

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2012-4413

Minutes February 13, 2012

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. 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. Butera, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Helm, Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. Painter, Mr. Portner and Mrs. Seltzer.

Administrative Staff Present:

Mr. Krem, Mrs. Mason, Mr. Fries, Mr. Jones and Mrs. Morett.

Attendees:

Ms. Ashley Gold, Reading Eagle, Chelsea Melcher, student representative, 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 – February 16, 2012, 2:30 p.m.
- Finance/Facilities Committee Meeting – February 22, 2012, 12:00 p.m.
- School Board Meeting – February 27, 2012, 6:00 p.m.

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

Mrs. Davis announced that the Board met in Executive Session before the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance – Mr. Portner reported that the committee met in January and discussed items presented on the agenda. The committee will be focusing on the budget in the months ahead.
- B. Facilities – Mrs. Bamberger reported that the committee met on January 31. The Board received a proposal from Olivets Boys and Girls Club requesting use of the West Reading Elementary Center for an afterschool program. A recent meeting was held with their representatives and details are being worked out regarding reimbursement for district costs. In other business, Mr. Fries provided details on three facilities projects including repairs to sidewalks, parking lot, and ground depressions at the stadium field.
- C. Curriculum – Mrs. Davis reported that changes to the course of study were discussed at the last meeting. The booklet will be on the agenda for approval at the next meeting. Parent nights were

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rescheduled due to the anticipated changes. The committee also reviewed graduation requirements for other Berks County school districts.

- D. Technology – Mr. Fitzgerald reported that the committee received an update on the progress of the IT department over the last few months. They also viewed a presentation and discussed a possible pilot program for Apple laptops. There will be no meeting in March.
- E. Personnel – Mrs. Seltzer reported that the committee met on February 7, and discussed the items listed on the agenda for approval and future staffing issues.
- F. Policy – Mr. Painter reported that five policies are on the agenda for a first reading. Two special education policies deal with nomenclature changes mandated by statutes. The changes to fund raising policies deal with setting up an approval process for fund raising activities. The revision to the fund balance policy will allow more flexibility on our part to pull monies from the area of our choice as opposed to being mandated to pull from a particular source.
- G. Ad Hoc Committees
 - Community Relations – No report.
- H. Berks County Intermediate Unit Board Report – Mrs. Seltzer announced there is a meeting next week.
- I. Berks Career & Technology Center Board Report – Mr. Painter reported on the meeting held January 25. The operating budget was presented. BCTC is asking for less money from county school districts this year due to the elimination of the math program. He also said varying schedules among the county schools continues to present a challenge to providing an effective and consistent program. Mr. Krem mentioned that he was attending a meeting in the morning with a few other superintendents and Dr. Lees of BCTC to discuss this ongoing concern.
- J. Berks EIT Report – Mrs. McAvoy reported that new officers were elected at the meeting of January 24. They are converting their accounting from cash basis to accrual and are going to a calendar year instead of fiscal year. They have upgraded security measures, enhanced internal controls, and are adding seasonal workers.
- K. Wyomissing Area Education Foundation – Mrs. Butera reported that the last meeting was January 10. They are conducting their annual

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appeal by mailing 5,000 letters to the community requesting donations. Efforts continue on the Toast to the Teachers event.

- L. Legislative Report – Mr. Fitzgerald reported that the legislature is back in session. The budget has been proposed. With the ongoing redistricting, we still don't know who our representatives are.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Mike Mitchell asked about the status of the preliminary budget. He remembered last year's information being available to the public in February. Mrs. Mason explained that because we did not file for exceptions the timeline for completing a preliminary budget is different than it was last year.

Mrs. Erica Dantas expressed concern regarding overcrowding on the buses. Mr. Krem referred her to Alline Smith, Director of Transportation who was also in the audience. She met with her in her office during the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. CURRICULUM/ TECHNOLOGY

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

1. Approved homebound instruction for secondary student ID#205055 from February 6, 2012 through March 9, 2012 for a maximum of five hours per week.

Yeas: Bamberger, Butera, Helm, Davis, Fitzgerald, McAvoy, Painter, Portner and Seltzer

Nays: None. Motion carried.

B. FINANCE/ FACILITIES

Upon a motion by Mr. Portner, second by Mrs. Seltzer, the following Finance/Facilities item was approved:

1. Approved Resolution 02-13-12-01 - Charter School Funding and Accountability Reform.

Yeas: Bamberger, Butera, Helm, Davis, Fitzgerald, McAvoy, Painter, Portner and Seltzer

Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

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C. PERSONNEL/ POLICY

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

1. RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

a. Supplemental Staff

- 1) **Scott D. Gehman**, Special Education Instructional Aide, Jr./Sr. High School, employment separation effective January 6, 2012.

Resolved that the Board of Directors accept the resignation of Scott D. Gehman pursuant to the Separation Agreement as presented and enter into and authorize the appropriate officers of the Board to execute the Separation Agreement.

2. LEAVES

a. Support Staff

- 1) **Corrine Suloff**, Special Education Instructional Aide, Jr./Sr. High School, unpaid leave effective February 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 2012.

3. CHANGE/ADDITION TO WAGES

a. Professional

- 1) **Bethanne Mitchell**, Jr./Sr. High School Teacher, work outside contract hours for homebound instruction provided to student #205055 from February 6, 2012 to March 9, 2012, maximum of 5 hours per week at a rate of \$32/hour.
- 2) **Tony Alvarez** support teacher stipend changed from full year at \$500 to first semester only at \$250.

Background Information: Mr. Alvarez was a mentor teacher for the first semester to new Inductee Teacher, Cayla Printz, who resigned effective January 23, 2012 which eliminated the need for Mr. Alvarez to act as a mentor for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year.

4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE DISTRICT SUBSTITUTE LIST

a. Support Staff

- 1) **Gregory Barnett**, Substitute Van Driver, effective January 26, 2012.
- 2) **Thomas Hunsicker**, Substitute Van Driver, effective February 14, 2012, pending receipt of all required information.

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5. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE DISTRICT VOLUNTEER LIST (*See Attached List*)

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

The remaining Personnel and Policy items were opened for discussion. Mrs. Butera questioned the need and time constraints of having such a rigorous approval process for fund raising activities. Policy 618 will be sent back to the committee for further discussion.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS Mrs. Davis shared that the Wyomissing Library is having a showing of the documentary *Race to Nowhere* on March 22, 2012 from 7-9 pm. Also on March 20, from 5-8 pm the author of *Reminding Ophelia* will speak at the Berkshire Country Club.

**HEARING FROM
WAEA** None.

**HEARING FROM
AFSCME** None.

**HEARING FROM
WAEF** None.

HEARING FROM PTA None.

**HEARING FROM
STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVE** Chelsea Melcher reported on the following activities:

- Spelling Bee – Grand Champion was Christopher Poon, grade 6 and runner-up was Chip Schroder, grade 7.
- Anna Smith, Stephanie Deem and Rachel Ohnsman qualified for regional chorus.
- Updates on sports teams.
- Model UN Club
- Mini-THON has raised over \$6,000 to date.

ADJOURNMENT A motion was made by Mrs. Bamberger, seconded by Mr. Portner to adjourn at 6:41 p.m. Mrs. Davis announced that the Board would meet in Executive Session immediately following the meeting.

Corinne D. Mason
Board Secretary