

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2013-4680

Minutes November 11, 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, and Mr. Portner.

Board Member Absent: Mrs. Seltzer

Administrative Staff Present: Mrs. Vicente, Mr. Stem, Mr. Alvarez, Dr. Babb, Mr. Fries, Mr. Griscom, Dr. Jones, Mrs. Kaag, Ms. Lampe and Mrs. Smith.

Attendees: Jeffrey D. Litts, Esq. of Kegel Kelin Almy & Lord, David Kostival, Reading Eagle, and Shelley Filer, 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.

- Curriculum Committee Meeting – November 13, 2013, 2:30 p.m.
- Technology Committee Meeting – November 20, 2013, 12:00 p.m.
- School Board Business Meeting – November 25, 2013, 6:00 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 the search for a Business Manager is ongoing. We may utilize the services of an interim until we find a permanent replacement. The cost of the subsurface remediation of the stadium field will be affected by a change order listed on the agenda. The actual cost was less than expected. Mrs. Helm addressed questions from a financial standpoint on the Spartan Stadium Project posed by Board members, such as yearly maintenance costs and daytime accessibility, and outlined costs associated with the project. She explained which costs are responsibilities of the District in terms of upkeep and compliance and which costs would be covered by fund raising. She emphasized that the tennis courts are not part of the fence project. Mrs. Helm also mentioned that the meeting to review the audit report is scheduled for November 25.

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- B. Facilities – Mrs. Bamberger provided an update in spite of the fact that the November meeting was canceled due to scheduling conflicts. The boiler room project is substantially complete. She reminded the Board that two parts of the original project—the removal of the underground tank and replacement of the maintenance shed still need to be addressed. Site visits have been conducted to determine the best options for replacing the turf on the existing turf field. The only remaining item left in the subsurface remediation project of the stadium field is the extension of the sewer line from the end of the field to the sidewalk. Mrs. Bamberger shared a blueprint of the proposed Spartan Pride Stadium Project that illustrated the additional gated access points of the fence. She also reported that on the advice of the architect we need to submit a permit application to the borough to prevent timeline delays. At WHEC, work has been done to resolve the drainage issues around the building. The gym floor will be repaired later this month.
- C. Curriculum – Mrs. McAvoy reported the next meeting is Wednesday.
- D. Technology – Mr. Portner reported that the committee met October 23. The committee received an update of the progress of the Mimeo Teach installation which is being phased in by department. Mr. Griscom presented information on an inexpensive way to provide streaming capability for Wyo5Live in classroom with the use of a mini computer called Raspberry Pi which attaches to the classroom projector in lieu of using classroom televisions.
- E. Personnel – No report.
- F. Policy – Mr. Painter reported on three policies the committee reviewed. The dress code policy may be revised to allow sweatpants. A Parent of Record policy is being considered to establish from which parent we take direction in families where child custody is an issue. The committee is also reviewing the policy on alcohol use as it relates to off-campus offenses. Mrs. Bamberger and Mrs. Helm suggested caution when considering relaxing the dress code.
- G. Ad Hoc Development Advisory – Mrs. Davis reported that collaborative meetings with Borough officials have been recently re-established. During the last meeting repair of the tennis courts was discussed. At a follow-up meeting earlier in the afternoon a new process for repair was presented which bears further consideration. She mentioned the development committee is investigating advertising in the gym as a way to increase revenue and looking into safety grants. She also shared an update on the Post Prom Party and

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how applying for grants to help defray expenses while providing a safe option for students on prom night.

H. Berks County Intermediate Unit Board Report – No report.

I. Berks Career & Technology Center Board Report – Mr. Painter reported that the audit report was accepted and Wyomissing Area enrollment is up substantially since 2009.

J. Berks EIT Report – No report.

K. Wyomissing Area Education Foundation – Mrs. Butera said that Mr. Minich will provide a demonstration of the 3-D printer at the meeting tomorrow. The printer was purchased with grant money from the Foundation.

L. Legislative Report – No report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Litts reviewed the Board policy on public participation.

Kim Gent asked if a statement she prepared could be read in her absence. She was unable to stay for the meeting.

John Elder questioned the timing of the motion regarding the proposed fence project being placed on the agenda per policy 006 and submitted a copy of an e-mail for the record; the legality of holding a meeting on Veterans' Day; and the jurisdiction to erect a fence without the recommendation of the safety committee. Mr. Litts responded that the agenda item conformed to provisions in policy 006 and nothing prohibits holding a meeting on this date.

Several residents voiced their opposition to the proposed Spartan Pride Stadium Project including David Tierney, Rita Ditsky, Susan Larkin who referenced a petition with 500 signatures against the project, Gail Freymoyer, Joseph Sohn, and John Larkin, Jr. who read Ms. Gent's statement and then spoke on his own behalf.

Michele Fischetti spoke in support of the project and said others share her opinion but were not in attendance.

Alan Shirk questioned how long the blue plastic fence is erected. He suggested the sale of season football tickets to increase revenue.

Sandy Matz asked a question concerning corporate sponsorship and naming rights. Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Helm responded that a policy has existed for quite some time regarding naming rights.

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Jesse Willman addressed the Board regarding an injury his son sustained resulting from a collision with another student during school hours that aggravated a pre-existing injury which did not occur on school grounds.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

**A. CURRICULUM/
TECHNOLOGY**

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

1. Approved homebound instruction for secondary student ID#300497 for five hours per week for three months when school is in session, November 7, 2013 to February 21, 2014.

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

Absent: Seltzer

Nays: None. Motion carried.

**B. FINANCE/
FACILITIES**

Upon a motion by Mrs. Helm, second by Mrs. Bamberger, the following Finance/Facilities items were approved:

During discussion Mr. Portner asked for clarification on the project amount that the permit covers. The cost is \$149,000.

Mr. Larkin explained his rationale for his intention in voting to oppose the installation of the fence.

Mrs. Bamberger offered her perspective as to why she supported the project.

1. Authorized The ELA Group to submit an application with the Borough of Wyomissing for installation of a fence around the School District's stadium complex.

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

Absent: Seltzer

Nays: Larkin and Painter. Motion carried.

The Finance and Facilities items were opened for discussion. There were no questions or comments.

**C. PERSONNEL/
POLICY**

Upon a motion by Mr. Painter, second by Mr. Portner, the following Personnel/Policy items were approved.

Mrs. Butera thanked Mrs. Elzer, Mrs. Noecker and Ms. Tucker for their service to the District. Mr. Portner also expressed his regret in the

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departure of Mr. Talley who was a great asset to the Special Education Department.

Mrs. Vicente reported that due to the success of last year's after school tutoring program in math, it was decided to add tutoring in language arts as well. The sessions last 45 minutes and late bus transportation is provided.

1. RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT/TERMINATION

a. Support Staff

- 1) **Athena Elzer**, Library Aide, WHEC, resignation effective date pending.
- 2) **Dori Noecker**, Classroom Instructional Aide, WHEC, resignation effective November 15, 2013.
- 3) **Linda Tucker**, Food Service Worker, JSHS, resignation effective December 20, 2013.

2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

a. Professional Staff

- 1) **Nancy Boyer**, Teacher, WHEC, return from Family Medical Leave effective November 1, 2013.

b. Support Staff

- 1) **Otto Esenwein**, Van Driver, District-Wide, leave of absence effective October 31, 2013 to a date to be determined.

3. APPOINTMENTS

a. Professional Staff

- 1) **Matthew Werner**, .6 Long Term Substitute English Teacher, JSHS, at an annual pro-rated salary of \$24,432 based upon B/Step 1 of the WAEA Salary Schedule, update effective date of hire to November 1, 2013.
- 2) **Lauren Darr**, Special Education Teacher-Learning Support, JSHS at an annual pro-rated salary based upon B+15/Step 1 (\$42,120) of the WAEA Salary Schedule, effective November 12, 2013.

Background information: Ms. Darr was previously approved. This action includes updates to the approval.

b. Support Staff

- 1) **Jessica Bailey**, Special Education Instructional Aide, JSHS, full-time at 7 hours/day, \$11.55/hour, effective November 12, 2013.

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Background information: Ms. Bailey is filling a vacancy created as the result of a resignation.

c. Athletic Staff

- 1) **Glenn Kratz**, Boys Basketball Varsity Assistant Coach, at a stipend of \$2,314, for the 2013-14 sports season.

4. TEACHERS ON ASSIGNMENT

a. Professional Staff

- 1) **Jessica Lenge**, Transition Coordinator, JSHS, re-assigned as Interim Special Education Liaison, effective November 20, 2013, at a daily rate of \$125 in addition to annual salary.
- 2) **Christine Mohler**, Special Education Teacher (Life Skills), JSHS, reassigned as Interim Transition Coordinator effective November 20, 2013 with no change in annual wages.
- 3) **Frank Ferrandino**, Interim Athletic Director, effective September 30, 2013 for the First Semester of the 2013-14 school year at a pro-rated stipend based upon \$8,250/semester in additional to annual salary.

5. WORK OUTSIDE CONTRACT HOURS

a. Professional Staff

- 1) **Christopher Talley**, Special Education Teacher, JSHS, assigned additional duties as Assistive Technology Integration Specialist, effective August 26, 2013 to November 15, 2013 at a pro-rated stipend based upon \$2,500/school year.
- 2) **Christine Mohler**, Special Education Teacher on assignment as Transition Coordinator, JSHS, assigned additional duties as Assistive Technology Integration Specialist, effective November 18, 2013 until the end of the school year, at a pro-rated stipend based upon \$2,500/school year.
- 3) **Lee Marie Gallagher**, teacher, JSHS, to provide homebound instruction for secondary student ID #300497 for a maximum of five (5) hours per week for three (3) months when school is in session effective November 7, 2013 to February 21, 2014, at the WAEA wage rate for work outside work hours.
- 4) Tutors for after school tutoring program at WREC on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, effective November 12, 2013

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through the end of the 2013-14 school year, at the WAEA wage rate for work outside work hours.

- a) **Keith Arnold**
- b) **Kelly Ferrandino**
- c) **Erika Homan**
- d) **Bridgette Kozuch**
- e) **Jill Kuhn**
- f) **Andrea Kupiszewski**
- g) **Kristin Allen**
- h) **Eileen John**
- i) **Rose Sneeringer**

Background information: Students will be tutored in math and reading. Funds are provided through the federal Accountability Block Grant.

6. REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE 2013-14 WINTER SEASON COACH STIPENDS

7. SUBSTITUTES

- a. Professional Staff
 - 1) **Christina Koch**, Teacher (Addition)
- b. Support Staff
 - 1) **Amanda Waszil**, Aide (Addition)
 - 2) **Kimberly Wiseman**, Aide (Addition)

8. VOLUNTEERS

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

Absent: Seltzer

Nays: None. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Davis congratulated the girls' doubles tennis team on their third place finish in the state championship. It was also noted the football team is still in playoffs and girls' soccer qualified for states.

UPDATES FROM ORGANIZATIONS

None.

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ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. McAvoy, seconded by Mrs. Bamberger to adjourn at 7:21 p.m.

Board Secretary