

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2010-4105

Minutes March 22, 2010

The regular meeting of the Board of School Directors convened at 7:06 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, Mrs. Sakmann, and Mrs. Seltzer.

Administrative Staff Present:

Mr. Robbins, Mrs. Mason, Mr. Babb, and Dr. Space.

Attendees:

Ms. Pam Cala, Kozloff Stoudt; and Diane Schaeffer, 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 the Board met in executive session prior to this evening's meeting to discuss personnel matters and no action was taken. She also noted the following April meeting schedule and meeting locations:

- Committee of the Whole – Monday, April 12, 2010, 6:00 p.m. – **Community Board Room at the Jr./Sr. High School**
- School Board Meeting – Monday, April 26, 2010, 7:00 p.m. – **West Reading Elementary Center Library**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Gerry Wojciecowski read a prepared statement requesting that a portion of the funds contributed by Taylor Swift be allocated to improve the sound and lighting systems in the auditorium. He noted that over 100 students were involved in the high school's production of *State Fair* over the weekend which was wonderful but hearing the lines was a problem. Mr. Peter Beck, the technical director, shared a list of suggested improvements and costs with the board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Robbins' requested a decision on how the \$25,000 Taylor Swift donation should be disbursed. He turned the meeting over to the Board for discussion.

Mrs. Helm stated she relayed information to Scott Swift on the proposed distribution of the funds, and they were pleased that money was designated for use by the drama department.

Many Board members commented on the positive experiences their own children had as part of the drama program. It was noted that many graduates return to assist in the annual production.

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After discussion the Board unanimously approved \$6,000 of the funds be designated for light and sound improvements and the purchase of a cart as requested by Mrs. Luyben. The remaining \$19,000 will be for the purchase of computers and digital books.

Mr. Robbins requested that Mr. Beck consult with Mrs. Luyben and Mr. Griscom, Director of Technology.

Mrs. Davis thanked everyone for working together to find a great compromise.

ROUTINE APPROVALS

MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Portner, second by Mrs. Seltzer, to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2010 business meeting and the March 1, 2010 special board meeting.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon motion by Mr. Fitzgerald, second by Mr. Larkin, the Treasurer's Reports were accepted as presented.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Upon motion by Mr. Larkin, second by Mr. Fitzgerald, payment of bills for the month of February 2010 was approved.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER PRESENTATIONS

Secretary's Correspondence – Mrs. Mason shared a thank you letter sent to the Board and administrators from the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation acknowledging the memorial donation made in honor of Andrew Woodward, who was a student teacher in the high school.

BCIU – Mrs. Bamberger reported that a meeting was held on March 18 and plans are underway for the annual convention.

BCTC –No report from Mr. Painter

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EIT – Mr. Larkin reported that income tax is about level to last year and there is still some question if it will continue the rest of the year.

WAEF – Mrs. Seltzer noted that they met last week and work is continuing on the “Toast to the Teachers.” The group is looking for creative ways to improve scholarships. She noted that a scholarship is available to an adult resident who is continuing their education.

Legislative Report – No report from Mr. Fitzgerald.

Economic Development Ad Hoc Committee – Mrs. Bamberger reported that the committee will meet on April 7.

Community Relations Ad Hoc Committee – Mrs. Seltzer indicated the committee is working to improve community relations and will meet again in April or early May.

**FINANCE/
FACILITIES**

A motion was made by Mr. Painter and seconded by Mrs. Sakmann to approve the Finance and Facilities agenda items A through I.

Mrs. Bamberger asked that agenda item I. to approve Brown Management to serve as Clerk of the Works for the West Reading Elementary Center project be voted on separately and amended to indicate a contract will be negotiated and reviewed by the solicitor.

Mr. Robbins indicated that the cost of \$68,500 won't change and the agreement will be reviewed by the solicitor. He stated that it is important that the item be approved this evening so that Mr. Brown can begin work with the architect.

After further discussion, it was agreed that item “I” to approve Brown Management would be amended and voted on separately.

Mrs. Bamberger asked for further information on the submission of PlanCon Part A and B which was provided by the architect, Scott Adams. Mr. Adams also clarified that the numbers are estimates.

Finance and Facilities items A through H were presented for approval as follows:

A. Budget Transfers in the amount of \$13,737.

B. BCIU 2010-11 Budget.

Background: The Berks County Intermediate Unit is mandated by Legislative Act 102 of 1970 to provide a summary of its proposed budget for services to school districts (see tan booklet). The BCIU

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budget provides career-related and community-based activities to improve teaching and learning for educators and students as well as additional trainings to implement state and federal initiatives. The 2010-11 budget reflects a zero percent increase to the District. Budgets for special education, transportation, non-public school services, federally funded programs and many miscellaneous services are not included.

- C. Berks Career & Technology Center 2010 Budget.
Background: The individual school district's contribution to the budget is determined by a proportionate share calculation that looks at audited enrollment figures from the three previous years (see attachment).
- D. Agreement with Gilbert Architects for the West Reading Elementary Center. Copy included as part of official minutes.
- E. Submission of PlanCon Part A, Project Justification, and PlanCon Part B, Schematic Design, to PDE for the West Reading project.
- F. Resolution on Employee Pension Reform. Copy included as part of official minutes.
- G. Resolution 3-22-10-2 authorizing James M. Lillis, Esq., to retain the appraisal services of Douglas A. Haring & Company in preparation for trial pursuant to the defense of assessment appeals for properties in the Wyomissing Area School District for taxes for year 2010 (VF Outlet Center and Sovereign Bank properties). Copy included as part of official minutes
- H. PDE 3074(a) Form for "Non-Reimbursable Work Subject to Advertising and Bidding Requirements" for Phase II of the partial roof replacement at the JSHS.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Larkin moved and Mrs. Helm seconded a motion to approve Brown Management to serve as Clerk of the Works for the West Reading project a cost of \$68,500 pending a signed contract.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

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**CURRICULUM/
TECHNOLOGY**

A motion was made by Mrs. Sakmann, and second by Mrs. Seltzer, to approve an Algebra II summer program.

Background Information: This proposal is to offer Algebra II to approximately 24 students this summer. This request was prompted by the high school's staff review of test data and student placement. By offering Algebra II in the summer, it provides the opportunity for these students to be more prepared to take the PSSA's and provides them the opportunity to take more advanced courses their senior year. Dr. Speace indicated there is money in this year's budget to support this program. There would be no cost to the student but a minimum number for enrollment would be needed.

Mrs. Bamberger asked how many students were necessary to run the program. Mr. Robbins responded that 10 would be needed.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL/POLICY

Mr. Robbins announced that there was an addendum to the personnel agenda as follows:

Approve Resolution No. 3-22-10-3 – Accept the resignation of **Daniel L. Melot**, effective May 18, 2009 and the agreement between the Wyomissing Area School District, the Wyomissing Education Association/PSEA/NEA and Daniel L. Melot dated January 21, 2010. Copy included as part of official minutes.

Mrs. Davis requested a motion to approve the addendum item and personnel agenda items A through D.

Upon motion by Mrs. Sakmann, second by Mrs. Seltzer, the addendum and the following personnel items were approved.

A. RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

1) Supplemental Staff

- a. **Irving Gonzalez, Jr.** High Drama Producer, resignation effective February 2, 2010.
- b. **Matthew Heffner**, Boys' Volleyball Varsity Co-Assistant Coach, resignation effective February 23, 2010.
- c. **Michael Kuczala**, JH 2nd Assistant Baseball Coach, resignation effective February 17, 2010. Mr. Kuczala will be a volunteer coach for JH baseball.

B. LEAVES

1) Support Staff

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- a. **Barbara Brehony**, full-time (10 month) Elementary Secretary at WHEC, FMLA leave March 5 – March 12, 2010.
- b. **Linda Lamp**, part-time Food Service Worker at the JSHS, unpaid leave February 16-18, 2010.
- c. **Vernon Levengood**, part-time Food Service Worker at WHEC, unpaid leave February 16-19, 2010.

C. APPOINTMENTS

1) Administrative Staff

- a. Approve a resolution that confirms PDE's approval of **David H. Robbins** serving as Acting Superintendent from February 2, 2010 through June 30, 2010.
- b. Effective start date of April 6, 2010, for **Cheryl A. Morett**, Director of Special Education.
Background Information: Ms. Morett's appointment was approved at the February 22, 2010, Board meeting.

2) Professional Staff

- a. **Michele Hatt-Ciemiewicz**, Support Teacher for James Delp, Secondary English Teacher at the JSHS, for the 2009-10 school year at a stipend of \$500.

3) Support Staff

- a. **Sara L. Harvey**, part-time Special Education Instructional Aide at WHEC, 6.5 hrs./day at \$11.02/hr., effective March 23, 2010.
Background Information: Mrs. Harvey will be filling the vacancy created when Elizabeth Barrer replaced Jessica Hole as a full-time aide.

4) Supplemental Staff

Activities:

- a. **Melissa Devlin**, Sr. High Student Council Co-Advisor, 16.5 points, \$1,394.00, effective the 2010-11 school year.
- b. **Jennifer Mangold**, Sr. High Student Council Co-Advisor, 20.5 points, \$1,732.00, effective the 2010-11 school year.

Spring Athletics:

- c. **Steve Buynovsky**, Boys' Volleyball Varsity Assistant Coach, 23.4 points, \$1,977.00, effective the 2009-10 school year.
- d. **Thomas Reardon**, JH Assistant Baseball Coach, 17.6 points, \$1,487, effective the 2009-10 school year.
- e. **Nicholas Wojciechowski**, JH 2nd Assistant Baseball

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Coach, 15 points, \$1,268, effective the 2009-10 school year.

f. **Dale Derr**, Assistant to the Athletic Director (Spring), at a stipend of \$1,410 effective the 2009-10 school year.

g. Volunteer coaches as follows, pending receipt of necessary documentation:

Sophia Cammarano – Girls' lacrosse

John Geraci – Girls' lacrosse

Noel Garapola – Girls' lacrosse

Scott Helm – Boys' lacrosse

Ted Kolva – Boys' lacrosse

Bob Carson – Boys' lacrosse

Thomas Baldwin – Boys' lacrosse

Karl Zinn – Boys' lacrosse

Zach Zinn – Boys' lacrosse

Richard Tetley – Boys' lacrosse

Bernie Donahue – Boys' lacrosse

Michael Gaza – Boys' lacrosse

Michael Kuczala – Boys' JH baseball

Jenny Fromuth – Girls' varsity soccer

Nolan Campbell – Boys' varsity volleyball

Katie O'Regan – Varsity track

Joel Mocerri – Varsity track

Steven O'Neil – Varsity track

D. ADDITIONAL HOURS

1) Professional Staff

a. **Kelly Keim, Eileen Slavinski, and Meredith Wagner**, Kindergarten Jump Start Coordinators, at the hourly contracted rate, for a total maximum not to exceed 157 hours for the program which runs from June 18 to June 30, 2010.

Background Information: Salaries will be paid through Title I ARRA funds.

Mrs. Bamberger asked if there was new information that necessitated the addendum item. Mr. Robbins responded there was nothing new and the resolution was necessary to finalize the paperwork.

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

Abstain: Helm

Nays: None. Motion carried.

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OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Davis reported that an AFSCME negotiations meeting is scheduled for March 30.

Mrs. Davis realized that Personnel agenda items E, F, and G, were accidentally omitted in the earlier motion and they would need to be presented for the board's consideration.

Mr. Painter moved and Mrs. Seltzer seconded the motion to approve the personnel agenda items E, F, and G as follows:

E. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE DISTRICT SUBSTITUTE LIST

F. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE DISTRICT VOLUNTEER LIST

G. POLICIES

1) Approved first reading of the following revised policies:

- a. 908 Relations with Parents
- b. 918 Title I Parent Involvement

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Davis announced that a program is scheduled for parents of 7th grade students on Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium on Cyber Safety.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Peter Schiaroli asked what a 3.06% increase for teachers would mean in dollars.

Mrs. Mason responded that Mr. Stott has the number and he would have to answer that question.

Mr. William Murray thanked Dr. Speace and the team that participated in planning the program for parents on drugs, alcohol, and gangs.

Mr. Murray asked what effect the West Reading project will have on the millage and budget.

Mr. Robbins indicated that the architect made a presentation at the February board meeting and an update will be provided at the Committee of the Whole meeting in April.

Architect Scott Adams said the approximate total for the project is \$11

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million including \$8.7 million in construction costs.

Mr. James Cardi stated that in February he asked what legal fees were incurred by the firm handling the property tax assessment appeals and the recent assessment filed by Sovereign Bank and wanted to know if the information is available.

Mrs. Mason replied that she does not have an updated number from Mr. Boland and is aware of an expense of approximately \$350.

Mr. Cardi asked that the information he requested be provided.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Larkin, seconded by Mr. Portner to adjourn at 7:42 p.m.

Corinne D. Mason
Board Secretary