

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2008-3982

Minutes December 22, 2008

The meeting of the Board of School Directors convened at 5:07 p.m. in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School with Mr. Larkin, Board President, presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge, President Larkin asked if anyone intended to record the meeting and no one responded.

Mrs. Barnett called the roll of Board members.

Board Members Present: Mr. Althouse, Mrs. Barnett, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Hinsey, Mrs. McCready, Mr. Portner, Mrs. Sakmann and Mr. Larkin.

Board Member Absent: Mr. Fitzgerald

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Moyer, Dr. Pulkowski, Ms. Garman, Dr. Zerr, Mrs. Whye, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Gaul, Mr. Babb, Dr. Speace, Mrs. Steele, Mr. Ashton, Mrs. Motze, Mr. Fries and Mrs. Mason.

Attendees: Mr. D. Youker, Reading Eagle; and Mr. Boland, Kozloff Stoudt. Sign-in sheet included as part of these official minutes.

WELCOME

President Larkin welcomed everyone.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

During public comment on agenda items, Mike Mitchell, Sr. asked what the settlement agreement was about. President Larkin explained that Dr. Larson is resigning as of February 1, 2009, and that we were voting on an agreement which has been reached regarding her separation from the District.

Mr. Mitchell asked whether it was a buyout and President Larkin said that it is an agreement. Each reader can draw his own conclusions. Solicitor Boland described some of the terms of the agreement (i.e., Dr. Larson would resign as of 2/1/09; she would be paid for a total of 51 days representing accumulated sick, personal and vacation days; during the period of 2/1/09 - 6/30/09, Dr. Larson would be paid her salary and benefits under the original employment agreement; during the period 7/1/09 - 12/31/09, Dr. Larson would be paid her salary and benefits but her salary would be offset by money earned by Dr. Larson through any employment she receives. Regardless of whether Dr. Larson is employed in 2010, she shall not receive any salary from the District. However, if she is not employed, her benefits would continue through June 30, 2010, as it would through the original employment agreement.

Mr. Mitchell asked the estimated value of the agreement. Mr. Boland stated that the value cannot be estimated because we don't know whether Dr. Larson will become employed before the end of 2009. Mr. Mitchell

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asked the maximum payments to Dr. Larson. Mr. Boland said that Dr. Larson's salary is \$145,000/year; that the maximum to be paid is 11 months' salary; and the maximum benefits would be provided through the end of her contract. Mr. Boland repeated that the District will get a dollar-for-dollar offset of all money earned by Dr. Larson from July 1 - December 31, 2009.

Bill Murray asked whether there were any retirement stipulations. Mr. Larkin said that there were not, as Dr. Larson is not retiring. Mr. Murray asked whether the District would continue to pay Dr. Larson's salary, and was told that we would. Mr. Murray asked what the plan was. Mr. Larkin said that there was no plan yet, but that the Board was looking at options.

RELEASE AND
SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT
APPROVED

Barnett made a motion to approve the Release and Settlement Agreement between Dr. Helen H. Larson and the Wyomissing Area School District. Sakmann seconded. McCready expressed the belief that Dr. Larson held up her end of the bargain and did so in a professional way. In a roll call vote, the motion was approved 8-0.

There was no public comment on items which were not on the agenda. Mr. Larkin announced that the Board met in executive session immediately before the meeting, but that no action was taken. He also announced that the Board would be meeting in executive session after the meeting, but that no action would be taken.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Corinne D. Mason
Board Secretary