

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2015-4991

Minutes October 13, 2015

The regular meeting with committee reports of the Board of School Directors convened at 6:01 p.m. in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School with Mrs. McAvoy, Board President, presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge of allegiance, Mrs. McAvoy asked if anyone would be recording the meeting. No one indicated their intent to record.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Butera, Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. Painter, Mr. Portner, and Mrs. Reese.

Board Members Absent: Mrs. Davis, Mr. Heinly, Mrs. Reilly and Mrs. Seltzer

Administrative Staff Present: Mrs. Vicente, Mr. Boyer, Mrs. Waller, Mr. Arnst, Dr. Babb, Mr. Cafoncelli, Dr. Jones, Dr. Kuhn, Mrs. Lengle, and Mr. Murray.

Attendees: 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.

- School Board Business Meeting – October 26, 2015, 6:00 p.m.
- Technology Committee Meeting – October 28, 2015, 12:00 p.m.
- Curriculum Committee Meeting – November 2, 2015, 12:00 p.m.
- Facilities Committee Meeting – November 3, 2015, 8:00 a.m.
- Policy Committee Meeting – November 3, 2015, 12:00 p.m.
- Finance Committee Meeting – November 4, 2015, 8:00 a.m.
- Personnel Committee Meeting – November 4, 2015, 12:00 p.m.

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

Mrs. McAvoy announced that an Executive Session would follow the meeting to discuss personnel matters.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance – Mr. Portner reported the committee met on October 7. Topics of discussion included budget transfers, the budget timeline, copier contract analysis, the transportation contract, internet for low-income families, the 1:1 insurance update, the facilities agreement with the YMCA, and an update on the fund balance.
- B. Facilities – Mrs. Reese said the committee met on October 6. Low-V provided a demonstration of the security cameras including Night Fighter for the exterior and fields. Everything with the ESCO project at WHEC is in working order so we should soon begin realizing savings from the renovations. The turf project is complete except for the stair rails down to the field. A possible donor has come forward for the scoreboard and flagpole. In light of

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the impasse with the State budget, a decision on the tennis court project has been tabled until it can be discussed with the new Board members. The stage floor renovations will cost about \$19,000 and should be completed over the winter break. A company has been found that will maintain the District's Material Safety Data Sheets on-line for \$2,000/year. The dirt around the mound and plate on the baseball field needs to be retrofitted and is a safety issue. The lowest bid received was \$8,600. Subcommittees will be formed as talks progress on the improvements for the JSHS similar to the ESCO project for WHEC and the hope is to get new Board members involved.

- C. Curriculum – Mrs. Waller reported the committee met on October 5. They discussed the new Reading Steering Committee, the Program of Studies and creating additional opportunities for students through the new clubs on the agenda for approval.
- D. Technology – Mr. Portner said the committee met on September 30. They reviewed the status of the 1:1 initiative, laptops at WHEC, met the interns from Penn State, discussed off-campus connectivity, and saw a demonstration from Michelle Filippini on Schoology, an on-line learning management system. They also discussed damage tracking for the devices.
- E. Personnel – Mrs. Butera said the committee met on October 7. Items discussed are included on the agenda for approval including the WAEA wages reflecting column movement as determined by the new contract. She also thanked the departing staff members for their service to the District.
- F. Policy – Mr. Painter reviewed the four policies on the agenda for a first reading. He recommended adopting the PSBA version of a new policy on current events. The policy on alternative instruction is blended with our current policy on summer school. Credit recovery courses will only receive a D to prevent students from taking a less rigorous course somewhere else to increase their GPA. He recommended the PSBA version of the policy on student rights and responsibilities as it is more comprehensive than our version. The only change to the policy on the school day is the removal of an outdated statutory citation. A policy on student wellness is still being reviewed.
- G. Berks County Intermediate Unit Board Report – No report.
- H. Berks Career & Technology Center Board Report – Mr. Painter reported that the School Improvement Plan was reviewed as well as the proposed calendar for 2016-17. He also discussed the issue of

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weighted courses. Dr. Jones said those courses are weighted at the high school as of last year. Mr. Painter also announced the dates for the Open Houses at both campuses.

- I. Berks EIT Report – Mrs. Reese had no report.
- J. Wyomissing Area Education Foundation – Mrs. Butera said the meeting was held earlier in the day. Mrs. Waller was introduced. The capital campaign will be mailed the first week in November. The State budget stalemate is affecting funding for WAEF in terms of EITC allocations. Jennifer Yetter and two of her students made a presentation on a creative reading center funded through a WAEF grant. The committee approved a grant for guitars for a music quarter course at the JSHS.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. CURRICULUM/ TECHNOLOGY

Upon a motion by Mrs. Butera, second by Mr. Painter, the following Curriculum/Technology items were approved.

1. Approved expansion of Spanish Club to include junior high students.
Background information: Currently only students in grades 9-12, usually in Spanish III and higher participate. Junior High students in Spanish I and II will benefit both academically and socially from the activities. Some activities will be junior high or senior high specific while others will be for the entire club.
2. Approved pilot of National Spanish Honor Society as a club for the 2015-16 school year.
Background information: This society, for Spanish Honor students with a grade average of B or higher for three consecutive semesters, is part of the organization of The American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. This organization would be separate from the Spanish Club with separate officers, a separate account and advisor. The club may also provide additional scholarship opportunities.
3. Approved pilot of Aevium as a club for the 2015-16 school year.
Background information: The purpose of the club is to create a positive mental health environment, where all students feel accepted, appreciated, acknowledged and cared for in schools. This club aligns with the new Act initiative for suicide

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prevention efforts in schools

Yeas: Butera, McAvoy, Painter, Portner, and Reese.

Absent: Davis, Heinly, Reilly and Seltzer.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

**B. FINANCE/
FACILITIES**

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

1. Approved 2015-16 Facilities Use Agreement with YMCA of Reading and Berks County for use of the pool for athletic practices and events in the amount of \$6,000.

Background information: This is a renewal of last year's agreement. There are no changes in terms or cost.

2. Approved Healthcare Staffing Agreement with Cross Country Staffing, Inc. at a rate not to exceed \$42 per hour for per diem health professionals.

Background information: In the event that nurses from our District substitute list are not available, qualified healthcare professionals will be provided to substitute for the District's nursing staff. Rates vary depending on professional license and type of day worked.

3. Approved Early Intervention transportation agreement with BCIU for one student at a rate of \$54.64 per day for the 2015-16 school year.

Yeas: Butera, McAvoy, Painter, Portner, and Reese.

Absent: Davis, Heinly, Reilly and Seltzer.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

The remaining 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 Mrs. Butera, the following Personnel/Policy items were approved.

1. APPROVED WAEA PROFESSIONAL STAFF WAGES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016 PER ATTACHMENT.

2. RESIGNATIONS

- a. Professional Staff

- 1) **Mary O'Donnell**, Psychologist, WHEC, update effective date of resignation to September 25, 2015.

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- 2) **Marcia Hartzler**, Part-time, .25 Strings Teacher, WHEC, update effective date of resignation to October 8, 2015.
- b. Support Staff
 - 1) **Richard M. Cosgrave**, Van Driver, District-wide, resignation from part-time Van Driver effective September 17, 2015, placed on substitute list at employee's request.
3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE
 - a. Professional Staff
 - 1) **Karen Ostrander**, Special Education Teacher, WREC, end Leave of Absence, return to work October 5, 2015.
 - b. Support Staff
 - 1) **Marie Minnich**, Paraprofessional, JSBS, Leave of Absence, on October 7, 2015 until October 16, 2015, return to work October 19, 2015.
4. APPOINTMENTS
 - a. Professional Staff
 - 1) **Sharon Gulla**, Part-time (.25) Strings Teacher, WHEC, at a wage rate based upon B/Step 4 (\$11,245.50/annually) on the WAEA 2015-16 Salary Schedule, pending completion of employment requirements, effective date to be determined.
Background information: Ms. Gulla earned a Bachelor's in Music Degree with a specialization in Strings through Ithaca College. She holds a Pennsylvania Department of Education Teaching Certification in Music PK-12. Her experience includes public school as well as private lessons and orchestras. This position is being filled as the result of a resignation.
 - b. Support Staff
 - 1) **David Summers**, Paraprofessional, JSBS, full-time (7 hours/day; 35 hours/week) at a wage rate of \$12.00/hour, pending completion of employment requirements, effective date to be determined.
Background: This position is being filled as the result of a resignation.

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5. WAGE INCREASES

Approved the following teachers to receive course credit salary advancement (column movement) in accordance with the terms of the WAEA Collective Bargaining Agreement, per the effective dates noted below:

- a. **Christine Beidler**, JSHS, from B/Step 3 to B+15/Step 3 (\$45,381 pro-rated to an effective date of October 1, 2015)
- b. **James Comerford**, JSHS, from M+30/Step 14 to M+45/Step 14 (\$73,402, pro-rated to an effective date of September 1, 2015)
- c. **Greta Jones**, JSHS, from M/Step 2 TO M+15/Step 2 (\$48,801, pro-rated to an effective date of August 25, 2015)
- d. **Andrea Kupiszewski**, WREC, from B/Step 5 to B+15/Step 5 (\$48,479, pro-rated to an effective date of September 1, 2015)
- e. **Holli Noll**, WHEC, from M/Step 17 to M+15/Step 17 (\$84,240, pro-rated to an effective date of September 1, 2015)
- f. **Steven O'Neil**, WHEC, from B+15/Step 6 to M/Step 6 (\$53,259, pro-rated to an effective date of September 1, 2015)
- g. **Nancy Robinson**, WHEC, from M+45/Step 17 to M+60/Step 17 (\$89,040, pro-rated to an effective date of September 1, 2015)
- h. **Daniel Smith**, WREC, from M/Step 17 to M+15/Step 17 (\$84,240, pro-rated to an effective date of September 1, 2015).

6. 2015-16 SY VAN DRIVER HOURS

Approved the following daily van driver hours for the 2015-16 school year:

- a. **Keith Moyer** – 6 hours/day
- b. **Arthur Rickenbrode** – 6 hours/day

7. 2015-16 WINTER ATHLETIC COACH STIPENDS

Approved the updated 2015-16 Winter coaches and associated stipends per the attachment.

8. SUBSTITUTES

- a. Professional Staff
 - 1) **Tami Cantilina**, Teacher (Deletion)
 - 2) **Thomas Paulson**, Teacher (Addition)
- b. Support Staff
 - 1) **Richard Cosgrave**, Van Driver (Addition)
 - 2) **Mary Napoli**, Crossing Guard (Addition)

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3) **Nicole Ortiz**, Secretary (Deletion)

9. **VOLUNTEERS**

Yeas: Butera, McAvoy, Painter, Portner, and Reese.
Absent: Davis, Heinly, Reilly and Seltzer.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

The remaining Personnel and Policy items were opened for discussion. There were no comments or questions.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS None.

UPDATES FROM ORGANIZATIONS None.

ADJOURNMENT A motion was made by Mr. Portner, seconded by Mrs. Butera to adjourn at 6:33 p.m.

Board Secretary