Board Report – Mrs. Seltzer reported that the meeting is January 17.
- H. Berks Career & Technology Center Board Report – Mr. Painter reported that work is still being done on the CDL site on route 183. During the budget meeting last week he learned that our BCTC enrollment is down, so even though there may be an overall increase in BCTC's budget, Wyomissing's share of the budget will be approximately the same as last year due to the three-year average enrollment.

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- I. Berks EIT Report – no report.
- J. Wyomissing Area Education Foundation – Mrs. Butera reported that a meeting was held on January 8. The Grants committee recommended donating \$2,000 for the purchase of microscopes for 5th grade; \$2,844 for iPads for Mrs. Robinson's 4th grade class which will serve as a pilot for an iPad center; \$717 to purchase probe ware for chemistry classes in the JSHS. Annual appeal letters will be mailed shortly. The Toast committee is in the planning process for the 2013 round of Toasts between May 11 and June 1.
- K. Legislative Report – No report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

**A. CURRICULUM/
TECHNOLOGY**

Upon a motion by Mr. Portner, second by Mr. Larkin, the following Curriculum/Technology items were approved:

During discussion Mrs. Vicente reiterated that before approving field trips, she and Mr. Stem make sure that proper chaperones are secured based on gender and number of student participants.

Mr. Stem noted the addition of AP World History in the Program of Studies to better align and balance the Social Studies curriculum and strengthen the knowledge base of students who take the SAT II test.

- 1. Approved Overnight Field Trip Requests
 - a. Penn State University High School Track and field Invitational, State College, PA, January 18-19, 2013.
 - b. 2013 PA State Scholastic Chess Championship, Carlisle, PA, March 9-10, 2013.

- 2. Approved Program of Studies 2013-14.

Yeas: Bamberger, Butera, Davis, Helm, Larkin, McAvoy, Painter and Portner.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

**B. FINANCE/
FACILITIES**

Upon a motion by Mrs. Davis, second by Mrs. McAvoy, the following Finance/Facilities item was approved:

- 1. Appointed John A. Larkin as representative and Angel L. Helm as alternate to the Berks Earned Income Tax Bureau for

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a one-year term.

Yeas: Bamberger, Butera, Davis, Helm, Larkin, McAvoy, Painter and Portner.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

The remaining Finance and Facilities items were opened for discussion. Mrs. Davis asked for clarification of a donation from WAEF for the purchase of “bucket fillers” for WREC. Mrs. Vicente responded that it is an age-appropriate way to teach children what matters most and ties in to our initiative on Positive Schoolwide Behavior. Mrs. Butera recognized various donations that will be listed on the upcoming agenda for approval.

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

Mrs. Butera thanked Mrs. Steele who is retiring at the end of the school year for her years of dedicated service to the District.

1. RETIREMENT

a. Administrative Staff

- 1) **Brenda Steele**, Director of Food Services, Jr./Sr. High School, retirement the end of the 2012-13 school year effective date to be determined in accordance with position contract requirements.

2. RESIGNATION

a. Support Staff

- 1) **Reina Soto**, Food Service Worker, Jr./Sr. High School, resignation effective December 19, 2012.

b. Supplemental Staff

- 1) **Melissa Egan**, Girls Softball Jr. High Head Coach, effective January 10, 2013.

3. TRANSFER

a. Support Staff

- 1) **Katherine Morris**, Food Service Worker, transfer from WHEC to Jr./Sr. High, at current approved hourly rate, effective January 15, 2013 at 4 ¼ hrs./day.
Background information: This transfer occurred due to a Food Service Worker resignation at the Jr./Sr. High School.

4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

a. Professional Staff

- 1) **Meredith Emkey**, Kindergarten Teacher,

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Family Medical Leave effective December 17, 2012 – December 21, 2012 and January 2, 2013 – January 4, 2013 with return to work on January 7, 2013.

2) **Eileen John**, Learning Support Teacher, WREC, Family Medical Leave effective on or about April 5, 2013 to the end of the 2012-13 school year, returning to work at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year.

3) **Toni Wengerd**, 1st Grade Teacher, WHEC, Family Medical Leave update effective date to January 2, 2013 with return to work the beginning of the 2013-14 school year.

b. Support Staff

1) **Karen Rapp**, Food Service Worker, Jr./Sr. High School, leave of absence effective January 18, 2013 to March 1, 2013 with an anticipated return to work date of March 4, 2013.

5. APPOINTMENTS

a. Administrative Staff

1) **Ashley Smith**, Principal, WHEC, effective date of hire January 22, 2013.

Background information: Ms. Smith was previously approved at the November 29, 2012 Board Meeting.

b. Professional Staff

1) **Jessica Walters**, Long Term Substitute 1st Grade Teacher, WHEC, updated effective date of assignment to January 2, 2013 until the end of the school year.

c. Supplemental Staff

1) **Carol Matz**, AESOP Back-up Coordinator, second semester stipend of \$2,500.

2) **Christopher Talley**, stipend for \$2,500 to perform Assistive Technology/Integration Specialist duties for the 2012-13 school year.

6. SUBSTITUTES

a. Professional Staff (Additions)

1) **Jessica Walters**, Teacher, ratified to December 17, 2012.

2) **Madeline Bieber**, Teacher

Background information: In addition to daily substituting, Ms. Bieber will be on extended assignment for Kelly Keim, 2nd Grade Teacher, during Ms. Keim's Family Medical Leave

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effective on or about February 8, 2013 until the end of the 2012-13 school year.

7. VOLUNTEERS

Yeas: Bamberger, Butera, Davis, Helm, Larkin, McAvoy, Painter and Portner.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

The remaining Personnel and Policy items were opened for discussion. There were no questions or comments.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS None.

UPDATES FROM ORGANIZATIONS

On behalf of WAEA, two teachers shared items of interest from their respective buildings:

- WHEC – Andrea Kupiszewski reported on the following:
 - Brianna O’Neil’s learning support class learned about the Gifts of Giving at the holidays by decorating toilet paper rolls and filling them with candy for staff at WHEC.
 - Second grade created a music video and entered into a contest with Rack Room Shoes for a \$15,000 grant.
 - The Holiday Shoppe was a success due to staff and volunteers.
- WREC – Andrea Kupiszewski reported on the following:
 - Sixteen fifth- and sixth-graders participated in the geography bee.
 - Almost 100 students participated in the Read 180 System 44 program during the literacy block.
 - Student Council collected over 100 toys for Toys for Tots and over 500 lbs. of nonperishable food items for the food bank
 - The wax museum held to raise funds for the IM Able Foundation was a huge success.
 - Art classes are making native masks for the Pacific Northwest region which has curricular ties to their social studies unit.
- JSHS – Tim Hetrich reported on the following:
 - Mid-term review day and exams are this week.
 - Seventh grade science fair and open house is January 16 in the cafeteria. The projects are part of students’ mid-term science exam.
 - SH Student Council collected a van full of donations to benefit victims of hurricane Sandy. JH Student Council

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and Cooking Club held a bake sale and raised \$450 to purchase department store gift cards for the victims. SH Student Council also spent a day at the Salvation Army organizing gifts and food to families in need around the county.

- The Spanish Club decorated and wrote cards to be delivered to Spanish speaking victims of hurricane Sandy. They also volunteered at the Police Athletic League to facilitate games and crafts at a holiday party for underprivileged children.
- Students in French classes have been corresponding with their counterparts at a school in France applying real-world use of their language skills.
- Wyomissing Area students finished in third place in the 10-week annual stock investment competition.

Meghan Filoon reported on behalf of PTA on the following:

- The first endeavor of the newly formed Community Service Committee who partnered with the Student Council to benefit victims of hurricane Sandy sent truckloads of donations to Egg Harbor, NJ.
- The Holiday Shoppe was transformed by Kami Fecho into a winter wonderland.
- The winter fundraiser is a Casino Night on February 23, 7-11 pm, at the Steelers Fellowship Hall in Reading. All are invited to attend.
- Friday, February 8, the Brain Show, and interactive educational game show will be at WHEC for an assembly. Parents and families are invited to form a team to attend the evening event to compete with each other.
- Kristin Hoffa from Berks Talkline spoke at the last meeting about options for students to talk with someone when dealing with troubling issues.
- Mini-grants for up to \$300 are available for teachers.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Bamberger, seconded by Mrs. McAvoy to adjourn at 6:43 p.m.

Corinne D. Mason
Board Secretary