

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2005

Minutes April 25, 2005

The regular meeting of the Board of School Directors convened at 7:35 p.m. in the Community Board Room with Mr. Snyder, Board President, presiding.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Barnett, Mr. Deem, Mr. Love, Mr. Larkin, Mrs. Sakmann, Dr. Shuttlesworth, Mrs. McCreedy, and Mr. Snyder.

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Dietz, Dr. Riedel, Dr. Kennedy, and Mr. McDonnell, Mrs. Zerr, Mr. Laubach, Ms. Leister, Mrs. Steele, Mr. Hartman, and Mr. Babb.

Attendees: Mr. Georgeadis, Solicitor and Mr. Youker, Reading Eagle. See list of other attendees included as part of these official minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Snyder called the meeting to order.

Mr. Jay Himes from PASBO presented the Act 72 information to the public and the board.

President Snyder opened the meeting for public comment on the presentation or agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Golt wanted to know if not all the schools opt in, is the money gained from gaming revenues given to only those schools that opt in.

Mr. Himes stated that the answer differs depending on whom you talk to. The governor says yes, all the money will be distributed. The legislators say that was not their intention.

In addition, Mr. Golt expressed concern about the large tax increases in recent years and thought that Act 72 would limit tax increases in the future.

Mr. Himes responded that if you have two wage earners in one household, your E.I.T. would go up by twice the amount or 1%, compared to one tax reduction per household of \$155.

Mr. Golt asked when the board would make their decision.

Mr. Snyder indicated the board has until May 30 to decide. The board continued with the items on the agenda.

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Love, and second by Mrs. McCreedy, the minutes of the following meetings were approved as presented and included as part of these official minutes.

March 28, 2005	Regular Board Meeting
April 6, 2005	Special Board Meeting
April 13, 2005	Special Board Meeting
April 18, 2005	Board Work Session

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Yeas: 8

Nays: 0

RATIFIED FINANCIAL REPORTS

Upon motion by Dr. Shuttlesworth, second by Mrs. McCready, payment of properly approved vendor invoices for the General Fund and 2001 and 2003 G.O. Bond – March 2005 were ratified.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Love, Larkin, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, McCready, and Snyder.

Nays: None.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dr. Dietz indicated he placed correspondence at their seats for review.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

- * Dr. Dietz reported on the television appearance of our Quiz Bowl team that placed third out of 24 schools and complimented the students on the great job in representing the district, and Mrs. Nolan and Mrs. Kreps on preparing the students for the event.
- * An update on the district goals was given by Dr. Dietz. He explained that out of 277 tasks completed, 33% were procedural changes or improvements, 32% related to public relations, and 22% related to special education.

ADDENDUM

The president announced that an addendum was provided to each board member.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Dietz submitted his report and recommendations dated April 25, 2005 and the addendum items as noted.

APPROVED SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT & ADDENDUM

Upon motion by Mr. Love, second by Mrs. Barnett, the superintendent's report and addendum dated April 25, 2005, were approved. A copy is included as part of these official minutes.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Love, Larkin, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, McCready, and Snyder.

Nays: None.

Dr. Dietz introduced Mr. Joseph Allen to the board. Mr. Allen thanked the board for approving his hiring and stated he was excited about having the opportunity to be as successful in the classroom as he was on the track.

Dr. Dietz commented that Mrs. Carol King was selected from a pool of candidates that included some from the newly contracted PA Educator.net. Mrs. King stated she was excited about the opportunity to see the library through some new and upcoming improvements this fall.

Mr. Mike Mitchell thanked the board for his appointment and noted that he is looking forward to working with the kids.

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BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Snyder turned the meeting over to Mr. Tim Laubach, Director of Technology Services, who presented the technology budget for the 2005-06 school year. He reported the overall budget proposal shows a reduction of 12% over the prior year.

Mrs. Brenda Steele, Director of Food Service, presented the 2005-06 food service budget that includes additional hours for the full-day kindergarten program. Despite increases in labor costs and supplies for full-day kindergarten, the budget for next year shows revenues exceed expenditures by approximately \$1,500. As a result, support from the general fund will not be needed.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Berks Career & Technology Center – Mr. Snyder announced an upcoming meeting next week.

E.I.T. Board – No report from Mrs. McCready.

Intermediate Unit Board – Mr. Love commented at the IU Board meeting held last Thursday, the BCIU was selected to run the \$42 million statewide early intervention program.

Legislative – Mr. Love announced an upcoming county meeting on May 5, at 7 p.m. at the BCIU.

PSBA – Mr. Love announced an upcoming Act 72 hearing on Thursday in which PSBA will be presenting a case to delay the May 30 deadline for the Act 72 opt in.

WAEF – Mrs. Sakmann noted that the WAEF will be presenting the annual scholarships on May 5 and representatives will be attending the May board meeting.

Joint Boroughs/District Committee – Mr. Larkin and Dr. Shuttlesworth both commented on the success of the concept of a joint borough/district committee. Mr. Larkin expressed concern over the potential impact on the school district from potential new housing in the Wyomissing and West Reading Boroughs. They noted that the next meeting of the joint committee would be June 13, at 7:00 p.m., in the community board room.

Next School Board Meetings –

President Snyder announced the following upcoming meetings:

Monday, May 16, 2005
Work Session, 6:00 p.m., Community Board Room

Monday, May 23, 2005
Regular Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Community Board Room

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OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS None.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

Mr. Snyder announced there would be an executive session for personnel matters immediately following the board meeting, with no action expected to be taken.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business and upon motion by Mrs. McCready, second by Mr. Deem, the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Arthur J. McDonnell
Board Secretary

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

April 25, 2005

To: Members of the Board of School Directors

The superintendent respectfully submits the following information and recommendations for Board approval:

I. Personnel

A) Employee

1. Approve Professional & Support Staff Retirements:
 - a. **Robert A. Wolfrum**, secondary physical education teacher/student dean, effective June 10, 2005.
 - b. **Eileen Loos**, elementary teacher, effective June 10, 2005.
 - c. **Stephany R. Yerger**, secondary English teacher, effective June 10, 2005.
 - d. **Beryl Geer**, food service worker, effective June 15, 2005.
2. Approve Professional Staff Resignations:
 - a. **Karen D. Palcho**, secondary art teacher, effective at the end of the 2004-05 school year (on unpaid medical leave the 2004-05 school year).
 - b. **Heidi Stobbart**, World Language/ESL teacher, effective at the end of the 2004-05 school year. (Due to anticipated needs in the area of reading/ English, this position will be advertised as English/reading/ESL.
3. Approve Professional Staff Appointments
 - a. **Joseph Allen**, secondary social studies teacher, effective August 23, 2005, at an annual salary to be determined by the new contract.

Background Information: Mr. Allen, who graduated from Muhlenburg College with a B.A. in history and from Kutztown University with a M.Ed. in secondary social studies, comes to us from Oley Valley School District where he is in his eighth year of teaching. He has taught eighth grade, AP European History, and advised numerous student clubs. His compensation will be determined by the new contract but will be based on a 2004-05 M, Step 4 position.

- b. **Carol King**, secondary librarian, effective June 13, 2005, at an annual salary to be determined by the new contract.

Background Information: Mrs. King earned her B.A. from Westminster College and recently completed her M.L.S. at Kutztown University. Prior to this year, Mrs. King served as a substitute teacher, library aide, and a long-term substitute librarian in the Muhlenberg School District. This year, Mrs. King is serving as a long-term substitute in the JSHS library. She has implemented a number of successful initiatives that have provided for more efficient and increased student/teacher use of the facility. Her compensation will be determined by the new contract but will be based on a 2004-05 M, Step 1 position.

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4. Approve Professional Staff Chair for the Social Studies Department: **Jennifer Mangold**, Social Studies Chair, at an annual stipend to be determined in August.

Background Information: Mrs. Mangold has taught in the JSHS since 1996. In addition to her regular teaching duties, she has done Summer Enrichment courses, Gearing Up for Seventh Grade and Organizing for Ninth Grade. She has also served as head girls and boys bowling coach, assistant junior high volleyball coach, and volunteer girls softball coach as well as the advisor for the Junior High Student Council.

5. Approve Support Staff Appointment: **Margo Brickner**, receptionist/monitor (part-time) at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center, 27.5 per week (5.5 hours per day) during the school year, at \$8.50 per hour, effective April 8, 2005.

Background Information: Christine Vecchio resigned from the full-time receptionist/monitor position at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center. Margo Brickner will be employed part-time with no benefits. 7-1/2 hours per week of the receptionist position were reassigned to Barbara Brehony, changing her status to full-time with benefits.

6. Approve Additional Hours for Support Staff Employee: **Barbara Brehony**, receptionist/monitor (part-time) at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center, 7.5 hours per week during the school year at the rate of \$9.00 per hour, effective April 11, 2005.

Background Information: Barbara Brehony is employed as part-time secretary to the principal at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center for 27.5 hours per week (5.5/day) at \$9.00 per hour. The additional assignment/hours make Barbara full-time and eligible for benefits.

7. Approve Revision to Position Guides
 - a. Jr./Sr. High School In-School Suspension Monitor & District Pupil Services Liaison (combined former Jr./Sr. High School In-School Suspension Monitor and Pupil Services Liaison position guides)
 - b. Grounds Foreperson
8. Approve Substitute Professional/Support Staff List

- B) Approve Staffing Recommendations for the 2005-06 School Year

Background Information: Based on discussion at the April 18, 2005, work session, the administration is authorized to initiate the hiring process for the following positions: 2 full-time kindergarten teachers, 2 full-time special education teachers, 1.5 regular education teachers, 1 full-time instructional technology teacher, and 1.5 support staff.

II. Curriculum

- A) Approve District Summer Programs

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Background Information: The board is being provided with a packet showing the fee-based summer programs as well as district-supported summer programs.

- B) Approve Summer Program Scholarship Fund - \$200

Background Information: This fund would be used to help students who have expressed a need for financial assistance in order to participate in the programs.

III. Finance

- A) Technology and Food Service Budget Presentations
B) Approve Opening of Fund Account for the Class of 2010
C) Approve Berks Business Education Coalition Membership

Background Information: The district has been a member of the Berks Business Education Coalition in the past. The Coalition supports districts that have strong career education programs. During 2005, BBEC plans to continue to support training for teachers in the SAS program, expand opportunities between post-secondary and K-12 education and provide improved understanding of decisions made regarding Act 72.

- D) Approve Special Education Agreements

1. Agreement with Austill's Rehabilitation Services, Inc. for 2005-2006

Background Information: Austill's Rehabilitation Services, Inc., has provided therapy services to the district for approximately ten years with no rate increase in the \$57/hour rate over this period of time. Service has been satisfactory and the most reasonable in a cost/benefit analysis.

2. Agreement with Berks County Intermediate Unit

Background Information: The agreement between the Wyomissing Area School District and the Berks County Intermediate Unit for special education programs and services is effective July 1, 2005 for the 2005-06 school year.

IV. Facilities

V. School Activities & Athletics

- A) Approve Field Trips to New York City

1. Field trip for Grade 10 honors English students to Metropolitan Museum of Art & Belasco Theatre in New York City on Wednesday, May 25, 2005

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2. Field trip for Art IV students to Museum of Modern Art in New York City on Friday, April 29, 2005

- B) Approve Reopening Position for Junior High 2nd Assistant Baseball Coach

Background Information: The position of junior high 2nd assistant baseball coach is reopened. Jason Eberhart was on the list of spring coaches approved by the board on February 28, 2005, but he failed to assume the position.

- C) Approve Supplemental Athletic Appointment – **Jason Eisenhower**, Junior High 2nd Assistant Baseball Coach, 13 points, at an annual salary of \$1,008, effective the 2004-05 school year

VI. Technology

VII. Policy

VIII. Community Relations

- A) Approve Adjustment to 2004-05 School Calendar

Background Information: School was closed due to snow on March 1, 2005, and the calendar will be adjusted to indicate the last student day as June 9, 2005, rather than June 8, 2005.

IX. Other Items

- A) Approve Cultural Homestay International (CHI) - Foreign Exchange Program

Background Information: Cultural Homestay International is a non-profit student exchange program that was founded in 1980. Deb Hurley of McVeytown, PA, is the area program administrator for the East Coast, and Linda Bowling serves as the academic coordinator and link between the host family and school.

- B) Approve German Foreign Exchange Student

Background Information: A 16-year old male German exchange student is being placed in a Wyomissing home by the Cultural Homestay International exchange program for the 2005-06 school year.

- C) Approve Board Member Resignation: Mr. William P. Murray, effective April 25, 2005.

X. Discussion/Information Items

Recommended Action

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of School Directors approve the recommendations in the Superintendent's report as listed above.

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SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

ADDENDUM

April 25, 2005

I. *Personnel*

A) *Employee*

1. *Approve Professional & Support Staff Retirements:*

e. *Christine E. Leitham, secondary English teacher, effective June 10, 2005.*

V. *School Activities & Athletics*

D) *Approve Supplemental Athletic Appointment*

Michael T. Mitchell, Jr., Varsity Boys' Basketball Head Coach, 57 points, at an annual salary of \$4,418, effective for the 2005-06 school year.

Background Information: Mr. Mitchell's involvement with coaching began in 1995. He has three years' experience as a varsity head coach in baseball in two school districts. His years as an assistant basketball coach number seven. Currently Mr. Mitchell is on staff as a JSHS teacher of mathematics and part-time dean of students.